

CAFE: The Center for Age-Friendly Excellence

Advancing Livable Communities for all Generations



Collated Notes and Analysis **Focus Group at Sierra Point Mobile Home Park**

In person discussion at the Sierra Point Mobile Home Park

April 19, 2023 from 12:00 -1:30

Total # of participants in Focus Group: 4 people (2M/2F)

Ann O'Brien Keighran: Facilitator CAFE

Outdoor, Open Spaces and Buildings

Unmet Needs

- No main grocery store or bank in the area. The small market is expensive and located at the top of the hill, so it is not convenient.
- No sidewalks along Bayshore to town (Sierra Mobile Home Park is located on Bayshore).
- Need more lighting around City Hall.
- Not enough park benches throughout the city.

Strengths

- Highlight is our year-round Farmers Market at the park every Thursday.
- Good coffee and donut shops
- Good parks
- Sidewalks are fair in the downtown area
- Good lighting in the downtown area and at the library

Potential Projects

- Add benches along Main street; especially up the hill
- Add benches along the trails

- Increase lighting around the city and along Bayshore
- Launch Movies at the Park

Housing

Unmet Needs

- Hard to live in the Bay Area
- Hard to find help with home maintenance, especially for older manufactured homes.

Strengths

- Own their homes at the Mobile Park

Potential Projects

- Help find repair and home maintenance resources for mobile homes

Transportation

Unmet Needs

- Public bus system:
 - The bus schedule is only convenient during peak hours.
 - To access the Northbound bus stop, you need to walk a ¼ mile. It can be difficult for older adults to walk that distance, especially when there are no sidewalks.
 - There is no signage at the bus stop; also no bus schedule (northbound and southbound).
 - Bus stops are dirty and there is a lot of garbage. Also, not enough lighting.
- Need transit from the Sierra Mobile Home Park to downtown, the community center, pool, and library.
- Very few know how to use Uber and Lyft
- Pedestrian safety – it is unsafe to walk along Bayshore; many people and animals have died in traffic accidents.
- Need bike lanes on Bayshore

Strengths

- None

Potential Projects

- Publicize the Brisbane Helping Hands Organization at the Mobile Home Park. Have members from Brisbane Helping Hands visit Sierra Point Mobile Home

Park and talk about the services they offer, including transportation services. None of the residents at the Mobile Home Park know about Brisbane Helping Hands.

- Offer a shuttle service; especially to the downtown area
- Clean up the bus stops and add lighting
- Have bus schedule and bus times posted
- Add flashing lights at major intersections and increase traffic enforcement along Bayshore

Social Participation

Unmet Needs

- Need more events and programs
- Need a community center that has a lot more activities
- The building where the old library was located has not been maintained and is underutilized.
- Need tech classes; everything is online these days, e.g., forms need to be filled out online. Also, many mobile park residents don't have computers and don't have transportation to the library to borrow a tablet.
- Need Wi-Fi at the mobile home park; too expensive.

Strengths

- Bingo
- Pool, but no transportation to get there; Also, don't know what is offered there.

Potential Projects

- Post events at the Sierra Mobile Home Park
- Offer exercise and yoga classes targeted to older adults
- Comedy night
- Hikes
- Barbeques at the Park
- Dances (like the SSF community center)
- Prayer groups, meetings. and bible study
- Any type of spiritual classes
- Art exhibits in the park
- Intergenerational programs
- Intergenerational programs to teach older adults to use modern technology.

Social Isolation and Respect

Unmet Needs

- Need to include Sierra Mobile Park when advertising events. Feel excluded.
- Feel like older people are forgotten here in the US compared to other areas in the world

Strengths

- Overall people are respectful
- Grateful to live in a small city
- Employees at the businesses are pretty friendly

Potential Projects

- Would like to have the police check in with Mobile Home Park and talk about safety.
- Would like the fire department to visit and teach people about how to evacuate and also what should be packed in case of emergency
- Have city council members visit occasionally and give updates on the city

Communication/Information

Unmet Needs

- Do not know about resources available for seniors in San Mateo County
- Not aware of the Help at Home Book

Strengths

- None

Potential Projects

- Bulletin Board at the mobile home park to increase awareness of activities and events
- Have Help at Home books hand delivered to the property manager at Sierra Point Mobile Home Park to distribute to residents. Include it in the lease packet.
- Mail event flyers and newsletters to Sierra Point Mobile Home Park residents.
- Bring hard copy surveys to the Mobile Park and help older adults fill them out.

Civic Participation and Employment

Unmet Needs

- Don't know of any job opportunities offered in the city

Strengths

- None mentioned.

Potential Projects

- Recruit older adult volunteers at the schools
- Add a representative from the Mobile Park on the Senior Commission

Community Health Services**Unmet Needs**

- No medical clinic

Strengths

- Raise money for older adults' optometry needs
- Flu Shots

Potential Projects

- Health fair
- Health clinic