

Meeting Summary

Amarillo City Plan – Vision 2045

City Plan Steering Committee Meeting #5

Plan Elements & Recommendations

Date: **08/14/2023**

Time: **5:30 PM – 7:30 PM**

Location: **Virtual**

City Plan Team Participants

City Plan Project Team

- Emily Koller (Amarillo)
- Shari Kendall (Amarillo)
- Joy Stuart (Amarillo)
- Jay Renkens (MIG)
- Saul Vazquez (MIG)

City Plan Steering Committee (CPSC)

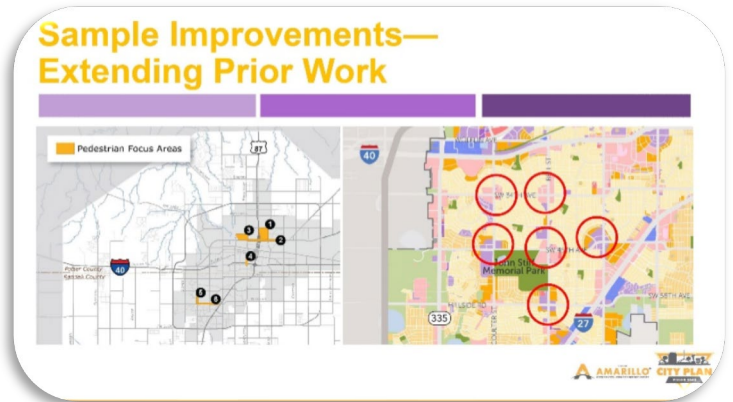
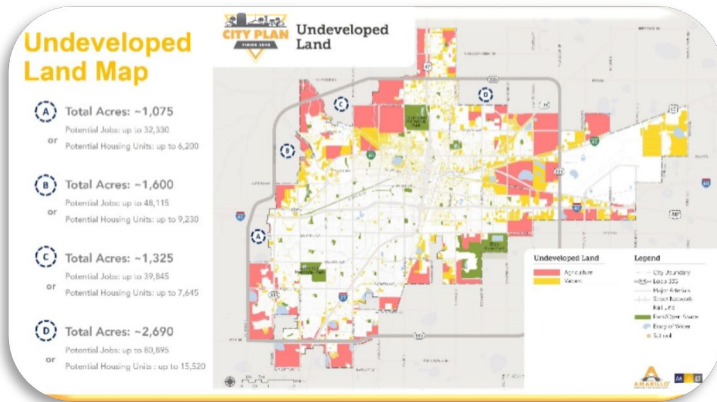
- Scott Bentley
- Ben Whittenburg
- Cindi Bulla
- Helen Burton
- Tim Ingalls
- Teresa Kenedy
- Tommie Knox
- Tiffany Podzemny
- Ann Scamahorn
- RJ Soleyjacks
- Alan Abraham



i. Overview:

The purpose of Steering Committee meeting #5 was to provide an overview of progress to date; share highlights of the land demand analysis; provide an overview of the base, capacity, and alternative scenarios; review and discuss undeveloped land/ vacant sites strategy, and discuss mobility, parks and open space.

The meeting began with a virtual presentation from the MIG team and was followed by facilitated discussion. Below is a sample of presentation materials, a list of the materials discussed, and a summary of responses and comments.



Alternative Scenario- Undeveloped Land

- Are there areas outside the City limits that need to be considered for development. If so, what type of development would be appropriate?
 - Area C is missing MF. Not much neighborhood retail
 - In favor of NMU in these areas, however may be a hard sell since these areas are more SF sub divisions. Each of these areas should have a central focus areas or need a center component for them NMU to be applicable
 - neighborhood low would work well in all of those areas. make sure there are neighborhood serving amenities
 - Incorporate better connectivity within communities that lead to/ are connected to MU developments
 - NE 24th will have a new overpass. MF and SF would work in area D
 - need for MF on SE side of the city
 - Think about potential incentive for private developers and the current appetite for development in those areas. It wouldn't make sense to add a place type that isn't suitable for those areas
 - Area D may not be suitable for SF or MF development. it may be better suited in west side
 - AEDC is working on large projects in area D. Housing would be a good add.
 - area A to be influenced from I-40 corridor, which typically lends itself to commercial
 - area B will be challenging from utilities/ infrastructure perspective. Could be better suited for higher end housing or higher density housing.
 - C has some topography but may be better served by utilities. This area lends itself to neighborhood low

Mobility Recommendations

- Where else might these ideas be implemented?
 - *ALL OF 10TH STREET FROM WESTERN TO ROSS (OR GRAND)*
 - *15TH at bivins and up to Washington*
 - *6TH STREET*
 - *RAILS TO TRAILS CONNECTIVITY. COULD GO TO THE EAST AS WELL. Could be better amenitized*
 - *CONSIDER NORTH/ SOUTH CORRIDORS (HUGHES)*
 - *MEDIAN ROADS IN BETWEEN STREETS THAT COULD PROVIDE BIKE FACILITIES/ MULTI-USE (5-10 MILES TO WORK WITH). CITY COULD POTENTIALLY RETROFIT THESE (I40 TO 34TH ON BELL STREET & 45TH BETWEEN WESTIN AND BELL ST)*
 - *west plain HS is in need of better walkability, which was made worse due to lack of coordination between departments. ensure that when crafting policies, you coordinate with multiple city departments*
 - *Along 10th Ave*
 - *(Garfield to Ross) will receive streetscape improvements (sidewalks, street trees, landscaping, lighting and benches)*
 - *I like the idea of focusing on areas where you'll get more bang for your buck*
 - *sunset center as it redevelops. May be interesting to envision it as corridor*
 - *Ross and Arthur along 10th ave will be receiving crosswalk improvements*
 - *median along soncy can help with traffic calming and make it more aesthetically pleasing*
 - *soncy is a major street that would benefit from addressing accessibility but we also need to focus on implementing more traffic signals*
 - *current downtown aesthetic lends itself for walkability. This is something that has happened recently*
 - *commercial activity would benefit from better sidewalk connectivity*
 - *I-27 and soncy is fully funded to implement overpass. These project could begin in 2025/2027*
 - *Connect mall to neighborhood to 34th Ave along via Coulter Street corridor*

- What potential challenges should be addressed?
 - *FUNDING AND MAINTENANCE*
 - *PROVIDE EASIER CONNECTIONS NORTH/ SOUTH*
 - *Important to look at the design and timing of signalized intersections in downtown as well as recognizing that the TxDOT highway goes through downtown*
 - *Average Daily Trips and success of traffic caliming is also important to study and look for success of implementation*
 - *Will truck traffic downtown be rerouted?*
 - *implementation and funding is always an issue. How do you make it work? (bonds, federal grants, state and federal funding)*
 - *modifying large roads may be difficult*
 - *speed/ amount of traffic along major streets like south soncy*

- *I-40 is a large barrier for connectivity*
- *these improvement can enhance accessibility*
- What other policies should be considered?
 - 14K vehicles travel along 10th ave. bond was approved for SUP and should start up in Fall 2024
 - addition of ped curb cuts, crosswalks, trees,
 - downtown feels safer now to walk around

Parks and Open Space

- What additional guidance can or should City Plan provide?
 - *better security, lighting usability. many parks don't feel safe*
 - *have usable parks at all times of day that get more attention is better than having more parks throughout*
 - *IN DOWNTOWN AREA A PLAZA OR SEMI PAVED SPACE. AN URBAN SPACE THAT FRONTS COMMERCIAL*
 - *BETTER PROGRAMMED PARK SPACES (VENDING, MONEY GENERATING SPACES)*
 - *consultant inputs should be aligned with parks extg comp plan*
 - *new comp plan could open doors for new policies and strategies*
 - *parks can be difficult to maintain but are great to enhance quality of life*
 - *enjoy the idea of linear parks, that could be a nice feature for downtown*
 - *can new development or organizations implement pocket parks and maintain them?*
 - *linear park by BNSF*
- Should City Plan target specific geographies for new parks to improve access for existing and future residents?
- What variations should exist by place type in older, newer, and new complete neighborhoods?
 - *if maintenance is an issue we could look at adding pocket parks or smaller rec facility*