

PLANNING TEAM MEETING #7 SUMMARY

Far East Community Area Plan

Meeting Date: March 13th, 2023
Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Location: Zoom

Planning Team Attendees

Anita Franklin, Dellcrest Area Neighborhood
Sue Calberg, Salado Creek Greenway Advocate
Christine Vina, VIA
Melanie Cowart, Roseville Housing Trust
Dwayne Robinson, MLK Commission Chair
Karen Bishop, SA River Authority
Deedra Keys-Switzer, CoSA DIEA

Isaac Levy, CoSA Transportation
David Arciniega, CoSA Parks Department
Sydell Brooks, District 2 Staff

Planning Staff & Consultant Team

Krystin Ramirez, Project Manager (MIG)
Chris Ryerson, Planning Administrator (CoSA)
Dave Powell, Project Manager (CoSA)

Saul Vazquez, Senior Project Associate (MIG)
Heather Yost, Project Manager (CoSA)
Gretchen Roufs, A-M-S

Meeting Objectives:

The purpose of the seventh Planning Team Meeting was to initiate the conversation on the Far East Amenities & Public Spaces assets, challenges, needs and priorities as well as highlight and refine the draft Focus Areas.

Meeting Format

The meeting began with a recap of the plan timeline and a brief introduction of the Project Team and Planning Team members. We then went over the meeting objectives and overviewed Amenities and Public Spaces related goals and vision received from previous Planning Team Meetings, Community Meetings, and community surveys. Next, our consultant, Krystin Ramirez, from MIG discussed Amenities and Public Spaces topics and elements to identify what each of these components are. Krystin also highlighted previously shown Equity Maps representing access to food, parks, and jobs to help identify gaps within the plan area and where we could enhance Amenities and Public Spaces to address specific challenges. Thereafter, Project Manager, David Powell, presented on Focus Areas and the various graphical applications that are encompassed within the Focus Areas section of the sub-area planning process. David then highlighted Focus Areas refinement based on previous Planning Team input, which lead to discussion on each Focus Area and the vision for each one as it relates to Amenities and Public Spaces. The Planning Team provided input on seven draft Focus Areas and identified areas where

enhancements of Amenities and Public Spaces could be done. After the discussion, David concluded the meeting with upcoming meetings and how Planning Team members can provide further feedback.

Focus Areas and Amenities & Public Spaces Discussion

General Amenities & Public Spaces Comment:

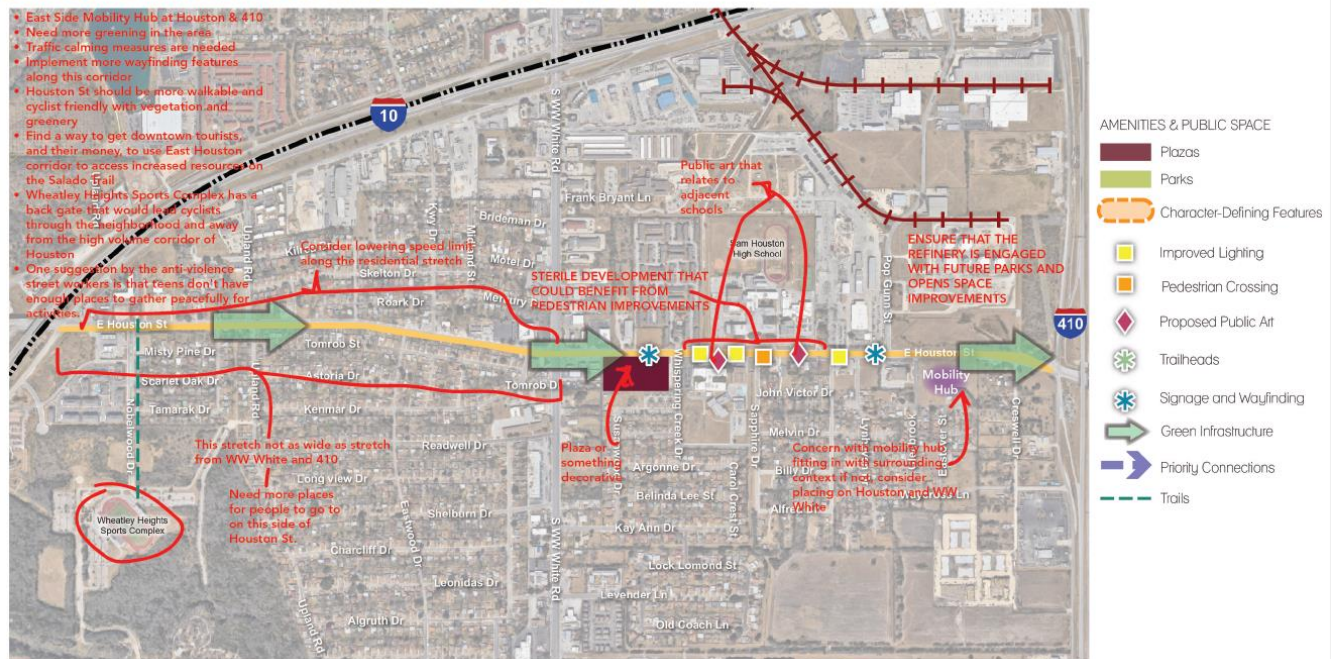
- Due to the large land area that this sub-area encompasses, public art could be used as a continuous wayfinding element throughout the sub-area.

Focus Area 1:

- East side mobility hub at Loop 410 & E. Houston St.
- Need more greenery in the area
- Traffic calming measures are needed
- Implement more wayfinding features along this corridor
- Houston St. should be more walkable and cyclist friendly with vegetation and greenery
- Find a way to get downtown tourists, and their money, to use E. Houston corridor to access increased resources on the Salado Trail
- Wheatley Heights Sports Complex has a back gate that would lead cyclists through the neighborhood and away from the high-volume corridor of E. Houston St.
- One suggestion by the anti-violence street workers is that teens don't have enough places to gather peacefully for activities

Map notes from Focus Area 1 discussion:

1. EAST HOUSTON STREET CORRIDOR



Focus Area 2:

- WW White has several zones that are super dark at night, with high foot traffic
- WW White Elementary has space for recreation space, and could accommodate gardening very easily
- South of Eastwood Village, there is Southwest Prep. I think they are primarily commuter coming from many areas, not just the homes to the west
- With regard to public spaces, the residential area just east of the corridor, an array of violent shootings in area
- Eastwood Village neighborhood recently saw a \$7 million dollar upgrade to drainage

Map notes from Focus Area 2 discussion:

2. OLD WW WHITE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



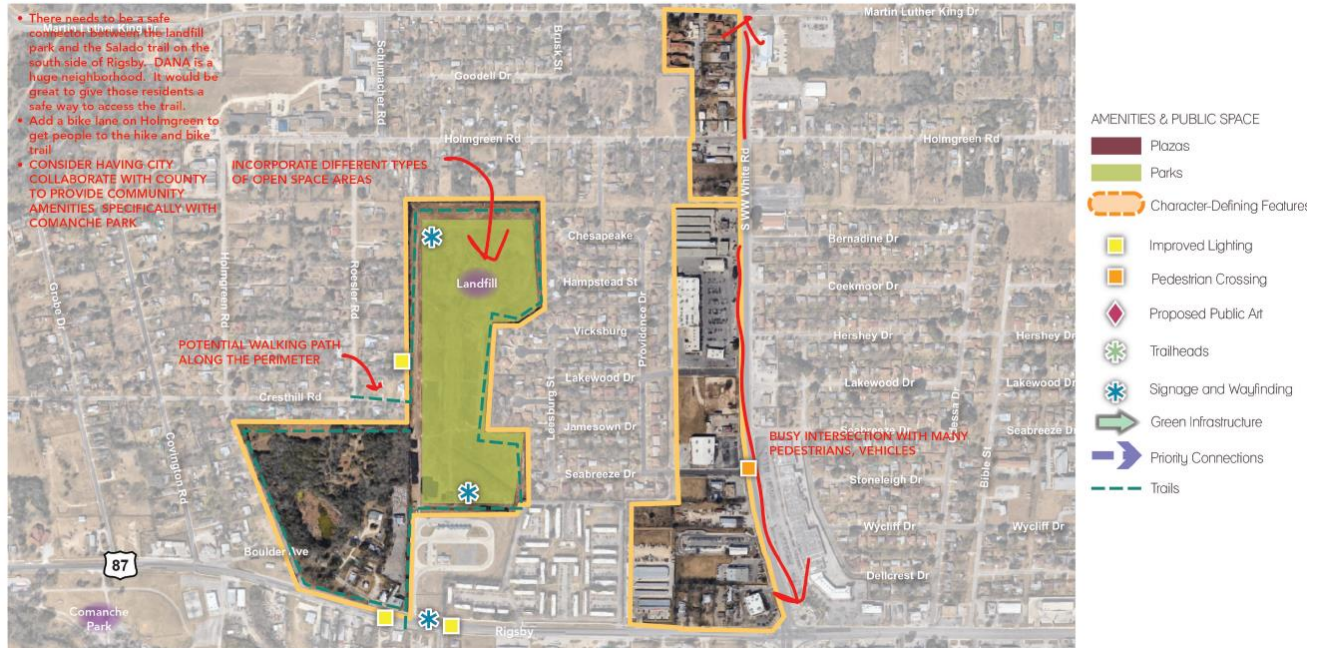
Focus Area 3:

- There needs to be a safe connector between the landfill park and the Salado Creek Trail on the south side of Rigsby. DANA is a huge neighborhood, it would be great to give those residents a safe way to access the trail
- Consider having the city collaborate with county to provide community amenities specifically with Comanche Park
- Add a bike lane on Holmgreen to get people to the hike and bike trail



Map notes from Focus Area 3 discussion:

3. WW WHITE RD & OLD MUNICIPAL LAND FILL SITE



Focus Area 4:

Map notes from Focus Area 4 discussion:

4. WHEATLEY HEIGHTS



Focus Area 5:

- The Planning Team voted to remove this area from Focus Areas and to be incorporated within other sections of the plan such as Land Use, Economic Development, and Housing.

Map notes from Focus Area 5 discussion:

5. ROLAND AVE.



Focus Area 6:

- Trying to transition from Loop 410 southbound to eastbound 87 is nightmarish. There has been construction going on so maybe it will get better?
- On the west side of Loop 410 they are building a transition home for women coming out of prison and their children. Some amenities for this population would be awesome
- Those industrial neighbors on the east side Loop 410 are pretty heavy industry. Truck noise and unpaved roads might not be a good mix near these neighbors

Map notes from Focus Area 6 discussion:

6. EAST LOOP 410



Focus Area 7:

- The area could benefit from future development through collaborating with the greater SATX connection & Austin
- Mixed-Use type development would be beneficial for this area (entertainment options) that would incorporate different types of public spaces amenities
- Green space with structures that are worked on by local artists
- Opportunity for Single-Family housing in this area

Map notes from Focus Area 7 discussion:

7. LOOP 1604 & IH-10



Next Steps

- **Design Charrette Workshop: Monday, April 10th, 2023- 9:00 am to 12:00 pm** via Zoom
- **Community Open House: Tuesday, May 23rd, 2023 – 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM** via Zoom

The meeting summary, presentation, and Mural board will be shared to the Documents Library on the Far East Community Plan Area website in the coming days: <https://fareast.sacomplan.com/> Please contact the project manager if you have any questions.

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