

# **MEETING SUMMARY**

Meeting: Southeast Community Plan All Residents Public Meeting

Date: February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Location: Southside Lions Community Center, 3100 Hiawatha Street

#### **MEETING OVERVIEW**

The City of San Antonio Planning Department hosted the first Southeast Community Plan Public Meeting. Approximately 60 stakeholders attended the meeting. The primary objectives of the meeting were to:

- Promote awareness of the Southeast Community Plan
- Provide information on SA Tomorrow and the purpose, content, and timeline of the Southeast Community Plan
- Receive feedback from residents about their vision for the future of the Southeast Community area
- Allow residents to complete the Southeast Community Plan questionnaire

Approximately 18 participants completed an online survey asking for feedback on what residents like about the Southeast area, what is missing from the area, what could make the area more attractive for future generations, and what is the vision for the future of the area. The meeting was primarily advertised by mailing a bilingual postcard to all addresses along U.S. Postal Service mailing routes within the Southeast study area. Planning staff also advertised the meeting via Nextdoor, Instagram, Facebook, neighborhood association and community engagement meetings, City Council newsletters, and with flyers at City operated facilities.

## **Meeting Format**

The meeting consisted of an open house featuring infographics displaying information about sub-area planning, the plan area map and existing population demographics, previously adopted City plans, and information about the relation between housing and transportation costs, all printed on poster boards. Upon entering the meeting space, attendees were encouraged to read the material on the boards and the informational handouts provided at an information station. Attendees were also encouraged to take the Southeast Community Plan Vision and Goals Questionnaire on the provided tablets, on printed hardcopies, or provide answers on a wall graphic were Planning staff was available to assist with recording comments. Food and refreshments were provided to attendees. Spanish translation services were available and advertised at the meeting entrance.

The meeting included a presentation from Planning staff that provided a brief overview of the SA Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan, the purpose of sub-area plans, introduction to the Southeast

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Community Plan, key topics and plan content, planning process timeline, lasting impacts of plans, and how stakeholders can stay involved throughout the process. Following the presentation, Councilwoman Rebecca Viagran made comments about the Southeast Community, including ongoing projects and encouraging residents to take the survey and to stay involved. Attendees were given time to ask questions about the plan and process, and to identify concerns in their neighborhoods that could be addressed in the plan. Following the presentation and questions, attendees were again, encouraged to review infographic boards, ask City staff questions, and take the community vision questionnaire and meeting follow-up survey.

# **Meeting Feedback**

Approximately eight (8) participants completed a questionnaire that provides the department with feedback on the meeting itself. Six respondents gave the meeting an overall excellent rating, while two remaining selected very good and good.

#### **Next Steps**

The Planning Department will collect and review all responses from the community vision and goals questionnaire and will no longer accept responses after March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Planning staff will use the responses to assist in drafting the Southeast Community vision and prioritize goals. The Southeast Community Plan Planning Team will meet March 18<sup>th</sup> to refine vision and goals based on collected community feedback.

The Vision and Goals Questionnaire can be completed in both English and Spanish at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/southeastcommunityplanq1">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/southeastcommunityplanq1</a>. Throughout this process, the Planning Department will continue to address public comments at <a href="https://southeast.sacompplan.com">https://southeast.sacompplan.com</a> or email the project manager at <a href="mailto:shepard.beamon@sanantonio.gov">shepard.beamon@sanantonio.gov</a>. Draft existing conditions analysis is available for online review at <a href="https://southeast.sacompplan.com/about/">https://southeast.sacompplan.com/about/</a>.

#### TRANSCRIBED COMMENTS

Staff typed the handwritten comments from vision and goals wall graphic below.

## **Vision and Goals Wall Graphic Comments**

- What do you like most about the area?
  - Generally quiet and safe
  - Good neighbors who all help each other
  - New sidewalks on Rigsby Road
  - Large lot/rural character
  - Easy access to highways
  - Signage for Peach Grove neighborhood
  - Southside Lions Park and Senior Center
- What is missing from this area?
  - Extend park [Southside Lions Park] further east (on Roland)
  - Help identify community character
  - Police sub-station
  - Facilities and service for the homeless
  - Small park in area west of S. New Braunfels
  - Better shading/more trees on northern edge of Southside Lions Park



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- Google fiber/better high speed internet
- Light rail needed
- What about the community would you like to see different?
  - Expand Mission Library (increase number of periodicals)
  - Heavy traffic congestion at, and along, WW White Road and Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr.
  - Terron Road, Sinclair Road, Roland Road, E. Southcross, Pecan Valley Dr., and WW White need traffic calming or reduced speeds; Sinclair being use as a cut-through from Lakeside
  - Better monitoring and enforcement of park rules, especially Lake End
  - Drainage solutions in Pasadena Heights area
  - Traffic calming/slower speeds on S. New Braunfels
  - Repair sidewalks and curbs on Schley between Gevers and Walters
  - Reduce areas with incompatible land uses
  - More code compliance enforcement for illegal buildings and structures
  - Reconstruct Rigsby from Clark to Roland
  - Improve sidewalks on Bailey Road
  - Enforceable development guidelines to maintain the character and culture of the neighborhood (i.e. mass, scale, setback, integration...)
- What is your vision or "big idea" for the future of this area?
  - Improve economic development and provide better jobs
  - Former Pecan Valley Course used as an open space/public park



