

## **Community Workshop on El Camino Real, Frank's Weekly Memo, May 15, 2002**

Ideas for improving El Camino Real will be presented at a Community Workshop to be held on Saturday, June 1, 9:30 to 1:00, at Mitchell Park Community Center, Main Hall. Reid Ewing, an expert on Context Sensitive roadway design, will make a presentation about nationwide experience in "civilizing" in-town highways, such as El Camino Real, that are also Main Streets.

With a Demonstration Grant from Caltrans, the City has been studying ways to reallocate space in the roadway now dedicated almost exclusively to vehicle traffic. The improved street design would provide more street trees and a safer, more pleasant street for bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit riders. A citizens Advisory Group representing neighborhoods along El Camino Real and other stakeholders has been meeting since January with Caltrans and the city's transportation and urban design team to consider various alternative designs. An extensive traffic analysis is being conducted to identify sections of the road that could be redesigned to add multimodal and urban design features without increasing traffic congestion.

Some of the changes being considered include narrower travel lanes, reducing the number of travel lanes from six to four in limited segments, and removing curbside parking in some locations. The roadway freed up by these changes would provide for wider sidewalks, bicycle lanes and wider medians with more street trees. Better street crossings are also being planned, particularly on walk to school routes and other pedestrian traffic areas. Come to the Community Workshop and bring your friends and neighbors to share your ideas about this important street in the heart of our city.