

Meeting Summary

Amarillo City Plan – Vision 2045

City Plan Steering Committee Meeting #7

Implementation Strategies

Date: **11/06/2023**

Time: **5:30 PM – 7:30 PM**

Location: **Virtual**

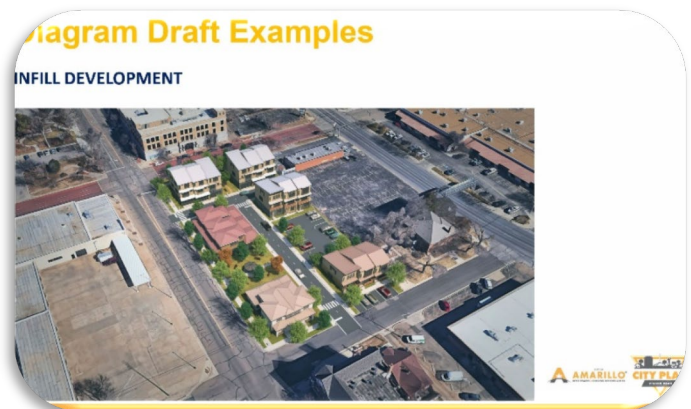
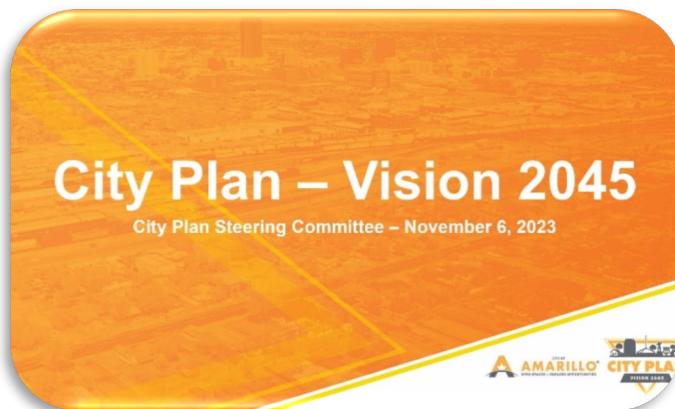
City Plan Team Participants

City Plan Project Team

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

City Plan Steering Committee (CPSC)

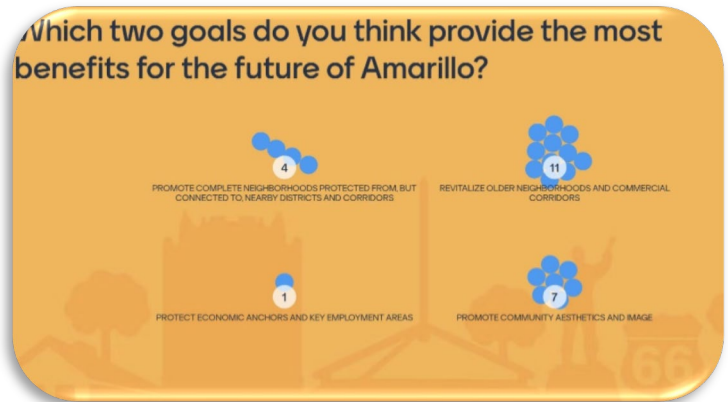
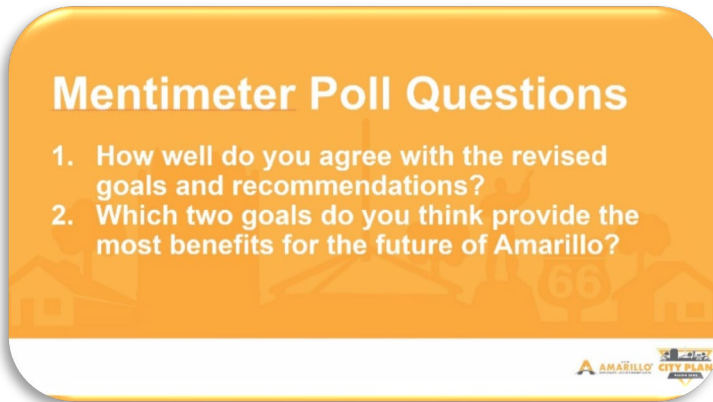
- Tiffany Podzemny
- Greg Bliss
- Cindi Bulla
- Renee Whitaker
- Tim Ingalls
- Teresa Kenedy
- Tommie Knox



i. Overview:

The purpose of Steering Committee meeting #6 was to provide an update to the preferred growth scenario, share drafts of design strategy diagrams; and review and discuss revised plan element recommendations and discuss City Plan implementation & prioritization.

The meeting began with a presentation from the MIG team and was followed by facilitated discussion utilizing Mural, a digital whiteboard. Below is a sample of presentation materials, and a summary of comments from the steering committee.



Design Strategy Diagrams

- Infill Development Drafts
 - Show variation with more units and less open space
 - Should collaborate with developers and EPS to measure feasibility
 - Look at example in Denver, CO. that's off I-70 and Qubek. Old Stapleton airport area
 - Double check parking requirements for downtown area
 - Show less internal pedestrian paths to maximize site

Plan Elements Revised Recommendations

- Land Use and Community Character
 - The city has recently approved this IEBC standard. This doesn't need to be in the comp plan. Staff/ MIG to confirm.
 - In far NW where you have innovation district, many parcels are industrial already. Residents should be able to choose from a palette of uses. Flexibility on setback for SF residential areas.
 - I believe the designation of proposed uses especially in the downtown area are a bit arbitrary
 - Warn against code that requires too many trees on a property as trees get very costly.
 - One comment on the zoning types...it may still lead to some monolithic outcomes. Looking at the downtown standards: a few blocks are commercial, a few blocks are innovative district, a few are neighborhood mixed use, but all delineated by streets, so you cross a street and have a likely very different use. I wonder if this is the best strategy or not...it doesn't seem to meet the existing use very well and I still would recommend giving lot owners / developers as much flexibility as possible
 - change to missing middle (**density**) and higher density

- *I'm weary of city regulating residential encroaching into industrial areas. The area between downtown to Georgia Street, could be seen as potential redevelopment space.*
- *make a distinction and adjust language to- **(heavy)** industrial and heavy commercial*
- *Agree that we need to re-designate heavy industrial uses to more residential uses in order to convert these to residential properties*
- *Think about public infrastructure and how that is framing up the private development. Focus on the public realm first and design that for the type of use that is desired*
- *Can we ask for walls along highways there they are close to neighborhoods? Where the sound pollution is very high*
- **Mobility**
 - *Strongly oppose any recommendations that create barriers to home ownership transfer*
 - *Remove PDP reference and provide non-shorthand description*
 - *I also wonder about requiring home owners to build sidewalks when they purchase a home in an older neighborhood or if there are large retrofits...the city could pay for it, or the homeowner likely should / could. I see a lot of places where folks just choose not to rebuild or just remove their sidewalks (in plemons eakles) and I don't think they should be allowed to do that...*
 - *I liked some of the discussion of curb cut management that was taken out*
 - *This is why SJ has no safe connectivity. sidewalks have been removed instead of repaired.*
- **Housing**
 - concerned that the idea of density is getting confused with homeownership
 - How about showing a video to home owners and a separate video for renters on current housing available and new examples of better housing?
- **Economic Development**
 - Add/ make more explicit the expansion of medical hub (healthcare)
 - not comfortable with word **encourage** since there is no agency. Go through all recommendations that use the word encourage
 - Let's get wild and vote for a Land Value Tax ;-)
 - include high-quality beautification recommendation (viable water features, tree lined areas, address older neighborhoods)
 - Add recommendation that would increase quality of life
 - Look at example in Boise, Idaho where large manufacturing company built a campus where city was maintaining the open space
 - I'd still say my most important economic development strategy would be to focus on improved quality of life. Particularly focusing on the huge percentage of roads and asphalt in our built environment and a lack of spaces for walking, biking or being in nature

- Parks and Cultural Resources
 - Our parks need improved management to ensure that trees and other vegetation thrives. Road water harvesting and other ecological solutions should be brought to inform park use policy. More diversity, more water management to promote tree growth etc.
 - We currently don't have trail connectivity between public spaces and I wonder if developers could pay a fee-in-lieu that goes towards a trail network
 - Add goal that preserves and celebrates historic buildings as cultural assets
 - Why are I-40 and I-20 corridors not referenced? These could go under economic development section