



Street Address Workgroup

August 2025

Our Team Mission

Enable City Council to make a well-informed decision on whether or not to implement standardized addresses in Carmel-by-the-Sea by developing a comprehensive understanding of the tasks, effort, and responsibilities of doing so and the impacts of not doing so.

- ☐ Our group is on a fact-finding mission and will share what we've learned with the public today and with City Council in October.
- ☐ We are NOT empowered to make decisions.

Welcome

Today...

1. **Share** initial research and findings
1. **Listen** to stakeholders - YOU
1. **Gather Your Feedback and Input** - requests, gaps, issues and concerns

Team Contributions By...

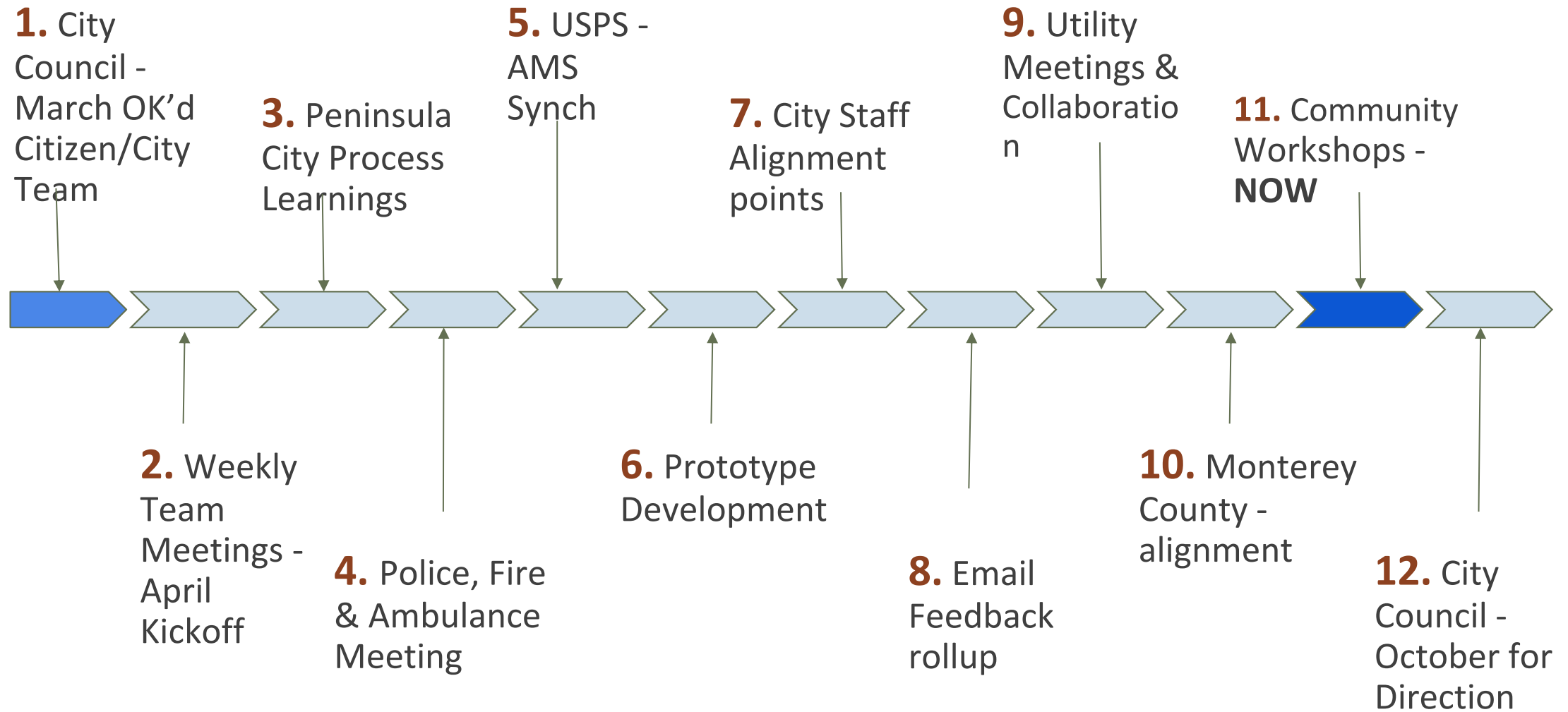
Researching
Potential Standard
Addresses in
Carmel-by-the-Sea

Introducing Our Committee Members

- Kevin Ruess
- Nancy Twomey
- Paula Hazdovac
- Emily Garay (City Staff)
- Bob Delves (City Council Sponsor)

Meeting weekly since April 15th

Address Committee Project Timeline



Many topics are ongoing

Agenda Key Topics

As of
August 2025

1. Our Mission, Team, Timeline and Considerations
2. USPS Post Office & Address Requirements
3. Code & Legal Requirements
4. Safety – Dispatch & Response
5. Prototype - Alternatives, Rules, Exceptions, Residential, Commercial, others types
6. Service/Utility Providers Findings
7. Processes with County & other Interactions
8. To Date Community Feedback
9. Answering Your Questions

2. USPS Post Office & Delivery

Continued USPS PO Box Delivery:

- As requested by City Council
- Is highly cost efficient for USPS

USPS is *THE* Primary Authority for Standard Street Addressing:

- USPS system (AMS) is the National SOURCE for official address validations and verifications

Confirmed by USPS – if/when Standard Addresses are fully implemented, this Will NOT:

- Result in USPS at-home/at-business delivery
- Result in mailboxes about town
- Result in closure of our Post Office
- Change our current USPS item delivery to our PO Boxes at 93921

2. USPS Address Requirements

Confirmed by engagement with AMS regional authority

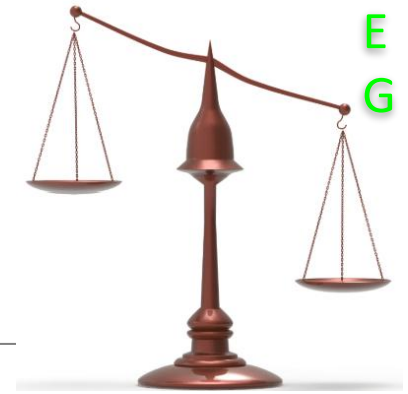
- Must begin with a whole primary numeral (up to 5 numbers)
- Must include only one street name
- Even numbers on one side, Odd numbers on the opposing side of the same Street or Avenue consistently
- A supplemental unit/suite/apartment at the primary standard address - the identifying suffix must be numeric or alpha characters
- Example of Accepted USPS Street Address for Carmel-by-the-Sea **“656 Ocean Avenue”**

AMS System **Rejected** Address Examples

- 2 San Antonio SE 13th -or- 2 San Antonio SE of 13th
- 2 SE 13th on San Antonio -or- 2 San Antonio St. SE 13th Ave.
- Lincoln 4 NE of 13th Ave. -or- Lincoln 3 SE of 10th Ave.
- Dolores 2 SW 12th Ave.
- San Carlos 8 SW of 13th Ave -or- San Carlos 4 NW 13th Ave.

USPS Says...

3. Address Legal Requirements



**Our Traditional
Addressing
Does NOT
Comply**

State Building/Fire/Residential Code Findings - B.Pierrek - City Attny

- 1) The address identification shall be legible, with a contrasting background and placed in a location visible from the street or road fronting the property.
- 2) Numbers shall not be spelled out. Each character must be 4 inches high with a minimum stroke width of 1/2 inch.
- 3) As required by fire code official, address must be provided in approved locations for emergency response.
- 4) Where access is by a private road or driveway and the building cannot be viewed from the public way, a monument, pole or other sign shall be used to identify the structure.
- 5) Address identification shall be maintained.

4. Safety – Dispatch & Response

Research and Routine

Per Monterey Fire's Jason Moore & Carmel Police Todd Trayer

- Most 911 Calls go to CPD dispatcher for needs and location/direction details
- Calls into 911 via a landline, cell or WiFi will pass through GPS details
- CPD staff has strong knowledge of traditional addresses and identifiers
- Carmel Fire Station (fire & ambulance) staff may require more insights for successful location arrival

911 Call Handling

- 911 CPD processed calls - triage caller needs & location. Then routes to regional dispatch to engage emergency services. May add up to 3 minutes to arrival times.
- 911 calls (when CPD dispatch is not available) roll over to regional dispatch – beyond GPS info – it can be challenging to direct resources to the caller location. Delays or errors can occur.

Our Village, primarily due to local staff, has exceptional service response times



5. Prototype Guiding Principles

- ☐ Must not create trigger changing street names or introducing more street signage
- ☐ Must satisfy the USPS AMS requirements
- ☐ Should be preferred by First Responders
- ☐ Should use the City layout as a plus
- ☐ Should be logical and intuitive
- ☐ Should protect traditions where possible

Options Explored

- A. The current system (fails USPS AMS, not preference of First Responders)
- B. Variants of the current system (fails USPS AMS, and are not preference of First Responders)
- C. Adopting the numbering used in unincorporated Monterey County north and south of our City boundaries (5 digit numbers if used)

5. Alternative Street Number Models Evaluated

1) Quadrants

- a) Origin at Ocean & Junipero
- b) Requires N, S, W, E designations (confusing to many people)
- c) Counterintuitive relative to numbered avenues
- d) Numbers can be duplicated across quadrants (50 West Ocean & 50 East Ocean)
- e) Would require repainting or replacing street signs (every street name is changed)

2) Continuous within City

- a) Start with 1 and just increment
- b) Counterintuitive relative to numbered avenues
- c) Loses positional reference from nearest intersection

3) Continuous with County

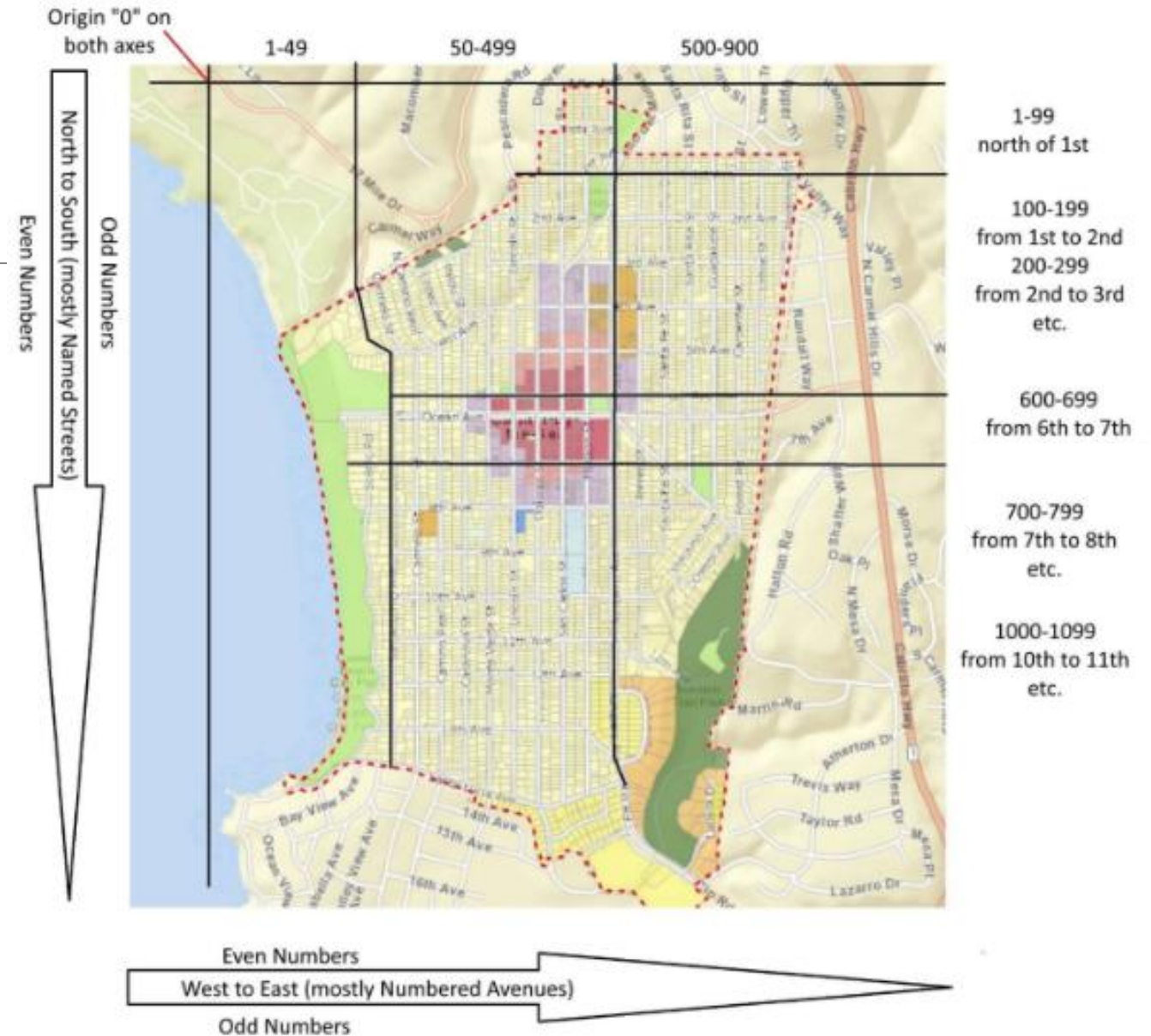
- a) Start with next number as if the city was just part of unincorporated Monterey County
- b) Requires 5-digit numbers (example: 25719)
- c) Loses visual reference that one has entered the city

4) Logical / Positional

- a) Honors current tradition of knowing position within block
- b) Intuitive to numbered avenues
- c) Keeps numbers to 4-digits or less

5. Prototype Numbering Approach

- Differentiates our Village from surrounding communities
- Approach received preliminary OK by USPS/AMS
- Retains cross street proximity indicators (similar to prior “Dolores 2 SW of 8th”)



5. Prototype Address Numbering Rules

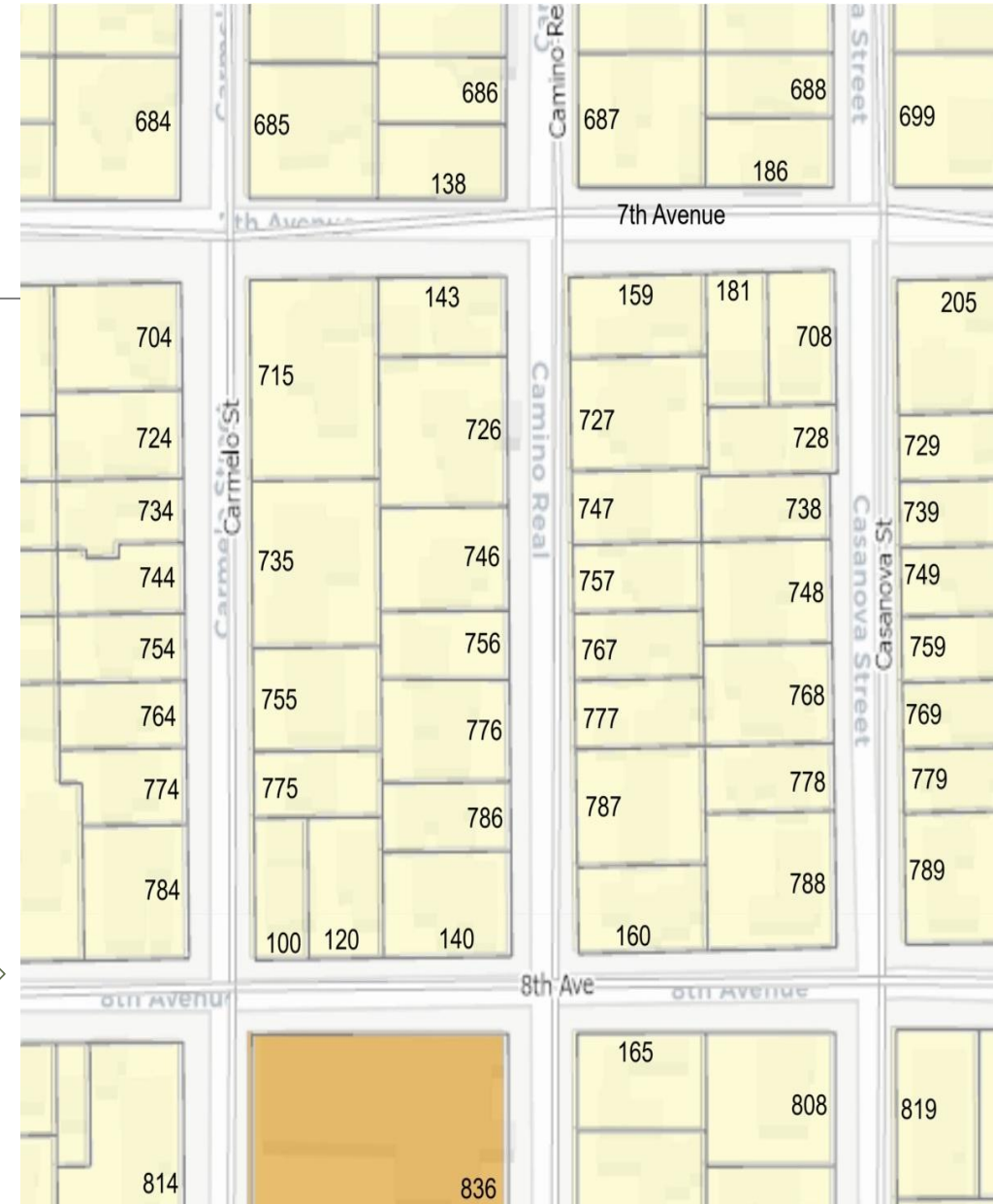
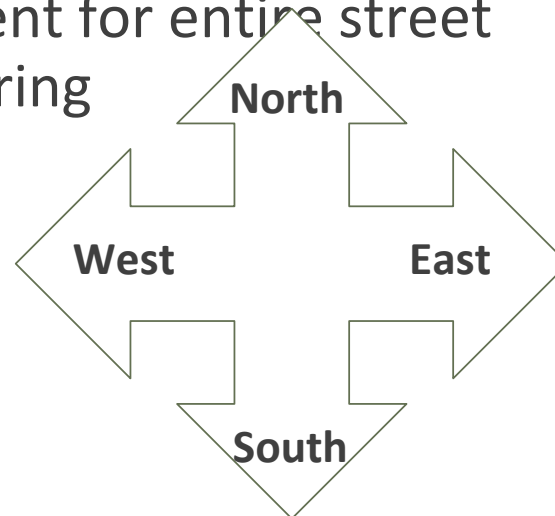
1. Use numbered Avenues as basis for north-south long-block numbering: range of 100 numbers
2. West-east blocks are half the length of long blocks: use range of 50 numbers for short blocks
3. Always leave at least one available number between numbers (to support changes/additions)
4. For lots facing more than one street, reserve numbers for each side
5. Generally, one Standard Address per APN
6. Retain local custom for intuitively knowing how far a house is from an intersection and in which direction

5. Are There Exceptions? . . . Yes

1. Diagonal streets
2. Blocks longer than 10 lots
3. Non-continuous streets
4. Some parcels that need more than one address
5. Grouped parcels should have only one address per building
6. Parcels larger than the standard 4,000 sf parcel may require skipped numbers
7. Parcels in the middle of a block numbered close to the middle of the numbering range for that block

5. Standard Address Residential Prototype

- ❑ Numbers are approximate
- ❑ For **North>South** numbering
 - ❑ 1st digit(s) identify Avenue to North
 - ❑ next digit is position in block
 - ❑ last digit is consistent for entire street
- ❑ For **West>East** numbering
 - ❑ Carmelo is 100
 - ❑ Casanova is 200



5. Addresses - ADUs or Cottage Units

Preliminary recommendations

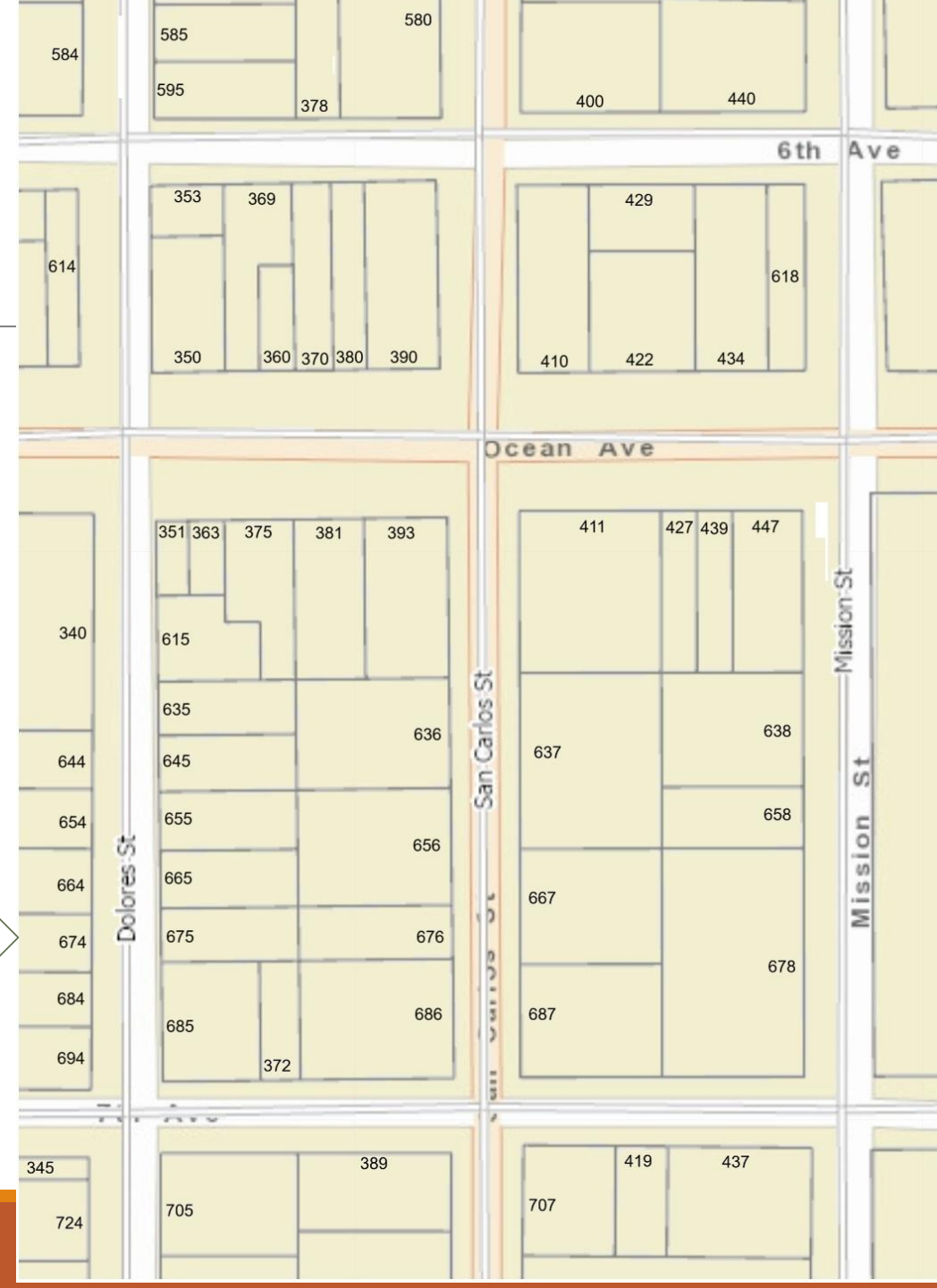
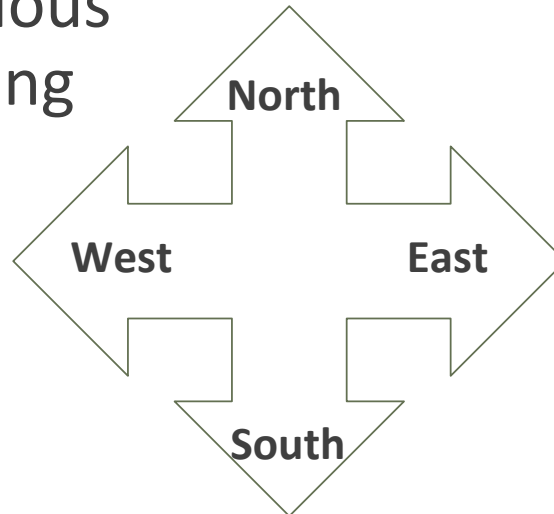
- ❑ ADU's eligible for USPS address
- ❑ Existing ADU's do not require USPS addresses
- ❑ At day one ADU's and autonomous units will not be issued new addresses
- ❑ ADU/cottage addresses to be requested by property owners at the City planning desk



ADU's with addresses
increase autonomy,
findability and safety

5. Standard Address - Commercial Prototype

- Numbers approximate
- Generally:
 - Ocean between 6th & 7th numbers continuous
 - Internal numbering for suites, units, apartments, etc.



5. Addresses for Apartment and Downtown Multi Unit Buildings

Preliminary plan

- ❑ Multiple unit structures would be issued one street standard addresses
- ❑ Most subordinate business or living units would be issued a Unit, Suite, or Apartment # to complete the street address



6. Service/Utility Providers Findings

Utilities welcome continued collaboration with our City team on transitioning to Standard Addresses for increased point-of-service accuracy and customer engagement

- All Billing addresses per customer account remain unchanged
- Each Utility has varied methods for point of service locations (meter location or others)
- Each provider to match their point of service data with our new standard addresses. (e.g. APN's or others)
- To update in a batch (all at once) for consistent service location findability and accuracy
- Utilities receive address listing from City Staff. Some may reach to customer for confirmations prior to update.



AT&T

DIRECTV

xfinity



**CALIFORNIA
AMERICAN WATER**

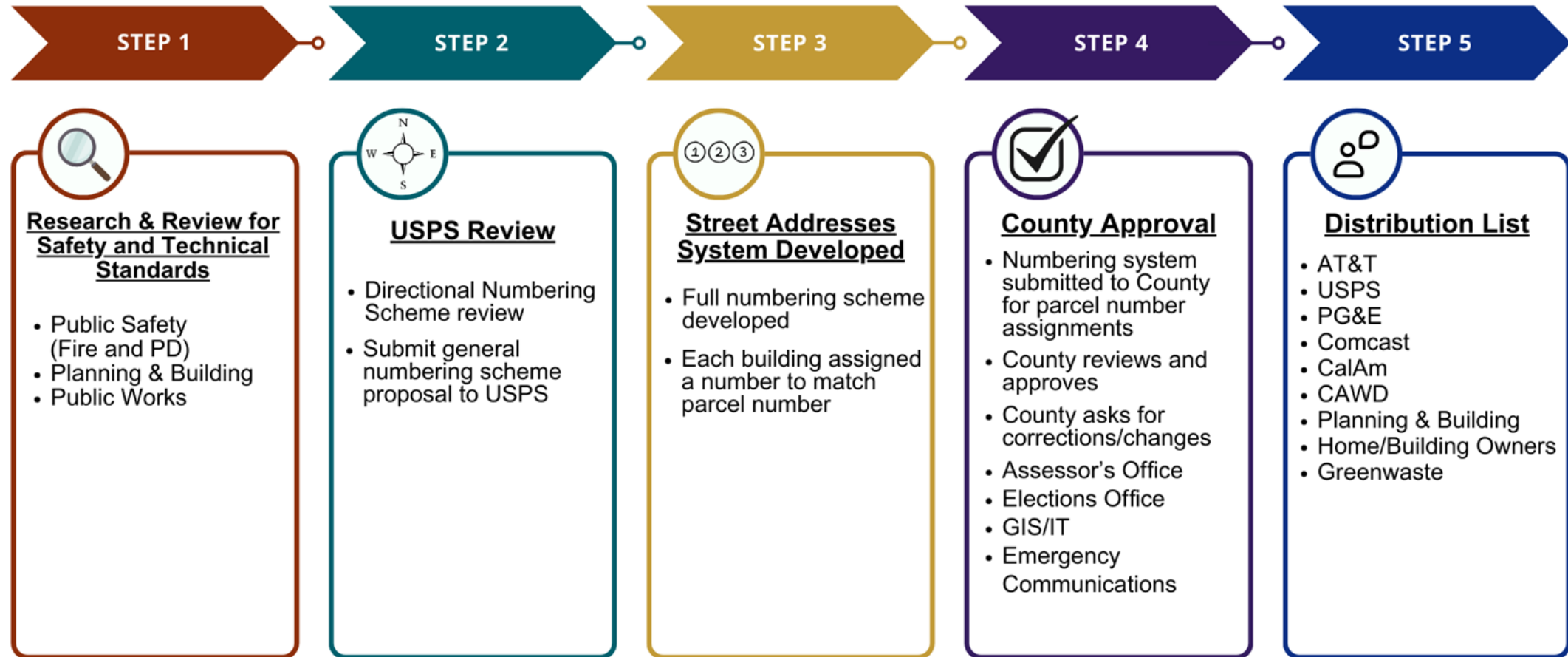
*Thanks Emily Garay for
enabling these discussions*

7. Process with Monterey County Alignment

EG



Process Development Overview



7. Government & Financial Institutions

Standard Address Implications & Findings

AFTER Standard Addresses are accepted and published in Monterey County and USPS systems – online forms and maps can verify street addresses

- Online transactions are streamlined
- Some records may not benefit from updates - where they function smoothly today
- Your future interactions will, or may, benefit from updating your account with new street address details - post launch

Example Entities

PERSONAL

- ❑ Banking/Financial
- ❑ Insurance: Business, Home, Auto...
- ❑ Legal: Trusts, Titles, others

GOVERNMENT

- ❑ Real ID, DMV – Identifications
- ❑ Passport, TSA, Global Entry
- ❑ Licensing – Business, Auto...
- ❑ Taxes County, State, Federal

8. Your Comments - Community Emails

Compiled from Council Topics 2023-2025

- ☐ Feedback from both points of views
 - ☐ Wants Standard Addresses
 - ☐ No Standard Addresses
- ☐ Live comments at City Council meetings are comparable in these email comments tallied

This feedback received influenced this team research



Key Business Feedback

- will enhance findability by customers & suppliers
- will streamline financial & governments engagements



8. Example Asks & Feedback

YES Standard Addresses

- ☐ Emergency Services errors, challenges and delays
- ☐ Online transactions challenges - especially critical on RX deliveries
- ☐ Financial/Insurance/legal transaction impediments/hassles
- ☐ Utility setup and servicing challenges
- ☐ Addresses are required by Law (Building/Fire codes)

NO Standard Addresses

- ☐ Loss of Tradition & Character
- ☐ Keep our Post Office open and PO Box delivery/pickup
- ☐ Have great police, fire & ambulance response times now
- ☐ Can manage "No Standard Address" glitches if they occur
- ☐ Want to see alternatives to USPS addresses considered
- ☐ Need details on if/how these would/could be implemented *"before decisions are made"*

Your Questions?



askstreetaddresses@ci.carmel.ca.us