

## MEETING SUMMARY

### **Southeast Planning Team Meeting #9: Amenities and Public Space**

**Meeting Date:** Monday, January 13, 2020

**Time:** 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

**Location:** Bode Community Center, 901 Rigsby Avenue, 78210

**Attendees:**

*Sara Mendiola, SARA*

*Chris Dawkins, BEST*

*Ed Fears, Pasadena Heights*

*Isabel Fears, Pasadena Heights*

*Yulanee McKnight, Pecan Valley*

*Alicia Campbell, Lakeside*

*Allan Houck, Foster Meadows*

*Councilwoman Jada Andrews-Sullivan, District 2*

*Eartis Eaglin, Council District 2*

*Chris Villa, District 3*

*Shepard Beamon, CoSA*

*Chris Ryerson, CoSA*

*Krystin Ramirez, MIG*

*Mark de la Torre, MIG*

**Meeting Objectives:**

The purpose of Planning Team Meeting #9 was to discuss public spaces and amenities, looking at the entirety Southeast plan area, focus areas, and key transit corridors. The meeting discussion focused on highlighting existing significant public spaces and amenities and identifying missing public spaces and amenities, or where existing amenities and spaces need improvement.

**Meeting Format**

The meeting began with staff and planning team introductions and an overview of the Southeast plan process. Following this, a presentation was provided to the planning team to review common amenities and how public space can be defined, how this topic aligns with the SA Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan, and how Low Impact Development can impact communities. The team then broke out into a group discussion where the team was given maps that identified focus areas and key corridors and asked to identify where public spaces and amenities were missing or need improvement. The meeting concluded with next steps.

**Mobility Presentation**

Mark de la Torre, consultant from MIG, Inc., began the presentation a general overview of the guiding principles and plan elements from the SA Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan, and which elements are related on amenities and public space. Krystin Ramirez, consultant from MIG, Inc., then gave an explanation of amenities and public spaces, and provided examples from the City of San Antonio, both man-made and natural features. This was followed by a presentation from the San Antonio River Authority's representative, Sara Mendiola, on what is Low Impact Development (LID). The presentation explained how this is useful tool for development and the positive impacts LID can have on the natural environment. Sara also provided examples of LID throughout the City. Krystin then provided further explanation of how to best determine what amenities are applicable to certain areas and examples of amenities that could be incorporated within the plan area.

**Group Discussion/Mapping Exercise**

The Planning Team then began the discussion on what amenities are existing amenities and public spaces but need reinvestment, or where are amenities and public spaces missing, throughout the entire Southeast Plan area. The Planning Team then collected around printed maps of focus areas and key corridors, which provided a more zoomed in view of specific areas within the Southeast area. For each map, attendees were again asked to identify any missing or underperforming community spaces and public amenities. In total, the planning team reviewed four key areas.

**Public Space and Amenities in the Southeast Community Area**

Below are the comments and suggestions made during the group mapping exercise and discussion.

Missing public amenities and social gathering spaces for the throughout the entire Southeast area:

- There is a need for additional and closer **health services**, including a full service hospital.
- More neighborhood **dog parks** throughout the area, in addition to Southside Lions Dog Park
- **Indoor aquatic center** to serve eastern San Antonio residents, seniors, school districts, and the broader eastern San Antonio region
- Permanent **Senior Center** for District 2
- **Entertainment districts, nodes, or corridors** (i.e. Dining, theater, bowling, Art museum/cultural institute)
  - Expand upon existing shops and restaurants on Hackberry to create a community gathering space
  - W.W. White Restaurant Corridor – preserve existing businesses and attract new restaurants along corridor
  - Places similar to The Friendly Spot and The Cove, with kid-friendly play areas and outdoor seating
- **Public art** throughout the area
  - For wayfinding/navigation or landmark, similar to Pittman-Sullivan Park landmark
  - Art/signage to enhance W.W. White Restaurant Corridor
  - In the grassy median along Southcross
- **Higher education**/satellite campuses to provide access to SA residents and adjacent counties

**Pasadena Heights Focus Area**

- Incorporate LID features (i.e. stormwater park, bioswales) in neighborhood, especially in areas where topography is steep to guide stormwater away from homes and towards drainage easements and creek
- Incorporate trails from neighborhood to park, senior center, community center, and linear greenway; potentially using drainage easements/creek tributaries as trails
- Wayfinding signage along Roland towards Southside Lions Park and Salado Creek
- Improved lighting along Roland for improved pedestrian connection
- Enhance visibility and access at Roland Avenue Trailhead along Salado Creek
- Improved lighting and streetscape along Rigsby Avenue
- Enhance Rigsby and Roland intersection with public plaza and art
- Priority redevelopment within neighborhood
- Priority connection along Rigsby



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### Lakeside Focus Area

- Streetscape improvements along Highway 87 (underground CPS utilities)
- Proposed signage for pedestrian crossing across Highway 87 to transit stop
- Sidewalk connections and improvements to connect focus area to transit stop on Highway 87
- Deter homelessness and trash dumping along Rosillo Creek
- Community gathering space (multigenerational center) with aquatic center and plaza that connects to adjacent park
- Exercise equipment along trail around lake
- Signage at transit stop and park entrance along Lakefront
- Signage/wayfinding at Lakefront and Highway 87 (entrance to focus area)
- Prioritize street frontage along Highway 87

### Pecan Valley Focus Area

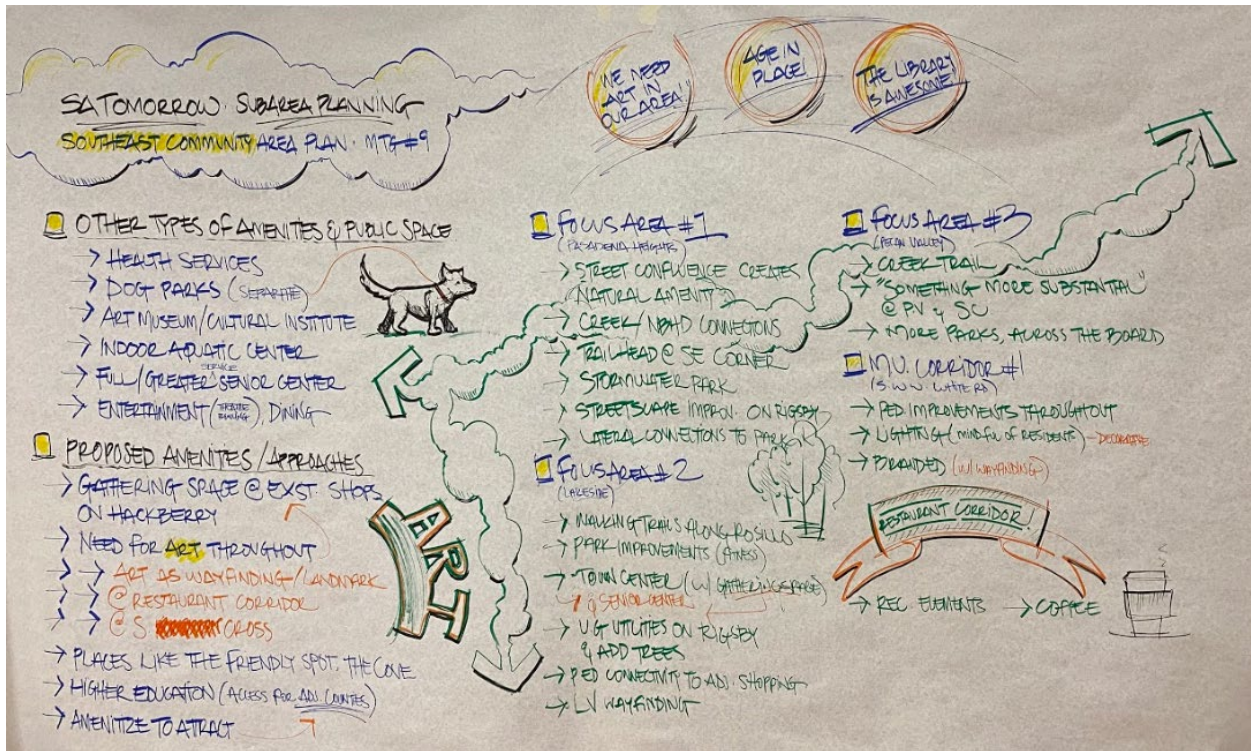
- Trail extension of Salado Creek with trailhead at Southcross
- Improve lighting at Pecan Valley Drive and Southcross intersection
- Streetscape improvements along Southcross
- Proposed plaza/community gathering space at intersection of PV Drive and Southcross
- Proposed park/open space on former Pecan Valley Golf Course for more visibility and increase safety

### W.W. White Road Mixed Use Corridor

- Encourage family-oriented restaurants and bars with parking in rear and more connection to street
- Signage/lighting for future protected pedestrian crossings
- Streetscape improvements along W.W. White Road and Sinclair Road
- Sinclair has been identified as a priority east to west corridor/connection
- Traffic calming
- More mobility hubs
- Incorporate more public art and signage to create a greater sense of a food destination
- Decorative lighting along Sinclair, as well as curbs and sidewalks
- Priority pedestrian crossing at Sinclair and W.W. White
- Priority redevelopment at for industrial properties along Sinclair



**Southeast Planning Team Meeting #9  
Summary**



**NEXT STEPS:** Planning staff will analyze the discussion and exercise results as well as provide updates to the planning team.

**Planning Team Meeting #10: Mobility Pt. 2**

Monday, February 10, 2020; 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM  
Bode Community Center

Meeting summaries and presentations will be available on the sub area plan website:  
<https://southeast.sacompplan.com/>

If you have any questions about the Southeast Community Area Plan, please contact: **Project Manager:** Shepard Beamon, City of San Antonio Planning Department.

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