



**CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting
September 13, 2010**

City Hall, Executive Session Room (Room 1027)
301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX 78701

MINUTES

Committee Members in Attendance

Dave Anderson (Chair)
Kathryne Tovo

Dave Sullivan

Members of the public in attendance:

Tom Davis
Lucy Galbraith

Pat King

Members of staff in attendance:

Garner Stoll (PDR)
David Rouse (WRT)

Mark Walters (PDR)

Commissioner Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:08pm.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the August meeting were not available and would be submitted for approval at the October 11, 2010 meeting.

3. OLD BUSINESS

None.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Presentation and discussion on Phase 3 of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, including formation of Technical Working Groups.*

David Rouse from Wallace, Roberts, and Todd (WRT) presented information on the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan process, indicators, and several concepts for the creation technical working groups. Throughout the presentation, the Planning Commissioners consultant, and staff engaged in discussions.

Commissioner Dave Sullivan and David Rouse engaged in a discussion about housing affordability and the lack of good indicators to measure it.

Commissioner Dave Sullivan and David Rouse engaged in a discussion over the zoning capacity analysis and the susceptibility of change analysis conducted by WRT.

Commissioner Sullivan discussed the importance of integrating sustainability into the plan, as mandated by the City Council and a process and introduced the notion of creating a “sustainability group” to represent the ideas of sustainability in the Technical Working Groups during the development of the comprehensive plan in Phase III.

Commissioner Kathie Tovo noted that other governmental entities should be engaged in the comprehensive plan development. She alluded that the current facilities planning process that the Austin Independent School District (AISD) is currently conducting is being done without consideration to the Imagine Austin process. Commissioners recommended that as the process moves forward other governmental organizations such as the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA), AISD, the University of Texas, and the Austin Community College (ACC) should be engaged in the Imagine Austin process. Tovo also suggested that a session should be held where these different organizations can engage in the process.

The Commissioners and, the consultant, and staff next engaged in a discussion centered on issues of concern in the planning process. They noted that there is a notion of winner and losers as a result of the planning process. Another issue was threat of attempts to slow the process as a means of killing it. A third topic of discussion centered on the business community’s displeasure with the possibility of existing neighborhood plans superseding the comprehensive plan and that they needed to be engaged in the Technical Working Groups. There was a general concern expressed that skepticism could harm the planning effort if allowed to take hold.

The next discussion was a brief one concerning the availability of the zoning capacity information being made available at Community Forum Series #3.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a. Update on the Comprehensive Plan process and Citizens Advisory Task Force
<http://www.imagineaustin.net>
- b. Directives to staff

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURN

Commissioner Anderson adjourned the meeting at 7:35 pm.

For more information on the Comprehensive Plan Committee of the Planning Commission, please visit the website (http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/compplan/comp_plan_committee.htm) or contact Mark Walters, Planning and Development Review Department, 974-7695.

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