



Wednesday, July 25, 2018 Meeting Summary
Steering Committee

David Pena, <i>Chairperson</i>	Deep Singh, <i>Vice Chairperson</i>	Dennis Gaab	Joseph Martinez
Tiffany Mangum	Cathy Caples	Jeff Roberts	John Kashian
Bill Nijjer	Eric Payne	Gurdeep Shergill	
Tina McCallister – Boothe, <i>Alternate</i>			

The Steering Committee met on Wednesday, June 27, 2018, 6:00 p.m. at Glacier Point Middle School, Cafeteria/Multipurpose Room, 4055 N. Bryan Avenue, Fresno, CA 93723.

Voting Session.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Pena called the Steering Committee meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. An announcement of translation services in Hmong, Punjabi, and Spanish was made by Orchid Interpreting, Inc.

2. MASTER ROLL CALL

MEMBERS:

PRESENT 7 – Chairperson David Pena, Vice Chairperson Deep Singh, Bill Nijjer, Cathy Caples, Eric Payne, Gurdeep Shergill, and Joseph Martinez

ABSENT 4 – Dennis Gaab, Jeff Roberts, John Kashian, and Tiffany Mangum

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Sophia Pagoulatos, *Planning Manager, DARM*

Michael Andrade, *GIS Specialist, DARM*

Leonor Ayala, *Engineer, Public Works Department*

Kara Hammerschmidt, *Service Aide, DARM*

Rodney Horton, *Planner, DARM*

3. PARKS MASTER PLAN VISION FOR THE WEST AREA

As a follow-up from the Steering Committee meeting held on June 27, 2018, staff provided a brief presentation on the Parks Master Plan vision for the West Area. The Steering Committee was informed about the ratio used in the Parks Master Plan. Current park space needs are determined using the population estimate of 35,317 for 2018, and the population estimate of 64,650 for 2035. Pocket/neighborhood/community parks use the ratio of 3 acres of park space per 1,000 incorporating current and future population estimates, and regional/open space/special use parks use the ratio of 2 acres of park space per 1,000 using current and future population estimates. The Parks Master

Plan identifies the West Area Specific Plan project area being situated within Development Area – 1 North. Development Area – 1 North currently has 15 acres of existing pocket/neighborhood/community parks, and 0 regional/open space/special use parks.

The 15 acres of pocket/neighborhood/community parks include Inspiration Park and Jaswant Singh Khalra Park (formerly named Victoria West). Currently, Development Area – 1 North is in need of 106 acres total acres of pocket/neighborhood/community parks, and in 2035 the need will be 179 acres. Currently, with the 15 acres of pocket/neighborhood/community, the need is approximately 91 acres. Staff shared that the development area currently has a need for 71 acres of regional/open space/special use parks, and using the 2035 population estimates the need increases to 129 acres. The Steering Committee was informed that Central Unified School District has an open campus policy. This allows use of the space during non-school hours. This accounts for approximately 82 acres, reducing the current total need for pocket/neighborhood/community parks to approximately 9 acres.

Member Martinez shared that if school is not in session, the District hasn't reserved the facility or field, and or no one has reserved a facility or field, then the public is able to use the area. Planning Manager Pagoulatos reiterated that the Parks Master Plan did not identify where new parks or trails should be located. She mentioned that the conceptual land use options would spur future discussion on the location of additional park space within the Plan Area. She also mentioned that the Parks Master Plan was available on www.fresno.gov/parksplan.

Chairperson Pena opened the floor to the public and received the following comments:

Naomi Hernandez
3279 N. Berlin Avenue

Ms. Hernandez doesn't believe the 82 acres of property owned by the Central Unified School District should be counted toward meeting the park needs within the West Area. She would also like to see the City place park space on conceptual land use maps in the future.

Tina Boothe
Grantland/Roberts

Ms. Boothe commented that more people should know or be made aware of the District's open campus policy. Member Martinez clarified the District's open campus policy and regulations concerning facilities use request.

Amanda Conley
4276 N. Babigian

Ms. Conley is familiar with the shared use agreement because she attended the press conference. She questioned the 82 acres being counted toward meeting park needs in the Plan Area.

Daniel Brannick
4701 W. Griffith Way

Mr. Brannick stated that he resides near Steinbeck Elementary, and uses the facility for exercise purposes, and that he doesn't have the best experiences with the shared-use agreement with that school as delivering additional park space for the Plan Area.

Unnamed Speaker

Speaker inquired about the acreage used for Central Unified's open campus policy as to whether it was just greenspace or if it included buildings.

Jeanette Heinrichs
4225 W. Dayton Avenue

Ms. Heinrichs inquired about the Parks Master Plan vision. She stated she is frustrated that the City of Fresno only has two parks in the West Area. She feels as though the West Area is ignored.

Terry Cox
Central Unified School District Trustee, Area 6

Trustee Cox provided clarity on the District's open space policy. She mentioned that a facilities use request is if a person is going to have an event for over 100 people. However, for a family or individual – the space is available to use if not used by the District or reserved by someone else. She also mentioned that there are only three sites that have a joint use agreement with the City of Fresno. The agreements also include blue space.

Jason Paul
4015 N. Dickenson Avenue

Mr. Paul inquired about the timeframe and length of the Parks Master Plan.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARIES

Moved by Member Martinez, seconded by Vice Chairperson Singh to approve the meeting summary of April 25, 2018 (non-voting meeting), and the meeting summary of June 25, 2018 (voting meeting). No discussion was held. At the request of Chairperson Pena, City staff conducted a roll call vote:

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	AYE
MEMBER NIJJER	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE

ROLL CALL VOTE, CONTINUED

MEMBER PAYNE	AYE
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER MARTINEZ	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 7 – AYES, 0 – NOES, 0 – ABSTENTIONS

5. PRESENTATION OF DRAFT LAND USE CONCEPTS

City staff provided a brief presentation to the Steering Committee on three proposed conceptual land use options and a description of land use terms. All of the three options presented to the Steering Committee and public included maintaining mixed-use along Shaw Avenue. Option #1 (More Change) proposes preservation of agricultural/rural residential uses in the southwest corner of the Plan Area, minimizes single family uses away from busy corridors, and lowers land use density within the interior of the quarter-sections. Option #2 (Moderate Change) proposes to lower land use density throughout the Plan Area, and focuses higher density and commercial uses on portions of key corridors. Option #3 (Less Change) proposing lower density throughout the Plan Area, and focuses on available sites on major streets. Steering Committee Members engaged in general discussion and took no action on the selection of a conceptual land use plan.

Chairperson Pena opened the floor to the public and received the following comments:

Naomi Hernandez
3279 N. Berlin Avenue

Ms. Hernandez would like to see greenspace and parks planned for first, before land uses.

Amanda Conley
4276 N. Babigian

Ms. Conley wants to see parks addressed early in the plan process.

Gen Guerrero
5050 W. Willis Avenue

Ms. Guerrero prefers option #3, and possibly a blend of options #2 and #3. She also would like to see agri-tourism on existing rural residential parcels. And she would like to see the issue of trash addressed in the Specific Plan process.

Daniel Brannick
4701 W. Griffith Way

Mr. Brannick thought option #1 had too much multifamily land use. He would like to see default park shapes added in for each conceptual land use option. He likes option #2 but would like to see more mixed-use and commercial land use options on key corridors.

Roseanne Saragoza
4310 N. Parkway

Ms. Saragoza would like to see park space added to conceptual land use options, and she favors option #3.

Rick Terrace
2858 N. Cleo Avenue

Mr. Terrace asked general questions about the proposed land use options.

Jason Paul
4015 N. Dickenson Avenue

Mr. Paul believes a lot of mixed-use on Shaw Avenue is unrealistic without traffic improvements.

Linda Fisher
4565 W. Dakota Avenue

Ms. Fisher clarified the issue pertaining to trash collection in Fresno County. She would like to see agri-tourism in the Plan Area.

Jeanette Heinrichs
4225 W. Dayton Avenue

Ms. Heinrichs would like to see the Steering Committee push for more additional parks in the Plan Area. When people talk about Fresno, they talk about crazy drivers and trash, nothing positive.

Lisa Jura
5545 W. Dakota Avenue

Ms. Jura would like to see the conceptual land use options reflect current land development projects. She would also like to see traffic improvements in the West Area.

Tina Boothe
Grantland/Roberts

Ms. Boothe would like to see safety personnel involved in the plan process. She also would like to see projected population numbers shown for each conceptual land use plan.

6. CONTINUE SELECTION OF A LAND USE OPTION UNTIL AUGUST

Staff reminded the public and Steering Committee that the selection of a land use concept will occur at the next meeting which will be held on Wednesday, August 22, 2018.

7. UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATIONS

Member Caples shared that the Fresno County Planning Commission will be discussing the proposed animal kennel that will be located on North Grantland Avenue on Thursday, July 26, 2018, 8:45 a.m. in the Hall of Records, Room 309.

Member Payne wanted to thank the public for attending the Steering Committee meeting, and assured them that their concerns will be heard. He also thanks staff for putting together the presentation. He mentioned he will make himself available to the public after the meeting to answer any questions or hear any concerns they may have.

Member Shergill thanked the public and staff. He encouraged everyone to invite their friends and neighbors to attend the meeting. He wants the community to be able restore pride in itself by uplifting the image of neighborhoods in the West Area.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. on an adjournment motion offered by Member Nijjer, with a second by Member Caples. (VOICE VOTE TALLY 7 – AYES, 0 – NOES, 0 – ABSTENTIONS).

Respectfully Submitted,



Rodney Horton
Staff Representative

Enclosures: Conceptual Land Use Option #1
 Conceptual Land Use Option #2
 Conceptual Land Use Option #3