

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015  
2:00 PM  
PLAZA ROOM B, MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING**

<b>Members Present:</b>	Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, Chair, <i>District 8</i> Councilmember Alan E. Warrick II, <i>District 2</i> Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>District 3</i>
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Councilmember Cris Medina, <i>District 7</i>
<b>Staff Present:</b>	Peter Zaroni, <i>Deputy City Manager</i> ; John Dugan, <i>Director of Planning &amp; Community Development</i> ; Bridgett White, <i>Assistant Director of Planning &amp; Community Development</i> ; Terry Bellamy, <i>Assistant Director of Transportation &amp; Capital Improvements</i> ; Susan Guinn, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Nina Nixon-Mendez, <i>Planning Administrator</i> ; Rudy Nino, <i>Planning Administrator</i> ; Trish Wallace, <i>Transportation Planning Manager</i> ; Rebecca Pacini, <i>Sr. Transportation Planner</i> ; Greg Reininger, <i>Transportation Planner</i> ; Ian Benavidez, <i>Planner</i> ; Jacob Floyd, <i>Planning Coordinator</i> ; Liza Meyer, <i>Special Projects Manager</i> ; Errol Reid, <i>City Manager's Office</i> ; Alexander J. Pytel, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
<b>Others Present:</b>	Kerri Collins, <i>Parsons Brinckerhoff</i> ; Linda Vela, <i>Parsons Brinckerhoff</i> ; Krystin Ramirez, <i>Kaufman &amp; Killen</i> ; Darryl Byrd, <i>Ultrate Consulting, LLC</i>

**Item 1. Approval of the Minutes for the September 15, 2015 Comprehensive Planning Council Committee Meeting**

Councilmember Warrick moved to approve the Minutes for the September 15, 2015 Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

**Item 5. Briefing on the San Antonio Tomorrow Multimodal Transportation Plan**

Item 5 was addressed at this time.

Ms. Kerri Collins provided an update on the progress of the San Antonio Tomorrow Multimodal Transportation Plan. She described 5 Primary Phases of the Plan and noted that the goals of the Plan included Congestion, Safety, Reliability, Maintenance, Quality of Life Improvements, Multimodalism, and Economic Development. She detailed the Corridor Selection Process which identified representative characteristics for Corridor Improvements. She clarified that the selected corridors were not the primary corridors of the City or the ones that required the most improvement. She explained the Process would provide an opportunity to demonstrate solutions that could be applied throughout the City.

Ms. Collins reported on proposed Short Term Improvements such as Pedestrian Enhancements, Streetlights, Neighborhood Connections, Streetscaping, and Lighting. She highlighted three different scenarios:

- 1) Business As Usual Scenario which utilizes the 2040 Travel Demand Model to address capacity needs and intersection and roadway improvements.
- 2) Connectivity Scenario which addressed the implementation of a Major Thoroughfare Program by 2040.
- 3) Promoting All Modes Scenario utilizes a Mode Shift along key corridor routes at major growth centers identified as part of the Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Collins identified overcapacity conditions and stated that the Scenario Models identified the need to encourage mass transit as well as comprehensive land use development. She reported on public outreach efforts and detailed public support for increasing bond issuance in order to fund the Programs.

Councilmember Warrick asked for clarification regarding Dedicated Transit Lanes. Ms. Collins reported that Dedicated Transit Lanes were designated for transit only or for other High Occupancy Vehicles. She noted that they could be placed on regular City Streets. She added that VIA was working to provide Premium Transit Service as part of their 2040 Vision which would improve travel time, appeal to new commuters, and benefit economic development. Councilmember Warrick noted the Digital Divide in some communities and asked how the needs of different Districts would be addressed. Ms. Collins referenced a series of Open Houses coordinated with each of the Council District Offices with the intent to allow citizens to attend a meeting closer to their home. She noted that feedback gathered from the Open Houses had been incorporated into the Plan and that City Staff was continuing to actively engage the community.

Councilmember Viagran asked what specific priorities were identified relating to Quality of Life. Ms. Collins reported that the development of Transportation Solutions, local neighborhood investment, improvement of air, water, and natural resource qualities were identified as priorities. Councilmember Viagran asked for additional information regarding Land Use Development. Ms. Collins stated that the Models revealed a lack of full benefits if Land Use Development is not considered in relation to transportation. She noted that both Land Use Development and Transportation Improvements must be utilized in order to address issues facing traffic.

Chairman Nirenberg spoke of the importance of consolidation of the different elements of the Plan and asked how integration of the different elements would be addressed in relation to community issues. Ms. Collins noted that all Working Groups would be consolidating ideas and presentations for the Three Plans. She added that Neighborhood Leadership Workshops would include public participation. Chairman Nirenberg noted that Council Districts could nominate local organizations to provide feedback to assist in Planning Efforts.

Councilmember Warrick asked for detail regarding proposed transit services. Ms. Collins reported that different types of service would be best tailored for different types of commuters. She highlighted Park and Ride, Express Service, Streetcars, Downtown Shuttles, Light Rail, Dedicated Lanes, Express Lanes, and Direct-Connector Ramps. Mr. Terry Bellamy explained that as San Antonio becomes

increasingly connected; more movement would take place at different times of day with other modes of transit which would help alleviate congestion at peak traffic hours.

No action was required for Item 5.

## **Item 2. Briefing on the October 12, 2015 Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Meeting**

Mr. Rudy Nino reported that the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee was composed of three Tri-Chairs, three Planning Commissioners, and nine Working Group Chairs. He stated that the role of the Steering Committee was to reconcile issues that arise and bring them forward to the Comprehensive Plan Committee and City Council for consideration and final approval. He referenced the second SA Tomorrow Steering Committee Meeting which was held on October 12, 2015 at San Antonio College which addressed the approach to updating goals and policies, as well as updating the schedule for all Three Plans. He added that the meeting found that the text related to goals needed to be more direct and that goals needed to be more action-related. He described an additional recommendation to change the name of the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee to the SA Tomorrow Steering Committee to reflect the role of the Committee and the need for it to oversee Sustainability and Transportation, as well as Comprehensive Plans.

Mr. Nino stated that as part of the review; the Consulting Teams were looking at best practices throughout the Nation and how best to apply representative policies and strategies of other communities to San Antonio.

Councilmember Viagran asked how schools impact Planning Elements. Mr. Nino responded that the performance of schools ultimately affects growth and Urban Form Issues. He noted that an important aspect to consider would be how the City could address school needs and help improve academic performance.

Chairman Nirenberg asked for clarification on how appointees and stakeholder organizations would be actively engaged. Mr. Darryl Byrd reported that efforts were underway to ensure that stakeholders have a sense of ownership. He stated the need to establish some final connection to the Plan.

No action was required for Item 2.

## **Item 3. Briefing on Staff Recommendation on how the City's Annexation Program will be incorporated into the SA Tomorrow Planning Process**

Mr. Nino reported that City Staff was recommending an expanded discussion of the five Working Groups in order to provide significant feedback as well as engage the Citizens Planning Institute. He discussed current proposals on how to collect feedback and potential implementation. He highlighted the topics for expanded discussion to include: Existing and Future Annexation Policies, Annexation Alternatives, and Emergency Services Districts. He added that an update of the City's Annexation Policies and subsequent alignment with the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan would be evaluated to provide the City Council with greater guidance for future Annexation Policies. Mr. Peter

Zanoni explained that the goal of the recommendation was to examine assumptions and confirm that the Program is on track.

Chairman Nirenberg highlighted regional collaborative efforts including transportation and integration with local communities. He noted that competition was incongruent with many goals of the Program and discussed the importance of planned and sustainable growth and development policies. He stated the need to alter policies in order to achieve the vision articulated by SA 2020.

No action was required for Item 3.

**Item 4. Briefing on the expansion of Public Outreach efforts related to San Antonio Tomorrow**

Mr. Nino highlighted the proposal to expand Public Outreach Efforts. He reported that the Department of Planning and Community Development was reviewing the current allocation of funding and that an amount was allocated for planning purposes. He discussed the proposal to use between \$100,000 and \$125,000 of the planning funds for additional public outreach and stated that the Department had sought proposals from three firms to create an enhanced Public Outreach Plan. He explained that the final recommendation would be presented to the Steering Committee in the future. He detailed commonalities between the proposals including community wide events and robust online social media outreach. He mentioned that evaluation of the firms was ongoing.

Chairman Nirenberg noted the issue of Civic Engagement in the community. Mr. Nino reported that discussions were underway regarding the need for innovation and enhancing awareness based on the lack of public discussion.

No action was required for Item 4.

**Adjourn**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:21 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

  
*Alexander J. Pytel,*  
*Office of the City Clerk*

  
*Ron Nirenberg, Chairman*