



Urban Habitat & Great Communities Collaborative

New Partners for Smart Growth: Putting Schools on the Map

Vu-Bang Nguyen, Land Use Program Coordinator
www.urbanhabitat.org



Urban Habitat Mission

Urban Habitat's mission is to build power in low-income communities and communities of color by combining education, advocacy, research and coalition building to advance environmental, economic and social justice in the Bay Area.



Urban Habitat & the Great Communities Collaborative

Regional Planning: Work in communities with a funded planning process around a regionally connected transit station.

Coalitions: Create partnerships with a range of allies with experience in health, land use, transportation, housing, and the environment.

Technical Assistance: Economic Development reports, affordable housing analysis, GIS mapping, transit oriented development tours, etc.

Local Partnerships: Support for local organizations deeply involved with their communities: faith-based organizations, environmental groups, and affordable housing advocates on issues such as Local Hire, Affordable Housing, Transit Access, and Quality Job Development.

Leadership Institutes: Boards and Commission placement/training and panels.



Urban Habitat: 4 Key Areas

1. Policy analysis, development and advocacy
2. Capacity building and technical assistance
3. Regional coalition building
4. Reframing the debate through publications/media.



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GREAT COMMUNITIES

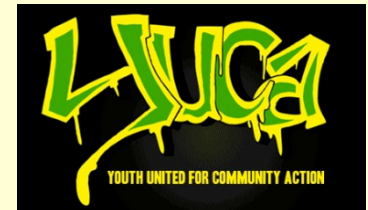
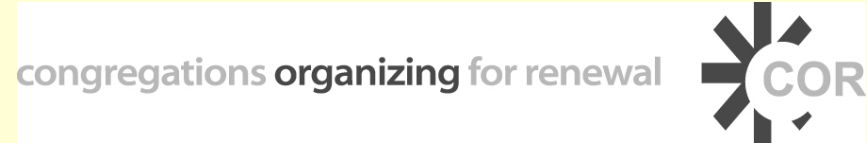
C O L L A B O R A T I V E

www.greatcommunities.org

Collaborative Partners



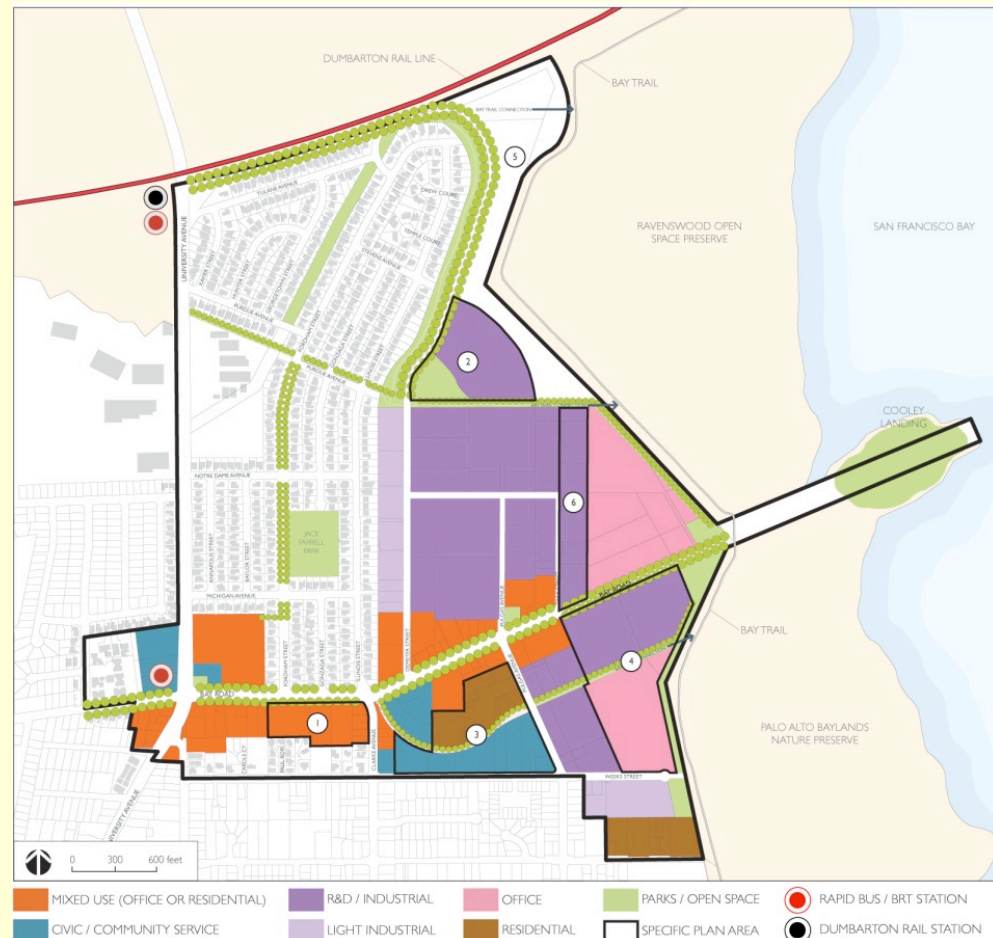
Local Partners





Case Study 1: East Palo Alto, CA

- Ravenswood Business District Specific Plan
- Priority Development Area
- Last Swath of Developable Area in EPA
- Community Partners:





East Palo Alto, CA: Whisky Gulch





Whisky Gulch Today: Four Seasons & University Circle Offices





- Carlmont High School (Belmont)
- Menlo-Atherton High School (Atherton)
- Woodside High School (Woodside)
- Sequoia High School (Redwood City)





Ravenswood High School 1958-1976





Ravenswood High School Site Today





Community Plan Goals

1. The RBD is predominantly an area of mixed industrial/business uses, providing for a variety of activities. It is a model for community development with businesses that are based on the job needs of EPA residents.
2. **The RBD also provides an opportunity for larger community-serving institutions such as a city hospital, school, 1-stop social services, multi-cultural center, theater of arts, after school program, and sports facilities.**
3. **The RBD is a place with uses for youth to learn good things ---> “Da Spot”**
4. The RBD is a model for new and creative and clean use of contaminated lands.
5. The Plan Area is also an opportunity for resident-serving businesses and stores along the adjoining Bay Road corridor and 4-Corners area.
6. **The Plan Area is an opportunity for community spaces and social gathering and homegrown EPA arts. It is safe, fun, and family-friendly. It is EPA’s “downtown.”**
7. The Plan Area has active sidewalks with a variety of businesses, making connections between the RBD, Cooley Landing, Bay Road and the 4-Corners areas.
8. The Plan Area has sound infrastructure with an upgraded, undergrounded powerline system.
9. The Plan Area has affordable housing for CURRENT East Palo Alto low-income residents.
10. The RBD maintains the honest character, quality and priorities of East Palo Alto



Community Plan Goals

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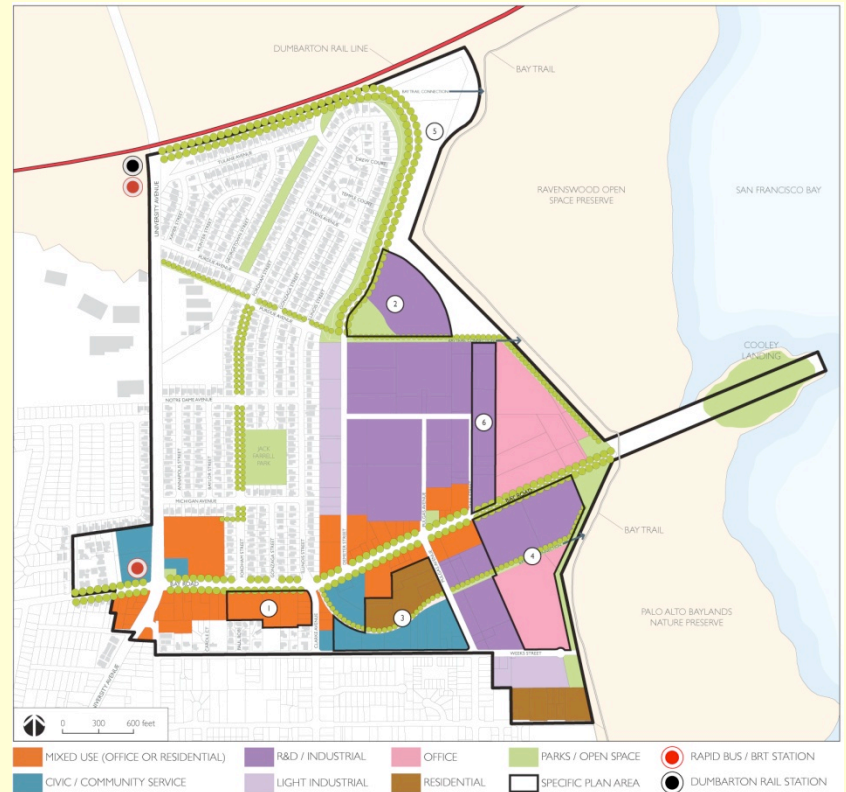
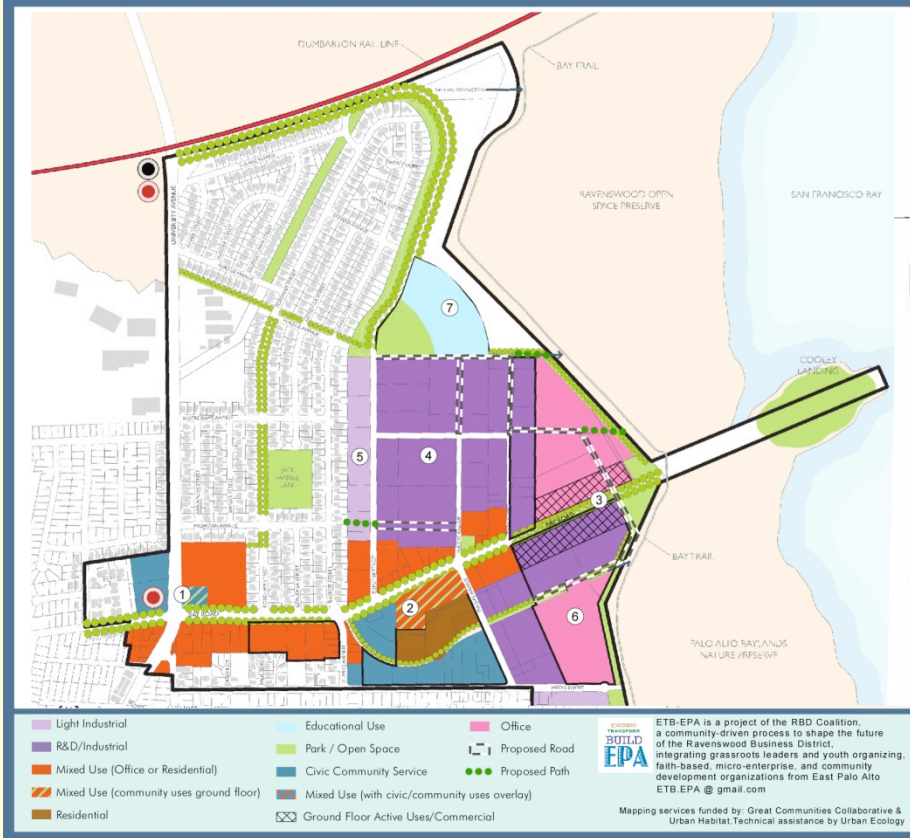
Complete Community Includes Schools

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Envision, Transform, Build EPA 10-30-2010 Proposed Amendments to City's Draft Preliminary Land Use Alternative (10-22-2010)
 The Ravenswood Business District, East Palo Alto



Redevelopment Agency Process

Community-led Process



Case Study 2: San Leandro, CA

- Making a case for mixed-income, family housing in San Leandro
- Affordable housing near transit at BART/BRT TOD
- Affordable housing and school enrollment for existing San Leandro residents
- Disconnect between older white residents and newer residents of color
- See Center for Cities and Schools: Putting Schools on the Map Report for more information

congregations organizing for renewal





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