



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

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

**MINUTES**

**Committee Members in Attendance**

Dave Anderson (Chair)  
Dave Sullivan

Richard Hatfield  
Kathryne Tovo

**Members of the public in attendance:**

Pat King  
Tom Davis  
Steve Aleman  
Vanessa Saria (Community Action Network)

Joyce Basciano  
Cory Walton  
Frank Harren

**Members of the Citizens Advisory Task Force in attendance:**

Roger Cauvin

**Members of staff in attendance:**

Garner Stoll (PDR)  
Greg Guernsey (PDR)

Carol Haywood (PDR)  
Greg Claxton (PDR)

**Members of Imagine Austin consultant team in attendance:**

David Rouse (WRT)

Commissioner Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

**1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

Steve Aleman from the Austin Neighborhoods Council made three points. First, that ANC's resolution to restart the comprehensive plan was not taken lightly. Second, that they have continued to talk with staff, Council, and the Mayor. Last, that the timetable for the Plan Framework and Preferred Scenario was too accelerated, given that they were both unveiled today. Aleman asked that the Committee defer endorsement for one month to continue to discuss ANC's concern. He also asked that the Working Groups be given a clear charge that the Preferred Scenario is not set in stone and that they can revise it. Commissioner Sullivan asked what should happen with that month – continued voting or education on the Preferred Scenario? Aleman said that it should be an opportunity for

citizens to continue to have involvement, and that it could be a chance for them to study it more carefully. Commissioner Tovo suggested that the time could also be used to compare it with the Future Land Use Map, identify conflicts, and seek to resolve them. Aleman added that the capacity analysis could also be used in that. Commissioner Anderson asked if the zoning capacity analysis had been revised by the Committee. Garner Stoll said that it had not, though ANC had seen earlier versions.

## 2. **APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 8, 2010, MINUTES**

Commissioner Tovo asked that the minutes for item 4a be changed from “what facilities that may need to be closed in the near term” be changed to “on capital improvements in areas that Imagine Austin targets for long-term population growth.” Tovo moved to approve; Commissioner Sullivan seconded; Commissioner Hatfield abstained. The vote was unanimous.

## 3. **OLD BUSINESS**

### a. *Discussion of the relationship between AISD & Imagine Austin*

Commissioner Sullivan said that Garner Stoll spoke at the AISD Task Force the previous week. The Chair of that Task Force found it useful. Sullivan said there was a discussion of density and the cycle of neighborhoods, where families children ebb and flow. Stoll said that there had been further discussion about coordinating, and that AISD’s Task Force was interested in joining Imagine Austin’s Working Groups.

Commissioner Anderson asked whether there were further actions this committee should take. Sullivan said that the Working Groups should invite other ISDs. Commissioner Tovo said that the AISD Task Force would soon be receiving recommendations for facility changes.

### b. *Discussion of the Complete Community Concept*

Commissioner Anderson said he had not been able to attend subsequent meetings on this with the Task Force. Commissioner Tovo said she attended an Analysis Committee meeting where the reception was positive. Greg Claxton presented the current approach to incorporating these measures into Imagine Austin, so that they could be used by the Working Groups.

Anderson asked whether this was the right time to incorporate this idea. Garner Stoll said it was, because it could be grounded in the three rounds of public input so far.

Tom Davis said that sustainability is about taking no more resources out of the environment than you put back in. Anything else is greenwashing. Sustainability in the plan needs to focus on localization, transit-oriented development, and climate change. David Rouse said that the Plan Framework also incorporates the “3 E’s” of sustainability (environment, economy, and equity), and that the Complete Communities discussion is about enriching that idea. Anderson said that metrics tied to the environment were important to have for that Building

Block. Commissioner Sullivan said that the Working Groups were an opportunity to put radical ideas on the table.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

a. *Presentation on Community Action Network's Community Council Recommendations on Indicators*

Vanessa Saria from the Community Action Network gave a presentation on that group's Community Dashboard indicators. Commissioner Hatfield said that developing a partnership between educators, the city, county, and businesses was important. Saria said that they were working on that, as well as reaching beyond high school as far down as kindergarten and into childcare.

Commissioner Anderson requested that CAN's data be available to the Working Groups.

b. *Briefing on Imagine Austin Working Groups*

Greg Claxton gave a presentation on the current status of developing the Working Groups for Phase 3 of Imagine Austin.

Commissioner Sullivan confirmed that these groups were open to everyone, and that recruitment was about getting people to show up and not restricting who could participate. Commissioner Anderson asked who "owned" these recommendations? Claxton said that they had come from multiple sources. Anderson asked whether the invitations should come from someone else, such as Council or the Task Force? Sullivan suggested the Task Force could divide up the job of sending invitations.

Commissioner Tovo said that the Analysis Committee discussed how they'll function, and raised the possibility of not needing to be Open Meetings, which would mean that staff would not be necessary. Tovo also said that an overly proscribed approach to these meetings could be a problem.

Commissioner Hatfield asked what comparable cities do? David Rouse said he would conduct a review.

Commissioner Sullivan asked whether staff were resources or participants. Anderson said that roles and responsibilities would need to be fully defined at the start.

Sullivan asked whether the Working Groups have to have the Plan Framework and Preferred Scenario from the start. He said that he sees a strong sentiment to curb urban sprawl, which was also expressed through Envision Central Texas and the Austin Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan, and was sure another map was necessary to begin work. Garner Stoll said that it was important to have a map that ties everything together and embody the words of the Vision and Plan Framework.

Anderson left the meeting and Tovo took on the duties of the Chair.

Steve Aleman asked to what extent Working Groups could adjust the Preferred Scenario. Pat King said that supports delaying the process and that she was concerned that Del Valle was not included sufficiently in the Preferred Scenario. Cory Walton said that zoning changes were also being implemented based on presumptions from the Preferred Scenario. Commissioner Sullivan asked what evidence Walton had of that; Walton replied that it was what they were hearing.

**5. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

*a. Presentation and discussion on results of the Imagine Austin Community Forum Series #3 and preliminary work on the Preferred Future Scenario*

Greg Claxton presented the results of the Community Forum Series #3 and explained the current draft of the Preferred Scenario. The Committee asked to review the Plan Framework at their next meeting and to bring the Preferred Scenario back for further consideration.

*b. Update on the Comprehensive Plan process and Citizens Advisory Task Force*

Greg Claxton reported that the Task Force was going to discuss changing their meeting dates at their next meeting, to allow Planning Commissioners to attend.

*c. Directives to staff*

None.

**6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Bring the Plan Framework and Preferred Scenario for review, including a comparison of the Future Land Use Map and the Preferred Scenario.

**THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:55.**