

October 2008

STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE



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INTRODUCTION

Launched in July 2000, the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) is a partnership of the community, the City of San Jose and the San Jose Redevelopment Agency to build clean, safe and attractive neighborhoods with independent and capable neighborhood organizations. The goal of the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative is to improve neighborhood conditions, enhance community safety, facilitate community services and strengthen neighborhood associations. The SNI is funded through resources from the City of San Jose, San Jose Redevelopment Agency, grants, private investments and public-private partnerships. West Evergreen is one of nineteen neighborhoods in San Jose that have been designated as SNI areas. The West Evergreen SNI Planning Area is located southeast of downtown and is generally bounded by Highway 101 to the west, properties along the north side of Tully Road, and Quimby Road and Capitol Expressway to the east and south.

When SNI began in the West Evergreen neighborhood in November 2000, the West Evergreen Neighborhood Action Coalition (NAC), residents, community-based organizations, and City and San Jose Redevelopment Agency staff worked together to develop the *SNI West Evergreen Neighborhood Improvement Plan*. The *SNI West Evergreen Neighborhood Improvement Plan* was approved by the San Jose City Council in November 2001. The plan is a comprehensive guide to neighborhood revitalization in which community members identified their Top Ten priority projects. Since that time, six out of the Top Ten priorities have been completed, and the community has made progress towards other priorities. The West Evergreen NAC, in cooperation with the City of San Jose and the San Jose Redevelopment Agency, created this *West Evergreen Neighborhood Improvement Plan Amendment* to guide the neighborhood improvement efforts for the next five years and beyond. The following pages describe the development of the amended set of actions the West Evergreen community has prioritized.

The purpose of the Renewing the Action Agenda process is to produce both a new “Top Ten” list and renew neighborhood leadership in each neighborhood area. This neighborhood has been encouraged to examine the organizational capacity of their NAC and the overall community while reviewing the completion of their original list of priority action items. The intent is to deepen the organizational capacity of the NAC and to create a network of interconnected neighborhood leaders as the Renewing the Action Agenda process unfolds.

A. About the Neighborhood

1. Description of West Evergreen

The neighborhood is approximately 917 acres with a population of approximately 14,500 residents, according to the 2000 Census. City staff worked closely with the following three residential neighborhood associations that predominantly comprise the West Evergreen NAC:

a. West Evergreen Neighborhood Association (WENA)

- Boundaries are Highway 101 to the west, Flanigan Road to the north, King Road to the east, and Aborn Road to the south.

b. LeyVa Community Action Team (LCAT)

- Boundaries are King Road to the west, Barberry Lane to the north, Capitol Expressway to the east, and Aborn Road to the south.

c. Meadowfair Neighborhood Association (MNA)

- Boundaries are King Road to the west, Rigoletto Drive to the north, Arcadia field to the east, and Barberry Lane to the south.

The West Evergreen neighborhood includes a diverse mix of retail stores, offices, single and multi-family residences, and community facilities. Tully Road and King Road are the central traffic corridors within the neighborhood. The neighborhood is home to many new Hispanic and Asian immigrants.

Community assets abound in West Evergreen, including good access to transit and freeways; the 8.4 acre Meadowfair Park; a vital business district with neighborhood-serving stores and services; active faith-based and other community organizations; a large private school campus; two public school campuses; and dedicated community members.

“Efforts to implement the Top Ten priority action items have substantially improved the livability of the community,” according to Jose Aranda, a resident activist who served as the NAC Co-Chair. Mr. Aranda stated further, *“With increased volunteers, the neighborhood has witnessed clean-up days and the planting of trees and daffodils. Visible too, were the installation of traffic lights and pedestrian crosswalks. Similarly the neighborhood has experienced improved parks and trails, maintained street lights, and the removal of unwanted graffiti tags. The residents have observed cars or trucks that have been parked for more than 72 hours towed away, and grocery carts being picked-up.”*

2. Public and Private Investment

Since the inception of SNI, various entities have invested \$89.5 million in the West Evergreen neighborhood. The Agency has invested over \$3 million to date on the area’s SNI Top Ten projects. The City has provided \$450,000 for Meadowfair Park renovations, and the Agency and City have provided combined funding of \$1.7 million for Towers Lane improvements in public projects, for a total investment of over \$2.1 million. Over \$900,000 has been spent for single-family housing rehabilitation. New development projects by private investors that are worth an estimated \$85.3 million have been built or are under construction, providing 102 new housing units and 110,500 square feet of new commercial space.

3. Demographic Information

West Evergreen is a predominately Latino and Asian neighborhood. Nearly half (48 percent) of West Evergreen residents identify themselves as Latino, while 37 percent are Asian. The average household size in West Evergreen is 4.48 persons, considerably larger than both the typical San Jose (3.19 persons) and SNI (3.72 persons) household.

The median household income in West Evergreen is approximately \$76,000, which is among the highest of SNI neighborhoods but still well below the citywide median of nearly \$90,000. Sixty

percent of housing units in the neighborhood are owner-occupied, as compared to the San Jose citywide rate of 62 percent.



Figure 1: West Evergreen SNI Planning Area

BACKGROUND

The Renewing the Action Agenda process focuses the passion of the neighborhood leaders and the resources of the City and Redevelopment Agency on a clear, balanced and mutually agreed upon set of priorities.

Each neighborhood priority has been considered based on three foundational criteria:

1. **Important to neighborhoods.** This means that there are a significant number of people who are ready to take action to be part of the solution.
2. **Something a City/Local Government can and should do well.** The priority must be reasonable within the sphere of influence of the City or partner organization. Preference should be given to priorities that clearly play to strengths.
3. **Transformative.** Done well, the priority should have a significant positive ripple effect.

These priorities can, and in some cases should, be addressed in other forums or by other organizations. To be effective, it is crucial that each Renewed Action Agenda is focused exclusively on the most important priorities that will transform neighborhoods and that the City can achieve.

In addition, each Renewed Action Agenda should reflect a balanced mix of the following four categories:

- a) **Neighborhood Action**
- b) **Improved City Services/Social Issues**
- c) **Capital Projects**
- d) **Transformative**

A. Neighborhood Priorities

1. The West Evergreen Neighborhood Improvement Plan

The original *SNI West Evergreen Neighborhood Improvement Plan* was the result of a year-long effort on the part of residents, community leaders, other stakeholders, and city staff to develop a blueprint for neighborhood improvement. The Plan was grounded in six core goals: (1) Create a safe street environment; (2) Provide quality parks and trail connections; (3) Improve community facilities and programs; (4) Beautify the neighborhood; (5) Enhance retail services; and (6) Encourage ongoing communication.

The Original Top Ten Priorities included:

1. Improve Meadowfair Park and build a community center on the Arcadia property.
2. Build a satellite community center at Meadowfair Park.
3. Build a new park at 1588 Aborn Road and develop a joint-use agreement with Evergreen School District.
4. Complete pedestrian improvements on Aborn Road, east and west of King Road.
5. Build a trail along Barberry Lane connecting Coyote Creek and Thompson Creek trails.
6. Improve and beautify Lower Silver Creek.
7. Strengthen Code Enforcement.
8. Install identified curb cuts.

9. Increase the number of regularly scheduled neighborhood "dumpster days."
10. Build public right-of-way improvements in front of the KLOK property.

Please note, the original *SNI West Evergreen Neighborhood Improvement Plan* highlighted a "Top Fifteen Priorities" list. In 2003, the West Evergreen NAC in collaboration with the Redevelopment Agency modified its priorities to reflect a Top Ten priority list in line with the other eighteen SNI plans. The City Council approved West Evergreen SNI's revised Top Ten that year.



Figure 2: West Evergreen OB Whaley Tree Planting Project

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Out of the Top Ten priority projects identified previously in the original Neighborhood Improvement Plan, five are complete, and the community has made progress towards other priorities.

The following are the completed priorities:

- *Priority #1* to improve Meadowfair Park, which included the construction of a half-basketball court and horseshoe pit; the installation of a youth-play area with engineered wood fiber; installation of bicycle racks; and planting of new trees.



Figure 3: Meadowfair Park

- The Department of Transportation completed *Priority #4*, to improve pedestrian access on Aborn Road east of King Road, by installing curb cuts, making crosswalk improvements, and installing street lights at Aborn Road and Irwindale Drive.
- The NAC, in collaboration with the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department, installed a sidewalk along Barberry Lane between South King Road and Meadowfair Park as part of *Priority #5*.
- The NAC identified and ranked curb cuts in need of corner ramps as *Priority #8*. The NAC identified and prioritized the proposed ramp sites in partnership with the Department of Transportation. The resulting project consisted of the installation of 68 new corner ramps in this neighborhood.

- The Department of Transportation completed *Priority #10*, which consisted of right-of-way improvements in front of the KLOK radio station transmission towers site, including the installation of additional travel lanes, sidewalks and park strips.



Figure 4: Pedestrian Improvements at Aborn Road and Irwindale Drive

NAC members and residents are working closely with Agency and City staff to implement the remaining Top Ten projects. The West Evergreen NAC, through its three neighborhood associations, will continue to sponsor neighborhood clean-ups and work with Code Enforcement on blight and illegal dumping issues. In addition, the West Evergreen NAC is working towards completion of a joint use recreation field at OB Whaley Elementary School (Fall 2008) and a one acre park, known as West Evergreen Neighborhood Park, on Aborn Road (2010).

PLANNING PROCESS

The West Evergreen Strong Neighborhoods Initiative NAC and residents have completed the Renewing the Action Agenda (RAA) Process. The Renewal Process included a series of six meetings held over a period of seven months beginning in March 2007 and concluding in September 2007. Outreach for these community meetings included a mailer to every property in the West Evergreen SNI area, e-mails and flyers sent to residents on the mailing list, and reminder phone calls made to the residents that regularly attend West Evergreen NAC Meetings.

On March 26, 2007, the West Evergreen NAC reviewed and discussed the Top Ten accomplishments. On June 16, 2007, the West Evergreen NAC held a retreat to discuss their priorities and decisions were made as to which projects were deemed not feasible, in progress and complete, or partially complete. From there, the West Evergreen NAC moved into the next phase of the Renewal Process, reviewing the original Top Ten with the larger West Evergreen neighborhood at their June 25, 2007 NAC Meeting. The meeting covered the purpose and goals of the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative, the proposed Renewal Process and a review of the existing Top Ten priorities and projects for the West Evergreen neighborhood. The NAC came to consensus on which Top Ten goals had been met and which project elements still needed to be completed. The NAC also brainstormed new and proposed priorities for the amended Top Ten list. The West Evergreen community worked diligently to incorporate current goals with the emerging needs of the community. With the help of everyone who attended, the NAC completed a comprehensive list of priorities for their updated Top Ten.

On July 23, 2007, at the West Evergreen NAC Meeting, the community re-confirmed the work on the Top Ten list from the first meeting and brainstormed additional projects that could be valuable for the community. The community members were asked to focus on a variety of project types including: *neighborhood action priorities*, which are projects that can be implemented during the planning process or within the first year; *service delivery projects*, which are projects that maintain and improve services for the neighborhood (i.e. cleaner residential streets, rehabilitated housing, community policing, etc.); and *capital projects and transformative projects*, which are projects that neither the community nor the City is really sure are possible, but if accomplished, would move the neighborhoods significantly closer to their vision. In addition, the community members were asked to consider whether proposed projects were important to the whole neighborhoods (or a significant part), whether they were transformative, and whether the City could and should have a role in project implementation. With that backdrop, neighbors brainstormed ideas for future projects.

At its August 27, 2007 NAC Meeting, the neighborhood reviewed the new and proposed Top Ten priority list. They then engaged in a “dot voting” exercise where each community member was given ten sticker dots that they used to vote for their individual top priorities. At the end of the meeting, the West Evergreen neighborhood had a prioritized Top Ten list. At its September 24, 2007 NAC Meeting, the NAC revisited and finalized its new Top Ten list.

Strong Neighborhoods Initiative staff, City departments and other involved entities then reviewed the new and proposed Top Ten priority list with the goal of developing feasibility information. On April 28, 2008, community members reviewed the staff’s work regarding

definition and feasibility. Decisions were made to redefine projects or drop projects based on feasibility, cost and schedule information. The community-wide vision was reaffirmed and the vision served to help define a new Top Ten list of action-related themes and specific projects. In addition, the shared vision of an attractive, safe community helped to prioritize the projects in a specific order. By the end of the final meeting, the community members were able to agree upon a prioritized list and a shared vision on a consensus basis.

UPDATED VISION AND GOALS

The *SNI West Evergreen Neighborhood Improvement Plan*, which was accepted by City Council in November 2001, identified the following shared vision for the West Evergreen neighborhood: “West Evergreen is a strong, cohesive, ethnically diverse community where people know their neighbors and socialize with one another, look out for each other’s children and homes, and work together to improve the neighborhood.” The 2001 vision further promotes an image of an area in which there are readily available community facilities, optimal pedestrian, bicycle and auto circulation, open space, parks and recreational opportunities, well-maintained residences, a diversity of commercial buildings, clean and attractive streetscapes, and a strong sense of pride. The West Evergreen community identified and prioritized specific projects during the initial planning process that addressed the need for a new community center, pedestrian improvements, parks, trail connections, code enforcement, public right-of-way improvements, and other neighborhood amenities.

Between 2002 and 2008, significant progress was made on the West Evergreen neighborhood’s Top Ten projects. Projects completed include:

- Meadowfair Park Expansion;
- Pedestrian improvements on Aborn Road, east of King Road;
- Sidewalk installation along Barberry Lane between South King Road and Meadowfair Park;
- Installation of 68 new curb cuts throughout the neighborhood; and
- Public right-of-way improvements in front of the KLOK property.

Projects in progress include:

- The West Evergreen Neighborhood Park at 1588 Aborn Road; and
- Joint-Use field renovations at OB Whaley Elementary School.

As part of the 2007-08 Renewing the Action Agenda process, the original neighborhood vision was reaffirmed and neighborhood leaders articulated a desire to continue to enhance the attractiveness of the West Evergreen neighborhood through a variety of improvements beyond the ones listed above. The concept of neighborhood identity became a strong organizing element, as well as a desire to enhance outreach and participation of neighborhood members in the SNI process. It was the general consensus of the neighborhood leaders and community members that the additional participation would help inspire neighborhood pride. Some of the neighborhood themes of the renewed vision for West Evergreen are to implement neighborhood beautification improvements, retail center improvements and school district partnerships.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT – TOP TEN PRIORITIES

The 2007-08 Renewal Process generated the following new Top Ten Priorities for West Evergreen (2008-2013):

1. Establish a new community center adjacent to Meadowfair Park.
2. Provide quality parks and trails connections.
3. Create a safe street environment through traffic calming and other measures.
4. Implement crime and public safety programs.
5. Beautify the neighborhood and strengthen code enforcement.
6. Improve community facilities, programs and services at the Meadowfair Community Center.
7. Increase school district collaborations and partnerships with the Evergreen School District.
8. Improve West Evergreen retail centers.
9. Establish a community swimming pool.
10. Increase NAC Membership.

STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

1. Establish a new community center adjacent to Meadowfair Park.

- a) Explore the acquisition and/or lease potential of 2-5 acres of the Arcadia property for a new community center. Initiate discussions with Arcadia property owners for park acquisition or lease agreement. Negotiate site acquisition or lease agreement.

Timing: Short-to-Long Term (0-10 years)

Responsibility: Redevelopment Agency, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, and Arcadia Property Owners

- b) Develop a conceptual design for a new community center, utilizing a community involvement process.

Timing: Short-to-Long Term (0-10 years)

Responsibility: Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

- c) Secure funding for a new community center through bonds, grants and private resources.

Timing: Short-to-Long Term (0-10 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition, Redevelopment Agency and Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

- d) Submit community center plans through the Parks Master Plan and environmental review processes.

Timing: Short-to-Long Term (0-10 years)

Responsibility: Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

- e) Finalize construction plans and establish a bid process for construction of a new community center.

Timing: Short-to-Long Term (0-10 years)

Responsibility: Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

- f) Construct a new community center in the West Evergreen neighborhood.

Timing: Short-to-Long Term (0-10 years)

Responsibility: Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

Note: Establish upon approval from the City Council an ongoing General Fund source for expenses related to operations and maintenance.

- g) Alternatively, explore a lease agreement with the Evergreen School District at Leyva Middle School for a new community center.

Timing: Short-to-Long Term (0-10 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition, Redevelopment Agency, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, and Evergreen School District

- h) Engage and negotiate with the Arcadia property owners to develop sports fields in the restricted airport approach zone.

Timing: Medium Term (0-10 years)

Responsibility: Redevelopment Agency, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, and Arcadia Property Owners

2. Provide quality parks and trails connections.

- a) Design and construct the West Evergreen Neighborhood Park at 1588 Aborn Road by 2010.

Timing: Immediate (0-2 years)

Responsibility: Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services and Department of Public Works

- b) Complete installation of improvements at Barberry Lane, including irrigation, benches, tables, garbage cans, compost, ground cover, and trail upgrades.

Timing: Immediate (0-2 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition and Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

- c) Initiate and complete installation of irrigation and tree plantings along the entire walkway at Meadowfair Park (Phase III). Explore a shared parking agreement for the park at Leyva Middle School.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services and Evergreen School District

- d) Explore extending Meadowfair Park (Phase IV) by covering Lower Silver Creek. Note: CEQA issues may deem this project infeasible.

Timing: Medium Term (0-8 years)

Responsibility: Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services and Santa Clara Valley Water District

- e) Study the feasibility of constructing a trail to link Quimby Road to Brahms Avenue (along the Arcadia property) and Meadowfair Park. Implement the project if deemed feasible.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Planning, Building and Code Enforcement, Arcadia Property Owner and Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

- f) Study the feasibility of constructing a Highway 101 Pedestrian Bridge to connect the Thompson and Coyote Creek Trails. Implement project if deemed feasible.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Department of Transportation, Caltrans, and Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

- g) Study the feasibility of installing crosswalks, curb ramps and/or stop signs within West Evergreen at the following seven loops to allow connections to parks and open space. Implement the project if deemed feasible:

- King Road-Aborn Road-Stanhope Drive-Staghorn Lane-Barberry Lane loop
- King Road-Barberry Lane-Corda Drive-Monrovia Drive-Aborn Square loop
- King Road-Barberry Lane-Dina Lane-Aldrich Way-Alvin Avenue-Flanigan Drive loop
- Alvin Avenue-Aldrich Way-Fontaine Road-Flanigan Drive loop
- King Road-Flanigan Drive-Fontaine Road-Alvin Avenue-Tully Road loop
- Tully Road-Quimby Road-Rigoletto Drive-Brahms Avenue loop
- Rigoletto Drive-Sibelius Avenue-Chopin Avenue-Othello Avenue loop

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Department of Transportation

3. Create a safe street environment through traffic calming and other measures.

- a) Acquire frontage from two properties at 451 and 452 Aborn Road to install sidewalks. Initiate and complete a new sidewalk on Aborn Road, west of King Road and across from Paloma Center.

Timing: Immediate (0-2 years)

Responsibility: Department of Transportation and Department of Public Works

- b) Address speeding concerns through street improvements to the following streets: King Road, Tierra Buena Drive, Alvin Avenue, Bowling Green Drive, Saralynn Drive, Barberry Lane, Monrovia Drive, Enesco Avenue, Rigoletto Drive, Othello Avenue, Puccini Avenue, Chopin Avenue, Dina Lane, Tully Road and King Road, and Aldrich Way and Barberry Lane. Improvements could include stop signs and speed bumps.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Department of Transportation

- c) Study left turn safety concerns at Alvin Avenue and Burdette Drive. Implement improvements as deemed feasible.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)
Responsibility: Department of Transportation

- d) Retime traffic signals along King Road, between Tully and Yerba Buena Roads to alleviate congestion.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)
Responsibility: Department of Transportation

4. Implement crime and public safety programs.

- a) Address drag racing on King Road.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)
Responsibility: San José Police Department

- b) Address speeding through improved police enforcement on Alvin Avenue, Bowling Green Drive, Saralynn Drive, Barberry Lane, Monrovia Drive, Enesco Avenue, and Rigoletto Drive.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)
Responsibility: San José Police Department

- c) Eliminate panhandling at King Road and Tully Road, Tully Road and Alvin Avenue, Aborn Road and King Road, Aborn Road and Capitol Expressway, and Capitol Expressway and Silver Creek Road.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)
Responsibility: San José Police Department

- d) Increase police presence at neighborhood events.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)
Responsibility: San José Police Department

- e) Focus on gang intervention and patrol services for special events.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)
Responsibility: San José Police Department

- f) Encourage resident participation in a Neighborhood Watch Program.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)
Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition and San José Police Department

- g) Explore installing cameras at select sites to catch and curb graffiti vandals and illegal dumping.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: San José Police Department and Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

5. Beautify the neighborhood and strengthen code enforcement.

- a) Explore and install street sweeping signs for the following streets: Barberry Lane, Fontaine Road (adjacent to Highway 101), King Road, Aborn Road, Staghorn Lane, Orangewood Drive, Stanhope Drive, Citrus Grove Court, Redfield Drive, Amberly Lane, Abigail Drive, Stallion Way, and Towers Lane. Issue citations when cars are not moved on street sweeping days.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Department of Transportation

- b) Prune and maintain trees throughout the area at least once every five years.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Property Owners

Note: Department of Transportation has eliminated tree trimming maintenance service from the city budget. Property owners are responsible for this action.

- c) Provide two dumpster day clean-ups per year independent of code enforcement schedule.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: NAC and Council 7 and 8 Offices

- d) Schedule monthly neighborhood clean-ups and litter pick-ups and monitor illegal dumping.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition

- e) Plant trees on park strips as needed. Obtain and plant 162 trees for the West Evergreen neighborhood, 46 trees for Leyva, 17 trees for Edgegate, and 236 trees for Meadowfair neighborhood. See the Appendix for specific locations and more detail.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition, Our City Forest and Department of Transportation

- f) Encourage homeowners to plant trees in their front yards. Explore funding strategies to obtain 89 trees for the West Evergreen neighborhood, 49 trees for Leyva, and 158 trees for Edgewater. See the Appendix for specific locations and more detail.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition and Private Property Owners

- g) Keep the Arcadia property clear of illegal dumping at the following sites:
 - a. Barberry Lane at Corda Drive
 - b. Brahms Avenue at Chopin Avenue
 - c. Chopin Avenue at Sibelius Avenue
 - d. Quimby Road

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Code Enforcement and Arcadia Property Owners

- h) Throughout the West Evergreen SNI Area, encourage property upkeep; eliminate illegal dumping; remove abandoned shopping carts; eliminate overgrown weeds; increase resident participation in the Blight Busters Program; enforce the front setback paving ordinance of no more than 50 percent paving; enforce the Zoning Ordinance related to garage conversions; and enforce fireworks restrictions per the Municipal Code.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Planning, Building and Code Enforcement and Neighborhood Action Coalition

- i) Enforce parking regulations on Puccini Avenue, Rigoletto Drive and Ophelia Avenue.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Department of Transportation and San José Police Department

6. Improve community facilities, programs and services at the Meadowfair Community Center.

- a) Continue to keep the Meadowfair Community Center open.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

- b) Provide senior, adult and youth programming at the Meadowfair Community Center. Desired programs include senior nutrition, English as a Second Language (adults), computer, health and fitness, homework center, and summer activities.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

- c) Explore making the Meadowfair Community Center a police substation on weekends.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: San José Police Department

7. Increase school district collaborations and partnerships with the Evergreen School District.

- a) Establish a strong partnership with the Evergreen School District to benefit the community and the schools. Examples could include an additional elementary school, parent outreach and youth programs.

Timing: Short-to-Long Term (0-10 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition and Evergreen School District

- b) Initiate community service and joint-use agreements with the Evergreen School District. Examples could include a shared parking lot for the Meadowfair Park and Leyva Middle School and joint recreation for local youth.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition and Evergreen School District

8. Improve West Evergreen retail centers.

- a) Explore improvements to the following retail centers: Target, Lions Plaza, King and Tully retail area, Aborn Square, Silver Creek Plaza, and Maxim Market. Desired improvements include maintenance and cleanliness, façade upgrades, security upgrades, landscaping, and code compliance.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Redevelopment Agency, Code Enforcement and local businesses/property owners

- b) Encourage business owners to install “No Solicitation” signage at selected retail centers.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition and local businesses

9. Establish a community swimming pool.

- a) Collaborate with apartment building property owners, schools and/or Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services to establish a community swimming pool or swim opportunities for youth.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition, private property owners and Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

- b) Conduct feasibility and self-sustainability study of a community swimming pool in select locations of West Evergreen (ie, Meadowfair Park and private and/or public properties). Implement project if deemed feasible.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: San Jose Redevelopment Agency and Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

10. Increase NAC membership.

- a) Encourage participation from all members of the SNI Planning Area by supporting and partnering on the Top Ten Priorities. Expect participation from the NAC, Redevelopment Agency, city departments, and City Council. Address core issues as a coalition and team.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition

- b) Contact and encourage participation from business associations and property owners.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition

- c) Contact and encourage participation from apartment associations, mobile home parks, and residents.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition

- d) Contact and encourage participation from local schools and school districts. Examples include the OB Whaley Elementary School, Leyva Middle School, Rouleau School, and the Head Start Program.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition

- e) Contact and encourage participation from local churches and other community organizations. Examples include Liberty Baptist Church on King Road and Aldrich Way and Iglesia Los Hechos on Towers Lane and Aborn Road, etc.

Timing: Short Term (0-5 years)

Responsibility: Neighborhood Action Coalition

ACTION PLAN MATRIX

Action	Department/Entity
1. Establish a new community center adjacent to Meadowfair Park.	
a. Explore the acquisition and/or lease potential of 2-5 acres of the Arcadia property for a new community center. Initiate discussions with Arcadia property owners for park acquisition or lease agreement. Negotiate site acquisition or lease agreement.	SJRA, PRNS and Arcadia Property Owners
b. Develop a conceptual design for a new community center, utilizing a community involvement process.	PRNS
c. Secure funding for a new community center through bonds, grants and private resources.	NAC, SJRA and PRNS
d. Submit community center plans through the Parks Master Plan and environmental review processes.	PRNS
e. Finalize construction plans and establish a bid process for construction of a new community center.	PRNS
f. Construct a new community center in the West Evergreen neighborhood.	PRNS
g. Alternatively, explore a lease agreement with the Evergreen School District at Leyva Middle School for a new community center.	NAC, SJRA, PRNS, and ESD
h. Engage and negotiate with the Arcadia property owners to develop sports fields on restricted flight zone.	SJRA, PRNS and Arcadia Property Owners
2. Provide quality parks and trails connections.	
a. Design and construct the West Evergreen Neighborhood Park at 1588 Aborn Road by 2010.	PRNS and DPW
b. Complete installation of improvements at the Barberry Lane, including irrigation, benches, tables, garbage cans, compost, ground cover, and trail upgrades.	NAC and PRNS
c. Initiate and complete installation of irrigation and tree plantings along the entire walkway at Meadowfair Park (Phase III). Explore a shared parking agreement for the park at Leyva Middle School.	SJRA, PRNS and ESD
d. Explore extending Meadowfair Park (Phase IV) by covering Lower Silver Creek. Note: CEQA issues may deem this project infeasible.	PRNS and SCVWD

Action	Department/Entity
e. Study the feasibility of constructing a trail to link Quimby Road, Brahms Avenue (along the Arcadia property) and Meadowfair Park. Implement the project if deemed feasible.	PRNS and Arcadia Property Owners
f. Study the feasibility of constructing a Highway 101 Pedestrian Bridge to connect the Thompson and Coyote Creek Trails. Implement the project if deemed feasible.	DOT, Caltrans and PRNS
<p>g. Study the feasibility of installing crosswalks, curb ramps and/or stop signs within West Evergreen at the following seven loops to allow connections to parks and open space. Implement the project if deemed feasible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ King Road-Aborn Road-Stanhope Drive-Stagehorn Lane-Barberry Lane loop ○ King Road-Barberry Lane-Corda Drive-Monrovia Drive-Aborn Square loop ○ King Road-Barberry Lane-Dina Lane-Aldrich Way-Alvin Avenue-Flanigan Drive loop ○ Alvin Avenue-Aldrich Way-Fontaine Road-Flanigan Drive loop ○ King Road-Flanigan Drive-Fontaine Road-Alvin Avenue-Tully Road loop ○ Tully Road-Quimby Road-Rigoletto Drive-Brahms Avenue loop ○ Rigoletto Drive-Sibellius Avenue-Chopin Avenue-Othello Avenue loop 	DOT
3. Create a safe street environment through traffic calming and other measures.	
a. Acquire frontage from two properties at 451 and 452 Aborn Road to install sidewalks. Initiate and complete a new sidewalk on Aborn Road, west of King Road and across from Paloma Center.	DPW and DOT
b. Address speeding concerns through street improvements to the following streets: King Road, Tierra Buena Drive, Alvin Avenue, Bowling Green Drive, Saralynn Drive, Barberry Lane, Monrovia Drive, Enesco Avenue, Rigoletto Drive, Othello Avenue, Puccini Avenue, Chopin Avenue, Dina Lane, Tully Road and King Road, and Aldrich Way and Barberry Lane. Improvements could include stop signs, radar display signs and speed bumps.	DOT
c. Study left turn safety concerns at Alvin Avenue and Burdette Drive. Implement improvements if deemed feasible.	DOT

Action	Department/Entity
d. Retime traffic signals along King Road, between Tully and Yerba Buena Roads to alleviate congestion.	DOT
4. Implement crime and public safety programs.	
a. Address drag racing on King Road.	SJPD
b. Address speeding through improved police enforcement on Alvin Avenue, Bowling Green Drive, Saralynn Drive, Barberry Lane, Monrovia Drive, Enesco Avenue, and Rigoletto Drive.	SJPD
c. Eliminate panhandling at King Road and Tully Road, Tully Road and Alvin Avenue, Aborn Road and King Road, Aborn Road and Capitol Expressway, and Capitol Expressway and Silver Creek Road.	SJPD
d. Increase police presence at neighborhood events.	SJPD
e. Focus on gang intervention and patrol services for special events.	SJPD
f. Encourage resident participation in a Neighborhood Watch Program.	SJPD
g. Explore installing cameras at select sites to catch and curb graffiti vandals and illegal dumping.	SJPD
5. Beautify the neighborhood and strengthen code enforcement.	
a. Explore street sweeping signs for the following streets: Barberry Lane, Fontaine Road (adjacent to Highway 101), King Road, Aborn Road, Stagehorn Lane, Orangewood Drive, Stanhope Drive, Citrus Grove Court, Redfield Drive, Amberly Lane, Abigail Drive, Stallion Way, and Towers Lane. Issue citations when cars are not moved on street sweeping days.	DOT
b. Prune and maintain trees throughout the area at least once every five years. Note: Department of Transportation has eliminated tree trimming maintenance service from the city budget. Property owners are responsible for this action.	Property Owners
c. Provide two dumpster day clean-ups per year independent of code enforcement schedule.	NAC and Council 7 and 8 Offices
d. Schedule monthly neighborhood clean-ups and litter pick-ups and monitor illegal dumping.	NAC

Action	Department/Entity
e. Plant trees and landscape park strips as needed. Obtain and plant 162 trees for the West Evergreen neighborhood, 46 trees for Leyva, 17 trees for Edgegate, and 236 trees for Meadowfair neighborhood. See the Appendix for specific locations and more detail.	NAC, Our City Forest and DOT
f. Encourage homeowners to plant trees in their front yards. Explore funding strategies to obtain 89 trees for the West Evergreen neighborhood, 49 trees for Leyva, and 158 trees for Edgegate. See the Appendix for specific locations and more detail.	Private Property Owners
g. Keep the Arcadia property clear of illegal dumping at the following sites: a. Barberry Lane at Corda Drive b. Brahms Avenue at Chopin Avenue c. Chopin Avenue at Sibelius Avenue d. Quimby Road	PBCE and Arcadia Property Owners
h. Throughout the West Evergreen SNI Area, encourage property upkeep; eliminate illegal dumping; remove abandoned shopping carts; eliminate overgrown weeds; increase resident participation in the Blight Busters Program; enforce the front setback paving ordinance of no more than 50 percent paving; enforce the Zoning Ordinance related to garage conversions; and enforce fireworks restrictions per the Municipal Code.	PBCE and NAC
i. Enforce parking regulations on Puccini Avenue, Rigoletto Drive and Ophelia Avenue.	DOT and SJPD
6. Improve community facilities, programs and services at the Meadowfair Community Center.	
a. Continue to keep the Meadowfair Community Center open.	PRNS
b. Provide senior, adult and youth programming at the Meadowfair Community Center. Desired programs include senior nutrition, English as a Second Language (adults), computer, health and fitness, homework center, and summer activities.	PRNS
c. Explore making the Meadowfair Community Center a police substation on weekends.	SJPD
7. Increase school district collaborations and partnerships with the Evergreen School District.	

Action	Department/Entity
a. Establish a strong partnership with the Evergreen School District to benefit the community and the schools. Examples could include an additional elementary school, parent outreach and youth programs.	NAC and ESD
b. Initiate community service and joint-use agreements with the Evergreen School District. Examples could include a shared parking lot for the Meadowfair Park and Leyva Middle School and joint recreation for local youth.	NAC and ESD
8. Improve West Evergreen retail centers.	
a. Explore improvements to the following retail centers: Target, Lions Plaza, King and Tully retail area, Aborn Square, Silver Creek Plaza, and Maxim Market. Desired improvements include maintenance and cleanliness, façade upgrades, security upgrades, landscaping, and code compliance.	SJRA, PBCE and Local Businesses/Property Owners
b. Encourage business owners to install “No Solicitation” signage at selected retail centers.	NAC and Local Businesses
9. Establish a community swimming pool.	
a. Collaborate with apartment building property owners, schools and/or Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services to establish a community swimming pool or swim opportunities for youth.	NAC, Private Property Owners and PRNS
b. Conduct feasibility and self-sustainability study of a community swimming pool in select locations of West Evergreen (ie, Meadowfair Park and private and/or public properties). Implement project if deemed feasible.	SJRA and PRNS
10. Increase NAC membership.	
a. Encourage participation from all members of the SNI Planning Area by supporting and partnering on the Top Ten Priorities. Expect participation from the NAC, Redevelopment Agency, city departments, and City Council. Address core issues as a coalition and team.	NAC
b. Contact and encourage participation from business associations and property owners.	NAC
c. Contact and encourage participation from apartment associations, mobile home parks, and residents.	NAC

<p>d. Contact and encourage participation from local schools and school districts. Examples include the OB Whaley Elementary School, Leyva Middle School, Rouleau School, and the Head Start Program.</p>	<p>NAC</p>
<p>e. Contact and encourage participation from local churches and other community organizations. Examples include Liberty Baptist Church on King Road and Aldrich Way and Iglesia Los Hechos on Towers Lane and Aborn Road, etc.</p>	<p>NAC</p>

Legend:

- DPW:** Department of Public Works
- DOT:** Department of Transportation
- ESD:** Evergreen School District
- NAC:** Neighborhood Action Coalition
- PBCE:** Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement
- PRNS:** Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services
- SCVWD:** Santa Clara Valley Water District
- SJPD:** San Jose Police Department
- SJRA:** San Jose Redevelopment Agency