



**POMONA COLLEGE MASTER PLAN | EIR | ZONE CHANGE | *SurveyResults***

Claremont Heritage recently released a survey to try and get a feeling for how residents feel about the project and tried to get a sense of what information is available to them. *The survey was sent to a broad cross section of the community including Heritage Members, Pomona College Staff and Administrators, City Officials, Village Merchants and Community Leaders. Much of the public debate has centered on one aspect of the plan, the proposed Pomona Museum of Art. Actually, not the museum itself - but the proposed location - I think the community agrees that a new museum would be a significant benefit to the community-* unfortunately it has been divided on exactly *where* it should be located. The intent of the survey was to find out what the community thought based on what they know about a very complicated project - Here is an overview and some of the comments representing a cross section of views - there were 215 respondents:

1. Pomona College is requesting a zone change from *Residential* to *Institutional* on the west side of College Ave. between 2nd St. and Bonita for placement of the new 32 - 40,000 sf museum building. To achieve this, the existing residential structures including the historic Renwick House would be moved or demolished. *Do you support this zone change?*

**NO 160 - 74% | YES 50 - 23% | NR - 5**

2. Most agree that a new museum will be an asset to the Community - and Pomona feels the proposed location on the west side of College, directly adjacent to the Village will add an increased benefit for the community. Some have suggested locating the museum on the east side of College Ave. closer to Pomona's parking structure and public transportation - *Do you feel that locating the museum on the east side of College Ave. will lessen its benefit to the community?*

**NO 156 - 72% | YES 44 - 20% | NR 15**

3. *Have the potential negative impacts this project will have on the community such as construction, parking, traffic, loss of Heritage Trees or neighborhood character been properly communicated to the community?*

**NO 87 - 40% | YES 37 - 17% | NR 81 | OTHER 10**

4. Would you attend a Planning Commission or City Council meeting where these issues will be discussed in a public forum?

**YES 137 - 63% | NO 46 - 21% | NR 32**

**SELECTION OF COMMENTS:**

*Bridging College Avenue will make this museum more of a link to (as well as an actual part of) the community, along with making it more accessible to visitors coming to Claremont via MetroLink. The CCs are an integral part of what gives Claremont its beauty, its life, and its rich heritage.*

*the west side of college should remain residential in appearance to keep the town separate from the institutional look of the colleges. The institutional appearance should not encroach on the village - the historic zoning should be honored and not altered.*

*This is an important part of the look of the City and it needs to be preserved. Keeping the residential character of this area is more important than for Pomona College to do as it pleases, especially since they have other options.*

*Pomona College has made a very strong argument for why it makes sense to locate the new museum where the cottages are currently located, and a zoning change is needed to do this. The building would not be disruptive to the area it fits in with the other civic buildings nearby and its roof line would be lower than many of the nearby houses.*

*College Avenue with its Victorian homes on the west side of the street is the most historic neighborhood in Claremont. The residential scale and historical impact of College Avenue would be irreparably harmed by the addition of the very large Art Museum in that location. Moreover, the impact on parking would have a negative impact on village businesses.*

*These Victorian houses may no longer be used as residences, but they still convey that character. They serve as a buffer between the institutional college buildings and the commercial structures in the Village.*

*This kind of change and growth is essential to the life of the city. The colleges are an essential and inseparable component to this City. Pomona College can be credited for Claremont's historic presence and the original catalyst for development in the town center. They should be given the opportunity to rebuild and reshape our future city. Unlike private developers, the colleges have consistently developed significant works of architecture. With oversight from the City this will be a "win-win"!*

*College Ave. should be kept as a buffer between the colleges and the town to preserve the character of downtown Claremont. I value the presence of the colleges but I consider the preservation of the downtown area to be essential to my enjoyment of this city. Encroachment on the downtown area by the college threatens it's character.*

*the proposed change will support the Claremont village and will add a handsome building in the place of the small cottages currently on the southwest corner of College and Bonita.*

*The Renwick House will be preserved; the cottages aren't wonderful enough to save. History is alive -- let Pomona College keep making history with us.*

*Parking is already a problem in the village. This would make it impossible to park both during construction and after the museum opens.*

*Demolish those little cottages. Move that nice old Pomona College house (Kenyon) on 1st street behind the chain link fence to the site of the little brick cottages. Keep the west side residential and put the art museum on the east side where the sports field is.*

*Lack of parking has long been an issue since the opening of the Village West and has worsened with the growing popularity of the Village. Before we add more attractions, let's add more parking.*

*I feel a located the museum adjacent to the village would be more beneficial to both the Community and the College.*

*The community routinely participates in activities at Pomona College and the other colleges on the east side of College Ave. The community is interested in quality exhibits, productions, classes. Location doesn't enter this equation.*

*Community members can easily cross to the east side as they do now to access Big Bridges, etc. It would also less negatively affect parking in the Village.*

*I believe the museum should be located on the west side of College adjoining the Village to facilitate its use by the community. I think we are fortunate that Pomona wants to put the museum there.*