

General Plan Community Meeting September 24, 2012

Comment Card Comments

Paragraph 1 under Air Quality misses wood-burning smoke as a source of air pollution. Objectives: Reduce our pollution from burning wood - quantify local air pollution effects of wood burning. Strategies: Convert a substantial portion of fire places to natural gas or other low emission forms. Increase the number of no-burn days beyond county days. Increase awareness of the importance of a complete stop before turning right (motor vehicles). Implement automotive bicycle/pedestrian counters. Work with Tempe Bicycle Action Group on counts. Increase bicycle safety awareness for children/teens.

I hope to hear discussion of the following: Reintroduction of bike/ped crossing the UPRR at Terrace or Dorsey. Streetcar alignment along Rio Salado in place or addition to Mill.

Tempe needs a denser system of very small open space and/or landscaped areas that allow for walking, sitting and conversations. Once quarter to one half mile from neighborhoods and adjacent to commercial areas. Redevelopment should be required to provide areas described above. IT is not healthy to develop a parcel without space for walking and sitting.

Ambient temperature reduction and green spaces/lawns. Increasing bicycle-friendly = shade + trees in addition to pathways. Redevelopment of Mill but sensitive to history. Reduce light pollution = different lighting options?

The format was so relaxed I didn't really know what to do. Were we supposed to write our ideas on those lg. pads of paper? Not what I expected.

Wood Elementary School - reclaim park of the school yard for a community park.

The railroad provides a corridor for wildlife. We occasionally are see gray foxes in the Maple Ash neighborhood and great horned owls travel (fly) along the railroad. These creatures help control roof rats. The City should consider the downsides of population growth. I know it brings in revenue but it also brings more high-rise, more traffic and more crime. Police/Law Enforcement Goal: Tempe need to abandon its bias against left turn drivers at green arrow only left turns where there are yellow and red arrows. I was hit by a driver who accidently put her foot on the accelerator instead of her break and I was blamed. As a former long-distance runner I enjoyed many runs in Tempe extending to Papago Park and south to Kiwanis Park and on to ???. We need to discourage increased automobile traffic and encourage other forms of transportation) bikes, buses, trains)

I would like to see some limitations or restrictions regarding height of new construction so views are still accessible. Also, on Rural a parkway - between road and sidewalk as a safety measure. Scottsdale has done some of this in the southern locations

Thank you for today's forum, it's really helpful. Tempe can use some excellent medial facility so it can attract medical professionals or healthcare business to the City. Further develop or plan events at Kiwanis Park so it can serve as a recreational destination like Tempe Beach Park. With so many apartments being build, make sure we have the supportive services for low-income families and children. More resources to public work so the neighborhoods parks and appearance can be maintained. We need more up to date and better collection for the public library, also a marketing plan for the library and library services only. I think library as part of arts and cultures only speaks to part of the library mission. Library needs to play a bigger role in meeting the information and education needs of Tempe residents. Promote Tempe to be a place to live and work, other than a college town.

Unlike several other City processes for gathering citizen input, I have very little confidence that THIS process will be very effective. I've heard from 2 "table facilitators" that the informal input they're gathering through conversation with participants will NOT be collected. Too Bad!! Your planning process appears to focus on the physical aspect of our community - where/how are you collecting info/inputs about the sociocultural community that we want to become? The answer(s) to THAT question should drive our physical planning in my mind.

<p>Good chance to exchange ideas/gain information about Tempe government. Enjoyed discussing the new multi-gen housing designs with planners. It is really important to consider shifting demographics in future planning.</p>
<p>Looking to the future is always good. But with limited resources we must first address the needs of our infrastructure TOO MANY major streets and neighborhood street are in dire need of resurfacing. Bus turnouts are needed to improve traffic flow. Street lights must be better timed. Work on our PARKS is sorely needed. None of this is any good if we do not have high caliber police and fire protection.</p>
<p>What specific transportation , multi-modal plans/improvements are included on reference to Warner I10 regional destination and employment centers. What specific financial resources are committed to multi-modal transportation for this area? What public open space is planned for south Tempe? The I-10/Warner are? What recreation and cultural amenities are planned for south Tempe? The I-10/Warner area?</p>
<p>I would like to see in Tempe: more local owned business in Mill Ave. More pedestrian/cyclists friendly streets (shade, walkable neighborhood). More public arts in residential areas. Public buildings which are cutting edge design rather than fake old buildings & preserve existing buildings rather than tearing down (most sustainable buildings are renovated/adaptive reuse/buildings). Promote distinctive characters such as above items to bring unique, forward thinking, high paying jobs. Please recycle Styrofoam including food containers or ban them.</p>
<p>Is there room in planning for anything really different? Do something WILD and become an international tourist destination. Here's my point: initiate a radical visualizations component in the planning budget. Even if it's a small corner of it. The project is for publications, exhibitions, global idea exchanges, . . . What if an elevated pedestrian environment criss-crossed the city, not for just bridges but a whole environment - gardens, shopping, homes, all of it? An infrastructure framework creating a topped light beneath creating streams and waterfalls. What if there were vast reaches of open space that traversed the whole city interspersed with teeming (sic) mega-architecture urban areas.</p>
<p>Make roads more pedestrian/bicycle friendly (like the canal). Also more shade for pedestrians to encourage walking. Preserve Peterson House culture - more tours and events there. Provide recycling bins with all areas with trash (townhomes communities, apartment complexes). Solar energy on City buildings. Involvement in solar for townhome communities. Fill empty buildings before building new ones. I would like to see more Science and Technology jobs in Tempe</p>
<p>It would be great to make the city more pedestrian friendly by adding more shade to encourage people to leave their cars. More trees, more bike paths. I like the idea some wrote about using the alleys more creatively. Perhaps there can be some way to reduce light pollution. More uses of Tempe Town Lake.</p>
<p>Can you post specific examples of how you plan to support education? Consider easing tax license requirements for arts groups who put on festivals and rely on small crafts for financial support! Arts council for youth supports TUHSD as well as Kyrene and Tempe Elementary</p>
<p>Work with public schools to remove recently built fences. These fences represent visual blight in the neighborhoods and indicate a breakdown in the long-standing relationship between City of Tempe parks and neighborhood schools.</p>
<p>The Clark Park area is a low-income area in great need for amenities - please help Clark Park renovation (master plan) high on your list for future projects! Many will benefit.</p>
<p>Storm water and water shed protection goal - although there are challenges with its implementation you may look at rainwater harvesting similar to what Tucson is doing to reduce storm water runoff and use for watering trees and plants in public and commercial areas.</p>
<p>Kid Zone: is it possible to have some type of scan in/out process for the kids. Like how they Boys and Girls club does (in focus scanner)</p>

<p>Need a new homeowner info packet too! Renters often have no clue about recycling and garbage (unrecyclables) and even what goes (or not) in which dumpster. More direct communication needed to those actually living in Tempe homes whether by door hanger fliers or penalties. Us good residents have put up (and often clean up) after our uneducated neighbors. Dumping junk by outside parties in alleys continues to be a problem. I call in some occurrences so as not to be penalized or fined for something I did not do!</p>
<p>Promote discussions around ways to constructively balance the needs of Tempe's homeless population with the family/business/professional image that Tempe is trying to promote - particularly in the downtown - Mill Ave area and all the City's parks.</p>
<p>We need to do a better job on educating our community regarding recycling. We need a resource center for abused women and children in Tempe.</p>
<p>Everybody very friendly and forth coming - thanks. I hope to dig deeper into the General Plan and participate in the community, working group (CWG)</p>
<p>I actually missed the meetings, but came in because the Library was closed. I grew up in Tempe and have always thought I should get involved in the community, etc. Look forward to being or getting involved.</p>
<p>Economic Development - I'm concerned that economic development activities targeted for south Tempe (85284) are not effectively bringing in desired high quality jobs because there is no long-term vision for the District in terms of the eventual commercial make-up. Land use and Development - I'm concerned that land use decisions in south Tempe (85284, example - Elliott Rd from Kyrene to I-10) are resulting in a general degradation of the community (more apartments and a lowering of the scale of retail) because there is no long-term vision to guide short-term decision making.</p>
<p>Preserve and rehabilitate City owned historic properties such as Eisendrath House, Hayden Flour Mill and silos. Encourage private property owners to preserve and reuse their historic properties. Extend the light rail south along Southern into Chandler. Discourage lot ties in established older neighborhood because such change is disruptive to people who have lived there for 20+ years. Partner with school districts to reuse closed school buildings. For example - move City office in rented properties such as Orchid House to a closed school - if the City needs space reuse schools should be the first choice even if its a shorter lease.</p>
<p>Need to attract more companies that pay better salaries. Wide 8" white lines separating cars and bicyclists help reduce collisions and make bicyclists feel safer. Plan more trees every year to offset heat island affect from new construction. Love family movies in the park (fall) and inside during summer. Have owned duplex in 1200 block of West 4th Street for 49 years - disappointed that my house while in the 49dnl did not receive sound proofing because it is not a single family home. 1300 W 5th street condominiums look like prison cell block in back and dwarf all the single story residences on the block. Obviously thing zoning should be changed back to the blend in with the rest of the neighborhood.</p>
<p>I will like to see more economic development by creating more walkable areas like Tempe Marketplace and downtown Mill Ave. Lowering taxes on businesses will attract more businesses. Also enforce the law to prohibit people begging on the streets.</p>
<p>The city needs to do a much better job at informing residents what's the goal especially along Apache Blvd. The strife created during the Gracie's Village debacle was an indication that the residents don't understand the goals of the city in that area.</p>
<p>More cultural events in Kiwanis Park. Signage at light rail for Papago Park activities and AZ Historical Society Museum. Develop S. Tempe as live, work and play. Economic Development in the south should be more than low end and high end service jobs - Science and Engineering Jobs. Create a vision for south Tempe - activities that make south Tempe a destination. Access to Transportation to the north for south Tempe.</p>

Trees and turf, especially in parks can mitigate the effects of the urban heat island. Trees in public right always need to be properly cared for and if any are allowed to dies, owners need to know they must be replaced. Codes need to be enforced. By 2040 this metro area could be unlivable without increasing green areas effects of increased ac and Freon chemical pollution will add to the problem. Historic preservation should be a priority. Flood irrigation should be encouraged in current flood irrigation neighborhoods. These neighborhoods are part of what makes Tempe unique and special. By the way, these neighborhoods are noticeably cooler. See areal maps from satellite photos show this.

Transform/integrate the water tank facility and surrounding impacted area on top of Bell Butte into a "landmark" public art work - possibly honoring the raw nature characterized by the Butte or its archeological heritage - would be a gateway to the valley. Emphasis design and arts with a "vertical" perspective within the airplane corridor - this would equally enhance Tempe's landscape when viewing from Google Earth or Bing Maps. More emphasis on wetlands (interpretive information) around TCA. More emphasis on nurturing "cottage industries" in Tempe, creative small-scale businesses often transform into employment engines.