

Strong Neighborhoods Initiative
City of San Jose

2010 Business Plan Update



Business Plan Update

In the past five months, hundreds of neighborhood leaders and staff came together as one to set out a course for the future of the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative. In the face of current budget constraints and limited public resources, the discussions explored four core goals;

- **Removing barriers to neighborhood action,**
- **Stabilizing neighborhoods in crisis,**
- **Supporting neighborhood action, and**
- **Connecting resources to priorities.**

From these conversations it is clear that neighborhood leaders and staff remain deeply committed to positive change in our community, and that Strong Neighborhoods Initiative is more relevant than ever. It is also clear that this is a partnership and neither the neighbors nor the City can succeed alone.

Neighborhood Solutions Team

City Manager's Office
Redevelopment Agency
San Jose Police Department
San Jose Fire Department
Housing
Park, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS)
Planning, Building & Code Enforcement
Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI)
Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force (MGPTF)



Our mission

To build our Strong Neighborhoods by engaging residents in the health and well-being of their community.

Strong Neighborhoods Business Plan Update – Process Steps

Step 1: Planning Meeting with SNI Staff (November 18, 2009)

Purposes: To preview the Business Plan Update process and elicit staff's help in planning the first NAC Leader stakeholder meeting.

Step 2: Stakeholder Meeting with NAC Leaders (December 5, 2009)

Purposes: Hear from Community Leaders about Transformative Experiences in SNI, explore the role of social capital, community empowerment, citywide/regionalism, and leveraging resources in SNI, and hear from Community Leaders about Their Ideas for Updating the SNI Business Plan (Approximate Attendance: 80)

Step 3: NAC Leader Follow-Up Meeting (January 12, 2010)

Purposes: Review results from December 5, 2009 NAC leader meeting, provide open forum for questions, ideas and interaction, test NAC leader executive committee concept and five strategies for Business Plan Update. (Approximate Attendance: 60)

Step 4: Stakeholder Meeting with SNI Staff (January 13, 2010)

Purposes: Review latest budget information and results of NAC Leader meetings, and explore and develop five strategies for Business Plan Update

Interim Step: Design Team briefs Redevelopment Agency Director and City Manager; receives feedback; interaction and dialogue (March 1, 2010)

Interim Step: Design Team leaders brief Mayor Reed; receives feedback (March 15, 2010)

Step 5: NAC Leaders and SNI Staff Collaborative Workshop (March 29, 2010)

Purposes: To facilitate understanding of and agreement on four key goals for the future of SNI: Remove Barriers to Neighborhood Action, Support Neighborhoods in Crises, Neighborhood Action, and Connect to Resources to Priorities. (Approximate Attendance: 110)

Mission Conversation



3.29.10 Neighborhood Leaders and Staff Collaborative Workshop Outcome

Approach: Six themes were identified to capture the "statements" provided by the community.

Theme Definitions

Resources/Services: Provide leadership and direction to programs and activities to improve communities and develop strategies that are adequately financed, comprehensive and responsive to the public *Examples: Capital Funds, CAP Grants, Fund Raisers, Translations Services, Housing, Childcare, Adult Education*

Safety & Security: Partnerships among local government entities, community organization, law enforcement and other organizations to reduce crime, violence and blight. *Examples: Police, Fire, Code, Department of Transportation, Anti-Graffiti, Gang Education, Parent Project, Neighborhood Watch, Parking, Crime Prevention, MGPTF*

Community Outreach/Engagement: The process by which community organizations and individuals build ongoing, permanent relationships for the purpose of applying a collective vision for the benefit of a community. *Examples: Flyers, Agendas, Meeting Minutes, Knock & Talks, One on Ones, Coffee Meetings, Relationship Building Exercises*

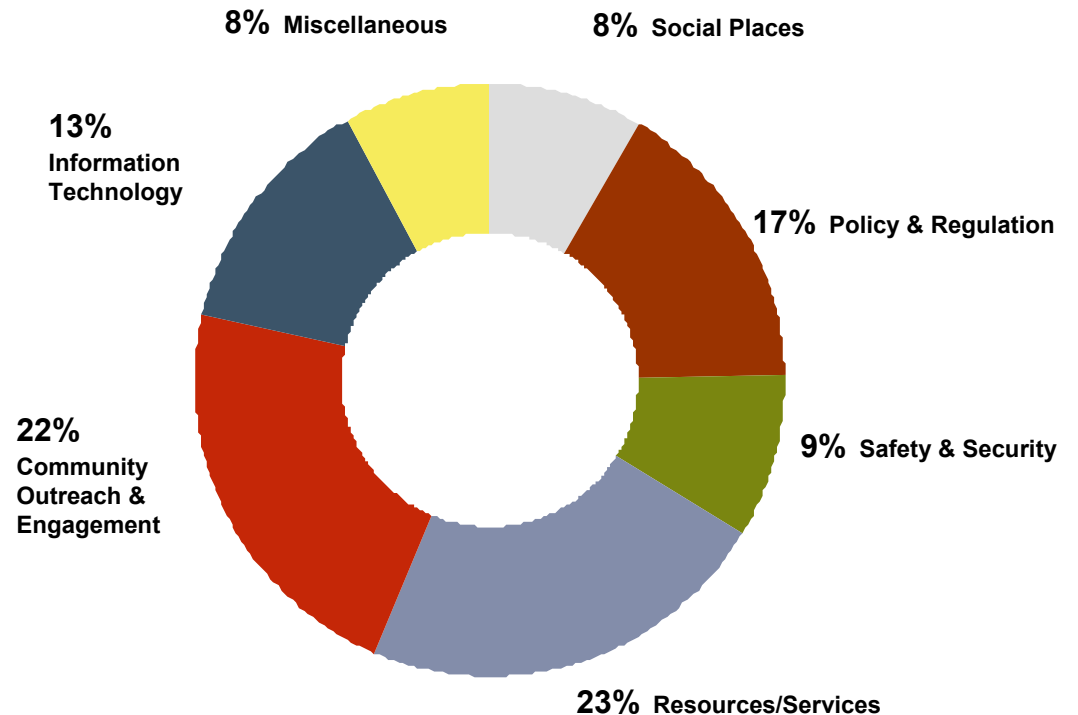
Information Technology: The use of computers and telecommunications to retrieve and store and transmit information. *Examples: Internet, Databases, Computers, Websites, Facebook, Sharepoint, LinkedIn, Google Documents*

Policy & Regulation: A system of laws, regulatory measures, courses of action, and funding priorities concerning a given topic declared by a governmental entity or its representatives. *Examples: City, County, State, School District, Contracts, Bylaws, Budget Allocation, Health Permits, Planning*

Social Places: Facilities and services provided by the City to help residents meet their personal, social, and recreational needs. *Examples: Community Centers, Libraries, Child Care Centers, Parks, Streets, Sidewalks, Community Gardens*

Miscellaneous: Data was unclear or not transparent to be categorized within the six defined themes.

What Is Most Important?



Remove Barriers to Neighborhood Action

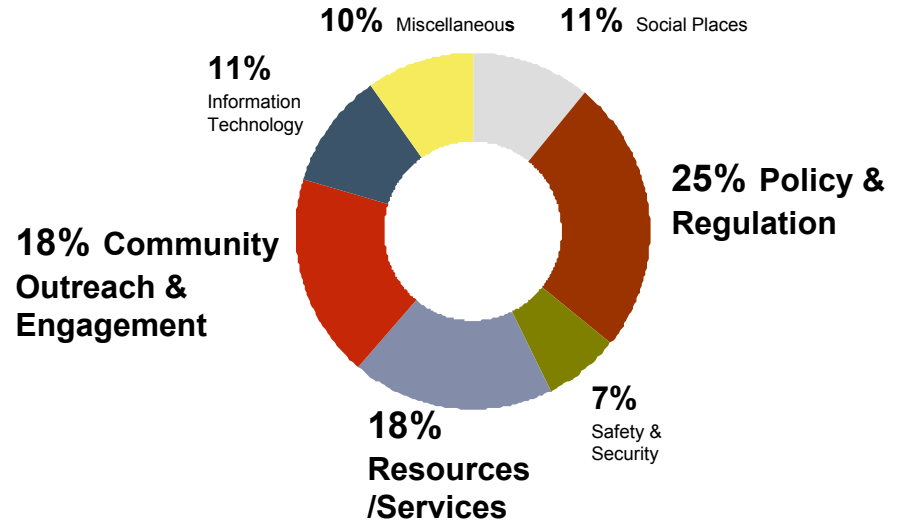
Goal 1

Commit to removing City barriers to neighborhood action such as finding ways to provide neighborhood associations and groups low/no cost access to meeting space.

- Measure progress by creating an on-line “Get Out of the Way” report card.
- Work with community leaders and staff to identify a “top-five” list of common-sense, achievable changes to city policy or practice.
- Partner with Senior Staff to bring forward the needed changes for City Council consideration.

We must break barriers, be open and show our talents as a community to better our community

- NEIGHBORHOOD LEADER



Stabilize Neighborhoods in Crisis

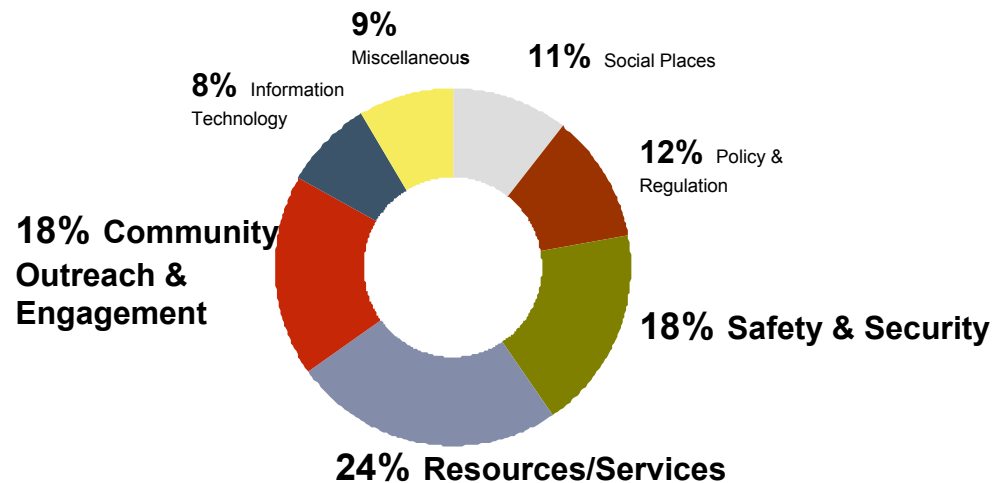
Goal 2

Focus and prioritize efforts to support Neighborhoods within Neighborhood Action Coalition (NAC) boundaries:

- Identify and prioritize neighborhoods in need of support based on real information including crime, unemployment, foreclosures, etc.
- Create neighborhood solutions teams that include residents, community organizers, police, code enforcement, housing rehabilitation, anti-graffiti, and youth services working as a single team. Collaborate with schools, the faith community, community-based organizations and service providers.
- Commit to measurable action plans and reporting in collaboration with the community.

Neighborhoods are very fragile right now, neighborhoods in transition will fall into crisis

- NEIGHBORHOOD LEADER



Neighborhood Action

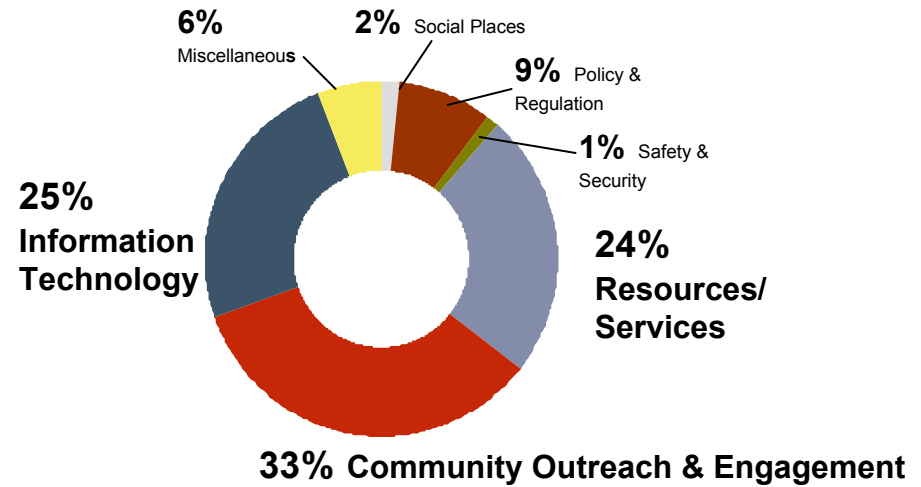
Goal 3

Mobilize leaders to spur action in their communities.

- Provide neighbors with the tools and training to take action on their own, (e.g. access to supplies for clean up days).
- Create ways of sharing best practices across neighborhoods (such as “how to sue a negligent landlord”).
- Make leadership training and coaching with neighborhood leaders a priority and support organizations in becoming capable of handling their day to day operations.
- Measure and report neighborhood action and social capital resulting from these efforts.

“We need to train our leaders, empower our leaders and trust our leaders”

- NEIGHBORHOOD LEADER



Connect Resources to Priorities

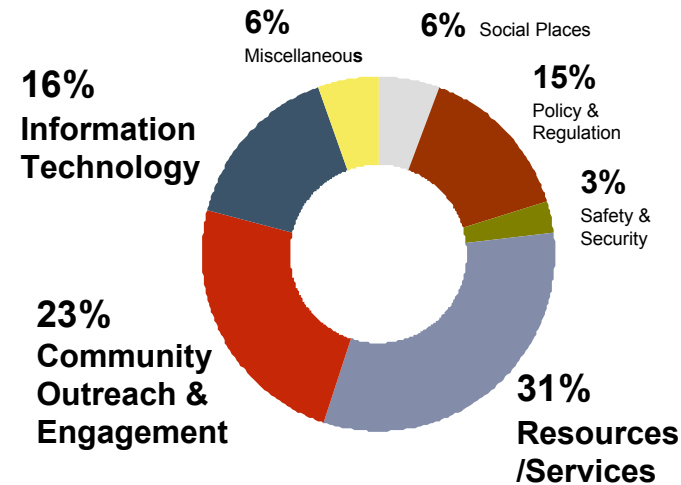
Goal 4

Continue to implement community priorities with available resources while aggressively seeking outside partners and resources.

- Coordinate Redevelopment Agency funds, Community Development Block Grant and Neighborhood Stabilization Program and similar funds as a unified effort.
- Use the investment of public funds to leverage additional resources whenever possible.
- Expand and replicate successful partnerships (such as the successful CommUniverCity collaboration with San Jose State)
- Focus funding resources on stabilizing neighborhoods in crisis.

We must listen to our neighborhoods and communicate with our neighborhoods

- NEIGHBORHOOD LEADER



Opportunities



Oportunidades



Cơ Hội

Civic Engagement

Strong Neighborhoods will provide ongoing support to the City and Redevelopment Agency in ensuring meaningful civic engagement on priority projects and processes

Development

As the economy rebounds, and the market for housing and commercial development returns, Strong Neighborhoods is uniquely positioned to support the development of opportunity sites within the Redevelopment boundaries



Conclusion

Neighborhood leaders are committed to positive change but neighbors cannot succeed alone. As we listen to neighborhood and staff voices we heard that success will require:

- The creation of a flexible, field based team that has the staff, technology, and capacity to pull together police, code enforcement, housing rehabilitation, anti-graffiti and others in a focused effort to support neighborhoods most in need.
- Continued access to funds and resources from the Redevelopment Agency, the Community Development Block Grant, and other new partners to implement priority projects and spur neighborhood action.
- Renewed commitment to supporting a strong, capable, network of neighborhood leaders and providing them the tools and training they need to take action.

Moving Forward

Step 6: NAC Leaders and SNI Staff Action Planning Meeting (May 17, 2010)

Purposes: To strengthen the network of neighborhood leaders and begin to develop priority actions with the collaboration of resident leaders.

Step 7: Neighborhood Services and Education Committee (June 10, 2010)

Purposes: To update NSE Committee on the draft Business Plan and provide direction to staff. .

Step 8: Finalize Business Plan Update and Submit to City Council (June 22, 2010)

The final updated Business Plan will go to the City Council and Redevelopment Agency Board for approval.

Step 9: Launch Meeting with Neighborhood Leaders (Summer 2010)





Office of the City Manager

**Strong Neighborhoods Initiative
City of San Jose**

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Redevelopment Agency