

Minutes

Tempe Tomorrow - General Plan 2050 Community Working Group (CWG) August 2, 2022

Minutes of the Tempe Tomorrow General Plan 2050 community Working Group (CWG) meeting.
In person and virtual Zoom meeting held on August 2, 2022, 5:30 p.m.

Members Present:

1. Julie Armstrong
2. Myrna Baez
3. Sydney Bethel Price
4. Liliana Cardenas
5. J.P. Coughlin
6. Carmetta Currie
7. Jana Lynn Granillo
8. Andrew Holland
9. Kyle McIntosh
10. Patrick McNamara
11. Robert Moore
12. Donald Ortiz
13. Shane Peterlin
14. Andre Salais
15. Katherine Schmidt
16. David Sokolowski
17. Anne Till

Citizens Present:

Amy McNamara

City Staff Present:

Ryan Levesque
Ambika Adhikari
Robbie Aaron
Jacob Payne
Shauna Warner
Brenda Clark
Sarah Adame-Alcala

Members Absent:

Jordyn Hitzeman (excused)
Trish Jasinski (excused)

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

As the chair and vice chair were not yet elected, staff member Ambika Adhikari called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Roll Call

Staff member Ambika Adhikari asked for a roll call of the members and staff. A quorum was present with 14 members present.

Agenda Item 3 –Public Comments

Staff member Ambika Adhikari asked if there are any members of the public wishing to speak. There was only one (Amy McNamara).

Agenda Item 4 – Introductions

Staff member Ambika Adhikari called for each member to introduce and give a little background of themselves. Staff also introduced themselves.

Agenda Item 5 – Elections

Staff member Ambika Adhikari called for nominations for Chair and Vice Chair for the Community Working Group.

CWG Member Julie Armstrong motioned for Andre Salais to be Chair and the motion was seconded by CWG Member Myrna Baez.

Action: The motion to approve was passed by a unanimous vote (15-0).

CWG Member Myrna Baez motion for Anne Till to be Vice Chair and the motion was seconded by CWG Member Patrick McNamara.

Action: The motion to approved was passed by a unanimous vote (15-0).

Agenda Item 6 – Orientation Presentation

Staff presented the General Plan process and timeline for the Community Working Group *(CWG). Included in the presentation, staff discussed the results of the first general plan survey.

- Your Role as a CWG Member
- Tempe Tomorrow - General Plan 2050 Preparation and Adoption Schedule

Agenda Item 7 - General Plan Structure and Legal Requirements

Staff discussed the state law for general plans and how the General Plan 2050 document may be structured.

- Overall Planning Hierarchy
- Overview of Tempe Tomorrow: General Plan
- Overview of the General Plan 2050
- Example Optional General Plan Elements
- Example Maps Found Within a General Plan
- Emerging Trends Related to Planning
- How will the General Plan 2050 be Developed?
- What is a Public Involvement Plan?
- Public Input Opportunities
- First online survey results

Agenda Item 8 – discussion by members related to the review of the General Plan (GP) 2040 and the Public Involvement Plan (PIP) for Tempe Tomorrow – GP 2050

Chair Andre Salais called for a motion to skip this section of the agenda (as it was already presented) and move on to agenda item 9 (nine).

CWG Member Jana Lynn Granillo motioned for to skip this section of the agenda and move on to agenda item 9 (nine) and the motion was seconded by CWG Member Kate Vawter.

Action: The motion to approve was passed by a unanimous vote (17-0).

Agenda Item 9 – Questions & Discussion

Staff lead questions and discussions with the Community Working Group.

Q: What topic/issues do you feel need to be more substantially addressed in Tempe Tomorrow – General Plan 2050.

A: Ann Till: Several issues are to be considered in the GP 2050. Examples: diversity of age groups, how Air B and B impact the home price rise. Need to make places family-oriented; housing affordability is important, for example, near Curry Elementary and Shalimar golf course.

A: Jana Granillo: There is erosion of the community. What are the indicators of it and how do we measure that?

A: Carmetta Currie: Can we propose Air B and B regulations? Also, can we check on the number of unrelated people living in one house? Review these issues in the Hardy/Baseline and Guadalupe/Terrace areas.

Staff: Advised that the state has laws that indicate if cities can or cannot regulate rental and sale pricing of housing. The City also has regulations concerned with the maximum number of unrelated people in one dwelling unit. We could regulate it, but it is hard to enforce.

A: Andre Salias: In the General Plan, can we address the single-family neighborhoods that have capacity for higher density/mixed use corridors. For example, along collectors such as Hardy Dr.

Staff: The General Plan will address density and uses, and we can change these designations to meet the projected needs. Cannot change specificity of uses by lot, that is done via zoning.

A: David Sokoloski: Protect property values to focus on preserving affordability.

Staff: The GP can work from GP 2040 to see the changing needs and work on these strategies.

A: Ann Till: Address number of people in certain areas to ensure a good mix of different sized families.

Staff: Advised that this would violate AZ Prop 207. The City cannot regulate how many families live in an area or how a property will be developed as long as it is within the zoning requirements.

A: Julie Armstrong: “Tempe is the best place,” let’s have an inter-generational approach to this. A robust approach to healthcare, cognitive support, adult daycare in Tempe for aging population. Kids with disabilities need specific care as well.

A: Myrna Baez: Food and water availability. The Food City store on Apache/Dorsey area was closed; and it was devastating for the neighbors. What are our plans for addressing to distribute food resources for our growing populations?

Staff: We can address this issue to a degree, by designating commercial and mixed uses in areas with commercial use deficits.

A: Julie Armstrong: Consideration about ASU and student populations in housing and how to work with them is important. Unofficial student housing seems to exist in several areas.

Staff: Discussing the cooperative relationship between ASU and Tempe and how we both work with each other for synergy. It is best to mesh the university into the community.

A: Julie Armstrong: More and more educated people are leaving Tempe. How do we retain the graduates after they finish school?

A: Andrew Holland: Consider protecting property values by learning from the 2008 recession. We need to make sure we continue to review economic cycles. How do we draft a plan capable of coping with the unpredictability of the housing market?

A: JP Coughlin: How to we position Tempe as a future leader in autonomous technology?

A: Kyle McIntosh: The reason that planning is contentious is that Tempe came up with one set of policies while public may have issues with some of them. Promote Tempe as a manufacturing hub, which is important on a national stage. How to bring more employees to Tempe?

A: Carmetta Currie: Issues related to housing for ASU students, and housing services are important.

A: Jana Lynn Granillo: It is important to consider language around the carrying capacity of the City. How big do we want to get? We should review our capacity to support that population, e.g., water, utilities etc. We should be living smarter and within our means

Julie: What was the projected population in the 2040 plan? How was the prediction for capacity to support that population then?

Anne Till: Do we have to agree with the population growth projections from MAG?

Staff: We do rely on MAG and their projections, and we do our best to plan for them.

A: Sydney Bethel Price: There's a huge divide between north and south of the US Route 60. A good thing Tempe does is preservation in certain parts of the city. But we cannot limit all growth to the urban core. Social services have ramped up, lets continue to. Tempe transit continue to improve, bus systems are great.

Q: Do you have any additional ideas related to outreach for Tempe Tomorrow – General plan 2050?

Q: What are you preferred methods on how to obtain input from you?

Staff: addressed running short on time – but asked the community working group that if they filled out their homework for these last two questions, please leave them behind or email staff your answers. Staff will address these in further discussions with the group.

A: David Sokoloski: Any plans to address the homeless population to get their concerns related the GP 2050?

Staff: advised that they have been working with nonprofits organizations working with the homeless to get input on how they want to receive information.

A: David Sokoloski: will this information get communicated between other boards and commission as well as the Technical Advisory Group (TAG)?

Staff: advised yes. It is part of the process.

A: Committee Member: How are we going to keep connected between meetings? Can we invite others to come and share their thoughts on the agenda?

Staff: Discussions happen in a whole group environment, but you are welcome to promote the CWG meetings to others to attend or share this information in the CWG meetings.

A: Andre Salias: Raise input from non-Spanish or English-speaking areas. Languages include Chinese and Korean that have populations in Tempe.

A: Anne Till: Are we allowed to discuss the GP 2050 and these meetings at other meetings?

Staff: Yes, just do not discuss agenda items ahead of the meeting. Do not 'reply all' to staff email

for a discussion on an item to comply with AZ Open Meeting Laws. Staff can post agendas for other types of meetings that would be discussing any GP 2050-related items. Staff is available to attend these meeting if needed to assist with any technical questions.

A: Lilliana Cardenas: Working with school districts and healthcare industries are important. We should get input from them.

A: Carmetta Currie: Ensure clarity that this is coming from the City and not for political purposes.

A: Committee Member: Ensure outreach to people with visual or hearing disabilities or cognitive disabilities.

Agenda Item 10 – City Staff Announcements

None.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

The next meeting is on September 6, 2022

Prepared by: Sarah Adame-Alcala, Executive Assistant
Reviewed by: Ambika Adhikari, Principal Planner