



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number: 19-6574

Agenda Item Number: 5.

Agenda Date: 10/14/2019

In Control: Planning and Community Development Committee

DEPARTMENT: Planning Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Bridgett White, AICP

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Briefing on the Downtown Area Regional Center Plan

SUMMARY:

The Planning Department will provide a briefing on the Downtown Area Regional Center Plan, the fifth of the SA Tomorrow Sub-Area Plans slated for adoption. The Sub-Area Plans implement the SA Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The SA Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan is one of three growth-related plans addressing how the City of San Antonio's expected population growth will be balanced with social, economic, and environmental resources. The Comprehensive Plan provides strategic direction for decision making and public investment to prepare our communities for anticipated growth at the citywide level. The major "building blocks" of the Comprehensive Plan include:

- Regional Centers
- Urban Centers
- Corridors
- Neighborhoods

The Downtown Area Regional Center Plan aims to create a realistic and implementable strategy to address projected growth in the Downtown Area Regional Center, one of the thirteen (13) Regional Centers identified in the SA Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan. Downtown is the historic and cultural center of the city and home to

the world renowned Riverwalk. It is the center of San Antonio's traditional economy, anchored by our multi-billion-dollar tourism, education, and healthcare industries. The urban core is revitalizing and experiencing a growth renaissance, supported by the "Decade of Downtown" movement. The City Center is evolving into a vibrant mixed-use area with a range of employment, services and housing, all centered around great historical and cultural destinations. The main topics covered by the Plan include Land Use, Mobility, Amenities and Infrastructure, Focus Areas, Catalytic Projects, Economic Development, Housing, and Neighborhood Priorities.

As success of the Sub-Area Plan depends on broad participation from area stakeholders, Planning Department staff worked with a wide range of community members throughout the planning process. These included neighborhood associations, business and property owners, residents, employers, educational and cultural institutions, public and nonprofit organizations, and other City departments.

ISSUE:

The Planning Department will provide a briefing on the Downtown Area Regional Center Plan. A Public Draft of the Plan was released to the public for comment on June 14, 2019 and public input was gathered through August 12, 2019. An Administrative Draft, which incorporates many of the community comments received thus far, is currently available and is scheduled to be considered by City Council on December 5, 2109. The Administrative Draft is available online at the following address: <https://downtown.sacompplan.com/>.

ALTERNATIVES:

This briefing is for informational purposes only.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this briefing.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Comprehensive Plan Committee forward the Downtown Area Regional Center Plan to the Planning Commission for formal consideration.