

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 23, 2012

Subcommittee Members: Council Member Sheryl Cole, Chair  
Council Member Laura Morrison  
Council Member Chris Riley

Call Meeting to Order

1. **Citizen Communication (3 minutes to speak).**

N/A

2. **Approval of minutes from the January 23, 2012, regular subcommittee meeting.**

Minutes approved by a vote of 2-0.

3. **Staff Update on Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan**

Cookie Ruiz, Task Force Member, provided an update of the City Council Review Direction. Citizens Advisory Task Force (CATF) members have been spending time reviewing 1300 individual responses from the task force members and the community. Reviewing to see if these responses are consistent in what they have seen for the past 2 years or needed further review. As of January 17, 2012 the Task Force (TF) begins to meet in regards to the unresolved items. The CATF provided community members an opportunity to request additional information and data for analysis of the draft comprehensive plan and help identify gaps in data analysis, if such gap exists. This has been done and incorporated into the TF review of draft plan.

The Comp Plan (CP) group completed an analysis of the Preferred Growth Scenario Map based on the sustainability indicators used to compare the Alternate Future Scenarios maps. This has been done and presented to PC. The CATF developed a method of tracking how the recommended action items relate to the policy recommendations within the draft comprehensive plan to provide additional insight on how the action items will advance the goals of the Vision Statement, currently waiting on final revisions to policies and actions.

The CP group reviewed and offer recommendations on amendments enhancing the performance measures and benchmarks within the draft

comprehensive plan which is in process. The CP and CATF recommend a schedule for the completion of the comprehensive plan, including adequate time for review and discussion by the boards and commissions.

This is the update of our work; we began with 31 volunteers and are down to a smaller dedicated group. It has been hard at times to establish a quorum but we are working to complete the work.

Council Member Morrison asked for clarification of Item A gathering all comments in which people have made?

Cookie Ruiz, yes that is correct.

Council Member Morrison stated that is spectacular that the TF committee is offering this time of suggestion of public outreaching and engagement to the citizens.

Garner Stoll, Planning and Development Review Department, stated the working groups have consolidated 3000 items in Chapter 5, consolidating to the priority program.

Council Member Cole, stated they have been a lot of affordability questions. Instead of I want my house more affordable what type of questions are we actually receiving. Are people focusing on their property tax rate?

Cookie Ruiz, stated the questions she has been asked are homeowners understand the growth and development 30 year plan of their communities, but what will this cost me as a homeowner? They want the City of Austin to get better but as a homeowner hoping you are not forcing me out of my home in which I have lived in since 1960. How and who are going to pay for this? Really good intelligent comments that we need to be thoughtful about.

Dave Anderson, Chair, Comp Plan Sub Committee, stated out by acknowledging the amount of work that Cookie and the Task Force are doing and wanted to say thank you. The PC Committee is tasked with delivering the comp plan to CPT. We broke out items A-F between the TF and PC to review existing plans and the goals and comparison. We have completed a review of those plans, but there are several concerns regarding the Growth Concept map which will be reviewed at the meeting on January 23, 2012.

Item D, Preferred Growth Scenario, indicators used for the Growth Concept map scenario and to compare the alternate Future Scenarios maps. Item E, is used to develop a method of tracking and how the recommended action items relate to the policy recommendations within the draft comprehensive plan to provide additional insight on how the action items will advance the goals of the Vision Statements; currently waiting on final revisions to policies and

actions. Item F, is a review and offer recommendations on amendments enhancing the performance measures and benchmarks within the draft comprehensive plan, in process. From January 23 through March several meetings will take place of mapping conversations, forwarding recommendations to TF, begin public hearing and forwarding to Council.

Council Member Morrison, asked is the Neighborhood plans and Master plan a consistent issue?

Dave, stated we are very careful how we discuss the Concept Map. The intent is not to look at what is in the bubble but generally want density in these areas. People are concerned about where their property and businesses are. Understanding that yes we will compare them on a parcel by parcel basis. We do plan on addressing those hot topic areas head on.

Council Member Riley, stated it will be helpful to have recommendation from PC and/or the Advisory Committee along the lines of the items Dave referenced for recommendations, taking a review of those plans.

Dave agreed completely with Council Member Riley and stated that is the plan to get that out on the table and review it as a group to gather recommendations and get to Council for your consideration.

Garner Stoll, Planning and Development Review Department, discussed the Charter process which is very specific which tells you what process should be used. Citizens weighed in on the priority survey results which we received 2,491 responses. Also, as you stated in your resolution to discuss with different Boards and Commissions we have one remaining which is Urban Renewal Board. We will revisit with Early Childhood Council, Sustainable Food Policy Board and Library Commission. I briefly stated about the Charter adoption process which was passed in 1985. The Planning Commission forwards proposed plan to City Manager, City Manager submits plan to City Council with recommendations, After at least one public hearing, City Council may (a). adopt, (b). adopt with amendments or (c). return the plan to Planning Commission with "policy direction" within 60 days and if plan is returned to Planning Commission, the process restarts. The schedule recommendation endorsed by PC Comp Plan Committee & Task Force are: February 14<sup>th</sup> Task Force forwards to PC, February 28<sup>th</sup> – March 27<sup>th</sup> PC considers plan at 3 meetings, April 12<sup>th</sup> first briefing at City Council and June 7<sup>th</sup> last City Council meeting within 60 day timeframe.

Council Member Cole, asked she noticed the survey didn't include a category for Social Services. Is that combined somewhere or people just did not ask?

Garner Stoll, stated there is a brief description within Healthy Austin; they have some Social Services in their broader description. Education and

Workforce development as well. But as far as a free standing Social Services private program there was not.

Council Member Cole, asked “if the plan is returned to the Planning Commission, the process restarts.” What does that mean?

Garner Stoll, stated PC will look at the direction you submitted, make changes to the recommendations and forward it back to the City Manager where he will place back on the agenda.

Council Member Morrison, asked how will these priority programs help us achieve our vision?

Garner Stoll, stated these are being reviewed extensively and revised by our TF. They are being redefined as to much more specific who is responsible and goals and matrix has been added.

Council Member Riley, asked for clarity on the adoption process?

Garner Stoll, referred to the handout of the Charter of Article X. Planning of the Planning Commission Powers and Duties. Stating you do not have to return the whole plan only the element that needs the change.

**Meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.**