

El Camino Real Renewal Project

How We Got Here
Where We Are Going
March 5, 2026



Burlingame Station (1894)

Jan. 11, 2020
© Corporate Development Partners

How This Started

- Years of Impasse between CalTrans and City
- 2014 Floribunda Problem / Solution / Resolution in 2016
- 2017/18 Task Force – City + CalTrans

Michael Wiebracht -- resident

Bobbi Benson -- resident

Ed Neisman -- resident

Gaird Schlesinger -- resident

Jen Pfaff – Historic Society

Richard Kirchner –

Beautification

Howard Wettan – Traffic/Safety

Michael Brownrigg -- Council

Emily Beach -- Council

City Staff

- Note Character is more than the trees
- Trees / Sidewalks / Roadway / Drainage

Objectives

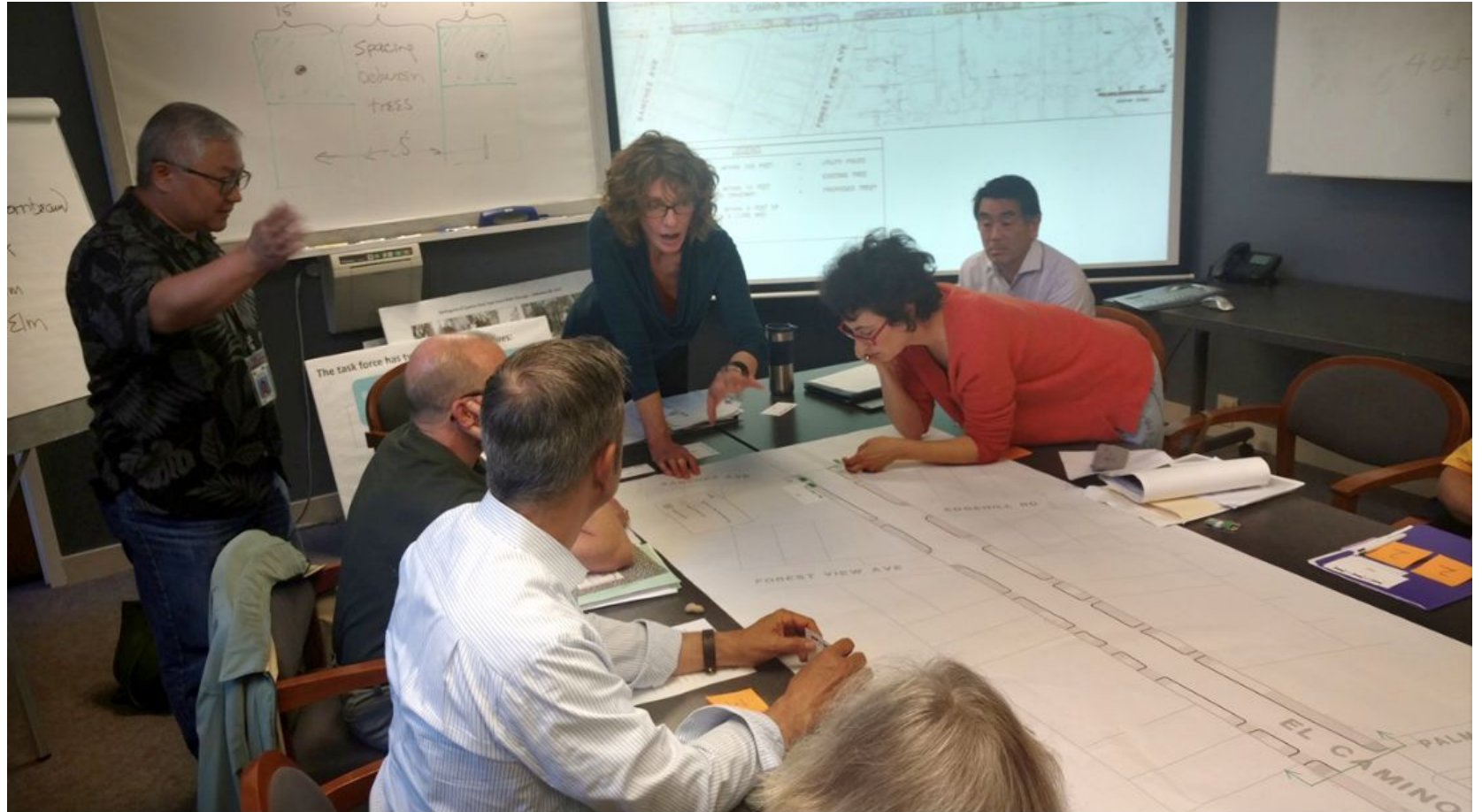
- » Retain the character and health of “The Grove,” and
- » Improve the safety of the roadway and sidewalks.

Picked A Representative Section of ECR

Burlingame El Camino Real Task Force Walk Through – February 28, 2017



“Fishbowl” Meetings over 18 months



Priorities and Findings

- Sidewalks
 - ownership
 - Many portions of sidewalk right next to ECR
 - ADA requirements
- Tree Health neither an art nor a science
 - Many fewer salvageable trees than we expected
- CalTrans highway tree planting guidelines
 - Line of sight
 - Better irrigation/soil
- To make this all work, Utility Poles go underground!

Existing



Caltrans Specifications



Task Force Proposal (and very close to final CalTrans design)



Roadway / Sidewalk Priorities

- » Retain existing width of roadway.
 - » Improve crosswalk safety.
 - » Provide clear sight lines at intersections and driveways.
 - » Install a quiet, smooth surface.
- Improve Drainage
 - Place trees between ECR and Sidewalk
 - Ensure 10' sidewalk



Capital & Planning

- The Compromise Vision was presented to Council in an emotional session in 2018 and city approved proceeding with plan
- Years long development and EIR process by CalTrans
 - Completed in 2024
- State Approved \$130M budget late 2025
 - City proactively acquired undergrounding “credits” for PG&E
 - Budget includes work to restore public right of way
 - This will be one of the largest infrastructure investments in decades for Burlingame
- Work Commenced this year, will turn to CalTrans
 - First some comments by Jen Pfaff
 - Finally Q&A

Jennifer Pfaff – ECR Task Force Member, Burlingame Historic
Society