

ASMP Phase III Engagement Summary

Phase III Engagement for the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (ASMP) presented both draft policies and transportation network maps for public feedback. Engagement for these drafts occurred between early October 2018 and mid-January 2019. The draft content was extensive and comprehensive. There were 129 draft policies and the draft maps allowed people to review and comment on all public streets in Austin. Because there was so much content for the public to consume, public outreach focused on depth, not breadth, of engagement. Staff wanted the community to have time to consider the draft proposals, ask questions, and provide the necessary amount of feedback for such a large amount of information.

Phase III engagement continued to focus on hearing from communities who have been historically underrepresented in City decision-making processes. The ASMP team continued working with community organizations, service providers, and focusing limited staff resources on getting feedback from historically underrepresented and underserved communities.

Phase I and Phase II engagement activities identified four historically underrepresented or underserved communities that the team wanted to focus on. These focus populations were:

- Youth (people aged 15-24)
- Seniors (people aged 65 and older)
- People with mobility impairments
- People of color

To hear from these groups, the ASMP team held focus groups and a two-day summit in an attempt to receive feedback on the draft proposals. In addition to focus groups for youth, seniors, and people of color, two additional focus groups were held. One was held in Spanish to receive feedback from the Spanish-speaking community, and another group was held for the general population. The two-day summit was held with Housing Authority of the City of Austin residents to learn their opinions on the draft policies. Meetings with several different mobility impaired groups and community representatives, as well as a presentation to the Mayor's Commission for People with Disabilities provided feedback, as well.

In addition to focus groups, the ASMP held "office hours" at community libraries in every council district that has an open library. This meant no "office hours" were held in District 8, so the team worked to engage the community in that district in other ways. For "office hours" ASMP team members would set up a table, with printed and digital ASMP materials to answer questions community members had about the ASMP. The ASMP held 23 "office hours" across Austin. While the ASMP team made sure to spend time in every district, 17 of these sessions were held in Districts 1-4 in an attempt to hear from historically underrepresented or underserved communities.

An online survey and an online comment tool we included in the draft ASMP Policies and draft ASMP maps. All online content, including the policies, maps, surveys, and feedback tool, were available in both English and Spanish. An accessible English survey was also available. There were 184 survey responses to the ASMP policy survey, and the feedback map had over 2,600 comments.

In addition to "office hours," the ASMP team spent time in the community attending events and giving presentations to organizations and City boards and commissions. The ASMP attended 50 events, gave 5 presentations, and presented at 12 City boards and commissions and committees. To help ensure that

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the ASMP team was receiving feedback from the focus populations, the team met with and attended meetings with several community organizations and advocacy groups, as well.

In addition to active participation in the community, the ASMP team used several web methods to solicit feedback. The team closely monitored and accepted feedback through an active City of Austin email address. There were almost 150 comments received through email covering the draft policies and maps. NextDoor, which the team used as one method to alert people to the draft proposals, was also used to accept feedback. Facebook and twitter were both used to publicize information about the draft policies and maps. Finally, the team also emailed interested stakeholders subscribed to the ASMP newsletter when the drafts were released, extended, or about to close.

All these comments were used to help craft final policy recommendations, and to help consider projects to be included in the ASMP network map recommendations. All final draft recommendations, informed by the feedback received during public engagement undertaken in Phases I, II, and III, will be presented to the community as a final draft in February 2019 for further public comment before being presented to City Council in March 2019.