

Appendix F – Sample evaluation comments

These are evaluation comments from people who attended the March 17, 2019 Gathering. Some are written in English and some were written in Spanish. If the handwriting on the evaluation was not legible, that comment was not included. These comments are sorted into sections per the questions in the evaluation form.

This is what I discovered/learned about my community at today's gathering:

- Many concerned people wanting to participate in change.
- Lots of participation from many people in the community. Good energy. Clear ways to express opinions about desires for community support
- We need affordable housing, water system flow, we need beautification projects that will benefit the community i.e. parks, sidewalks.
- Beef/steak production is not a climate friendly operation!
- Close community
- Not enough funding
- Many of the items (posters) have been talked about for years.
- Discovered how many folks wanted to come out and participate.
- All members of community are engaged. Votes are in favor of doing everything!
- Level of interest from Spanish speaking community.
- Long standing concerns are still alive since last workshop
- That there's more motivation to change the town than I thought.
- I learned to meet new people
- I met a lot of new persons and I learned that nothing can be done without people in charge being involved
- People are concerned and want to have their voices heard
- Despite being a small community, the participation of our people is very interesting
- We all basically want the same things for Pescadero
- The earlier round table meetings were essential to be at if you had ideas to be included in a "vote".
- Learned about the key priorities of the community.
- We have a lot of ideas, ambitions and goals for our town.
- There are so many possibilities

- This is an organized effort to make positive changes. People of all walks of life are interested and motivated in an integrated way.
- Things can improve
- Things can be improved
- Union makes us stronger
- I discovered how we can improve housing and make decisions on the boards on the wall.
- To be present and participate in this meeting.
- I discovered the community is united
- I discovered the community was united to support
- I learned that Pescadero has a lot of history and it depends on a large group of people
- I learned we all have different needs and I saw that we are not in agreement with certain changes in Pescadero.
- That there is a lot of support about housing and scholarships for our children
- I discovered that there are a lot of needs in Pescadero
- To spend time with other people
- To meet new people
- I realized today that the community is very sure of what we want in the future for our children
- I discovered how organized is our community and that everything is possible with hard work.
- People are interested in our town
- I discovered a lot of things
- Today I learned that every time the community is stronger and with hard work, we can achieve a lot
- That there are things we learn in these meetings
- That we continue learning
- Today I discovered that the community is big, and we have a lot of important and basic needs
- New things Pescadero needs
- It was helpful to see the roll-up of proposals from the planning meetings.
- The community is strong
- We are all here to support the community

- How we answered the boards was vague, much more info needed.
- The many people I know in the community were not here. Property owners need to be consulted.
- So many interest groups, great to do small greeting exercise to meet new people.
- I arrived late
- Much of the community feels very united about certain issues like sewage and housing.
- I met a lot of people from the community
- People want housing and water treatment.
- That everything was very important. Thanks for moving forward the things that are needed and well, there is hope.
- Everyone is welcomed
- There is a lot of land to build
- That many people in Pescadero and nearby (who) truly care about their town and are willing to spend time improving it.
- There is a community interest in inclusive. Clearly a main interest in more housing. Need for trails to the beach.
- Everyone (or the majority) want more housing, water and sewage.
- That pretty much everybody cares about this community.
- I learned about the diverse history of Pescadero I learned about others needs and values. I discovered that there is no government in Pescadero other than a supervisor thus the future of Pescadero is directly in the hands of the people. Pescadero cares.
- So much love for this community. Some issues (flagpole) are split, which doesn't seem like a conversation for me.
- Everyone loves this community
- A lot more people want a pool than I thought. Lots of people came out and that is what I love.
- Learned more about the work that has occurred to date of the issues that have been identified. Especially glad to hear about sewer, H2O, housing and safe walkways to Memorial Park.
- We mostly share a positive vision for Pescadero's future.
- How much community that is here! Neat.
- There's a surprisingly unified sentiment about life here – a sense of safety and sense of optimism and empowerment. A deeply rich community.

- To show up and participate.
- Re-learned the passion my neighbors and I share to improve our town to make more services available and accessible.
- There is a great interest in an intentional planning of Pescadero.
- There are many popular possibilities for Pescadero.
- Inspiring to see which ideas have clear and uncontroversial support in the community. Other ideas seem to have mixed support and questions, but some ideas are no-brainers and have broad support.
- That we have many needs in; and with a united community we can achieve what we want.
- That we have the same dreams.
- That a majority of our community is interested in preparing Pescadero for the future and improving it for all of us now.
- That we agree on many things. We all want the same.
- Dearborn Park was not represented
- That there are many needs in Pescadero, and that the community is united to achieve the changes we need
- About the unity in our community to meet the needs of our community
- I learned that everything is possible with the support of all the citizens of Pescadero. Thank you. I will provide support
- That someone is finally going to do something
- Great participation, a little less English more grammar for understatement and the welcoming of the snack/appetizing food.
- Excellent steering organizations leading focused and clear process.
- There is a wide range of opinion and need due to the diversity of the community
- Met people from various parts of the community: Learned more about possible projects and learned the feeling of other community members about the projects.
- We're rather fond of our community but accessibility to our own town is something we need access to.
- I am inspired to see how united we are as a community in what we feel will benefit our town. Our community – collective voice is strong and clear about what we all want and need.
- I love this community and we are able to work together. I have a much better idea of what we collectively need/want.

- The diversity of Pescadero. The community has been dominated by a small group of loud voices. This is refreshing. Thank you.
- Level of interest is specific projects. History of development and changes.
- A lot of people in community share common desires/concerns.
- A pathway to making changes in Pescadero and community members' wishes.
- We have a lot in common that we would like to see in the future.
- I learned how much effort is getting put in.
- The things that we are most interested in – this was very helpful.
- I appreciated that there seemed to be wide representation of the community
- Great community involvement
- How much the Spanish and English speaking have come together since 2004.
- Everybody is willing to help for the wellbeing of the town
- We all value openness and friendliness. We agree on infrastructure priorities: housing, transport, parks, laundry.
- There is a lot more common ground between community members, than often appears in meetings.
- These issues are really important to the community based in turnout and how people voted. The participation is really awesome and I'm grateful to have been here.
- I learned several issues I was unaware of but agree that they are significant.
- Overwhelmingly many more people are united in seeing changes than I thought would be the case.
- That there are a lot of community members who are invested in this process. Additionally, I learned about many of the issues facing Pescadero and some of the solutions to these issues (such as housing).
- We live in a forward-thinking community. People are interested in keeping the community feel but better.
- Lots of ideas and thoughts. Also, a lot of new faces
- There is a lot of alignment – more than I'd imagined.
- Support for housing is almost unanimous. Lots of people like the idea (of) adding services that require water, like the laundromat.

- That we are a unique community in this process (50/50 bilingual).
- Housing is equated with selling school district property. This is a BAD idea. Housing is good but not at the expense of the schools!
- I appreciated all the people who attended. It was a nice diverse group. I felt a closeness among all the people.
- So many people love and care for the Pescadero COMMUNITY! Communal and open voting process! Shared concerns and dreams. Unincorporated and still values Earth in town decisions.
- We actually have a pretty unified opinion

What can we do to improve for future gatherings?

- Move activities along in a timely manner. Telling people over and over and over to sit down doesn't work. Just START the program. Just START each segment. The stragglers will sit/listen.
- Good model – do it again!
- We need more outreach to our Latino families. Clarification on agenda and next step process.
- Some questions were too broad. More Hispanic involvement? Tough, I know.
- Different meeting time
- Personally it was a lot of information, it can be confusing.
- Gather votes via technology.
- Overall it was very informative.
- This was geared towards specific projects without a lot of context. Would rather have gatherings to see what the community's priorities are: health, safety, housing, etc. and the brainstorm from that foundation. Need equity to be part of the discussion.
- I expected I would actually learn something about the major ideas. Didn't realize this was just a vote. Send info on ideas in advance, costs, considerations, pluses and minuses.
- Limit to folks who live here
- Craft political action component
- Clear up the sticker rules!! I don't fully trust the results of the voting because many people put many stickers in one box. Since people had extra stickers, they cheated.
- To make changes!
- Keep outsiders out – unfair to have people who don't live here weighing in on our future. Explain the process better and give us time to read material – process was too rushed. Make sure facilitators don't laugh at people's comments – that was rude.
- Come into the meeting with a plan/process for taking action.
- More time to vote.
- It helps a lot to have interpreters
- Ways for new ideas to be included in the voting – like write-in ballots
- Would be nice to find ways for categories of business to meet with each other and talk more about now to best support some of the priorities.
- Some questions were confusing

- You did a great job
- To have more meetings
- To host more meetings
- To all agree
- That Puente continue passing the message and inviting more people
- I think everything was ok.
- To me it was ok
- To me it was ok.
- To continue participating in each meeting.
- I think there was good communication and a lot of people were invited and many people came.
- Every was very good and (there was) a lot of communication and a lot of questions
- To have more flyers and more time
- Attending more. Being more united.
- To be more united.
- To do this more often
- To have more
- To have more vigilance
- More Spanish speakers
- Many things were confusing
- Sending again flyers like this time
- To do things about the lacking things in the community
- To do more things in the community
- In a future it would be very helpful to hold the meeting on a week day
- Making more meetings like this one
- To work together is good
- More volunteers who are knowledgeable about the poster to help the participants. Better and smoother system to walk around.

- Focus on schools and education, and not relocating the flag, etc.
- Keep the politics out of it, especially presenting one side only of controversial issues.
- More meeting people we don't know.
- Hosting on a week day not too late and not on a family Sunday.
- Improved flow on voting.
- Better sound system. Readable slides.
- Would like to see more involvement and discussion from key gov't/oversight decision makers.
- More communication like before
- Coming to all the meetings for our own good
- It was great.
- To be all united and those with possibilities to give this importance to those who don't know. Not being selfish.
- Can't think of anything – very well done!
- When you give enough stickers to vote on all boards – how do you know what's the most important? A lot of the questions are overwhelmingly “yes” (everyone selected same answer) but how do you know that housing is more important to us than sidewalks! The data won't show that.
- It was well advertised but individuals have to encourage friends and neighbors to attend. Only a handful of people I know from the community were there. I told some but not enough.
- Start on time – just start talking at 12:30 (be considerate of people's time). Give everyone the opportunity to speak for 30 seconds so everyone can hear everyone.
- Spread the voting boards out (maybe some inside and some outside)
- Inform people Dearborn Park is part of Pescadero!
- I thought today's gathering was well done!
- I don't. This was pretty good!
- Making sure that information about the meeting gets to all ranches so everyone knows
- Give more space for each poster so people can congregate.
- Keep everything a little more on time.
- This was good.

- Super well done – very impressed with what you have achieved.
- More communication
- Community phone book
- Local posters
- 1 – reduce # of considerations; 2 – blind test topics before meeting 3; – comparison of 2004 meeting topics to 2019 topics.
- Put the more complicated/multi-part voting posters widely separated a long a wall, not clustered into a corner! Put a “one vote per poster” or “one vote per block” message on each poster.
- For future gathering consider grouping peeps when voting to avoid cluttering.
- Make space around the boards.
- I thought today’s gathering was well done!
- Informe people Dearborn Park is part of Pescadero!
- To keep supporting the community so we are more each time and we are listened to
- Support each other Americans and Latinos
- Let the public of “Pescadero” know in a better manner so they show and come.
- Better next steps than reports.
- Keep it shorter – thank you for providing childcare...we’re grateful!
- Make people more aware of the early meetings to get ideas/needs out there.
- Do the same.
- To be supportive and attend the meetings
- Clearer guidelines to ideas, better system of voting, better translation plan
- Not sure – this exceeded my expectations. One thing – I felt rushed a bit, so more time to participate.
- This was quite well organized and publicized. I was in a small focus group and was impressed by this large meeting.
- Wireless mics – PMAC has a set
- We voted on many important things like addressing the housing crisis. However, we did not get much opportunity to discuss how we should address this crisis. Addressing it is not as simple as choosing if you’d like mixed housing, small homes or apartments.

- Better organized sticker process. It was crowded and hard to get to the posters in the short period of time allowed.
- (Impressive work) No comment
- Have everyone be on the same page
- Pre-information before the meeting so people have a chance to think about it.
- Task oriented IMPLEMENTATION!
- Make it easier to vote. It was too crowded around the posters.
- Keep good facilitation coming.
- Just a little more logistical organization for voting, was difficult to physically navigate.
- Several of the questions unclear. In the future once the questions have been drafted have uniformed people review the questions. Do they understand what you are attempting to ask?
- More organization for voting activities.
- Activities (outside grouping event and voting) were a little rushed.
- Coordinate w/PMAC or establish a committee that will take responsibility for pursuing the priorities identified. Also, important to have this forum even if may things haven't changed since 2004 (the last gathering).
- Start on time! Have more info about what this is and what will happen more readily available ahead of time.
- Make sure only people who can vote are part of this!
- Unity, communication, trust and upgrade in our town. More events like this.
- More time to talk across our differences like the beginning mixer with English/Spanish/bilingual groups.
- I thought we needed a little more room to see the boards, but it was very good.
- Bigger room (I know it's hard) for the voting process but really, all was very well organized.
- Keep up the bilingual interactions. That was a great activity.
- To make sure that people understand the importance of attending future gatherings
- Coffee

What ideas did you learn today that are valuable to you?

- The voting on questions/ideas was great.
- Many possibilities.
- There is a lot of community support to move forward with the top projects.
- Suggestions are important and needed for the community
- That we are strong as community
- Nice to be in larger community and recognize so many faces and connections.
- Good to see list of ideas.
- Net zero concept.
- That things we want to get done
- That many people came (they want change)
- About how to support the community
- Other ideas like AG service center, food hub, distribution for small farms
- Helpful to hear about housing, sewage and water plans.
- Democratic voting and input are crucial to a community.
- Plan for moving forward.
- Housing and potable water
- Unity makes anything stronger
- That it's very important to work and to keep our environment in mind.
- I learned that Anglos and Latinos are united
- Today I learned that Pescadero doesn't have a participation in the county as a town.
- That we have many needs in Pescadero but the people we need doesn't come
- That there are a lot of things we need but the most important is a laundromat and a grocery store
- How to improve Pescadero
- Housing
- Housing
- I learned we can change a town with housing, sidewalks, and more.

- Many are interested in our future.
- Many important things for me.
- Everything, because everything is important
- That we need to help do the things that are needed in our community
- That we need help in the community, like housing
- People's participation
- Everything
- Great to see so many votes for parks and childcare.
- That there may be hordes of tourists invading my yard
- Reaching out is easy. Leadership in town is needed. We have a very engaged community.
- About the community, that is united
- Sewage, housing, community resources like childcare for community members
- People want in 2019 what they wanted in 2004.
- I think there is some confusion among participants about the purpose of the event. They seemed to think this was more formal decision making than for info/report event.
- That there are a lot of important things and to make changes.
- Community priorities 2004 – now similarities
- Housing, park, laundromat, stores
- Opportunity to volunteer
- We really need a laundromat for our community.
- We need a master plan for this community. Please fund ASAP.
- Many good ideas presented
- High speed internet access is important for ALL of Pescadero. Getting a store back in the town proper.
- Projects that are in the works – like sewage and Dias project.
- The sewer system, fire house
- Housing
- I like the sewage, laundry and the affordable housing, paths for pedestrians.

- Safe walkway to Memorial Park, safe walkway between the high school and town, centralization of school K-12 and transition of elementary school to affordable housing.
- Town needs public sewage
- What I can add to the community
- That community engagement in the face of bureaucratic pressures form unlike communities in other parts of the county can be successful and drafts by smaller, localized concerns
- To own our community
- My neighbor's priorities, local needs, best use of our land
- Valuable to meet other neighbors I still don't know after 15 years.
- That people are concerned about the needs for the community.
- That being united works.
- None
- To ask for what is needed
- I noticed we can still do work in Pescadero
- One would be we as the people, in care of nature.
- Good scope on community projects.
- Purchasing the Dias property – would love to see a playground/park in that central location.
- What folks that have different needs are most passionate about
- Possibility of housing and sewage treatment
- Sidewalks, net zero building, many want wayfinding signs
- Again, how united we are in our desire to build a more sustainable community for all who live and work here and raise their families here
- We can work together.
- We have more in common.
- Interest in trails
- We need to change the “culture” of SMC Planning and Bldg
- The needs/wants of the community.
- Trial system, bike racks

- There are many options.
- We are working on a sewage treatment program. This is key to housing.
- I attended a focus group – the boards seem to do a good job representing concerns and dreams.
- How much has been done in the last 10 years.
- Learned a lot about the community
- We want a more self-sufficient town – i.e. useful shops
- That there are ideas in place for affordable housing, and town plaza.
- I'm really pleased to see the things being done to make Pescadero more accessible.
- The voting subjects
- More people probably need to understand water/septic issues.
- Meeting fellow community members from various backgrounds and coming together.
- It takes a village to find a better paradise. We live in a special place.
- That the people in this community want change.
- I learned that there is positivity and hope when the leadership is positive and hopeful.
- I loved the idea of meeting people who don't speak English by enlisting the help of a bilingual speaker.
- Lots of people care and are willing to give their time and make their land (make it available) to achieve common goals.
- The bike/hike options are great!
- That people are really anxious to see positive changes.
- The desire for more outdoor and community spaces – more gatherings!

What surprised you?

- Diverse attendance. Thank you!
- The local demand/ask for a local park is impressive. I hope it works out.
- Surprised me that the Professional Facilitators organization was so poor at this.
- Some ideas.
- A lot! Diversity. Lots of participation.
- That so little has been done since 2004. Government bureaucracy is too much, reduce agency involvement.
- Peoples ideas.
- How development driven the option were. Surprise that potable water for the high school was not an option.
- Pool - seems silly to me
- That a lot of people came (they want change)
- Did not address a loss of systemic problems – like lack of economic/tax and unfair distribution of costs for infrastructure projects.
- Given lessons learned in 2004, surprised to see the session was not designed to share a process for collective engagement and action. This should have been done by the facilitators.
- Yes, I was surprised to see the community gathered to vote according to their needs.
- Very well run. Great turnout! Congrats!
- How many people I know or have crossed paths with
- How organized this was. How much potential there is.
- That we all want the same in regard to the needs in the community
- Nothing
- That people came to support
- People showed up to help
- Community participation
- All the ideas and the services that can make Pescadero better
- The support we have from the ranches and that we want housing

- Not much
- The affordable housing – I think this needs a lot more discussion. There are many hidden costs and taxes which most people are not aware of
- Intrigued to have a heated community pool and exercise facilities. Intrigued that there is consideration of offering other needed services like laundromat, medical and dental clinic, etc.
- People want to move the flag pole?
- Turn out – and organization.
- That there's a professional planner working with the community.
- Food at the end.
- The community is cohesive though residences are often far apart, and that funding may be available for growth.
- Attendance.
- How clear the support is for some ideas (laundromat!).
- That we are a mixed community
- How many people attended and stayed for the entirety
- That so many people came
- Community's attendance
- I learned everything
- Yes. The amount of people that want change in Pescadero
- St. Patrick's Day and voting made me feel good, to vote on such day.
- Friendliness and cooperation.
- That there was not a board to vote for a new "Cindy's restaurant".
- Many people voted for a community center. Not many wanted counseling or housing for victims of domestic abuse.
- No time to write more!
- Our powerful student – and her ability to stir advocacy for action.
- The openness of my neighbors.
- How easy is to have bilingual conversations
- Nothing
- That there is so much opportunity/ability to address these issues.

- That the flag is in a different place than originally
- The strength of the community
- It was better than expected
- The unity of the people
- Nothing
- I was surprised of the farmers participation in this project
- Yes
- I'm surprised to hear the elementary school site is at risk of being moved and redeveloped. Maybe the high should be redeveloped instead?
- Still missing a lot of community members.
- How was this group formed? Was there outreach to be on this group?
- That people were voting who are not property owners, or even residents here.
- How many topics there are to vote on. How complex planning can be and have little people know about what it takes to build for example – many votes for a pool yet the high school has no water! The 2 don't match.
- That there were a lot of people!
- Large turn out and diverse mix of community members
- Mix/Diversity of cultures
- How many people came.
- Great turnout! The hardwork and planning efforts by the organizers was very evident. Thank you.
- That there was a lot of support from the Pescadero community. Thanks.
- "Preservationists" seems like a slanted term – pejorative.
- That we are so many in the community
- That many others wanted the same changes I do – laundromat, a pool and dog park.
- Still very early in the process.
- I like community park idea in 1 room school house.
- That the smaller group meetings ideas were really heard! Thank you!
- Hiking trail options.
- The structure of voting and idea sharing was very simple and collaborative.

- How unified many residents are on a lot of the topics on the posters.
- Need for laundromat.
- How many people came.
- How involved the Spanish speaking community has been in this process. This is so important and wonderful!
- How everybody is on the same page about the community.
- People want hiking trails!
- How engaged the community is.
- The group is larger and more diverse than I expected.
- The great turn out.
- How many outspoken members of the community are here and the number of different interests present in this community
- That we might lose the elementary school location. That building can happen in downtown Pescadero. I thought FEMA had put a freeze on it.
- The housing project
- All the non-Spanish speakers and all the bilingual speakers.
- That I didn't see more people but also the wide cross section of people I did see.
- That more people did not attend. I expected more.
- The peaceful efficiency of sharing space, voting, sharing, so many people!