



Wednesday, January 16, 2019
Meeting Summary – DRAFT

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, January 16, 2019, 6:00 p.m. at Central High School – East Campus, Cafeteria/Multipurpose Room, 3535 N. Cornelia Avenue.

Voting Session.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Pena called the Steering Committee to order at 6:30 p.m. An announcement of translation services in Hmong, Punjabi, and Spanish was made by Orchid Interpreting, Inc. Staff provided a brief explanation of the meeting protocol and the plan process to the Steering Committee and meeting attendees.

2. MASTER ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS:

PRESENT 9 – Chairperson David Pena, Vice Chairperson Deep Singh, Joseph Martinez, Tiffany Mangum, Cathy Caples, Eric Payne, Gurdeep Shergill, Jeff Roberts, and Bill Nijjer

ABSENT 2 – Dennis Gaab and John Kashian

OTHERS:

Sophia Pagoulatos, *Planning Manager, DARM*
Kara Hammerschmidt, *Service Aide, DARM*
Rodney Horton, *Planner, DARM*

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY:

Moved by Member Roberts, seconded by Member Nijjer to approve the August 22, 2018, October 24, 2018, and November 28, 2018 meeting summaries. City staff conducted a roll call vote:

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	AYE
MEMBER MARTINEZ	AYE
MEMBER MANGUM	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE
MEMBER PAYNE	AYE
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER ROBERTS	AYE
MEMBER NIJJER	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 9 – AYES, 0 – NOES

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

Naomi Hernandez

3279 N. Berlin Avenue

Ms. Hernandez spoke in favor of having a Regional Park located in the Plan Area, and would like to be a part of an effort to raise for the park. She would like to see the Plan Area be modeled after Lodi, CA or Brentwood, CA.

Lee Ayers, Tree Fresno

3150 E. Barstow Avenue

Mr. Ayers shared that Tree Fresno was awarded a grant by the Fresno Council of Governments for West Fresno (West Shaw Avenue to Highway 180) and the City of Fowler to complete a Community Landscapes Plan. He mentioned that the Community Landscape Plan will help implement the vision of the West Area Specific Plan.

Bill Robinson

906 N Street, STE 100

Mr. Robinson mentioned that he has been in hearings where he learned that the State is going to mandate densities to the tune of 10 dwelling units per acre. He encouraged staff to track potential changes.

Carol Ann Meme

7138 W. Browning Avenue

Ms. Meme would like to have a Regional Park located in the Plan Area, because it would help improve the quality of life in the West Area. She mentioned the park should be located south at Shaw, north at Barstow, east at Parkway, and west at Grantland. She would also like to have high density residential development delayed until traffic improvements are completed.

Tim Miller

6934 W. Portals

Mr. Miller spoke in favor of adding parks to the Plan Area. He would like to see transportation infrastructure improvements within the West Area.

Elisa Bilios

5323 N. Tisha Avenue

Ms. Bilios spoke in favor of a Regional Park in the West Area. She feels that developer fees do not properly mitigate transportation issues in the Plan Area as a result of continued growth. She favors the idea of rural to urban transect model.

Daniel Brannick

4701 W. Griffith Way

Mr. Brannick supports growth at the Ashlan/99 area. He elaborated on his written comments that were provided to the Steering Committee.

Letha Oergel

3256 N. Grantland Avenue

Ms. Oergel wanted the Steering Committee to have consideration for people that have been in the Plan Area prior to development. She supports transportation improvements to ease traffic congestion.

Tina Boothe

Steering Committee Alternate

Ms. Boothe expressed her concern about allowing continued growth to occur while the community planning process is underway.

Larry Gerber

5694 N. Polk Avenue

Mr. Gerber expressed opposition to additional parks because of maintenance costs and public safety.

Felix Reyes

4330 W. Saginaw Way

Mr. Reyes discussed the lack of sidewalks or pathways for school-aged youth to walk.

Mike Karbassi

2789 W. Decatur Avenue

Mr. Karbassi expressed support for lowering the barriers for job inventors to invest in the area.

Terry Cox

Central Unified School District

President, Board of Trustees

7218 W. Olive Avenue

President Cox thanked the Steering Committee for listening to the community. She encouraged the Steering Committee to look at diversity in housing options.

John Lourenco

7188 W. Celeste

Mr. Lourenco stated that continued development without infrastructure will create a hardship for the Plan Area. He also expressed support for a Regional Park in the Plan Area.

5. AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT LAND USE MAP:

AGRICULTURE

Moved by Member Caples, seconded by Member Roberts to strike out the words “located close to and partnered with local non-profit organizations.” to read as:

“Encourage the development of harvest-producing community gardens.”

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	AYE
MEMBER MARTINEZ	AYE
MEMBER MANGUM	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE
MEMBER PAYNE	AYE
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER ROBERTS	AYE
MEMBER NIJER	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 9 – AYES, 0 – NOES

RETAIL

Moved by Member Caples to strike out the words “large-scale and small-scale” and insert “local retail establishments.” and to strike out the term “department stores and convenience stores.” to read as:

“Attract desired and needed local retail establishments to serve the needs of the West Area community. Such establishments include grocery stores, bakeries, restaurants other than fast food places, and boutiques.”

Motion died for lack of a second. No vote was taken by the Steering Committee.

HOUSING

Moved by Member Caples, seconded by Member Roberts to add the following item to the Draft Guiding Principles: **“Encourage the development of housing that accommodates an aging population with multi-tiered options.”**

After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Moved by Member Roberts, seconded by Member Caples to strike out the following item: ~~Discourage the expansion of detach single family starter homes.~~ and replace it with: **“Encourage a variety of housing types and styles.”**

The Steering Committee entered into discussion before taking action on the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	AYE
MEMBER MARTINEZ	AYE
MEMBER MANGUM	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE
MEMBER PAYNE	AYE
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER ROBERTS	AYE
MEMBER NIJJER	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 9 – AYES, 0 – NOES

Moved by Member Caples, seconded by Member Nijjer to amend the following item that previously read as “Encourage the development of housing to accommodate multi-generational households.” to now read as **“Encourage the development of housing to accommodate an aging population including, multi-generational houses and other elder housing options.”**

The Steering Committee entered into discussion before taking action on the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	ABSTAIN
MEMBER MARTINEZ	AYE
MEMBER MANGUM	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE
MEMBER PAYNE	AYE
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER ROBERTS	AYE
MEMBER NIJJER	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 8 – AYES, 0 – NOES, 1 – ABSTENTION

Member Payne stated that he would like to see the City reaffirm its commitment to fair housing, and to not have multi-family be located in just one Council District. Planning Manager Sophia Pagoulatos clarified that multifamily development opportunities are available north of West Shaw Avenue. Member Payne also stated that he would like to see some language within the draft guiding principles that reflect the City fulfilling its obligation to affirmatively furthering fair housing.

Moved by Member Payne, seconded by Vice Chairperson Singh to amend the draft guiding principles to read as: **“Encourage equitable multi-family dwelling units to be located along corridors and streets that have access to transit and commercial goods to fulfil the City’s obligation to affirmatively further fair housing.”**

The motion was tabled for the next meeting for further review and discussion.

PARKS & TRAILS

Moved by Member Caples, seconded by Member Roberts to amend the following item that previously read as: “Create parks that are within existing and planned neighborhoods that are easily accessed by community members using pedestrian and bicycle pathways, transit services, or motor vehicles.” to now read as: **“Create parks that are within existing and planned neighborhoods that are easily accessed by community members using pedestrian and bicycle pathways, transit services, or motor vehicles, consistent with the City of Fresno’s Parks Master Plan.”**

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	AYE
MEMBER MARTINEZ	AYE
MEMBER MANGUM	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE
MEMBER PAYNE	AYE
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER ROBERTS	AYE
MEMBER NIJJER	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 9 – AYES, 0 – NOES, 0 – ABSTENTION

Moved by Vice Chairperson Singh, seconded by Member Caples to amend the following item that previously read as: “Provide for the location of a Regional Park in the Plan Area that has components of the Plan Area’s agricultural history through the planting of drought-resistant vegetation or trees, and the creation of public art that exhibits the Plan Area’s contribution to the agricultural industry.” to now read as: **“Provide for the location of a flagship Regional Park in the**

Plan Area that has components of the Plan Area’s agricultural history through the planting of drought-resistant vegetation or trees, and the creation of public art that exhibits the Plan Area’s contribution to the agricultural industry.”

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	AYE
MEMBER MARTINEZ	AYE
MEMBER MANGUM	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE
MEMBER PAYNE	AYE
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER ROBERTS	AYE
MEMBER NIJER	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 9 – AYES, 0 – NOES, 0 – ABSTENTION

Moved by Member Payne, seconded by Member Roberts to strike the following item from the draft guiding principles: **~~“Maintain the vision of the General Plan and the Active Transportation Plan for Class I bicycle lanes, and class II bike lanes planned for in the West Area.~~**

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	AYE
MEMBER MARTINEZ	AYE
MEMBER MANGUM	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE
MEMBER PAYNE	AYE
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER ROBERTS	AYE
MEMBER NIJER	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 9 – AYES, 0 – NOES, 0 – ABSTENTION

CATALYTIC CORRIDORS

The Steering Committee did not have any amendments to the catalytic corridor section of the draft guiding principles.

TRANSPORTATION

Moved by Member Nijer, Member Caples to amend the following item that previously read as: “Accommodate and improve roadway access, connectivity, and mobility among all modes of transportation.” to read as: **“Accommodate and improve roadway access, connectivity and mobility among all modes**

of transportation, and prioritize roadway widening where bottlenecking exists."

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	AYE
MEMBER MARTINEZ	AYE
MEMBER MANGUM	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE
MEMBER PAYNE	AYE
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER ROBERTS	AYE
MEMBER NIJJER	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 9 – AYES, 0 – NOES, 0 – ABSTENTION

OTHER AMENDMENTS

EDUCATION

Moved by Member Caples, seconded by Member Roberts to add the following:

"Attract much needed educational opportunities for the residents of the West Area, especially for post-secondary education, and access to programs for life-long learners."

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	AYE
MEMBER MARTINEZ	AYE
MEMBER MANGUM	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE
MEMBER PAYNE	AYE
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER ROBERTS	AYE
MEMBER NIJJER	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 9 – AYES, 0 – NOES, 0 – ABSTENTION

PUBLIC SAFETY

Moved by Member Caples, seconded by Member Roberts to add the following:

- **"Provide for safe routes to schools for children, with the City and County working together with residents to provide sidewalks in neighborhood that have sporadic access."**
- **Work to promote Neighborhood Watch in all neighborhoods, and further assess the need for the location of emergency response facilities west of Highway 99."**

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	AYE
MEMBER MARTINEZ	AYE
MEMBER MANGUM	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE
MEMBER PAYNE	AYE
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER ROBERTS	AYE
MEMBER NIJJER	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 9 – AYES, 0 – NOES, 0 – ABSTENTION

6. REGIONAL PARK OPTIONS:

Moved by Member Caples, seconded by Member Payne to add the following Regional Park option for consideration:

The Regional Park site would be on undeveloped land that extends from Parkway on the east, to Grantland on the west, north of Shaw Avenue extending to Barstow.

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	AYE
MEMBER MARTINEZ	AYE
MEMBER MANGUM	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE
MEMBER PAYNE	AYE
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER ROBERTS	AYE
MEMBER NIJJER	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 9 – AYES, 0 – NOES, 0 – ABSTENTION

Moved by Vice Chairperson Singh, seconded by Member Payne to eliminate the option to not show a Regional Park on the land use map.

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	AYE
MEMBER MARTINEZ	AYE
MEMBER MANGUM	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE
MEMBER PAYNE	AYE
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER ROBERTS	AYE
MEMBER NIJJER	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 9 – AYES, 0 – NOES, 0 – ABSTENTION

Moved by Vice Chairperson Singh, seconded by Member Caples to eliminate the option that proposes a joint effort with Central Unified School District for a Regional Park.

ROLL CALL VOTE

CHAIRPERSON PENA	AYE
VICE CHAIRPERSON SINGH	AYE
MEMBER MARTINEZ	ABSTAIN
MEMBER MANGUM	AYE
MEMBER CAPLES	AYE
MEMBER PAYNE	NAY
MEMBER SHERGILL	AYE
MEMBER ROBERTS	AYE
MEMBER NIJJER	AYE

ROLL CALL TALLY: 7 – AYES, 1 – NOES, 1 – ABSTENTION

REGIONAL PARK OPTIONS – FINAL

OPTION A: Regional Park in the northern part of the Plan Area

OPTION B: Regional Park straddles both sides of Shaw Avenue

OPTION C: Regional Park on Grantland/Shields

OPTION D: The Regional Park site would be on undeveloped land that extends from Parkway on the east, to Grantland on the west, north of Shaw Avenue extending to Barstow.

After some discussion, the Steering Committee chose to table the site selection for a Regional Park in the Plan Area.

7. STEERING COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Member Roberts expressed how he would like to have a discussion regarding noticing standards and how noticing efforts can be improved. He also requested a map of the proposed changes.

Member Shergill expressed an interest in making sure roadway improvements are a focal point of the plan.

8. UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATIONS:

There were no unscheduled communications provided to the Steering Committee from the public.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. on an adjournment motion offered by Member Roberts, with a second by Member Caples.

(VOICE VOTE TALLY 8 – AYES, 0 – NOES, 0 – ABSTENTIONS).

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rodney Horton, MRA".

Rodney Horton

Staff Representative