



# South Pasadena General Plan & Mission Street Specific Plan



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**Youth  
Commission  
Meeting  
Notes**

## Book-a-Planner

As part of the General Plan and Mission Street Specific Plan update process, the project team identified the youth as an important demographic cohort that seldom has the time or meaningful opportunity to participate in community meetings. So the project team sought audience with the Youth Commission at their regular meeting date and time. The purpose of the meeting was to engage the City's youth in an open and candid discussion to better understand their interests, and concerns.

Members of the Youth Commission filled out a comprehensive survey. In addition to the survey, this memorandum summarizes the key comments heard from the Youth Commission. The memorandum focuses on identifying patterns among the comments and does not attribute any comments to specific individuals.

### Where do you plan to go to college? Do you plan to return to South Pasadena.

- I would like to go to college on the east coast, preferably Washington DC or within driving distance. I plan to return to South Pasadena during breaks and other family oriented visits. However, I do not plan to live in South Pasadena in my young adult life because I am interested in employment back east.
- I would like to go to UCSB. If not UCSB, then somewhere in California or New York. I would probably not return to South Pasadena because I want to be a professional actress — so maybe somewhere closer to Hollywood.
- A college on the east coast or abroad — St. Andrews or Columbia. I may return when I am older or maybe when I have kids.
- I'm not entirely sure where I want to go to college. I'm thinking maybe UCLA, if possible, or even abroad to study. I would like to return to South Pasadena as I love the community. However, I might not because I don't think I would be able to afford it.
- I plan to go to the east coast for college — probably northeast. If my job takes me back to the west coast, I would definitely consider coming back to South Pasadena. It is an ideal town, which feels safe — a great place to grow-up.
- I don't know which college. I will come back to South Pasadena to visit family and explore.
- I plan on going to college out of State and I am not sure if I will return to South Pasadena. I would like to experience lots of different places and although I would like to raise my children in South Pasadena, it is too early to tell.
- I am a freshman — it is too early to tell.

## How do you get around?

- Most of my transportation is done by walking (70%) and Gold Line. The remaining (30% of the) time I get rides from my parents to go to places within and outside South Pasadena.
- 75% walking; 10% Gold Line; 15% parents drive me.
- My parents normally (60%) drive me. I walk 40% of the time.
- I am usually driven around as I live on the hills near Monterey Hills School.
- I walk mostly (80%) unless I have to get to far parts (Alhambra and Jersey Mikes). I often use a sidewalk when available — I don't go up the hills.
- I don't go to many places in South Pasadena. I am usually driven when I need to go someplace.
- I mostly walk from place to place but am driven on occasion.
- I walk 30%, get driven 50%, and bike 20%.

## What keeps you from spending more time outdoors?

- I love to be outside. However, I am often not able to spend as much time outside as I want to because of homework and other commitments.
- I get my 30 minutes of exercise because I play soccer and I walk to a lot of places. I also participate in physical education — I am outdoors a lot.
- Homework and other online work keep me from being outdoors.
- I'm usually just too busy with homework and extracurricular activities to spend a lot of time outdoors but I do usually get a good amount of exercise through sports.
- School work, mostly decathlon. I do get 30 minutes of walking, almost every day.
- I stay at home on the weekdays after school doing homework and usually go out of town on weekends.
- I usually get my 30 minutes of outdoor time but if there is anything keeping me from spending more time outdoors it is school and extracurricular activities.
- I usually spend 3 to 4 hours doing track at the high school.

## What can the City do for you?

- I would love to see the City host more tween- and teen-friendly activities by fostering a stronger night life and harnessing the power of youth in planning events for their peers.
- I would like it better if we had more places to go after school. A lot of times it's just Hi-Life or Starbucks but I would like to see a movie theater or bowling alley. Many times I have to go to Old Town Pasadena to do fun activities after school.
- More nighttime restaurants and stores. Safer walking experience after sundown.
- Host more festivals and activities that the community can enjoy. Also more shops maybe on Mission Street.
- Improve the quality of streets.
- Continue arts initiative (painting power boxes) — it supports local talent and beautifies the town.
- The City could host more events and community activities that attract older teens as well as families.