FAIRFIELD FORWARD 2050

Planning for Cordelia Workshop

Workshop held on April 28, 2022

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	2
	1.1 General Plan Update	
	Public Involvement and Participation	
	1.2 This Report	
	Community Workshop	2
	1.3 Discussion Summary	3

1 Introduction

1.1 General Plan Update

The City of Fairfield has recently initiated a comprehensive update of its General Plan (as well as preparation of the city's first Climate Action Plan) that will help facilitate its ongoing transformation to a vibrant 21st century community. The State of California requires each city and county to have a comprehensive General Plan that outlines the community's long-term policies related to growth and development. Fairfield's current General Plan was last comprehensively updated over 20 years ago, although amendments have been periodically made. The updated General Plan will address a spectrum of topics including land use, housing, transportation, public services, environmental quality, and safety.

More information on the General Plan Update is available at https://www.fairfieldforward.com.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

The process of drafting a new General Plan enables the community to assess opportunities and challenges, establish a vision for the city's future, and outline a systematic process to achieve the vision. Preparation of the General Plan is far more than a legal formality – it is an opportunity for community members to define Fairfield's future, and to ensure a high quality of life for themselves and for subsequent generations.

While the planning process will take direction from many sources, the most important voice is that of the community. The valuable input of community members is essential to the creation of a new General Plan that accurately reflects the common goals, needs, visions, and desires of the community.

1.2 This Report

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

This report provides a summary of the Planning for Cordelia workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to engage Fairfield residents and gain an understanding of what's missing in Cordelia and where new housing, jobs, and services should go.

Schedule and Attendance

The community workshops were held in-person at the Cordelia Library on April 28th, 2022, 6-8pm. The workshop focused on providing feedback on the following questions:

- Question 1: What do you like most about Cordelia? When you think about the future of the area, what does it look like? What is it known for?
- Question 2: What's been working well? What do you have concerns about?
- Question 3: What types of things do you want to see? Where do you want to see them? Think about specific types of uses, how you would get to and from that area, etc.

The workshop included an informational presentation followed by small group discussions, and report back discussions. At the group discussions, participants were asked to mark up maps with their ideas for new uses, or things they'd like changed. Approximately 40 people attended the workshop.

1.3 Discussion Summary

The following section describes key themes from each of the table group discussion. Maps for each table group discussion are included as an attachment.

Overall:

- New development must be supported by infrastructure and public services, including school capacity, adequate roadway capacity, and services like grocery stores and restaurants.
- Desire to maintain and enhance the current community feel, including through urban design and agritourism.
- Need to improve connectivity from northern and southern Cordelia- there are frequent bottlenecks because services and amenities are not well-distributed.

Group 1:

- Likes: quiet, agricultural feel
- Nelson hill-low density housing at quarry site, along with 100+ acres of accessible park
- Potential school locations- schools already are crowded, coordinate with school district
- South- potential police station near fire station. Need for increased police presence.
- Having more affordable and approachable grocery stores, more food choices for a variety of incomes
- Increasing access over the freeway, better pedestrian access north and south of the freeway.
- Desire for movie theater, bowling, more family-friendly activities.
- More opportunities for teen and youth activities
- Bus connections to youth center
- Movie theaters, shopping, restaurants (like Veranda in Concord)
- Better multifamily standards for design and upkeep

Group 2:

- Likes: safe, quiet, excellent access to freeways, close to Green and Suisun Valleys, convenient to rural and agricultural areas, and unique.
- Concerns: Missed opportunities to develop more complete communities; past decisions haven't always responded to community's needs. Housing built without necessary infrastructure and amenities to support housing, issues with traffic, access between housing and destinations like schools, jobs, and commercial.
- Like to see: More schools, shopping opportunities, infrastructure (overpasses), new industrial uses and other commercial uses that bring good paying jobs.
- "Past decisions have built housing, but not a community"
- Build industrial uses near freeway
 - o Along 680 corridor

- Build out near Old Town Cordelia
- o Build businesses around #5 and #7
- o Build retail around #7 and #8

Group 3:

- Likes: quiet, not necessarily a part of the city, but it's own special, unique area. Think of themselves as Cordelia. Open space, Rockville hills park and Suisun valley- things are getting better. Amenities that brought them there in the first place.
- Concerns: bottleneck where freeways are- north and south side, schools are on one side of the freeways and pulls people from north to south
- Majority of retail is on other side.
- Like to see: grocery store on north side, no retail or grocery on south side. Create different opportunities beyond Safeway. Nugget or Whole Foods.
- Better access onto the freeway from Suisun Valley Rd.
- More restaurants- not a great demand for shopping, but more restaurants, places to go.
- Dissatisfaction with warehouses.
- New onramp onto westbound I-80 at Suisun Valley Road. Build this first before any new development!
- The large vacant property at southeast corner of Suisun Valley Road and Business Center Drive should developed as the center of community life for Cordelia restaurants, parks, community center.
- One of the vacant parcels in south Cordelia should be reserved for a commercial center with retail.

Group 4:

- Likes: Quiet, how separate it was, can growth happen with infrastructure?
- Connectivity issues within itself- college students can't get to Starbucks or other commercial if they don't have car. Add pedestrian bridge if road cannot be changed.
- Landscape of Cordelia was supposed to be countryside, but new aesthetics are not matching.
- Fire safety- Green Valley Road, 2 lane road, if we keep growing, how might we evacuate?
- Schools growing with new development, extending roads.
- More traffic studies needed
- Make sure community maintains: Larry's produce, something like a wine tasting/farmer's market near Westamerica. What does it take to bring Trader Joes to the to area, where there is a lot of fast food already?

<u>Group 5:</u>

- Love: agricultural feel, access to parks and recreation, family orientation, feels safer than other areas
- Dislike: development is paving over everything, warehouses
- Wants to see: support from infrastructure. Higher density housing shouldn't be at major intersections because of traffic concerns.
- Didn't love types of housing going in, but some areas around college that could be higher density
- Need for more shopping, stores, restaurants, and grocery
- Parcel south of college being Cordelia's center, with a community center, park, and supporting commercial.

- Future of industrial buildings- could they be offices, or shared office spaces, or vertical mixed use arrangements for live/work?
- Need for another school (middle school)
- Protect Suisun Valley agriculture, and focus more on infill
- Support for agritourism- more temporary rentals in Suisun, but in areas near where current hotels are could be more agritourism oriented
- Potential onramp to avoid traffic and better connect north and south Cordelia.





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Pittman Road Self Storage



Plaza Court Office Building





Cordelia Community Park

Group I

Cordelia Hills

n you think about the future of the area, what

e concerns about?

where do you want to see them? Please draw

d get to and from that area, etc.

Group 2

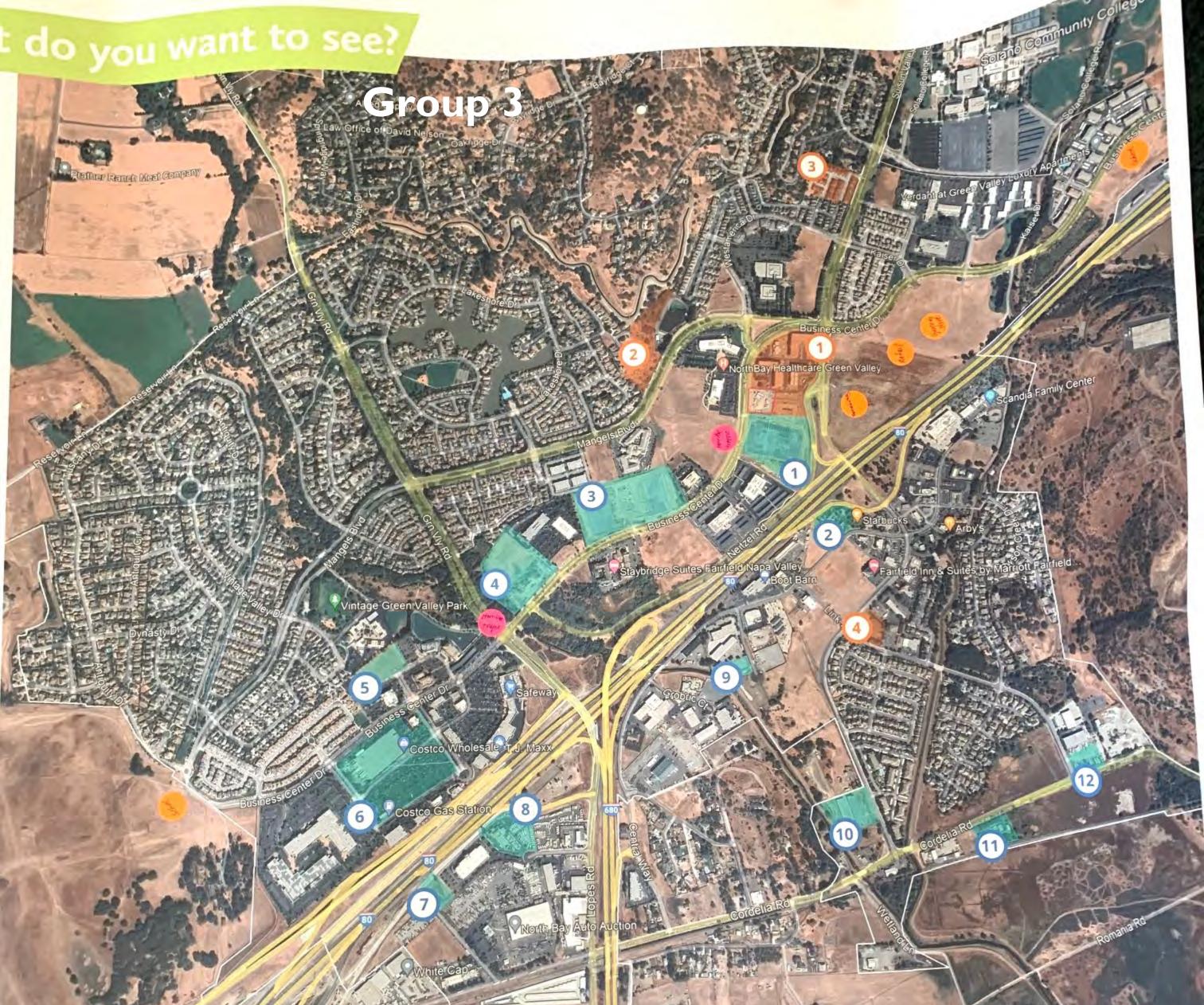




Group 2

Cordelia Hills Elementary Sch

680



Green Valley II (270 units)

Bella Vita Phase II (13 units)

Village Oaks (38 units)

Estaire (25 units)

6

units)

units)

5

Gold Hill Village II (90

Enclave at Red Top (125

Fieldcrest (334 units)

Trio at Gold Hill (79 units)

3

PDC Building

Pannatoni

Industrial

1

2

Planned Fire Station

Home 2 Suites

Pittman Road Self Storage

Wiseman Green 5 Valley

4

6

Costco Expansion

Plaza Court Office Building

7

8

9

North Bay Auto Auction

Yelton Construction Contractors Yard

Pittman Rd Self Storage

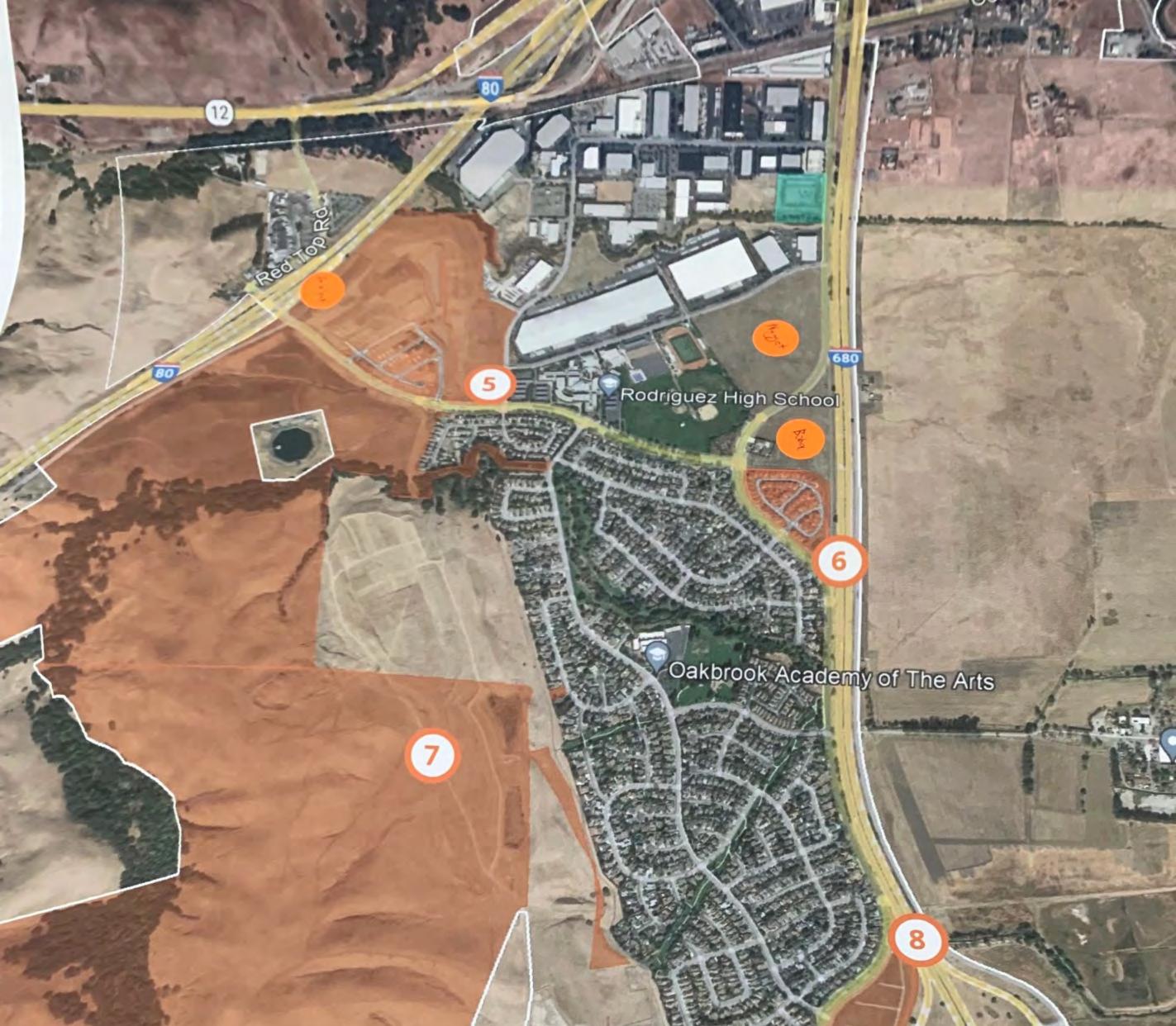
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International Bird Rescue (modular)

CB Lining Contractors Yard

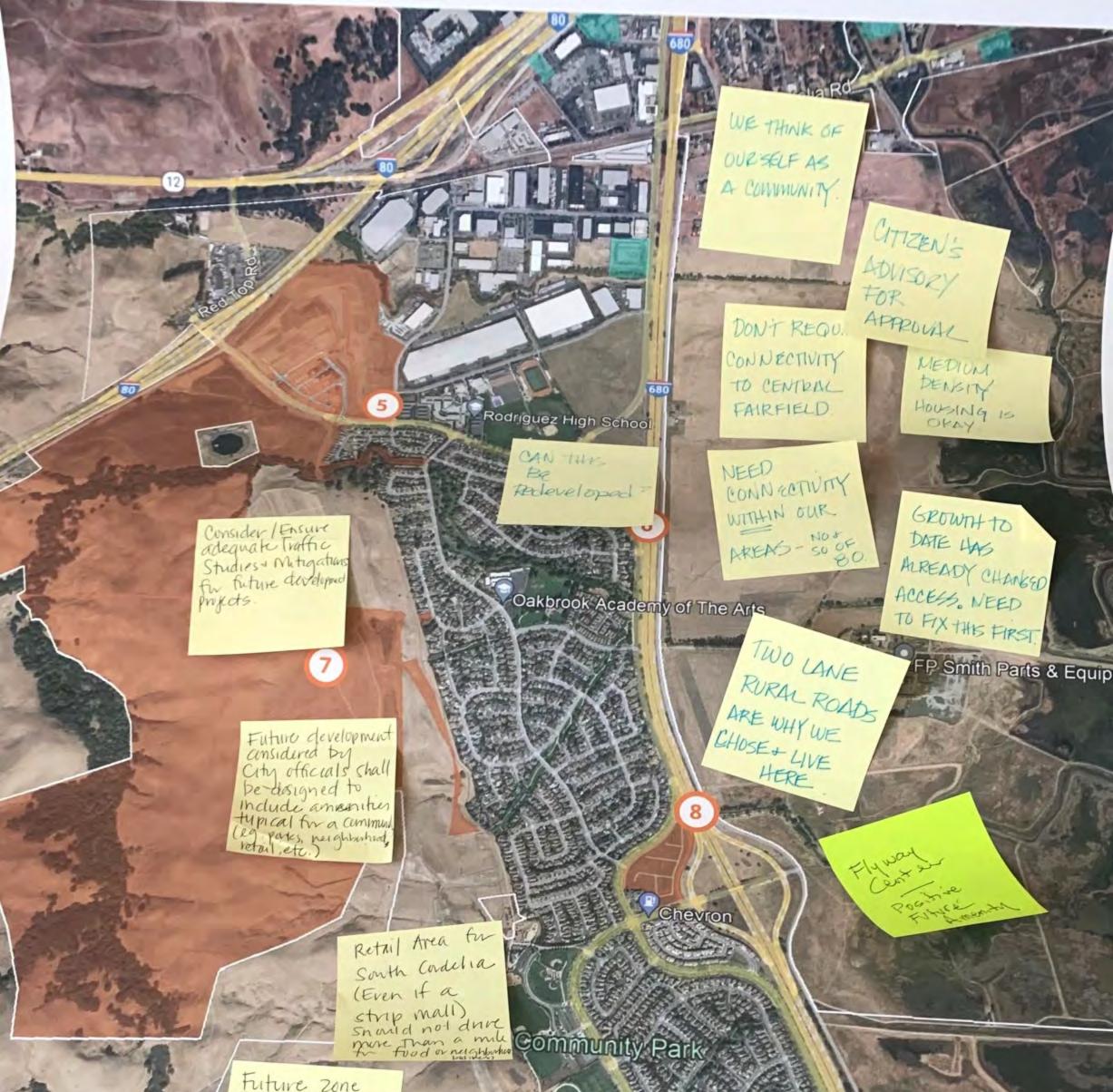


Group/3

Cordelia Community Park

Chevron



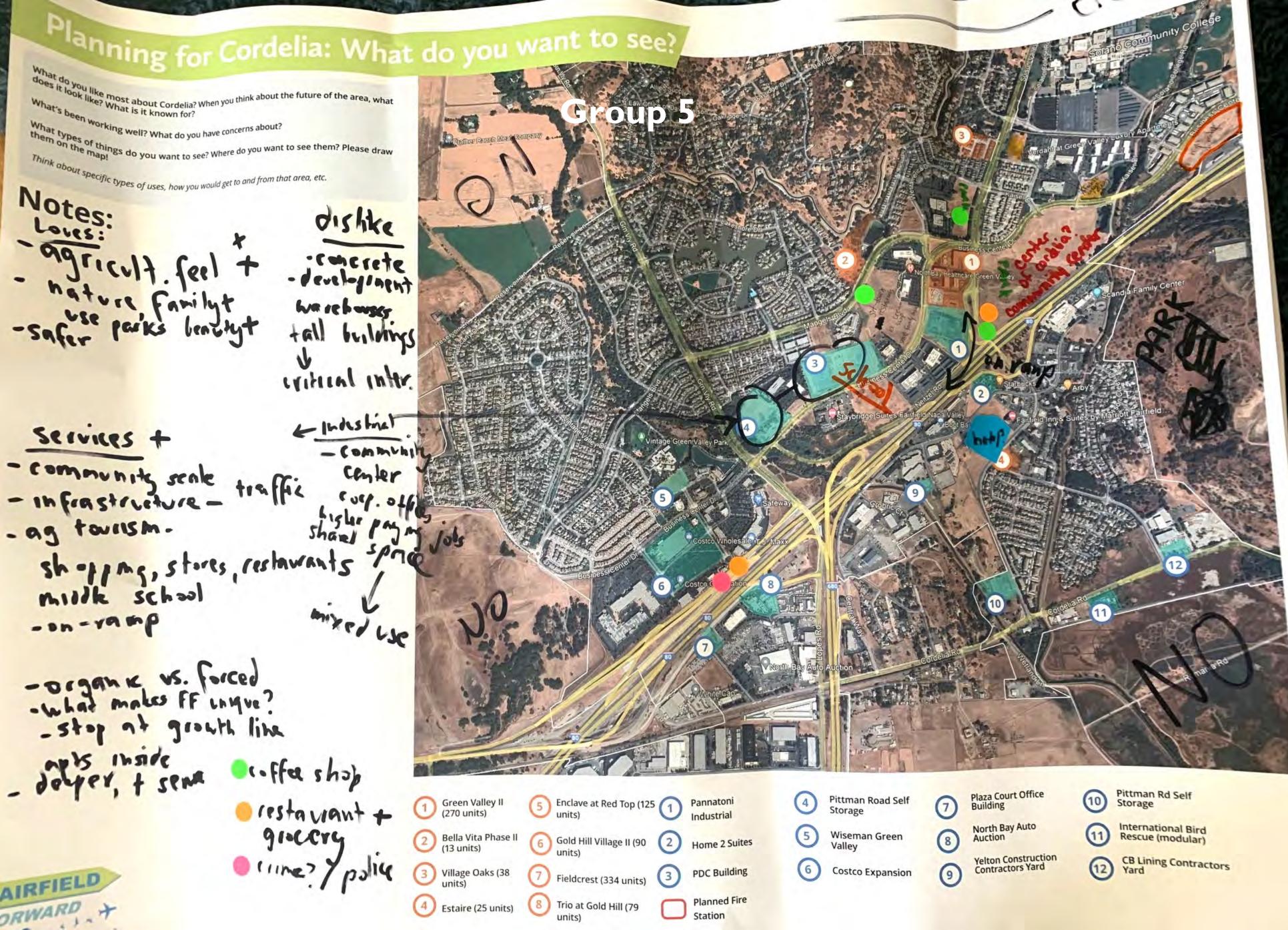


s alerets:

Future zone Changes to a parcel fix a proposed dev. shall require Community bands. Why change time that community dues

Cordelia Hills Elementary Scho

Group 4





Cordelia Community Park

Group 5

Cordelia Hills Elementary S

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