



MEMORANDUM

TO: Asian American Quality of Life Commission
FROM: Sona Shah, Cultural and Arts Manager, Asian American Resource Center
DATE: December 17, 2018
SUBJECT: AARC Master Plan Update

Background

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARC) began the process of updating the Master Plan for the Asian American Resource Center in October 2018. The Master Plan Update continues the work of the 2006 Master Plan, which resulted in the current Asian American Resource Center facility, Phase I, completed in 2013. Since the 2006 Master Plan and Phase I construction, changes in city ordinances as well as other additional information created a need to update the Master Plan before beginning Phase II.

Community Meeting #1

On December 11, 2018, PARC hosted the first Community Meeting for the Master Plan Update. Approximately 50 people attended (41 signed in). Those who attended heard a brief presentation about the master planning process, the initial feasibility and massing concepts showing that can be developed. After the brief presentation, community members were able to visit display boards showing three potential ways in which the 15 acres could be developed. Those in attendance were invited to leave comments on the boards as well as complete the first Survey.

The Master Plan team is currently reviewing results of Community Meeting #1 and will make these results public.

Small Group Discussions

On December 8 and 15, PARC facilitated 3 small group discussions. Schiller Liao of the NAAO invited the attendees and arranged the times. The 3 meetings combined brought 31 people together to discuss what they appreciate about the AARC now, and what they would like to see in the future.

Additional Opportunities for Feedback

Survey: The first survey on Values and Programming is currently available online at <http://speakupAustin.org/aarcmp-update>. The survey can be taken online in English, Traditional Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean. Arabic and Burmese PDFs can be downloaded and returned via email.

Small Group Discussions: The AARC and PARC will host additional Small Group Discussions in January. Groups may request a meeting or attend one of the following at the AARC:

- January 14 to 18, 2019: Senior Participant discussions;
- January 17, 2019: Artists and Creatives; (continued next page)

- January 24, 2019: Rentals and Reservation Participants;
- January 25, 2019: Collaborators and Partners; or
- January 26, 2019: Families

Community Meeting #2: This meeting is tentatively set for January 31 at the AARC. This meeting will provide a comprehensive summary of “What We’ve Heard” through the first stages of the community engagement process (*i.e.*, first meeting, small group discussions, survey).

Timeline Update

