

Shape Our Fremont

More Development News and Updates

"There is nothing permanent except change," goes an old saying. That's certainly true in Fremont, where the bulldozers never sleep. Here are some of the latest development proposals.

Blacow Cottages

A developer is proposing to demolish an existing old two-story house on a large lot at 39392 Blacow Road south of Mowry Avenue and build eight new single-family houses in a development called Blacow Cottages. (This is different than another proposed development on Blacow Road called The Cottages.)

The developer is asking to change the zoning to a Small Lot Planned District, which would allow the individual lots to be as small as 4,000 square feet. Each house would have a two-car, side-by-side, attached garage with space on each driveway to park two additional vehicles. Guest parking would be on the street. Access would be by a private road off Blacow.

Small Lot Planned Districts are subject to city ordinances, as well as extensive Small Lot Guidelines, in order to ensure the developments aren't just a bunch of big houses squeezed onto small lots. The guidelines cover architecture, floor area sizes, garage locations, street design, landscaping, and many other points.

For more information or to make comments about the Blacow Cottages (PRP2018-00008) proposal, email the assigned city planner James Willis at jwillis@fremont.gov

Silicon Sage Centerville

On October 3 the City Council considered several options regarding disposition of the old Centerville fire station on Fremont Boulevard in the Centerville Town Center. The station is currently on a portion of the site for the proposed Silicon Sage Fremont Blvd Mixed-Use project, which will include a combination of commercial retail space, 64 apartment flats, and 72 townhouses extending from Peralta Boulevard to Parish Avenue, and from Fremont Boulevard to Jason Way.

During the meeting, the developer stated he would prefer the city sell him both the fire station and a city-owned portion of the land behind the station. After some discussion, the council unanimously rejected that option, and voted to just sell the city-owned land, but to retain ownership of the fire station and its lot for future use as a museum, pre-school, recreation facility, or other function that would benefit the community.

The purpose of the vote was only to decide on the disposition of the fire station itself -- the overall project was not discussed or voted on. Based on this decision, the fire station will not be part of the project and therefore may not be subject to review by the Historical Architectural Review Board.

The Silicon Sage project is in the final stages of review and may be presented to the Planning Commission before the end of the year. If it is approved by the Planning Commission, the project will not go to the City Council unless the decision is appealed.

This is the last chance for residents to make comments or ask for changes on this project before it goes to the Planning Commission.

For more information or to express your comments about the Silicon Sage (PLN2017-00229) proposal, email the assigned city planner Steve Kowalski at skowalski@fremont.gov

Who's counting?

Next year, in November 2018, Fremont will hold elections to fill four city council positions under the new district-based system of representation. Several current city council and planning commission members are expected to run, among others. If so, is anyone keeping count of how each council and commission member voted on past (and future) developments and issues?

The answer is a resounding yes. First, many individual candidates have, and will continue to, keep track of their voting record versus their potential rivals and publish it during the election campaign. Second, several citizen groups are keeping running tallies too, and some publish them on their websites. The Tri-City Voice newspaper reports on every city council meeting and prints the ayes and nays. And finally, the City of Fremont keeps records, transcripts, and videotapes of all meetings.

As the elections get closer, all Fremont residents should look at each candidate's voting record.

For more information about all new housing developments in Fremont, go to [**www.ShapeOurFremont.com**](http://www.ShapeOurFremont.com)