



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 3

Agenda Date: May 20, 2024

In Control: Planning and Community Development Committee

DEPARTMENT: Planning Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Bridgett White

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: District 2|District 3

SUBJECT:

Briefing on the Eastside Community Area Plan

SUMMARY:

The Planning Department will provide a briefing on the Eastside Community Area Plan. The Sub-Area Plans implement the SA Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The SA Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan is one of three growth-related plans addressing how the City of San Antonio's expected population growth will be balanced with social, economic, and environmental resources. The Comprehensive Plan provides strategic direction for decision making and public investment to prepare our communities for anticipated growth at the citywide level. The major "building blocks" of the Comprehensive Plan include:

- Regional Centers
- Urban Centers

- Corridors
- Neighborhoods

The SA Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan identifies 13 regional centers; 17 community areas encompass the rest of San Antonio. Community areas comprise many of the existing neighborhoods, grouped by geography and common history, challenges, and opportunities. By proactively directing a higher proportion of growth to our regional centers, we aim to limit the impacts of that growth on existing, stable neighborhoods.

The Eastside Community Area Plan works to create a realistic and implementable strategy to address projected growth and leverage change for all our existing and future residents by creating complete neighborhoods and communities that provide a full range of amenities and services, a variety of housing and transportation choices, and opportunities for employment, shopping, education, and recreation. The Eastside Community Area is situated immediately east of the Downtown Area Regional Center. The area encompasses multiple historic neighborhoods, landmarks, and African American community enclaves that figure prominently in San Antonio's history. The Eastside Community Area is exceptionally situated to capitalize on opportunities to enhance transportation choices along the area's gridded street network, continue to build on economic development and quality of life improvements that draw inspiration from and pay respect to the area's history, and empower the area's active community organizations to affect placemaking and the built environment. The main topics covered by the plan include Land Use, Focus Areas, Mobility, Amenities and Public Space, Housing, and Economic Development.

As success of the sub-area plan depends on broad participation from area stakeholders, Planning Department staff worked with a wide range of community members throughout the planning process. These included neighborhood associations, business and property owners, residents, employers, educational and cultural institutions, public and nonprofit organizations, and other City departments.

ISSUE:

A Public Draft of the plan was released to the public for review and comment on February 2, 2022, and public input was gathered through August 27, 2023. The public review period was extended to allow for additional community outreach and engagement because the plan was delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic. An additional community meeting was held, and additional time was spent on preparing the final draft document to reflect input and feedback received from the community. Comments received were considered for incorporation in the Administrative Draft for the adoption process, which is currently available online: <https://eastside.sacompplan.com/>.

The Planning Commission received a briefing on May 8, 2024, and will hold a public hearing on May 22, 2024. The item is tentatively scheduled to be considered by City Council on June 20, 2024. The Administrative Draft is attached to this agenda item.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this briefing.

ALTERNATIVES:

This briefing is for informational purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Planning and Community Development Committee forward the Eastside Community Area Plan to the City Council for formal adoption.