



MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting: Eastside Planning Team Meeting #5
Date: August 1st, 2019
Time: 6:00 – 8:00 pm
Location: St. Philip's College, Campus Center Building, Heritage Room

Attendees:

<i>Chris Mongeon, Dignowity Hill</i>	<i>Christine Vina, VIA Metropolitan</i>	<i>Will Covington, Coliseum Willow Park</i>
<i>Suzanne Ervin, Dignowity Hill</i>	<i>Transit</i>	<i>James Dickerson, Coliseum Willow Park</i>
<i>Monica Savino, Dignowity Hill</i>	<i>Alan Neff, Denver Heights</i>	<i>Lindsey Logan, SAGE</i>
<i>Gregory Street</i>	<i>Randy Harig, Texas Research and</i>	<i>Caitlin Heller, SARA</i>
<i>Dyami Luster</i>	<i>Technology Foundation</i>	
<i>Ernest Flores, Government Hill</i>	<i>Beth Keel, Jefferson Heights</i>	
<i>Adrian Jackson, St. Philip's College</i>		

Meeting Purpose

The fifth meeting of the Eastside Planning Team aimed to obtain input that the Planning Department will use to improve the draft future land use map and policies.

Meeting Format

The meeting began with an update on the planning process, followed by a review of the Draft Vision and Goals. Then, the Project Team presented a summary of Planning Team Meeting #4, including major themes from the Planning Team's discussion that were used to guide revisions to the Draft Future Land Use Map. Following the presentation, the Planning Team provided feedback on the draft Future Land Use Map, and then provided feedback on draft land use plan narrative concepts. The discussions were recorded on a large piece of paper at the front of the room, and on video. Following is a summary of themes from the Planning Team's discussion. A photograph of the discussion notes is provided on the last page of this summary.

Discussion

Vision and Goals

Green infrastructure is an element of complete streets. Drainage is an ongoing problem in much of the plan area.

Future Land Use Map Discussion

Thinking broadly about most of the plan area and its long term future, more people should be able to live and participate in the Eastside as residents, workers, and entrepreneurs etc..., and Eastside residents should be able to experiment with small business ventures and creating additional housing on

their properties. The plan should support more economic opportunity, high quality public places, and better transportation alternatives. However, when considering one's own property, circumstances, or street segment in the near term future, it can be scary to contemplate changes that could come with longer term and bigger picture ideals. For example, residents wonder if achieving the vision for the eastside could result in less affordable property taxes or jarring changes to the physical look of their neighborhood.

There should be identifiable centers of community interaction and local businesses. Higher density and a greater mixing of land uses should complement transit service, parks, and historic commercial nodes.

Several decades ago and previously, centers of community activity and local businesses developed somewhat organically, without the city government explicitly prescribing their location. Instead of trying to prescribe a return to a historical physical condition, the plan should rely on the wisdom and creativity of the community, providing flexibility for community members to create business, jobs, and great places.

Even where small commercial uses are allowed in neighborhoods, existing neighborhood areas that are predominantly occupied by homes and small apartments should remain predominantly residential, and existing buildings should be complemented by new buildings. Some elements of design to consider are building forms, scale/massing, lot sizes, and site layouts. Some design elements that define a neighborhood's visual character and that determine how a neighborhood functions are the location and orientation of living areas as opposed to parking areas in relation to the street, the location of a front door and windows in relation to the street, front porches, and large canopy trees.

Residents should be able to have small businesses on the same property where they live. Existing zoning regulations and city policy deter residents who want to start a business or build an extra building for their business on the property where they live.

Stand alone small businesses should be allowed throughout neighborhoods west of New Braunfels Avenue, however in areas closest to Downtown experiencing a significant amount of development, the plan should discourage residential neighborhoods from changing into primarily commercial places.

Existing low density residential uses should continue to be a part of Eastside neighborhoods. Providing flexibility for higher residential densities and commercial uses could inadvertently result in too much change in areas that are already changing quickly, especially in areas closest to Cherry Street. The plan should support some existing low density residential uses to continue.

Sustainability, broadly defined, should be a guiding principle for the land use plan. Some aspects of sustainability are reflected in the discussion so far, but we should be explicit about pursuing sustainability.

Over time, communities should evolve to be complementary to walkable main streets, cultural assets, and alternative transportation options like transit service stations and bicycle and scooter lanes.



Next Steps

The sixth Planning Team Meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 28th. The objective for this meeting is to obtain input for Housing and Economic Development Strategies.

If you have questions about the Eastside planning project, please contact Project Manager Garrett Phillips, City of San Antonio Department of Planning & Community Development.

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SA Tomorrow Eastside Area Community Plan

Planning Team Meeting #5

Thursday, August 1st, 2019

6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

St. Philip's College, Campus Center Building, Heritage Room

Meeting Agenda

- 6:00** Welcome, Introductions, Planning Process Update
 - 6:20** Discussion of Draft Future Land Use Map
 - 7:20** Discussion of Land Use Plan Narrative Priorities
 - 7:50** Wrap up & Next Steps
 - 8:00** Meeting Close
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Meeting #5 Take Home Information to Share

- The draft Eastside Vision and Goals, based on public input, are available on the Eastside Plan webpage (<https://eastside.sacompplan.com>). Additional information on the planning process, including meeting summaries are available on the webpage.
- In Planning Team Meeting #4, the Planning Team provided initial input for the Eastside Plan Future Land Use Map.
- A draft land use map was created and discussed at Planning Team Meeting #5. Based on the draft Vision and Goals, the Planning Team's Meeting #4 input, prior plans, and Eastside area conditions and trends.
- The Planning Department will revise the draft map and create draft land use plan policies based on the Planning Team Meeting #5 discussion, and then ask for additional public input using a public meeting and online questionnaire in fall 2019.
- Planning Team Meetings #6 and #7 will focus on Housing and Economic Development Strategies.
- The Eastside Area Community Plan Project Manager, Garrett Phillips, is available to visit a meeting of your neighborhood association or organization, to share information about the planning process.

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Planning Initiatives
c/o Planning Department

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