



**Meeting Minutes
General Plan 2040
Community Working Group**

Wednesday, May 22, 2013
6:00 PM
Tempe Public Library
Meeting Room A
3500 South Rural Road, Tempe, Arizona

CWG Members Present Alan Beaudoin Don Cassano Armando Espinoza Ryan Guzy Cole Hickman Michael Myrick Celeste Plumlee Marie Provine Joe Salvatore Benjamin Shaw Don Watkins Dennis Webb Steve Wegener Woody Wilson	Staff Present Tom Abbott Alyssa Gerszewski Nathan Hallam Wydale Holmes Bonnie Richardson Nancy Ryan Oddvar Tveit Mark Vinson Shauna Warner Nancy Woods
CWG Members Absent JoLyn Gibbons Jeremy Capello Lee Gary Johnson Ed Mitchell Melody Moss Steve Nielsen Julie Ramsey Lisa Roach Fred Warren	Audience Members Brenda Shears Clare Rhodes

The meeting was called to order at 6:26PM.

Item 1 Welcome and Introductions

Joe Salvatore (CWG Chairman) welcomed the group back.

Item 2 Approval of the Meeting Minutes from April 24, 2013

Joe Salvatore inquired if the CWG had any comments. Alan Beaudoin identified himself to be

the speaker that commented about the New Orleans parishes on page 4 of the Minutes. Motion was made by Don Cassano and seconded by Steve Wegener. Joe Salvatore called for a vote with the correction on page 4. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Item 3 Public Appearances

Chairman Salvatore called for public appearances.

Clare Rhodes said she would like to reiterate that she supports the provision of collaborative incubator work space for entrepreneurs as an important part of economic development.

Item 4 Sharing feedback from Community and Boards or Commissions

Nancy Ryan noted that since the last meeting she had been contacted with questions about the CWG role, how the General Plan relates to future development and the remaining process for the approval of the plan. She identified that the GP2040 CWG role has been one to help in the development with the General Plan and the CWG input was a key part of the large group of constituents that form the community input. Arizona law identifies that the General Plan should be developed with effective, early and continuous participation in the development of the Plan and that the community meetings, board and commissions and City Council will be involved in the development of the General Plan 2040. Nancy said in your packet was a public involvement plan for the General Plan update process approved by City Council in September 2012. The public involvement plan identified stakeholders within the community including public agencies that would be contacted as part of the broad dissemination of the plan.

Nancy Ryan discussed how the General Plan would be used by the City as the overriding Vision document to evaluate future growth and development and that it may be refined further by the creation of Master Plans for topics like Water Parks Master Plans. She also shared that the CWG discussion of character area plans would be a further refinement of the General Plan for a smaller area of the City.

Nancy Ryan discussed how the development process relates to the General Plan. She explained that there is the occasional opportunity to amend the General Plan that can involve amending the text of the plan or amending the Land Use Map or Density Map. Amending the General Plan has very specific procedural requirements. There are two processes for amendment: 1) a major amendment to the General Plan which involved a substantial change to specific categories of land use or change and 2) a regular amendment. The major amendment must be approved by City Council in October of each year and is a process that is longer and involves greater public input because of the change. A regular general plan amendment approval may occur throughout the year and typically accompanies another development request such as a planned area development (PAD) or rezone. Nancy shared the thresholds that establish whether an amendment is a major amendment or not.

Joe Salvatore said that he asked Nancy to prepare this material for the CWG. Joe said that as an architect he has been asked by developers to do something different than what the General Plan identified. He added that the reason for the General Plan is to guide that process. Joe noted that an amendment to the General plan is a very time consuming and expensive process that developers would rather avoid because it puts a significant burden if they want to deviate from the General Plan.

Item 5 Top Ideas Review from April 24, 2013.

Nancy Ryan provided the group with a summary of the top ideas from the last CWG meeting. The items are categorized based on the dot rankings. Nancy asked the commission to review

the top ideas to confirm they represent the most important focus within the General Plan and if there were any ideas on the list that should be elevated to the top. The goal is to work within the brainstorming from the last meeting. Nancy shared how the top ideas translated to the General Plan.

- Create a "20 minute city"
- Demand community design has to be of high quality design
- Attract families to purchase and investment in Tempe neighborhoods to overcome our aging population and support schools
- Implement a Complete Street concepts:
 - that includes pedestrian, bike, bus to provide other modes of transport besides vehicles
 - Completes gaps in the system to make it useable
 - Identify designated bike route systems that connect to hubs
 - Shaded, secured bike parking for a complete street practices
- Recognize that bicycle travel be considered a comprehensive mode of transportation, not only for recreational use
- Locate a streetcar where land use and development density supports ridership
- Develop the City with multiple urban centers:
 - Find natural commercial cores in the city and encourage them to develop in to denser, mixed use, attractive pedestrian-friendly hubs
 - Each hub attractive but different, fitting the character of that part of the city
 - Accommodate high density lifestyles that attract professionals, entrepreneurs and creative class
 - Trees, bike access, places to sit and destinations should be placed within hubs
- Ensure that Mixed-use provides the desired blend of multiple uses
 - Mixed use in the beginning, not added later
 - Mixed Use projects contribute to the % for Arts – Art in Private Development
 - Provide true mixed-use - not residential only

Michael Myrick said that so many of the concepts focus on transportation related items. He questioned whether the effort may be neglecting other important issues by focusing so much on transportation. Nancy Ryan opened the discussion up to the CWG for comments. Joe Salvatore noted that it is one of topics discussed along with some other major ideas. He said the growth "hub" idea has a lot of traction and the transportation overlays the hub concept as well as, public facilities, and affordable housing. Joe said that transportation is extremely critical as a major component to hubs as is the land use. Don Watkins added that transportation within neighborhoods is important for getting to schools, parks, or shopping and that transportation modes between cars, rail, bus, bike or walking are all involved with the other aspects of the plan. Michael noted that in reviewing the matrix provided the concepts that have five dots for meeting all the guiding principles relate to transportation. Michael asked how the dots were applied. Nancy explained the concepts were reviewed by staff for support of the guiding principles. Don Cassano noted that the group activity tonight will be doing the same thing to confirm whether those concepts do meet the Guiding Principles. Nancy added even if it seems like transportation is the central focus, there are many of the same concepts for mixed use, compact infill, high-density are still part of the General Plan. Ryan Guzy noted that the transportation topics seemed to cross over into many of the other topics, which was good. Nancy noted that in every general plan meeting there have been comments related to transportation, indicating the importance of transportation and community interest to improve it.

Item 6 Small Group Activity – Facilitated Rotations

Nancy explained the three group small activity process. Nancy Ryan introduced the three discussion tables are related to the Guiding Principles: 1) Balanced Land Use, 2) Quality of Life and Preservation of Neighborhood Character and Economic Vitality and 3) Increased Mobility/ Greater Accessibility and Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship. The small working groups were to take a look at the concepts to determine that we have captured the most

important concepts for the general plan, are the things that don't belong, or things that we have forgotten about that need to be added. Nancy explained that by the end of the evening the five boards are to be marked up, notes with new concepts added or deleted. She said that we should know the major things to include in the General Plan.

Wydale Holmes noted that the guiding principles had been established and the CWG has done three months of brainstorming of important General Plan concepts. She said the exercise was to check for completeness with the guiding principles and make sure each component aligns to move that guiding principle forward.

The CWG broke into groups for the activity.

Item 7 Small Group Activity Report Out

The Facilitators summarized the small group activity discussions.

- Nathan Hallam and Alyssa Gerszewski (Quality of Life and Preservation of Neighborhood Character and Economic Vitality)
- Wydale Holmes and Nancy Woods (Increased Mobility/Greater Accessibility and Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship)
- Mark Vinson (Balanced Land Use)

Marie Provine noted that the CWG should not look only for the inclusion of various items within the plan but also the feasibility and sense of who is going to be responsible to implement. Steve Wegener added that early in the CWG review of the 2030 plan it was disturbing to find that things like the environmental quality assurance plan included in multiple sections of the plan was never produced, accounted for or considered. He said that there needs to be an assignment of responsibility and accountability process for General Plan that is reviewed periodically. He noted that without accountability the plan has no teeth. Wydale noted that the accountability report out for departments is essential so that the document is not just put on the shelf.

Item 8 Wrap up and Closing

Nancy announced that there is a public meeting for General Plan 2040 on Wednesday May 29 at 6PM and Saturday June 1 at 9AM at the Tempe History Museum, and the CWG is invited to attend. The meeting will include a presentation of the concepts included in the General Plan and a Question & Answer session. Nancy said the General Plan will be posted to the website for detailed review by the community, with comments being accepted June to September.

Nancy Ryan reminded the CWG that the next meeting would be to discuss the Chapters of the Preliminary General Plan. Nancy said she would send the CWG a link as soon as the General Plan 2040 is posted to the web. So it will be important for the CWG to have read the plan prior to the meeting. The group activity will be similar to the one tonight, but with a check on the completeness and alignment on the six chapters of the Plan.

Item 9 Future Meeting Date

The next CWG meeting date will be June 26, 2013, starting at 6PM at the Tempe Library Tempe Learning Center on the lower level, Meeting Room A.

Nancy asked if the June 26th meeting date created a conflict with their schedules to ensure that there is a quorum. All members present noted that they would be able to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Prepared by: Nancy Ryan

DRAFT