



CITY OF SAN RAMON
REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

DATE: February 10, 2004
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
FROM: Gail E. Walters, City Manager
SUBJECT: Tri- Valley Cemetery Task Force

REPORT IN BRIEF:

The Tri-Valley Cemetery Task Force was created to facilitate a cemetery development to serve the needs of Tri-Valley residents. The Task Force contains Council representatives from various Tri-Valley cities and is lead by Jennifer Hosterman, a Pleasanton Councilmember. The Task Force meets once a month at the City of Dublin City Hall.

BACKGROUND:

The idea to create a Cemetery Task Force originated from a recent discussion by various Tri-Valley City leaders while attending a Tri-Valley Round Table meeting. The Tri-Valley Round Table meeting is held quarterly to discuss issues affecting the Tri-Valley and is hosted by a rotating City. During the Round Table meeting, members noted the lack of cemetery developments within the region and expressed the desire to appropriately serve the needs of Tri-Valley residents. As a result, the Task Force was created during the Fall of 2003.

The Committee includes Council representatives from Danville, San Ramon, Dublin, and a Livermore Planning Commissioner. Staff support is provided by the City of Pleasanton, who is responsible for the agendas, minutes and meetings. Jennifer Hosterman, Pleasanton City Councilmember, has taken an active role in leading this effort. The Committee also includes experts within the mortuary and cemetery business as well as Tri-Valley residents interested in monitoring this effort (see Attachment 1 -Tri-Valley Cemetery Committee Roster).

Planning staff has attended the November 21st, 2003 meeting to assess the Committee's role and to begin monitoring its effort (See Attachment 2 – Minutes of the November 21st, 2003 Meeting) as this project may have impacts to the City.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Except for the staff time used to attend a 2-hour monthly meeting, there is no direct fiscal impact associated with monitoring this effort.

DISCUSSION:

The Task Force met with Sid Corrie, a Tassajara Valley Landowner, on 1/16/04 to view a conceptual cemetery proposal for a 200-acre parcel off Camino Tassajara Road within the San Ramon Planning Area in Contra Costa County (See Attachment 3 – Minutes of the January 16, 2004 Meeting).

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During the meeting, Sid Corrie, explained that the cemetery would be a for-profit venture of non-denominational nature planned on approximately 40 developable acres. He also explained that the current plans reflected comments that resulted from the pre-application review process of the Contra Costa County Planning Department. The developer offered to submit a copy of the latest plans to all members of the Task Force for their review.

The Task Force meetings occur on an as needed basis, but typically once a month. Once the Plans are received, the Task Force will schedule a meeting to discuss the proposal and follow-up with feedback to the developer.

The developer stated he is confident that he will gain the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisor's support for this venture and has asked for a letter from the Tri-Valley Cemetery Task Force supporting the project and stating the importance of this type of land use in the Valley.

RECOMMENDATION (S):

Provide directions to staff regarding the staffing of this effort. Discuss whether any planning staff resources should be devoted to attend meetings and/or monitor this effort, or if this function will be performed solely by a Council representative.

Respectfully prepared and submitted,



Phil Wong, Planning Manager



By Beatriz Duffy, Associate Planner

Approved:



Gail E. Waiters
City Manager

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Tri-Valley Cemetery Committee Roster;
2. Minutes of the November 21, 2003 Meeting;
3. Minutes of the January 16, 2004 Meeting With Corrie Development.