

**From:** [Zenk, Jessica](#)  
**To:** [Downtown West Project](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: SAAG Updates  
**Date:** Thursday, March 4, 2021 7:18:19 AM

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**From:** Severino, Lori <[Lori.Severino@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:Lori.Severino@sanjoseca.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 3, 2021 3:38 PM  
**Cc:** Dave Javid <[dave@plantoplace.com](mailto:dave@plantoplace.com)>  
**Subject:** SAAG Updates

Hi SAAG,

We have a lot of updates, information to share, and upcoming engagement opportunities – including an event tomorrow (please help us spread the word)!

#### *SAAG Meeting Rescheduled to March 22*

We have decided to reschedule the SAAG Meeting for **Monday, March 22** and the Community Meeting to **Saturday, March 27** to allow more time to complete staff's recommended Development Agreement and prepare for the meeting. We apologize for any inconvenience this rescheduling may cause. We will share the agenda, Development Agreement, and other meeting details a week in advance. More info to follow on the Community Meeting as well.

#### *Work on the Community Benefit Fund concept*

We have posted a recent presentation from Estolano Advisors to the SAAG page, linked [here](#). The City and Google hired Estolano Advisors to research potential Community Benefit Fund structures associated with the Downtown West project, interview local stakeholders, and make initial recommendations. This presentation reports back on their work and was shared with the people interviewed at a meeting on February 12. We will discuss staff's recommendations related to this framework and seek your feedback at the upcoming SAAG meeting.

#### *Upcoming Engagement Opportunities*

**[Diridon Station Area & Google Project Information Session: Tomorrow, Thursday, March 4, 6:00 PM:](#)** The African American Community Service Agency (AACSA) invites you to this virtual

discussion on the plans for the Diridon Station Area, including Google's proposed Downtown West project. The event will include a short informational presentation by City staff, followed by Q&A and a feedback session to hear from community members. (Social media posts for easy sharing: [Nextdoor](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#))

**How will a Car-light Diridon area work? Monday, March 8, 6:00 PM:** At this virtual event hosted by Friends of Caltrain, learn about the City of San Jose's plans and policies in the works, best practices from car-light/transit-rich hubs in other communities, and opportunities for transit to move more people seamlessly and conveniently in the Diridon area and beyond. (Social media posts for easy sharing: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Nextdoor](#))

#### *Reporting back on the Fall 2020 Engagement Round*

Here is a [summary](#) of what we did and heard during the Fall 2020 round. The team is currently considering this feedback as they prepare to take the Downtown West Project, Diridon Station Area Plan Amendment, and Diridon Affordable Housing Implementation Plan through the public hearing process this spring.

#### *Environmental Document for the Diridon Station Area Plan Amendment now available for public review*

The City of San Jose prepared an Initial Study/Addendum to the Downtown Strategy 2040 EIR for the proposed Diridon Station Area Plan Amendment. It can be found [here](#). Please submit comments on the Draft Initial Study/Addendum to [Shannon Hill](#) by Thursday, April 1, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

#### *Updates to the proposed Downtown West Design Standards and Guidelines*

Google recently published this [blog article](#) about the updates to the proposed Downtown West Design Standards and Guidelines, submitted to the City this week. Please refer to the City's [project website](#) for the latest information on their application and to the [DSAP/Google page](#) for additional background info on the project.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!  
Lori

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**From:** Severino, Lori  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 4, 2021 4:47 PM  
**Cc:** Dave Javid <dave@plantoplace.com>

**Subject:** SAAG Update

Hello SAAG members,

I hope you all are staying safe. Here are a couple updates.

1. *Virtual SAAG Meeting scheduled for Monday, March 15, 6:00-9:00 PM*

The main agenda topic for the next SAAG meeting will be the staff-recommended **Development Agreement for the Downtown West project**, pursuant to City Council direction (December 2018). We will also provide a general process update. We will send around information to review in advance and are working on a meeting format that will provide all SAAG members with a fair opportunity to provide their thoughts. We expect a lot of public comment at this meeting and are planning for a full 3 hours. There will be Spanish and Vietnamese interpretation available. Look for an email about a week in advance with detailed information about the SAAG meeting.

There will also be a **public meeting on Saturday, March 20 at 10:00 AM** on the same topic as the SAAG meeting. This will be the best way for community members to share their feedback on the staff-recommended Downtown West Development Agreement. There will also be a digital feedback option for those that cannot attend either event. Staff will compile the feedback from both meetings and share it with the Planning Commission and City Council for their consideration.

Note that we are planning for this to be the **last full SAAG meeting before the City Council hearings** on the Downtown West Project, Amended DSAP, and Diridon Affordable Housing Implementation Plan this spring.

2. *Other Community Engagement Updates*

The City hosted or participated in over 20 public meetings and community engagement events on the Diridon Station Area over the last 5 months – giving presentations, listening to feedback, and answering questions. We really appreciate the time and input from SAAG members and the community! The team is currently considering all this feedback as they prepare for the public hearing process this spring.

We are also planning several more events over the next couple months, including the Community Meeting mentioned above. Stay tuned for more info!

Please refer to <https://www.diridonsj.org/diridon-station-area-plan-google-project> for the latest, and let me know if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

Thanks!  
Lori

**Lori Severino**

Diridon Program Manager

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