

Trinidad Goals Workshop Notes—March 9, 2015

Desired Outcomes

By the end of this session, we hope that participants will have:

- An understanding of the steps and timelines for planning
- An understanding of the Council's and staff's and community's ideas about goals and projects for 2015-2016

Agenda

What	How	Who	When
Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome everyone to the workshop • Review desired outcomes and agenda • Review and agree on ground rules • Clarify roles 	Julie Heather	6:00-6:15 (15)
How their input will be used for planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The steps and time line for planning and how the input gathered at this meeting will be used • Check for questions of clarification 	Dan	6:15-6:20 (5)
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask people to write down their ideas about goals for Trinidad on 3x5 sticky notes (one idea per sticky note) and post them on the charts labeled with the various categories posed ahead of time • Ask people to work in pairs or trios to group people's ideas within each category • Check for initial "directional agreement" on the goals by category (the council will have a chance for final agreements once the staff has drafted a plan based on this input) 	Heather, All	6:20-6:50 (30)

What	How	Who	When
Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask people to work in pairs or trios of council and staff (depending on the number of categories) to identify potential projects for the goals grouped in different categories (Ask them to record their ideas on easel paper on the wall or on a table) • Ask each pair or trio to report out their potential projects • Check for questions of clarification 	Heather, All	6:50-7:45 (55)
Close	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restate how this input will be used and when the Council will receive and make decisions about a proposed plan • Ask what people liked about the meeting and suggestions for future • Thank people for their participation and contributions 	Dan Heather Julie	7:45-8:00

Infrastructure Goals & Projects

1. Maintain/beautify/Improve Entrance to Trinidad and other areas of town
 - Regularly pick up litter
 - Maintain the garden beautification areas at freeway gateway and around parking areas in Town, at Saunders Park
 - Remove ivy from city property, i.e. cemetery
 - Increase native plants in the museum garden and around town
 - Vegetation and historic tree protection projects
2. Improve infrastructure: Library/Park/Community Spaces/ youth-friendly facilities
 - Kids have a skatepark supported by our community
 - Building a site that informs people of the 1st indigenous inhabitants of the land
 - Enhance the entrance to Trinidad by moving the large [?] that is on the north side of Main Street to north east corner of Main and Patrick Point Dr. I understand the [?] is for sale
 - Improve maintenance at Saunder’s Park. Develop Friends of Saunder’s Park?

- Build a community center
 - Create a safe, recreational area for families and young children since school is off limits 9am-5pm M-F. Toddler playground
 - Have more library hours
 - Provide bike rack at the library
 - Signage clean-up
3. Encourage solar PV—Town Hall and residential homes
- PV on City Buildings
 - Develop ordinance to encourage PV for home owners
 - Support PACE, Property Assessed Clean Energy—Larry Goldberg
4. Trails and viewpoints development/ improvement
- Lobby for faster Hammond Trail extension
 - Create or support an online interactive trail guide
 - Resurrect Trails Steward Group—partner with school and Land Trust
 - Prune Trinidad Head trail to improve views
 - Improve Van Wycke Trail—purchase easements?
 - Develop a Trinidad Lighthouse to Lighthouse Trail (memorial to BLM) and use as a marketing promotional for tourists
 - Install accessible viewpoints for tourists to utilize the beauty of the area
 - Better, intelligent, informative trail and park signage for all trails. Web site support as well as brochures and maps
 - Identify all trails by signs and maintain accessibility
 - Trail and vegetation management on all trails
 - Develop a trail to [Shank...?] Rock
5. Improve Scenic Drive
- Write a grant to improve Scenic Drive based on protecting Trinidad Bay
 - Address issues on Scenic Drive to improve it for bikers, pedestrians, vehicles and one lane roads, emergency routes
6. Underground wires and remaining utility poles and complete the “historic” street light project
7. Develop a Trinidad Boardwalk
- Develop a Trinidad Boardwalk along existing bench/vista area above memorial lighthouse. Could include interpretive signs, telescopes, trail map to BLM lighthouse. Provides history, engagement and a destination for visitors and locals to enjoy. Could include making Edwards one-way street from Trinity to Wagner

8. Other projects

- Develop a zoning/planning/building permit flow chart that is displayed in City Hall
- Provide municipal WiFi or internet (as in Chatanooga TN)

Community Character Goals & Projects

1. Protect fishing village and small town feel

- Increase live in : vacation ratio
- More small homes, single family homes
- Protect and enhance the fishing village qualities that remain
- Embrace the past—historical, cultural, fishing village—while looking forward to the future

2. Protect viewshed/unobtrusive structures

- Showcase natural surroundings—choose muted colors and unobtrusive structures during design review
- Liberate Trinidad’s Head open space from the commercial cellular communication facility
- Viewshed protection from public areas, i.e. streets, parking areas

3. Balance the population: Old/Young; Vacation/Residents; Affordable; Families; “VDU” limitations

- Sustain a healthy balance between city, family residences, vacation rentals, and commercial rental businesses. Fear is that VRBOs will continue to displace family homes and long-term family rental units
- Return city to a community of residents—moratorium on vacation rentals and phase out—decide on limit
- Provide affordable housing for families (to keep kids in town) and senior housing
- Maintain balance in low/med/high income housing options
- Create a place where old/young, new/long-time, rich/poor are treated with respect
- Determine a guiding principle—balance between the interests of residents of Trinidad and business interests which capitalize on town’s setting—in order to maintain the town and surrounding environment

4. Honor indigenous cultures and sacred sites (see Community Engagement and Relationship building goals and projects)

5. Ensure more basic commercial facilities

6. Develop youth-friendly projects for residents, families. Our community is aging out and I would like to encourage, welcome and invite youth.

7. Recognize needs of homeless, transients

- Work with county to plan for homeless and transients
- Create a place where homeless (an possibly mental ill/addicted) travelers can easily interface with county DHHS social workers for help (avoiding thefts, etc)
- Create a list of services for referrals

Community Engagement and Relationship Building Goals & Projects

1. Build/ improve relationships with local tribes. Respect indigenous people and land. Honor indigenous cultures and sacred sites.
 - Community-organized projects to build trust and relationships between Tsurai Ancestral Society, Rancheria, Yurok Tribe and the City
 - Land return to Tsurai
 - Fixing what happened between Tsurai and Trinidad regarding the lighthouse
 - Promote the importance of the Tsurai and educate the community on their heritage. Build ongoing appreciation of Native cultures, heritage, contributions
 - Reconciliation with Native American heritage and people
 - Teamwork—partnering with Native American neighbors, State Parks, Museum, library, Land Trust, Cal Fire, business community, school, civic, city to leverage our individual capabilities, and meet regularly
 - Bring an end to the bickering and threatened lawsuits, and lawsuits waved would be a hugely desirable outcome for everyone—new and ancient residents of the area
 - Develop a maintenance project which would engage the whole community to fix Axel Lundgren Memorial Trail and 12.5 acres TSA. A work party to trim, clean, maintain entire bluff, including village site so Tsurai Ancestral, Yurok Tribe, and Trinidad Rancheria, and all of Trinidad, all feel the area is respected and loved. Volunteers would probably make themselves available to assist in trimming, especially berry vines
 - Take the American flag down at the town hall to not perpetuate colonialism
 - Leave the American flag in place at town hall, lighthouse and at school
2. Provide annual opportunities for input from the community
3. Develop a skills/needs match-making volunteer network
4. Trinidad as a role model as a sustainable, abundant and thriving community working together as a big family.
 - Quarterly or seasonal community potluck event promoting community betterment
 - Have broad civic engagement

- Support a “village” project for senior aging in place
- Develop community garden
- Trinidad promotes itself as a destination for people to visit and engage with CA coastal trails, vistas, natural environments/beaches via a “Trinidad Boardwalk” or a Lighthouse trail
- Develop a city newsletter

Safety

1. Increase law enforcement
 - Partner with Rancheria for additional security, i.e. patrolling security guard
 - Develop SCOP volunteer base
 - Expand/continue Neighborhood Watch in local neighborhoods, include businesses
 - Video surveillance at multiple sites
 - Increase sheriff department time/presence. Have deputy be more proactive in enforcing rules and regulations. 7 days/week police presence, especially at night (9pm-5am)
2. Improve pedestrian safety, bike
 - Develop speed bumps/traffic calming plan for city
 - Investigate safe routes to school funding
 - Replace all streetlights with like poles
 - Develop bike lanes
 - Re-paint the pedestrian crosswalks
3. Plan for natural disaster safety
 - Review city’s emergency plan. Coordinate with all stakeholder—residents, businesses, school, Tribes
4. Address issues related to transient population
 - Reduce transient population
 - Investigate resources available in other cities in an effort to develop a plan for Trinidad
 - Keep people from camping on city property, especially museum, library and city park

Fiscal Stability and General Governance Goals & Projects

1. Enforce existing ordinances: Fair and consistent enforcement of existing ordinances, especially trees trails and signs. Focus on existing ordinances and limit putting forth any new ones due to limited city staffing
 - Finish sign ordinance process. Budget staff time to do it
 - Staff present real plan with budget and time to complete sign ordinance process
 - Old Wagon Road Trail—make it happen!

2. Have a long-term plan to develop a balanced budget to ensure fiscal stability (3-5 years?)
 - Direct staff to plan for and include long-term costs for projects, e.g. infrastructure projects should include post-project (ongoing) costs for staff, maintenance
 - Develop 3-year budget projections as part of the annual budget

3. Increase taxes
 - Increase city income from vacation rentals
 - Consider TOT rate via council
 - Plan ahead for sales tax expiration—renew sales tax?

Environmental Sustainability

1. Preserve forests for it's own sake
 - Forest stewardship should drive decision making
 - Save surrounding forest from clear cutting
 - Preserve forest around strawberry rock. Pressure Green Diamond to cancel two timber harvest plans around strawberry rock
 - Develop a docent program. It is an ecotourism opportunity
 - Link to National Monument
 - Develop multi use trails—hiking, biking, rock climbing, birding, wellbeing

2. Protect water quality, and develop long-term plan for water, ensuring adequate and safe water supply for future generations. Improve water conservation.
 - Restored Luffenholtz Creek watershed. Upstream restoration, drought-resistant re-vegetation, develop plan for groundwater recharge. Engage with all landholders. "What if Luffenholtz Creek goes dry?"
 - Develop additional storage. One million gallon storage tanks "underground," cisterns
 - Streamline water catchment tank permitting for residents
 - Get a handle on water distribution system
 - Eliminate the city's stemware discharge from Trinidad Bay
 - Have hydration station in town and more drinking fountains
 - Explore possibility of Mad River water lines to Trinidad and North

3. Increase recycling containers in public places

4. Upgrade septic systems that are failing

- Provide environmental sustainability mitigation funding for removal of septic tanks, pollution of ASBS, help of residential septic upgrades

5. Be proactive regarding climate change. Address climate change at a relevant scale (do our part). We are all in this together.

- Keep forests intact to increase O2 and decrease CO2, aka lungs of the earth. Maintains water quality. Increases biodiversity, habitat, native flora.
- Plant more trees to prepare for the future
- Be examples of health forests, watersheds and biodiversity
- Prepare for sea level rising
- Develop workshops on native plants and conferences on how native plants help decrease global warming

Other Goals & Projects

1. Take best advantage of our natural beauty, as Trinidad's attractiveness centers on the natural surroundings. That is our our tourism draw. Promote and market Trinidad's amazing coastal rocks and vistas/trails via a destination attraction

- Develop a mission statement/vision regarding Trinidad's scenic/cultural resources to help us promote and protect our resources
- Communicate the mission/vision statement via smartphone technology
- Create a detailed list of and map of points of interest in Trinidad and surrounding area. (The existing one leaves out areas)
- Increase city efforts to build infrastructure of natural resource recreation and market it as an eco-destination
- Funding outreach for eco tourism, you know, tax base
- Make city contribution to Humboldt County Convention and Visitors Bureau

2. Develop new, annual events that promote arts and other events

- Host tennis tournaments and bocci ball tournaments
- Jazz festival
- Support heritage arts music
- "Trinidad, not Tobago" Festival with fans
- Promote venues for fine arts
- Communicate about events via smartphone technology

3. Develop marquis on Town Hall

4. Move whale sculpture to Cal Trans lot where bike locker was formerly

Meeting Evaluation

Worked	To Change
Efficient use of time—we produced something	Ask more questions for clarification of each other and to increase participation
Turnout was good	Would have liked to prioritized in the meeting
Broad representation	Have food and drinks next time
	School kids perspective was missing
	Ensure people leave their contact info
	Draw attending for including turnout at future meetings

