

## Neighborhood Vision Statement (Tomorrow)

*"I have a dream . . ."*

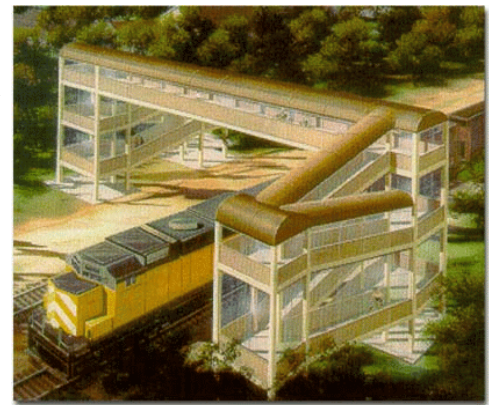
Martin Luther King, Jr., 1963.

*"We must all learn to live together as brothers or we will all perish together as fools."*

Martin Luther King, Jr., 31 March 1968.

The MLK, Jr. neighborhood is a vibrant, thriving, multi-cultural, multi-generational residential neighborhood. Both homeowners and renters alike are proud to call this area their home. Recent new construction has resulted in many new quality single-family homes and small rental complexes. Few, if any, vacant parcels remain in the area. Properties listed for sale are comparable in price and quality with other residential areas in Redding. Marketing time for real estate sales is short, due to the high level of interest in the neighborhood. Neighborhood properties display attractive exteriors with new paint and beautiful landscaping. A new pride of ownership is evident.

All neighborhood streets are in good condition, with adequate drainage, sidewalks, and lighting. Neighborhood traffic, both pedestrian and vehicular, moves smoothly and at an appropriate speed for a residential area. Traffic circle features at several key intersections have served to calm traffic and discourage non-resident through traffic. The previously erected traffic barricades have been removed at several locations, improving traffic flow in the area. West Street has been extended south to Buenaventura Avenue, providing the neighborhood with better linkage to the rest of the community. Pedestrian access to shopping and school facilities to the east has been greatly enhanced by the development of a pedestrian overcrossing of the railroad tracks at Logan Street.



*Example of a pedestrian walkover.*

Several neighborhood-based churches are well established and are active participants in all community events, providing space, volunteers, and financial support for neighborhood activities. The business community along Railroad Avenue provides a source of jobs and goods utilized by the neighborhood. The Union Pacific Railroad has just completed a beautification project along the track frontage which includes landscaping and sound barriers. A neighborhood market does a thriving trade serving primarily a neighborhood clientele.

The heart and soul of the neighborhood is the MLK, Jr. Park and the adjoining neighborhood center. The Park and Center are utilized on a daily basis by the residents and local community groups for sports activities, family picnics, after-school enrichment programs, senior programs, and community events. Public service agencies and faith-based groups utilize the Center for outreach and events. In the summertime, the children's interactive water-play area is very popular as is the small outdoor amphitheater for both formal and impromptu musical events. The beautiful memorial garden and perimeter walking paths are places for both exercise and meditation. A trail extension west through the Linden Canyon connects to the westside trail system along Buenaventura Boulevard and is very popular with neighborhood residents and other community hikers.

The MLK, Jr. Neighborhood Association, formed at the conclusion of the revitalization planning process

and comprised of neighborhood residents and property owners, has become the voice of the neighborhood. It is involved with the ongoing neighborhood revitalization and acts as the liaison for the neighborhood with the City's Housing and Redevelopment staff. A representative of the Association also provides a voice for the residents on the Center's Board. The Association, in conjunction with the Center's Board, is active in planning neighborhood events at the Park, including clean-up days, neighborhood barbeques and potlucks, cultural celebrations, as well as other fun events. The Association is proud of the fact that it spearheaded the establishment of an active neighborhood watch program for this area. All blocks are represented and the program has been highly effective in reducing both juvenile and petty crime occurrences in the neighborhood. Residents watch out for each other and lend a helping hand when needed. Neighbors actively plan block events and activities. The Association is used as a role model for other neighborhoods in the City wanting to establish a similar positive, crime-free environment.