

S A F E W A Y

Berkeley Community Meeting
Thursday, May 31, 2007
Jewish Community Center
1414 Walnut Street

(85 individuals signed in; approximately 140 people attended.)

Comments, Concerns & Questions:

- Is there space for other tenants -- either residential or retail? (unlikely due to space and parking restrictions)
- If there were housing, the density and parking would be a major disruption. Consensus at this meeting was opposed to housing. Current restriction is 35 foot height.
- Doubling the square footage is too big (Linda Harris, Henry St. resident)
- The vacant lot behind store is cluttered with garbage and overgrown. This needs to be remedied.
- A few people love the Eucalyptus trees; Henry Street residents say any pretty replacement trees would be fine.
- Local merchants would like to rent some parking spaces for validated customer parking.
- Clean up, remove or hide the recycling center.
- Provide space for City Car Share program, including electrical access. Have plug-in ports for hybrid cars..
- Delivery trucks sit idling long hours along Henry Street. Can deliveries be made from the Shattuck side? What kind of hours will be set for the new store?
- Will Safeway install solar panels? (David Stoloff says that he installed panels and cut his utility bill in half.)
- Can you move the entrance to the parking garage to Shattuck Ave?
- How will community input happen? (Additional meetings, website)
- Sustainable Berkeley advocated for the “edge facing Shattuck Ave. to be continuous, an active streetscape.” Lively, pedestrian-friendly, with a deli & tables

addressing Shattuck. (Seating with umbrellas along Shattuck Ave. received applause)

- Can Safeway pledge to build state-of-the-art, sustainable green?
- Parking should be invisible, below level and in the building, with a parking attendant. Eliminate the parking lot. Upgrade parking on Shattuck.
- Can Safeway develop high-quality, sustainable meat, fish (not farmed) & produce and still keep the prices low?
- What percentage of products offered at Safeway are produced locally?
- Both traffic flow and parking on Henry Street are seriously flawed. Can entrance to parking be moved to the Shattuck Ave. side?
- One speaker had polled employees between Rose & Vine streets. There are 200 employees who use Longs or Safeway for all-day parking. Will Safeway allocate some spaces for employees?
- Rainwater doesn't percolate through asphalt. Can permeable, sustainable surface be used for future parking area?
- Can Safeway provide an electric shuttle to BART? Seniors need shuttles to/from the hills. There is no reasonable public transportation in the hills. This is an AC Transit problem, not a Safeway problem.
- Safeway needs more checkers to reduce the wait in lines.
- How will the dangers of asbestos be handled during the demolition?
- Take up with the City of Berkeley that Henry Street does NOT get swept and cars are abandoned there.
- Will the old well remain on the premises? Can it be incorporated into the pedestrian-friendly area? Can non-potable water be used to irrigate landscaping or cleaning?
- We need an entrance that avoids the traffic lane on Shattuck.
- To the comment that doubling the size of the new Safeway would encounter few problems if they designed something truly beautiful and world class, there was heavy applause. It was repeated when the speaker said that current parking was the least beautiful. "The size should be determined by whatever Safeway needs."

- One speaker asked for a commitment to bring on an additional architect who was very green to assess the work by Marcy Wong. (declined)
- Appreciation was expressed for Safeway's hiring of developmentally disabled and for the beauty of the Alameda store. More applause for having a union workforce.
- Corporate donations go mostly to GOP
- Livable Berkeley representative asked for
 - Store facing Shattuck
 - Hide parking
 - Include housing
 - Consider planned use development
- Turn store lights down at night
- Make store smaller, not bigger. Safeway can't compete with Andronico's or Trader Joe's
- Pay attention to health issues during demolition & construction
- Reduce shelf heights
- Configure entrance so it's not necessary to cross traffic to enter store
- How many stories will it be? (Could be 3 levels: underground parking, store, offices. Some talk about 50-100 units of housing)
- What is the timeframe? (2011-2012, dependent upon Berkeley permit process)
- Organizing neighborhood input? Eventual website with interim use of Councilman Capitelli's page. Additional meeting will follow initial architectural drawings.
- How to mitigate disruption of construction?