

belmont vision update

belmont launches visioning effort

The City has launched an unprecedented, community-wide effort to shape the long-term future of Belmont. Your participation is essential!

Our hillside community enjoys a rich and unique history that continues to define who we are today. To ensure that we maintain that distinctive identity—one that sets us apart from our neighbors and lets you know you're in Belmont—we're asking all our residents to help create a common, unifying vision for our community. Participating will offer you real political influence as we discuss and reach consensus on what we want Belmont to look and feel like twenty or even fifty years from now.

vision is key element of a three-part strategy

The visioning effort is the centerpiece of a three-part, long-range initiative to set overall direction for Belmont's future. Below is a brief summary of the three components.

VISIONING: The goal of the visioning effort is to provide the Belmont community with a sense of direction and a framework for evaluating future policy decisions. The City has engaged Moore Iacofano Goltsman, (MIG) Inc., an experienced planning and public involvement firm, to guide the community through an organized dialogue about what Belmont is today and what it should become in the future. The vision that emerges will provide a critical foundation for the City's Economic Development Strategy and the General Plan Update.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY: A citizen advisory committee, with assistance from the firm of Bay Area Economics, has been assembled to craft an economic development strategy for Belmont. The City's goal, says Planning and Community Development Director Craig Ewing, "is to identify opportunities to add value to Belmont that are consistent with the community's values, desires and character." For this reason, the visioning and economic development efforts will proceed simultaneously and be fully integrated.

GENERAL PLAN UPDATE/LAND USE STRATEGY: California State law requires each city to adopt a General Plan to direct its planning, public investment and building efforts. Specifically, a General Plan addresses issues such as the location and density of appropriate land uses, traffic and circulation, housing, safety, conservation, open space and noise. Belmont last prepared a General Plan in 1982; this General Plan Update will link the community's vision with ongoing decisions about physical and economic development.