THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENTS

Livermore-Amador Historical Society, former Pleasanton Town Hall

Pleasanton has inventoried all significant structures in the Downtown area; adopted design guidelines which encourage sensitive improvements to Downtown commercial buildings; and adopted an historic preservation goal, objectives, polices, and programs. ~~The City plans to develop an historic landmark preservation ordinance~~

Archaeological Resources

Ohlone (or Costanoan) habitation, Spanish settlers during the mission period, immigrants during the California Gold Rush, and people drawn to Pleasanton for agricultural and other resources weave into the rich tapestry of Pleasanton's cultural history. Each period of settlement in Pleasanton has added a new layer to its cultural fabric with burials, place names, streets and buildings, religions, and institutions. For example, people in Pleasanton still refer to its creeks as arroyos, follow the same street grid established by the Neals and Kottingers, hike along the arroyos once peopled by the Native Americans, and ranch in the Southeast Hills and along the Pleasanton Ridge like the early settlers.

Archaeological remains are scattered throughout the Pleasanton Planning Area, and concentrate mostly along arroyos and near former marshlands and springs. According to a review of available records by the Northwest Information Center of the California Archaeological Inventory, there are several recorded and reported prehistoric, and historic archaeological sites in the Pleasanton Planning Area. These sites include a prehistoric camp or temporary village; a prehistoric occupation site with mortars, pestles, and arrowheads; two sites that contain chert tools and cranial fragments; and an historic farmhouse.[19,20] A site commonly known as Santa Rita Village yielded numerous artifacts, burials, and plant and animal remains. Because archaeologists have surveyed so little of the Planning Area, it is likely that there are additional buried resources beyond those reported and/or recorded and inventoried.

The Ohlone people have resided in the East Bay for over 7,000 years, far longer than the European occupation, and they continue to have a presence in the Planning Area. During the mid-19th and early 20th centuries, Muwekma Ohlone tribal ancestors resided in Alisal Rancheria, Sunol Rancheria, and Arroyo Mocho Rancheria (Livermore). These families worked on the local ranches, vineyards and hopyards. Tribal men and women have and continue to serve in the United States Armed Forces; many were baptized and buried at St. Augustine's Church and Mission San Jose. Several direct ancestors of the Muwekma Ohlone Indian Tribe have been traced to Pleasanton and the larger Tri-Valley area and tribal members continue to live in this area.

[19] City of Pleasanton, *Final Environmental Impact Report for Happy Valley Specific Plan and Related Planning and Development Actions,* certified 1998, State Clearinghouse No. 97032034, p. 139 of Draft EIR.

[20] City of Pleasanton, *Final Environmental Impact Report for Stoneridge Drive Specific Plan,* certified Oct. 3, 1989, State Clearinghouse No. 88082720, Draft EIR pp. 21 – 24.

indications of cultural resources, until any such find is evaluated by a qualified professional archaeologist, and appropriate mitigation is approved by the City.

~~Program 5.4:~~ ~~Adopt an historic landmark preservation ordinance to protect individual buildings and sites of historic significance to Pleasanton.~~

Program 5.5: Consider expanding the City's low interest Downtown commercial rehabilitation loan program.

Program 5.6: Encourage the use of educational workshops, exhibits, and teaching materials that celebrate the city's history, ancestral heritage, and Native American contributions, and encourage participation by Native American groups in developing such programs.

Open Space

Goal 5: Preserve and protect existing and proposed open space lands for public health and safety, recreational opportunities, natural resources (e.g., agriculture, sand and gravel mining), sensitive viewsheds, and biological resources.

Policy 6: Protect all large continuous areas of open space, as designated on the General Plan Map, from intrusion by urban development. *(Measure QQ, Nov. 2008)*

Program 6.1: Explore working with the Tri-Valley Conservancy or similar entities to use transfer of development rights and conservation easements to preserve open space.

Program 6.2: Establish appropriate levels for the development of land adjacent to areas designated as Wildlands Overlay through studies which indicate the types of development posing the least potential negative impact on wildlife habitat.

Program 6.3: Preserve large blocks of open space land by encouraging the clustering of development.

Program 6.4: Investigate methods and pursue opportunities to retain areas designated on the General Plan Map as Open Space for permanent open-space use through acquisition, conservation easements, establishment of land trusts, etc.