



Steering Committee

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| David Peña, <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 Tuesday, June 29, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Peña called the Steering Committee to order at 6:05 p.m. An announcement of translation services in Hmong, Punjabi, and Spanish was made. Staff provided a brief explanation of the digital meeting features.

2. ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS:

PRESENT – Chair David Peña, Jeff Roberts, Eric Payne, Cathy Caples, Dennis Gaab, Gurdeep Shergill

ABSENT – Vicechair Deep Singh, Joseph Martinez, Tiffany Mangum, Bill Nijjer, John Kashian, Tina McCallister-Boothe (alternate)

OTHERS:

Sophia Pagoulatos, *Planning Manager, Planning and Development Department*
Drew Wilson, *Supervising Planner, Planning and Development Department*
Casey Lauderdale, *Planner III, Planning and Development Department*
Marisela Martinez, *Planner II, Planning and Development Department*
Shawn Monk, *Planner III, Planning and Development Department*
Mike Sanchez, *Assistant Director, Planning and Development Department*
Talia Kolluri, *Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office*
Andy Benelli, *Assistant Director of Public Works, Public Works Department*

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY:

Moved by Member Roberts, seconded by Member Caples to approve the April 22, 2021 meeting summary. The motion was approved.

VOICE VOTE TALLY

AYES: Chair David Peña, Jeff Roberts, Eric Payne, Cathy Caples, Gurdeep Shergill

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Dennis Gaab



4. INFORMATIONAL SESSION ON CEQA

Assistant City Attorney Talia Kolluri shared a presentation that provided an informational overview of the California Environmental Quality Act.

Committee member Payne inquired about the timeline for the when the Committee will make its formal recommendations on the Specific Plan.

Planner Casey Lauderdale shared that staff plans to bring forward the Specific Plan and proposed changes heard via the public comment period to the Committee at the August meeting.

Committee member Roberts asked when the Draft EIR will be available for review.

Casey replied that there is still some work being done on the analysis, but the draft is still expected to be released later in the summer. Staff will update the Committee and share updates on the webpage when there is more clarity on timeline.

Daniel Brannick

Daniel asked to what degree the Alternatives will be considered in the Draft EIR and to if they will be based on discussions that occurred at Steering Committee meetings.

Casey confirmed that some of the Alternatives are based on conversations held by the Steering Committee and invited further communication via email to be able to provide more refined answers.

Kimberly McCoy

Kimberly would like to ask for additional park space in South Fresno, particularly more Regional Park space. The existing Regional Park in Southwest is built on a toxic former landfill, so this Plan needs more park space available for South Fresno residents and a Regional Park would also support the need for sports facilities.

Committee member Payne inquired if the request made at the prior meeting to consider more Regional Park space South of Shaw had been evaluated.

Casey noted that the request has been confirmed and will undergo evaluation.

Committee member Payne asked as a follow up if that evaluation will be presented as part of the August meeting.

Casey replied affirmatively.

Committee member Caples asked about the Regional Park space discussed in the Plan and if that park space would be in addition to what is already planned.

Casey explained that the Regional Park is in the Plan as a proposed park, so upon adoption of the Plan, there would need to be a process initiated to establish the Regional



Park. Thus, the Regional Park would create additional park space in the Plan Area with the caveat that it overlaps with a designation of Community Park, so it would have the effect of replacing Community Park acreage with Regional Park acreage. Casey believed the additional acreage would total approximately 50 acres.

5. UPDATE ON OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Planner Casey Lauderdale shared an update on outreach activities that have occurred to date, including digital meetings, mailers, radio, and in-person outreach events.

Committee member Roberts asked when staff would like to receive comments from Committee members.

Casey replied that if Committee members would like to submit them sooner than August 1st that would be fine and staff can share them with the other public comments.

Committee member Shergill expressed that this Plan will build generational wealth and shared appreciation for those involved and that community members are feeling happier with the positive developments that have occurred.

Staff read comments from the chat pertaining to the need for improvements at Shaw and 99.

6. STEERING COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

7. UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATIONS

Planner Casey Lauderdale shared that the Here to Stay report is available for review and comment on the Transform Fresno website and that there will be upcoming study sessions and also shared information on a workshops regarding a City of Fresno Local Housing Trust Fund.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m. on an adjournment motion offered by Member Roberts, with a second by Member Caples. The motion was approved.

AYES: Chairperson David Peña, Jeff Roberts, Eric Payne, Dennis Gaab, Cathy Caples, Gurdeep Shergill

NOES: None