

**CULVER CITY GPU EVENT 9.5.18**

# WE ARE THE CITY



The City of Culver City partnered with public engagement expert James Rojas of [Placelt!](#) to lead the first event, 'We are the city,' in a series of five community events preceding the upcoming launch of Culver City's [General Plan Update](#) (GPU). The purpose of this event was to introduce the GPU project, discuss the importance of establishing community values early on in the process, and let the community know that they have the power to create the future of Culver City.

Mr. Rojas led a diverse group of about 60 community members in a colorful interactive exercise to give a fresh perspective on what's possible for Culver City. Participants reconstructed their earliest childhood memory with everyday found objects. They discussed their memories in small groups and identified common themes like being outdoors, enjoying parks, playing, being with family, and having a good quality of life. They took inspiration from those themes to identify shared values and build what an ideal Culver City of the future could look like. Characteristics of this ideal Culver City of the future include:

- Diverse, open, and welcoming to all
- Affordable and workforce housing that promote inclusion
- Pedestrians as a priority, a "pedestrian town," with more paths for walking and biking to connect people, parks, and neighborhoods
- An enhanced Ballona Creek to further connect the community with a protected active transportation route, that provides access to public art and open space
- Connect pedestrians to Culver Stairs and the surrounding city and regional parks
- Green elements such as cool pavement, solar trash cans, bike and e-scooter parking, and EV charging stations
- Mixed-use buildings
- Community gardens and places to sit in the shade

A special thanks to [The Turning Point School](#) for hosting, [Co-opportunity](#) for feeding everyone, and [PRCS](#) staff for childcare!

The next event in our series, "[A city for everyone](#)," features a discussion with USC professor [Dr. Manuel Pastor](#). We will be exploring social equity and the ways in which we can ensure housing and economic opportunity for all in our community. Join us and bring a friend October 11th from 6:30-8 PM. Location to be determined.

**Stay informed at**  
[culvercity.org/generalplan](http://culvercity.org/generalplan)

