

SDC Subcommittee Presentation, March 6, 2017

1. SDC Subcommittee met for first time on Feb. 22. We are currently 7; more members welcome. Several members investigated information on the SDC and researched the Transform SDC website: <https://transformsdc.com/category/sonoma-developmental-center/>
2. Many different entities are interested in having a voice in what happens to the SDC, slated for closure at the end of 2018.

Current players

- State of California – owner of SDC property
- **Sonoma County Coalition** (Supervisor Gorin is Chair), which is part of the Transform SDC project – Mission statement established through community engagement process: ***“Create a public-private partnership driven by community ideas and values that showcases the site’s history, maintains critical services for the developmentally disabled, provides opportunities for creative reuse of the SDC’s assets, and preserves the natural resources and open space of the site.”***

Audubon Canyon Ranch

Parent Hospital Association

Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District

Sonoma County Regional Parks Department

Sonoma Ecology Center

Sonoma Land Trust

Sonoma Mountain Preservation

Valley of the Moon Natural History Association

(new!) Glen Ellen Town Forum (SDC Subcommittee requested seat on Coalition, which was granted by Susan Gorin. Tracy Choure will attend the Coalition’s next meeting.)

- Glen Ellen Historic Society

3. Quick overview of status of redevelopment planning
 - The existing 300 patients will be transitioned into the community in 2018.
 - Transform SDC has conducted some resource studies for the site – Resource Assessment and Site Transformation Report:
 - 1) https://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/resd/AMB/SDC_Files/draft-sdc-report-with-all-exhibits.pdf ; 2) <https://transformsdc.com/2016/08/02/state-and-county-kick-off-planning-efforts-for-the-future-of-sdc/>
 - State appears interested in community input on future uses of the property.
 - Land not for sale.

- Protection of open space a priority at county level, but will need continued support.
- Importance that redevelopment of campus include revenue generation.
- A comprehensive plan is needed to guide future redevelopment and preservation.

4. Important information

- An outside contractor is conducting the Site Assessment and Conceptual Master Land Use and Facilities Reuse Plan Alternatives. Through a competitive bid process, this contractor was awarded the contract by the State Department of General Services, Real Estate Division. The State's Request for Proposals for developing this plan states: ***"The purpose...is to assist the State, County of Sonoma, and stakeholders in identifying alternative reuse options for the SDC. The conceptual plans shall give consideration to alternatives that diversify and enhance the Sonoma Valley's economy and establish models for sustainable development and economic self-sufficiency; preserve the distinct character of the Sonoma Valley's rural communities and SDC's natural, historical, and architectural integrity; and, protect SDC's open space, valuable natural and scenic resources to support healthy wildlife populations, water resources, and recreational opportunities."***
- Development has to be economically self-sustaining.
- Open space can be protected only if the developed area is reused/revenue generating.
- Infrastructure would have to support redevelopment (traffic, power generation, water).
- Some buildings degraded and will have to be razed. Buildings on east side could be retrofitted.

5. **The Transform SDC group held a public workshop in 2015 and put together the Site Transformation Study that lists community interests in future uses. The land use planning process being conducted by the State will include additional opportunities for community input. At our meeting, we discussed ideas for possible use of campus:**

- Open space
- Education (satellite college or university campus)
- Light manufacturing (prosthetic development; biotech)
- Crisis center
- Healing arts
- Veterans Administration support
- Local DMV office
- Equestrian center

6. **Brainstorming session at Glen Ellen Town Forum April 3 meeting.**

Please give some thought to possible uses before our next meeting. Everyone interested should look at the Transform SDC website: <https://transformsd.com/>, which contains the reports mentioned earlier and other information about the SDC planning process.

Please write down your ideas for reuse of the SDC property and bring them to the next GE Town Forum meeting or submit via the glenellenca.org website.