



Re-Imagine Santa Fe Springs

2040 GENERAL PLAN

General Plan Advisory Group (GPAG) Meeting #1 - Summary

Date and Time: July 8, 2020; 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

GPAC Members in Attendance: Ralph Arranda, Craig Campbell, Kelly Collazo, Kathy Fink, Mike Foley, Sally Gaitan, Steven Hillgren, Cindy Jarvis, Rick Landis, Jeannette Lizaragga, Jasmine Rodriguez, Jack Sokoloff, Tom Summerfield, Stephane Wandel, Linda Valasquez

Welcome and Introductions

The first Santa Fe Springs General Plan Advisory Group (GPAG) meeting was held on Wednesday, July 8, 2020 as a Zoom meeting. Wayne Morrell, Director of Planning for the City of Santa Fe Springs, welcomed GPAG members to the meeting and thanked them for their volunteering their time. Fifteen GPAG members attended the meeting, as well as City staff and members of the public. MIG consultant team members Laura Stetson and Jose Rodriguez led the meeting and Jessie Hernandez took notes online using Mural (Appendix A).

After leading introductions and reviewing the meeting agenda, Ms. Stetson and Mr. Rodriguez presented the components of a General Plan, the General Plan update schedule, and the GPAG purpose and charge. The presentation is included in Appendix A. GPAG members are expected to attend eight meetings over the duration of the process. Their roles are to provide feedback to City staff/consultant teams, advise the Planning Commission with recommendations, and engage with their communities to encourage public participation throughout the planning process. This portion of the meeting also included an overview of the engagement activities taking place over the coming months.

The MIG team led an interactive discussion around the following topics:

1. Overview: What is a General Plan?
2. General Plan Update Schedule
3. GPAG Purpose and Charge

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General Plan and Targeted Zoning Code Update
General Plan Advisory Group Meeting #1: Summary



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2040 GENERAL PLAN

4. Discussion: Assets, Challenges, and Opportunities

Discussion: Assets, Challenges, and Opportunities

After listening to presentations, the GPAG identified and discussed City assets, challenges, and opportunities. Input was documented and displayed in real time by MIG using an on-line note-taking process. Discussion notes are included in Appendix A.

Adjournment and Next Steps

After the group discussion, the consultant team thanked everyone for coming. The next GPAG meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 26, 2020.



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2040 GENERAL PLAN

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Appendix A: Discussion Notes



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2040 GENERAL PLAN

Re-Imagine Santa Fe Springs: GPAG Meeting #1

July 7, 2020

Group Discussion

Assets

People: sports, parks and recreation, volunteerism	Volunteerism: community groups	City of parks	Programs at library, outreach and collaboration with schools	Landscaping, neat houses	City gave industry a place to do business	Business environment - residential and commercial uses are separated	Open door policy, open environment	Businesses say that locating to SFS helps them support their workforce & client base	SFS is family centered. Generations stay in this city.	Shared values - want business, City and youth to succeed	Gold Line will bring crime
Relationship with business community, chamber and residential community	Chamber and businesses working together	Commitment that City and Chamber has made to schools	SFS City Council outreach to schools	Youth and teen programs	Assets - made possible by funds generated by business community	Transportation - access via freeways and train transit	Community programs - Christmas float, 4th of July, holiday programs, ROTC	Communities - residents, families, close neighborhoods, multi-generational	City parks - taxes invested into parks	Great place to work and live	
Property owners are involved through Chamber	Chamber-City relationship	Partnerships - drive-thru graduation, City support	Aesthetically pleasing	A lot to do for youth in the community - school districts, city programs	Small town feel - City staff are responsive	Sophisticated City that runs a small town atmosphere	Location supports business friendly environment	Youth sports - park and recreation facility upgrades (batting cages, neighborhood center, fields and athletic parks)	Investments in youth of SFS (programs, scholarships)	Business community engaged, City Council and City are responsive and available	

Challenges

Oil interests - used to be revenue sources but have become obstacle	Construction projects without end dates (7 year project greatly impactful)	Housing for seniors - many seniors having trouble finding fair housing, places to be cared for and helped (locations are scattered)	SFS needs a grocery store (limited groceries options)	Transportation - new large logistics companies, more in construction will amplify traffic/transportation issues	Would like to keep logistics businesses away from residential area (train track perimeter)	Challenge with providing enough safe and affordable housing for our seniors.
Oil fields are polluted, oil interests have gone through bankruptcy	Limited hotel and restaurants in the City (nicest restaurant: Geezers)	Rent is high for seniors	Retail and restaurants - no groceries on west side	Need retail in visible areas	Small/starting businesses need small buildings	Limited alternative energy companies (solar, wind).
Ongoing construction (City and Caltrans) create transportation challenges (Florence Ave, 7 yrs)	Loss of revenue to neighbors (hotels, restaurants)	Issues in housing - plumbing, fair housing, living conditions	Business and industries along Telegraph and ...but don't draw traffic	Traffic Conditions at Intersections - Telegraph and Orr and Day, Carmenita	State business climate, impacts all including SFS - where is there flexibility? We want to encourage companies to grow and stay in SFS	

Opportunities

Zoning changes - option for new development (City is already built out)	How might city streets be compatible with autonomous vehicles	Education in SFS doesn't work as it relates to technical requirements of industry	SFS lacks pool of employees - need to education current residents to allow for local labor force	Senior housing, commercial buildings in residential zone	Grocery store	Future of transportation and commuting - opportunity to stay ahead of the curve	Small buildings that aren't well maintained - encourage investment	Support LEED certification for building construction.	Airport satellite at metro stations	Metropolitan State Hospital - development of site key to future of area
Given what education is faced with, - facilitate collaboration with schools and businesses	Youth Enrichment Fund - opportunities for schools	605 & 5 Convergence - how can we use this to our advantage? Will always be desirable for transit and industry	Would like the community colleges and schools to provide technical education opportunities	Area inside train tracks close to residential area - rezone nearby businesses as mixed use	Embrace Diversity	Expand holiday programs to help during tough times	Work from home (here to stay)	Encourage people to make changes, upgrades buildings - be easy on process but thoughtful on design	In other cities where rail line stations were located, the surrounding community had increased tax revenues.	CHP relocation
Greater collaboration between schools, schools and businesses, etc.	Youth representatives of school districts	Maximize advantages of location	Educational offerings should reflect workforce needs/descriptions	Manufacturing	Provide youth training and opportunities to enter industry	Ride-sharing and autonomous vehicles	Newer buildings, quality buildings and all types of land uses	Create easy process for owners willing to invest	Property values close to the Gold Line	

Other

- Schools/District have direct lines to families via a variety of means.
- The Chamber can reach out to the business community via emails, etc.
- If we are to survey our students, please reach out to our district superintendents for permission.