

Meeting Summary

Amarillo City Plan – Vision 2045

City Plan Community Workshop #3

Plan Elements & Recommendations

Date: **09/19/2023**

Time: **11:30 AM – 1:30 PM and 6:00 – 8:00 PM**

Location: **Downtown Library (413 SE 4th) and Northwest Library (6100 SW 9th)**

City Plan Team Participants

City Plan Project Team

- Emily Koller (Amarillo)
- Shari Kendall (Amarillo)
- Cody Balzen (Amarillo)
- Brady Kendrick (Amarillo)
- Andrew Freeman (Amarillo)
- Drew Brassfield (Amarillo)
- Jon (Amarillo)
- Chris Jackson (Amarillo)
- Jay Renkens (MIG)
- Saul Vazquez (MIG)



i. Overview:

The purpose of Community Workshop #3 was to provide an overview of progress to date; provide an overview of the Plan's vision and guiding principles; review results from the Community Connector meetings; review base, capacity & alternative scenarios; and solicit feedback on preliminary recommendations for the five Plan Elements: land use and community character, housing, economic development, mobility, and parks and cultural resources.

Two identical sessions were offered – one in the morning, and one in the evening. A total of 67 people participated, with most (>75%) attending the morning session.

The workshop began with a presentation from the MIG team and was followed by an open house format meeting where attendees could review information and share input through interactive activities set up at several stations around the room. In addition, participants were provided the opportunity to give input via 'neighborhood worksheets' eight of which were filled out and submitted during the event. These worksheets gave participants the opportunity to get a closer look at how the place types would be applied to their specific neighborhood. Several participants took these worksheets home with them.

Below is a sample of presentation materials, a description of content provided and questions posed at each station, and a summary of responses, organized by topical station.

Meeting Objectives

1. Process Update
2. Vision and Guiding Principles Overview
3. Community Connector Meetings Summary
4. Base, Capacity, & Alternative Scenario Summary
5. Review Plan Element Recommendations
 - Land Use & Community Character
 - Mobility
 - Housing
 - Economic Development
 - Parks & Cultural Resources
6. Community Feedback



Prior Parks and Cultural Resources Direction

KEY PLANNING THEMES FROM EXISTING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

- Build on a Strong Park System
- Cluster Cultural and Entertainment Assets
- Enhance Local Heritage Initiatives and Tools

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES FROM 2021 PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

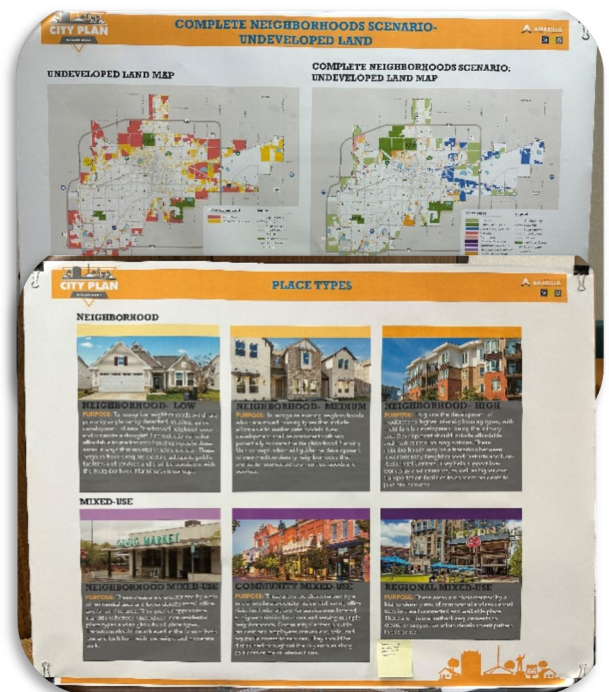
- Improved Park Maintenance and Condition
- More Trails and Walkability
- A Variety of Outdoor Activities and Play Opportunities
- More Events, Programs, and Social Gatherings
- Attention to Destination Facilities
- Reflections of Amarillo's Uniqueness
- Prioritized Enhancement for the City



Complete Neighborhoods Scenario & Future Place Types

Participants were presented with two maps – one that illustrates undeveloped land in Amarillo and one that overlaid the proposed place types on the undeveloped land parcels. These maps were accompanied by community statistics, such as population, dwelling units, and jobs to understand how the development scenario would contribute to growth targets identified through this planning process. This information was also paired with descriptions and representative images for each of the future Place Types used in the scenario map. Participants were asked to share any thoughts and feedback:

- Undeveloped land in NW Amarillo should be preserved for a new school or future homes.
- Need to plan for the homeless population.
- Consider annexation west of Amarillo.



- Regional mixed use is appropriate downtown but not in single family neighborhoods.
- Want to see more connectivity and development from Downtown Amarillo Blvd (old hospital) to North Heights and Thompson Park.

Land Use & Community Character Recommendations

Participants were presented with the preliminary draft recommendations for this Plan Element, which also included supporting graphics such as existing and aspirational development patterns and precedent photos. Participants were asked to indicate their overall approval for the draft recommendations (absolutely agree, need some work, back to the drawing board):



Degree of approval	Number of votes
Absolutely agree	5
Need some work	2
Back to the drawing board	0

Participants were also asked to share any thoughts and feedback:

- Agree that Washington is a barrier for pedestrian crossing.
- Glendale area is missing crosswalks. Need traffic calming and caution signs.
- Keep integrity of Route 66.
- Plant and maintain trees.
- Consider where transformation City fits into the Plan (long/short term).
- The upcoming planning to Parks corridor should follow loop 335 around the city and not 287. Downtown doesn't need through traffic.
- Reverse dumpsters back to alleys rather than front yards.
- What incentives can be offered for private investment within the city or defined development zones (e.g. downtown)?



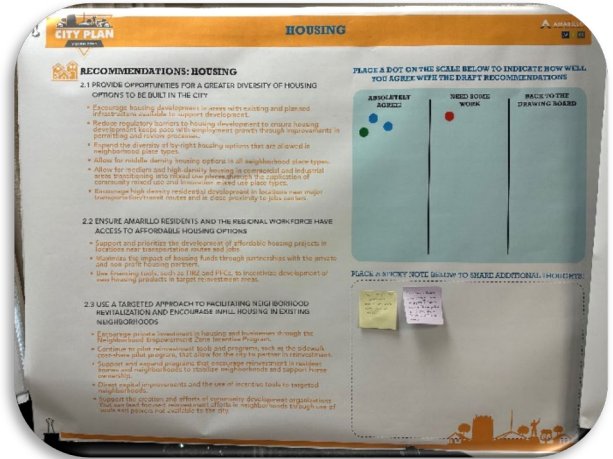
Housing Recommendations

Participants were presented with the preliminary draft recommendations for this Plan Element. Participants were asked to indicate their overall approval for the draft recommendations (absolutely agree, need some work, back to the drawing board):

Degree of approval	Number of votes
Absolutely agree	3
Need some work	1
Back to the drawing board	0

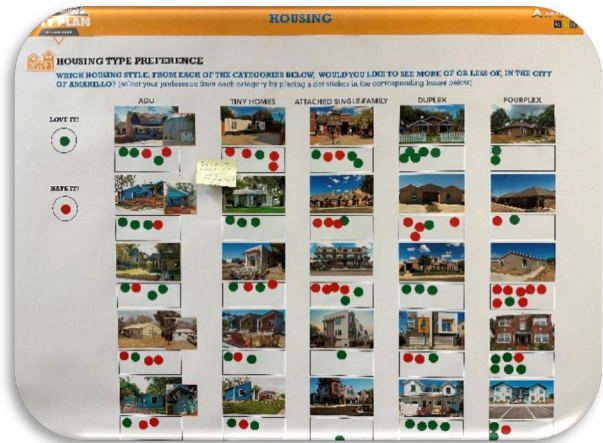
Participants were also asked to share any thoughts and feedback:

- Love the neighborhood empowerment zone but make the rules easy and obvious.
- Consider areas where HOA or PIDS fees are paid and the type of housing or plan for housing types that exist there. The Comp Plan needs to be consistent with current housing.



Participants were also presented with five precedent images for five different housing type categories (ADU, tiny homes, attached single-family, duplex, and fourplex).

Participants were asked to indicate which style they would most like to see more or less of in the city:

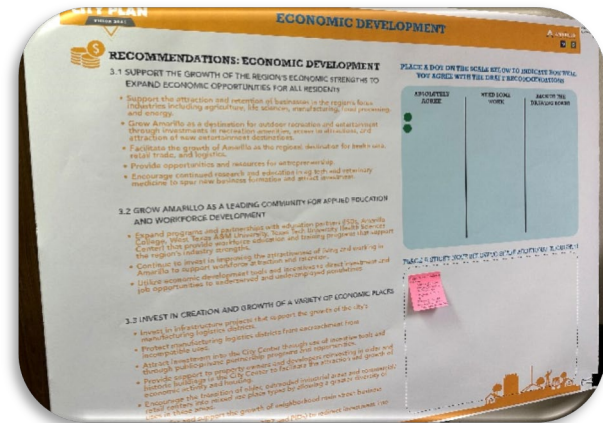


Housing Type	Love it votes (#)	Hate it votes (#)	Net Score
ADU	15	13	2
Tiny Homes	13	10	3
Attached SF	14	10	4
Duplex	19	7	12
Fourplex	15	11	4

The preferred housing type was duplexes, followed by attached single-family and fourplexes, tiny homes, and ADUs.

Economic Development Recommendations

Participants were presented with the preliminary draft recommendations for this Plan Element and were asked to indicate their overall approval for the draft recommendations (absolutely agree, need some work, back to the drawing board):



Degree of approval	Number of votes
Absolutely agree	4
Need some work	1
Back to the drawing board	0

Participants were also asked to share any thoughts and feedback:

- To encourage more activity downtown: promote and develop shopping districts within restaurant areas; improve parking; and promote mixed-use in the area/corridor between Amarillo College and downtown.

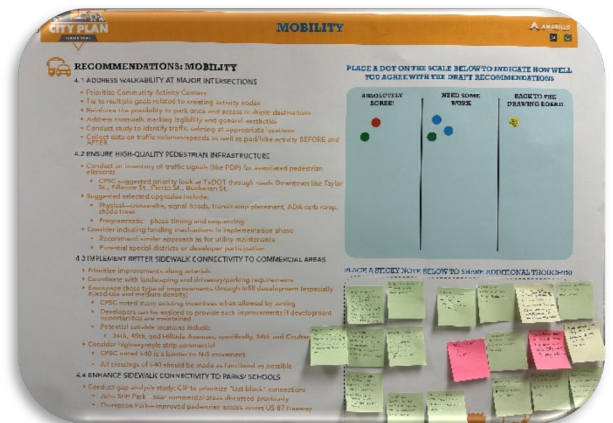
Mobility Recommendations

Participants were presented with the preliminary draft recommendations for this Plan Element and were asked to indicate their overall approval for the draft recommendations (absolutely agree, need some work, back to the drawing board):

Degree of approval	Number of votes
Absolutely agree	2
Need some work	3
Back to the drawing board	1

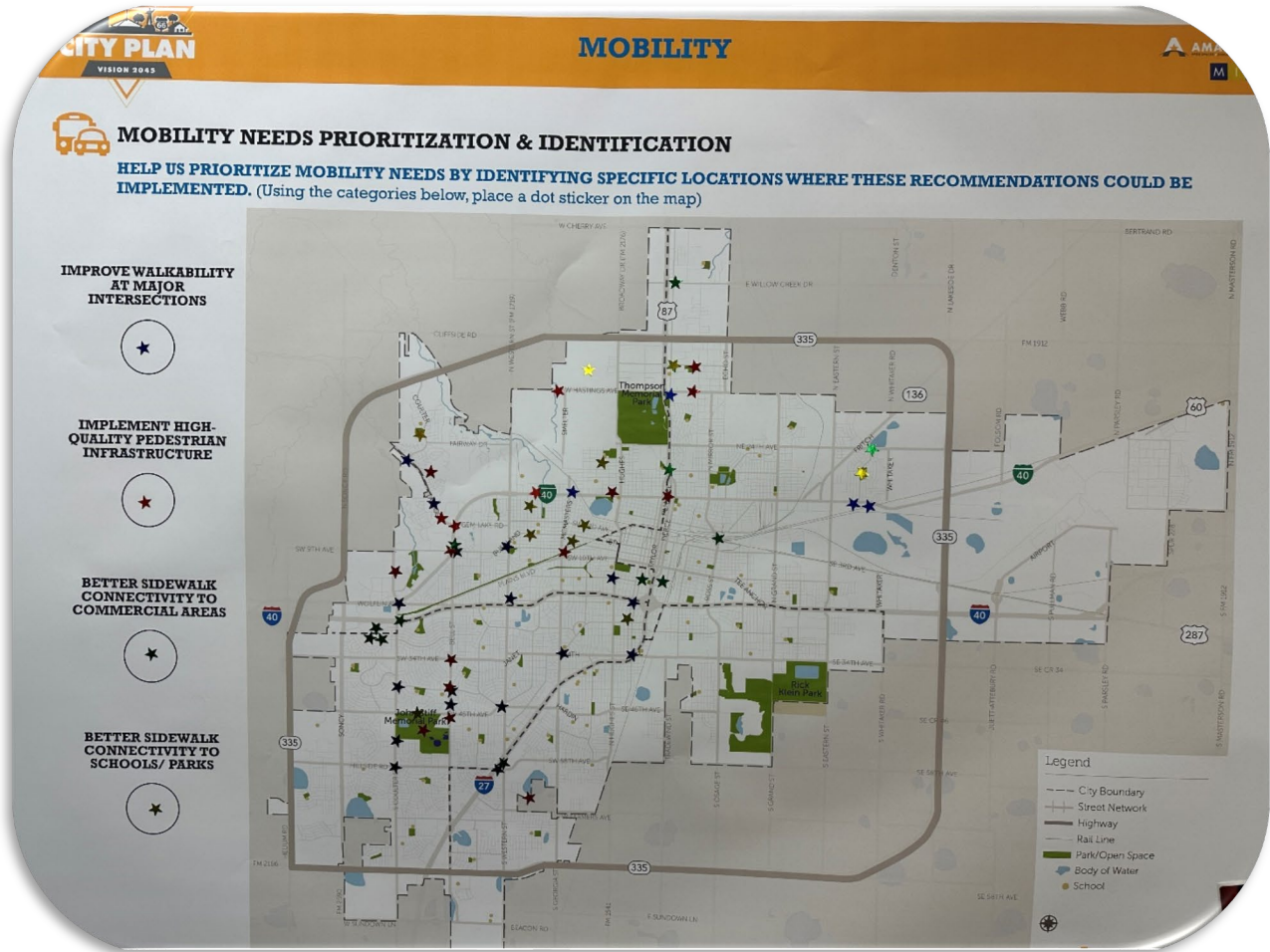
Participants were also asked to share any thoughts and feedback:

- Better roadway/multimodal connectivity between Coulter and N Coulter; between the AC area & downtown; and in/out of neighborhoods.
- Address increasing traffic congestion and high speeds along S Coulter, Hillside, Bell, SW 9th, Sconcy.
- More lighting on Amarillo Blvd, Hastings, and for all sidewalks.
- More community-serving commercial in NW Amarillo, including placemaking/place improvements.
- Make East Amarillo safer to attract new development and investment.
- Concepts are good but place them at locations that make sense.
- Invest in older neighborhood revitalization.
- Improve multimodal accessibility and safety and add traffic calming throughout neighborhoods.
- Separated bike lanes near parkin SW quadrant. Not in high traffic areas (e.g. Coulter).
- Improve safety of roads in Eastridge (too narrow).
- More transit system signs on non-arterial roads.
- Thompson Park to downtown.
- Engage North Amarillo Community to gather input and determine needs.
- Invest in pedestrian-activated signals and flashing crosswalks.
- Increased/improved sidewalk maintenance.
- Add more rail crossings (vehicle and pedestrian); more under- or- over-passes for pedestrian access across busy streets.
- Better sidewalk connectivity in the San Jacinto neighborhood.



In addition, participants were presented with a transportation map of the City and asked to identify the following improvement needs by location, using stickers:

- Improve walkability at major intersections
- Implement high-quality pedestrian infrastructure.
- Better sidewalk connectivity to commercial areas.
- Better sidewalk connectivity to schools/parks.



Parks & Cultural Resources Recommendations

Participants were presented with the preliminary draft recommendations for this Plan Element, which were accompanied by precedent images. Participants were asked to indicate their overall approval for the draft recommendations (absolutely agree, need some work, back to the drawing board):

Degree of approval	Number of votes
Absolutely agree	1
Need some work	0
Back to the drawing board	0

While participants were also asked to share any additional thoughts or feedback, none were recorded.

Where Do You Live?

Finally, participants were asked to indicate where in the community they live to illustrate geographic representation of participant opinions and voices. Most participants reported that they live in central, northwest, or southwest Amarillo. An image of this map activity is shown on the following page.

