

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COUNCIL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2018
10:00 AM
MUNICIPAL PLAZA B ROOM**

Members Present:	Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, Chair, <i>District 5</i> Councilmember Roberto C. Treviño, <i>District 1</i> Councilmember William Cruz Shaw, <i>District 2</i> Councilmember Rey Saldaña, <i>District 4</i> Councilmember John Courage, <i>District 9</i>
Members Absent:	<i>None</i>
Staff Present:	Bridgett White, Director, Planning Department; Alicia K. Beckham, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
Others Present:	Councilmember Sandoval, <i>District 7</i> ; Brian Buchanan, <i>VIA Metropolitan Transit</i> , Jay Renkens, <i>Moore Iacofano Goltsman, Inc.</i> ; Linda Ximenes, <i>Ximenes and Associates</i> ; Sonia Jimenez, <i>Ximenes and Associates</i> ; Cynthia Spielman, <i>Beacon Hill Area Neighborhood Association</i> ; Barbara Witte-Hall, <i>City/County Joint Commission on Elderly Affairs</i> , George Grimes, <i>Mahncke Park Neighborhood Association</i>

1. Approval of the Minutes for the March 21, 2018 Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting

Councilmember Saldaña moved to approve the Minutes for the March 21, 2018 Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting. Councilmember Treviño seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

2. Briefing on the implementation of the VIA Metropolitan Transit Vision 2040 Plan. [Brian Buchanan, Senior Vice President, VIA Metropolitan Transit; Peter Zanoni, Deputy City Manager; Mike Frisbie, Director, Transportation & Capital Improvements]

Brian Buchanan reported that VIA Metropolitan Transit (VIA) covered most of Bexar County and that their service plan was related to coverage. He stated that with existing funding, the peak service for bus route frequency was every 60 minutes or every 30 minutes and greater. He noted that VIA would decrease existing peak service frequency by simplifying the network, increasing frequency, and improving customer experience. He mentioned that the City's recent funding contribution to VIA helped to improve their transit system by increasing route frequency, adding new routes, and modifying services. He stated that in May 2018 they would increase frequency to additional routes; and that in fiscal year 2019, they would increase frequencies to more routes, add new routes, and modify additional services.

Mr. Buchanan provided detail on how the proposed core network would build a better bus system. He stated that VIA would need to identify additional funding to support the increased frequency and hours of operation. He noted that the proposed system would increase peak service route frequency to every 30 minutes or every 10 minutes and greater. He added that a better bus system plan improved access to frequent services and more access for the community. He mentioned that a simpler network would offer faster, direct, and more efficient connections; and would improve weekend and late night service. He

stated that groundwork for future implementation would create the foundation for VIA's Vision 2040, SA Tomorrow Plan and the SA Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Buchanan reported that VIA's Plan would strengthen the mobility inside Loop 410 and around Loop 410. He stated that they would be deploying a pilot program in the Northeast San Antonio Pilot Zone called Mobility on Demand. He noted that the programs would provide Mobility on Demand Service choices for areas with lower or emerging ridership demand. He added that VIA had a Request for Proposals for a business model associated with the Mobility on Demand Program.

Mr. Buchanan stated that Rapid Transit required large investments in the transportation networks. He noted that Rapid Transit warrants its own lane separate from other traffic. He added that VIA was working on network analysis scenarios centered on ridership, funding, and land use. He mentioned that there would be drafts available for community input in the summer of 2018.

Councilmember Saldaña asked if VIA had found a way for new riders to better understand the transit system. Mr. Buchanan responded that Google Maps was a good tool to use when learning VIA Bus Routes. Councilmember Saldaña asked when the Zarzamora Primo Bus Route would begin operating. Mr. Buchanan replied that it would begin operating in January 2019. In response to Councilmember Saldaña, Mr. Buchanan stated that there had not been a military community that had a Memorandum of Understanding for public transportation.

Councilmember Courage suggested that VIA extend community engagement events to people who do not ride the VIA Bus. In response to Councilmember Courage, Mr. Buchanan stated that 80% of VIA Riders used the bus routes inside Loop 410 and around Loop 410.

No action was required for Item 2.

3. Briefing on the SA Tomorrow Area Planning Services - Year 2 Consultant Contract Award.
[Peter Zaroni, Deputy City Manager; Bridgett White, Director, Planning Department]

Bridgett White reported that the SA Tomorrow Area Planning Services - Year 2 Contract would cover six areas. She stated that there were six master plans that would guide future private development, public infrastructure investment, and related public policy. She noted that the primary phases of the contract included Project Chartering, Analysis and Visioning, Plan Framework, Modeling and Visualization, Recommendations and Implementation Strategies, Documentation and Adoption, and Ongoing Coordination and Engagement and would apply to each of the planning areas. She added that each planning area would have a planning team that would be unique to that area. She mentioned that there were community meetings in each planning area to engage stakeholders.

Citizens to be heard

Chairperson Gonzales called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Barbara Witte-Hall spoke in support of adding a member from the City/County Joint Commission on Elderly Affairs to each planning area.

Cynthia Spielman suggested that community engagement meetings be televised.

George Grimes asked that the City continue to work on the Midtown Area Neighborhood Plans and not to eliminate the plans.

Brady Alexander requested that staff provide more notification of community meetings.

Councilmember Sandoval asked who was responsible for the community engagement. Ms. White responded that City staff would conduct the community engagement events. Councilmember Sandoval suggested that staff conduct quality engagement by conducting meaningful and transparent engagement, and provide tools for an informed engagement.

Councilmember Treviño suggested that staff get meeting engagement dates out to the community promptly. He stated that the information on the Planning Department's website was not easily accessible. In response to Councilmember Treviño, Ms. White stated that the Neighborhood Plans were being incorporated into the Subarea Plans of SA Tomorrow.

Chairperson Gonzales stated that community neighborhoods did not feel contacted to the SA Tomorrow Area Plans. She asked what consultant services Moore Iacofano Goltsman, Inc. was providing to the City. Jay Renkens responded that the services that they would provide to the City would be technical analysis planning.

Councilmember Treviño requested that staff outline what the Area Plans. He stated that staff should be recording the engagements and making them accessible to the community.

No action was required for Item 3.

4. Briefing on the SA Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan proposed land use categories.

Item 4 was not addressed.

Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shirley Gonzales, Chairperson

***Alicia K. Beckham,
Office of the City Clerk***