

# THE PILOT



Volume 36 Number 3

Redwood Shores Community Association

March 2006

## RSCA COMMENTS

By Michael Whatmore  
RSCA President

The Redwood Shores Community Association Annual Meeting of February 8th inspired me to reflect on the great value of social capital that is present in our neighborhood.

The evening brought forth how eloquently local education challenges are being met through a unified community of residents. In the course of RSCA facilitating a Belmont-Redwood Shores Elementary School District meeting last December, a special task force of residents emerged as a way forward in the planning of a new elementary school to be located in Redwood Shores.

A school that is intended to fulfill the needs of our children for years to come, will receive the value of user input from the residents of the community that it is intended to serve. This action announced by Superintendent John McIntosh during the RSCA Annual Meeting, showed great courage for the sensitivities of inclusion at the grass-roots level of this significant community project.

Redwood City Librarian, Dave Genesy brought our members up-to-date on developments with the planned library slated for Marine Parkway.

*(Continued on page 8)*

## STATE OF THE SHORES

### RSCA PRESIDENT JEFF GEE

opened the meeting with a brief synopsis of the state of Redwood Shores. RSCA Boardmembers for 2006 were introduced.

**MAYOR BARBARA PIERCE**, the first speaker, described the remodeled downtown Redwood City, which includes the new plaza with a 20 screen cinema on the second floor and stores and cafe's on the first floor. The courthouse was designed and remodeled to look like the old one, which is a site to behold, and a plaza in the center to just sit and enjoy.

**RWC MANAGER ED EVERETT** defined community. He explained that he found when there is a crisis, people begin to realize how important it is to be part of a community because you find that you are connected to something and not alone. "The different communities in Redwood City should get together to work and make a connection. P.A.C.T. is a good organization to join because you learn about the inner workings of the city."

**JOHN MC INTOSH, BEL/RWS SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT** described the process of building a new school in Redwood Shores: Search for possible school site, inviting Community members to participate; Shores Advisory Committee reviews sites and makes

*(Continued on page 3)*



RSCA President 2005  
Jeff Gee



Mayor Barbara Pierce



City Manager  
Ed Everett



Bel/RWS School  
Superintendent  
John McIntosh

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The Board of Directors meets promptly at 7:30 P.M., the third Thursday of each month.

Our next meeting is March 16th, 2006 at Sandpiper Community Center  
**DEADLINES DEADLINES!!!**

The deadline for the April Issue is the week of March 13th  
**THE PILOT**

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# (STATE OF REDWOOD SHORES - Continued from page 1)

a recommendation to the school board; State requirements and approval; site acquisition CEQA/public hearings; qualifications and proposals; Shores Committee reviews school design; architect design, build team selection; design and layout specifications; State approvals; bid process; construction phase, and time range 3-5 years.

Best case scenario–November 2005 to September 2008.

Worst case–November 2005 to September 2010.

## DAVE GENESY, RWC CITY

**LIBRARY DIRECTOR** talked about how the Redwood Shores Community Library will serve as a distinctive gateway to Redwood Shores and a beacon to the community as a central gathering place. The building will provide an educational learning environment filled with rich resources, while protecting the natural resources around it. The library is sculpted to meet the water, each room open to light while raised floors maximize views into the library and the shores beyond. Story telling becomes both a literal and symbolic element in the form of a lighthouse that is featured as you enter the Shores. The Cafe spills out onto a deck which becomes the boardwalk. Last but not least, an Interpretive Center evolved as an essential educational component of the library, enabling the community to observe and learn about the natural habitat that surround them.



Library Director  
Dave Genesy

## BLAKE LYON - RWC ASSOCIATE

**PLANNER & STAFF** presented the Redwood Shores Lagoon Bank Policy and Construction Guidelines. and a week later at the Council meeting it was presented again. The intent of the meeting was to familiarize the City Council with the Draft Policy and associated issues, present the Planning Commission's Recommendations, allow the public an opportunity to provide comments and give the City Council the opportunity to provide comments and to ask questions and/or provide direction to the staff. Staff's presentation focused on identifying current issues, highlighting how policy addresses those issues and what remaining steps need to be taken before the item can be brought back to the City Council for a public hearing for a deciding vote. The "Policy" is available for review on the City's website at: [www.redwoodcity.org](http://www.redwoodcity.org).  
<<http://wwwredwoodcity.org/>>

## PAT WEBB -

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR PROJECTS IN CONSTRUCTION:

**1. Courthouse & Courthouse square-** Restoration of 1910 facade and portico Anticipated completion - September 06'

**2. On Broadway -** Retail/Cinema project with underground public parking garage

\* **Cinema multiplex** with 20 auditoriums and 4200 seats will be located on the second floor

### \* Tenants Currently Under Lease:

1. Century Theatres
  2. Cost Plus World Markets
  3. Shoe Pavilion
  4. San Mateo Credit Union
  5. Escape from New York Pizza
  6. Bread Papa (pastries)
  7. Marble Slab (ice cream)
  8. Chipotle (Mexican Food)
  9. Tandoori Oven (Northern Indian Food)
  10. Fatburger
  11. Tacone (sandwiches, etc.)
- Anticipated completion - May 06'



### 3. Streetscape & Pedestrian Improvements

#### 4. Way-finding Signage

\* New signage to facilitate visitors ability to locate points of interest and public parking facilities

\* To be placed in strategic entrances to Redwood City and downtown

#### 5. Post Office Paseo

\* Creation of a pleasant public walkway between the Post Office on Jefferson and the adjacent restaurant

#### 6. Parking Management Plan

\* A new parking management plan for downtown designed to facilitate ease of parking for visitors

## PETER VORAMETSANTI, RWC SR. CIVIL ENGINEER

- The levee was improved during 1998 to 2001 at a cost of \$5 million a large portion of which went to mitigation and permitting
- Segment 1 extended to SC airport
- Area behind Bridgeport did not need improvement
- Segment II took it to SBSA
- Segment III around SBSA will be done within the year.
- Segment IV and V was done as part of Lido
- Segment VI and VII around Area H has a double levee and was not improved
- Area around Westport and Oracle are built up high and does not need to be improved
- Segment VIII at the new library site was completed
- The height protection is 2' above the 100 year high tide (less settlement)
- The width integrity is good, but more is always better, this variable was limited by the resource agencies with concerns about wetland and endangered species habitat
- It is not mandatory for all buildings in Redwood Shores to purchase flood insurance
- In case of a flooding disaster, FEMA will be the agency to provide help

(Continued on page 4)

# (STATE OF REDWOOD SHORES - Continued from page 3)

- The lagoon system is a large storm drain holding pond
- Any overflow will find it's way into the lagoon system
- The level in the lagoon is controlled by automatic pumps, and the pumps will pump out the water

**PETER INGRAM -  
RWC DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**Pipeline Construction to Begin in the Shores this Spring**

Bid packages for pipeline construction of the Recycled Water Project have been released to contractors and contracts will likely be awarded in February and March. The construction is expected to begin in mid-March.. Pipelines on Redwood Shores Parkway and in other areas will follow in 2007. A letter from the city will be mailed in March to all households and businesses in the Shores, providing more detailed pipeline construction plans. Informational construction meetings for areas in the immediate vicinity of construction will also be announced and held prior to construction. Details of traffic plans and schedules will be discussed and made available. This same construction information will also be available via e-mail and online on the City's web site. For more information, please visit [www.RedwoodCity.org/RecycledWater](http://www.RedwoodCity.org/RecycledWater). To receive project updates, send an email to [RCupdates@datainstincts.com](mailto:RCupdates@datainstincts.com).

**Water Conservation Update**

For property managers, homeowner associations, landscape contractors, or other businesses with a dedicated irrigation water meter. The Large Landscape Irrigation Efficiency Program has offered the opportunity to maximize water efficiency and save money since 2002. The Large Landscape Audit, a valuable part of the program, is a free service that allows the aforementioned water users to, upon request, have an irrigation consultant visit your site to evaluate the condition of your irrigation system, assess its operation and possible need for repairs, and recommend changes in a detailed report that will help you save water and money. Redwood City can also evaluate your Landscape Water Use Report, consolidating water use data and evaluating use across the entire site, helping you in making informed scheduling decisions about your irrigation systems. As a result of this program, customers saved nearly 2.7 million gallons in 2003, representing a 3% improvement in water efficiency at 74 homeowner association sites. To add to the success of the Large Landscape Irrigation Efficiency Program, upcoming program enhancements will reward those with exceptional "Best Management Practices", while allowing exceptional landscape water savers to lead by example. There are three new program enhancements:

**1.Landscape Conservation Recognition Program.**

Irrigation sites that meet their water budget throughout the year will be formerly recognized by the City for their efforts in irrigation conservation.

**2.Education Workshops** for HOA Board Members and property managers will be held at the end of March.

- Landscape Irrigation Efficiency Workshop - March 30th
- Open House for Redwood Shores Construction: Late March/Early April.

**3.Model Site Program.** Three large landscape sites will be selected for this program to demonstrate how to maintain an attractive landscape within an appropriate water budget by applying weather-based irrigation schedules and properly maintaining the existing irrigation system and landscaping. Call Redwood City's Water Conservation Hotline at 780-7436 for information, or contact the City's program representative, John Whitcomb, directly at [BMP5Services@aol.com](mailto:BMP5Services@aol.com), or at (800)800-9519 to schedule an irrigation evaluation.

Large Landscape Audits and the Landscape Water Use Report are suggested by the California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC) in its Best Management Practices for large landscape irrigation water users. The City Council launched the program in early 2002 with the goal of helping customers reduce water waste and improve the condition of their landscapes, focusing on irrigation system maintenance and scheduling throughout the year.

**SBSA Construction Update** Concrete deliveries are being made on a regular basis. There are about 30 deliveries a day, twice a week through mid-February. At this time, there will be a week or two without deliveries, and then pouring will start again intermittently until the project:S fall completion.

**Project Milestones for 2006**

- February 13 - Council to award Pipeline Bid Package # 1
  - March - Council to review Treatment Performance Monitoring Program
  - March 13 - Council to award Pipeline Bid Package #2
  - Mid Mar. - Construction begins Pkg. #1
  - April 24 - Council to review Cross Connection Prevention Program
  - Mid Apr. - Construction begins Pkg. #2
- Project Information Resources: 650 743-5759  
[RCConstruction@Datainstincts.com](mailto:RCConstruction@Datainstincts.com)  
[www.RedwoodCityorg/Recycled Water](http://www.RedwoodCityorg/RecycledWater)

**VICE MAYOR ROSANNE FOUST,**

summarized three key projects in Redwood Shores.

1. Investigating a new technology in dealing with geese problems.
2. Lagoon Use - The Park & Recreation Department and the RWC City Attorney's Office are reviewing Guidelines and possible ordinance language to bring back to the community.
3. Bair Island and the Re-Opening of our Levees. - The City is waiting for information on the re-opening of biological opinion regarding the endangered species from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife.



Vice Mayor  
Rosanne Foust

**RSCA PRESIDENT JEFF GEE** - asked for questions and comments and then adjourned the meeting. There were about 90 people in attendance.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re: Spending Redwood Shores Taxpayers' Money  
Without Their Formal Input

Dear Editor:

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Redwood Shores Owners Association to express our concern with a recent proposal for the use of the remaining money in the Facilities Fee Fund (Fund) of the Redwood Shores General Improvement District 1-64 (GID 1-64).

This Fund was established in 1982 as a means to pay for infrastructure such as roads, utilities and other public improvements in Redwood Shores. Facility fees were paid into the Fund by residential and commercial developers. The developers passed on the cost of these fees in the form of higher home prices and lease rates in their projects. Thus, the funds really came from the residential and commercial taxpayers in Redwood Shores.

A committee called the Facilities Fee Management Committee (Committee) controls the expenditure of these funds. After Redwood Shores was built out several years ago, about \$7 million remained in the Fund awaiting appropriation and distribution at the Committee's direction. In August of this year, the Fund is due to be closed.

To date, approximately \$5.5 million of the Fund has been designated or formally appropriated to build a library in the Shores. While the library was championed by a small group of Shores residents, neither they nor the City sought a formal poll or vote of Shores taxpayers (the owners of this money) to determine the community's wishes on how the funds should be spent.

As the August, 2006 deadline approaches, this same group now wants to designate the remaining \$1.5 million to further support the library, using the entire \$7 million that remained in the Fund for one project. Again, no formal input from Redwood Shores taxpayers has been asked for or included in this group's proposal.

Perhaps this is the best use of the remaining funds. Perhaps not. Other uses for this money have been suggested. These include building a boat house at Don Warren Marina, modifying Shell Parkway to allow a water connection of the two major lagoons navigable by small boats, building a public gymnasium that could be free to residents, or even endowing our future local public school in the Shores. There may be other ideas.

Plainly put: No one knows exactly what the Shores' taxpayers would want to do with these remaining funds. At this time, it appears that formal community input will be largely left out of the decision-making process. This is inappropriate. We urge the City and the Facilities Fee Management Committee to formally poll Redwood Shores taxpayers for their preferences for the use of these funds. After all, it is their money!

David Valkenaar, President,  
Redwood Shores Owners Association

February 10, 2006

To: David Valkenaar, President  
Redwood Shores Owners  
Association

Dear David:

Thank you for sharing the Redwood Shores Owner's Association Board of Directors' concerns on the use of Redwood Shores General Improvement District I-64 (GID) funds to support the new Redwood Shores Community Library. I appreciate the opportunity to respond to the issues you raised.

In your letter, you ask the question of why the City isn't obtaining Redwood Shores' taxpayers' formal input into how the GID funds are appropriated. The funds are allocated in conformance with the original structure and process of the GID. The appropriations from GID funds to augment the library's project have been voted on, and approved, by the GID Committee, following that process. The Committee has voted not only to add the Library to the GID project list, but on three subsequent occasions voted to provide funding for the construction.

Indeed, the current GID Committee's goal is to represent the Redwood Shores community. Its membership includes the Redwood Shores Community Association, the Redwood Shores Owners Association, the Shores Business Center, the City Manager, and the City's Manager of Engineering and Construction. There have been numerous appropriations from the GID for infrastructure projects, all approved by the Committee, on behalf of the Redwood Shores community.

As representatives of the Redwood Shores community, the GID Committee votes, and makes a recommendation to the City Council as to such expenditures. That GID process is no different for the library infrastructure expenditures.

I also want to point out that there has been significant public involvement and comment into the decision to build a new library. For example, our 2001 biennial neighborhood survey consisted of 630 randomly-selected Redwood City residents, with an intentional over-sampling from Redwood Shores (100 people). One of the questions asked what type of facility they would most like to have in Redwood Shores - a public library was ranked number one by the Shores respondents. Inclusion of community meeting spaces in the library proposal responds to another highly-rated need.

*(Continued on page 8)*





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## **SYNOPSIS OF RSCA**

*By Pete Hughes*

I worked on putting together the speakers agenda for the annual meeting of the Redwood Shores Community Association. One of the agenda items is the election of a board of directors and it occurred to me it was just about ten years ago I was one of the candidates for the board. Up until then I had been attending board meetings just as a member of the association before I was finally nominated to the board. Since then I have been moderately active and have gained far more in fellowship with my neighbors than I have invested in the organization.



The Redwood Shores Community Association has a maximum of twenty-five board members and sponsors six major annual events, puts on eight to ten information programs annually, has a representative at almost all the governmental meetings which affect Redwood Shores and publishes the Pilot. The board meets once a month on Thursday evenings and for me, it has been a grand way to stay abreast of what is happening in my chosen part of the world. Our board is sometimes described as twenty-five leaders and no followers. The discussions are lively and reflect the diversity of our board and of Redwood Shores. Another of the things our board does on an informal, individual basis is support city council candidates of our choice. Colleen Jordan was elected to two terms a number of years ago and our current council member, Rosanne Foust, was elected three years ago and is now the vice mayor of Redwood City. Both ladies kept strong ties to the Redwood Shores Community Association and are recognized by the community as being from Redwoods Shores although their loyalties, of course, are for what is best for Redwood City as a whole. Having a member of our neighborhood recognized as being from our neighborhood makes us unique among neighborhoods in Redwood City. The ability to have a significant influence in the politics of Redwood City has lent the association a stature among the political leadership of Redwood City which has helped protect our interests in Redwood Shores.

We have separate interests in Redwood Shores which are not enough to cause us to make a separate city of ourselves but certainly to require a strong voice to make our needs heard and the association, I think, provides that voice. I am pleased with the time I have given the association and Redwood Shores and I have helped myself by protecting my home value and giving me the opportunity to be associated with a fine group of people. It has been a good ten years.

---

### **CORRECTIONS TO THE FEBRUARY ISSUE**

- Caroline Dinsmore's ad on page 16 was a misprint.
- Vivian Crisman was not given credit for writing the article about the new School Advisory Board.

## **(LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - Continued from page 6)**

There were three community workshops for library design, two regulatory meetings (Plan Review and Architectural Review), and regular updates and feedback presentations at Redwood Shores Community Association meetings. A Community Advisory Committee was convened and involved. Focus groups, community forums, and staff workshops were held. A community survey was conducted (to which nearly 200 Redwood Shores residents responded) asking Shores residents about the types of services desired and potential uses of a branch library. All of these were key opportunities for community input and involvement.

I present this information to illustrate that we have gone to great lengths to gain the community's participation on the development of a branch library in Redwood Shores, and that we have achieved a significant level of input in favor of proceeding. All of these elements clearly point to Redwood Shores' community-wide support for the project.

The GID appropriation of these funds, as accomplished through the normal, established process of the GID Committee representing the Redwood Shores community, is appropriate. Any concerns with the Committee's decisions to allocate funds would best be addressed through the GID Committee itself.

The City is looking forward to delivering the project as originally envisioned and subsequently designed, and thereby serving the needs of the Redwood Shores community.

Sincerely, Barbara Pierce  
Mayor, Redwood City

---

### **(RSCA COMMENTS - Continued from page 1)**

Located opposite the Peninsula Landing housing complex, this library also results from a considerable effort of the RSCA Board and in particular several of its directors. It will encompass opportunities for serving the reading and research needs of residents, a community coffee spot, through to occasions that include staging future weddings. More than an RSCA effort, our new library becomes possible through the support of Redwood Shores based businesses.

As we move forward with our agenda this year, it is with pleasure that I report the RSCA has a full twenty-five member board. Comprised entirely of Redwood Shores residents, board members will contribute generously of their time and of their considerable talent in the coming months to make this a more desirable community in which to live, work and play.

My sincere appreciation is extended to all who have worked tirelessly to bring RSCA to this point and for their unrelenting contributions to our community well-being; this is demonstrating social capital at its finest.



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**TWO GREAT MARCH EVENTS AT THE REDWOOD CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY:**

Antique Auto Display and a Spring Gardening Workshop - First, on Sunday, March 5, there will be a display of antique automobiles in the public parking lot next to the Downtown Library at the corner of Jefferson and Middlefield Roads from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. The event is free and promises a great time for kids, families, adults, and seniors!

Members of the Mid Peninsula Old Time Auto Club will be on hand to answer any questions about the vehicles. Books and photos of antique cars to complement Sunday's event are on display in the Downtown Library through March 5.

Then, on Thursday, March 9, a Spring Gardening Workshop comes to the Downtown Library at 7:30 p.m. Erhard Wegman will offer expert local information on planting for successful spring veggies and flowers. Erhard Wegman is part of the family that has owned Wegman's Nursery in Redwood City for 45 years. The community is invited to bring their gardening "frequently asked questions" to this informational and fun event! And, participants will receive free coupons to use on their next visit to Wegman's Nursery.

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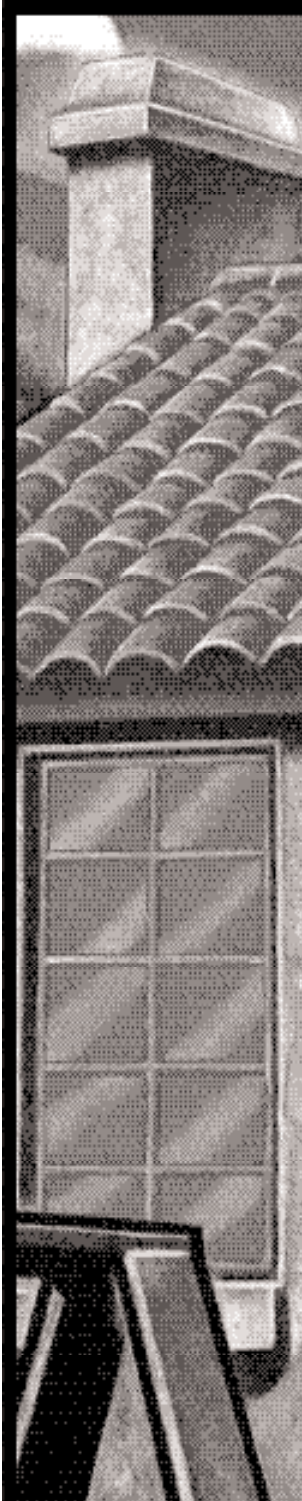
## **Useful Tips - 6 to 12 months**

- ✓ First tooth should appear.
- ✓ To help prevent cavities avoid putting infant to bed with bottle.
- ✓ Begin to brush teeth twice per day with small, soft-bristled brush.
- ✓ Do not use toothpaste.
- ✓ Wean from breast or bottle by first birthday.



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### Redwood Shores Community Branch

210 Redwood Shores Parkway (In the Marketplace)

Paul Reilly, Branch Manager

(650) 591-7845 or (650) 508-0300

Provident Community Branch Locations: Belmont, Daly City, Emeryville, Folsom, Hayward, Los Gatos, Menlo Park, Millbrae, Monterey, Oakland, Redwood Shores, San Francisco, San Jose, San Mateo, Walnut Creek

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