



Greater Airport Regional Center Planning Team

Meeting #6

February 9th, 2023

Zoom

2:00 – 4:00 PM



Cambridge Systematics, Inc.
Bowtie
Economic & Planning Systems, Inc.
Auxiliary Marketing Services
Mosaic Planning and Development Services
SJPA

Greater Airport Area Project Team



PLANNING

City of San Antonio, Planning Department

Jacob Howard, Project Manager



MIG

Jay Renkens, Principal

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Cambridge Systematics

Hannah Santiago, Senior Associate

Timeline of Meetings



Meeting Objectives

1. Mobility Overview

Assets and challenges

2. Define Mobility Needs

Identify the most pressing problems for moving people & goods

3. Prioritize Mobility Opportunities

Envisioning the streets of the future





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Mobility Overview

Draft Vision

The Greater Airport Area Regional Center is a successful employment center with a variety of small and large businesses, including shops, restaurants, and entertainment venues, that serve the area's diverse and safe, neighborhoods, the City, and are compatible with Airport operations. The area develops sustainably, Residents and visitors enjoy a well-distributed and maintained parks, open space, and trail system, in addition to complete streets with safe comfortable and connected pedestrian, bicycle and transit options.

Draft Goals (1/2)

1. *Create safe and vibrant destinations with a diversity of strategically located and high-quality housing, employment, and mixed-use developments that respects existing neighborhoods, avoid conflict with, and support the Airport.*
2. *Improve existing streets and create new connections that are truly multimodal, aesthetically pleasing and provide sustainable stormwater benefits.*
3. *Increase equitable access to parks, open space, and trails and recreational amenities throughout the Regional Center.*
4. *Address safety concerns and barriers created by transportation infrastructure of all types throughout the Regional Center.*

Draft Goals (2/2)

5. *Improve comfort, safety and aesthetics throughout the Regional Center with trees, other urban greening, and integration of sustainable infrastructure.*
6. *Enhance transit connections to amenities within the Greater Airport Regional Center, to Downtown, and to other Regional Centers in and outside of San Antonio for residents, employees and visitors.*
7. *Promote quality infill development and redevelopment within neighborhoods and commercial areas that are compatible with existing homes and provides more housing options for existing and new residents.*

What We've Been Hearing

Mobility Themes

Large number of pedestrian fatalities in the area, desire to make streets more walkable

Loop 410 is a major barrier for pedestrian and bicycle connectivity

Limited crossing opportunities risk safety for transit riders and pedestrians

Close to many amenities, especially for drivers

Excellent Trails System

Too much space is wasted for parking, contributing to the heat island effect

US 281 at Bitters is a barrier for connectivity for those walking & cycling

Wayfinding and bicycle connectivity

Overview of Mobility Assets & Challenges

ASSETS

- Access to Rest of the City
- Central Location
- Trails Network
- San Antonio International Airport
- North Star Transit Center

CHALLENGES

- Connectivity withing the area
- Limited pedestrian and bicyclist amenities, such as sidewalks and protected bike lanes challenge multi-modal connectivity
- Roadways that are stressful environments for people biking & walking
- Large blocks

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Mobility Challenges



Mobility Challenges

Fast Facts



DANGEROUS BY DESIGN

People of color, older adults, and low-income populations are disproportionately burdened by pedestrian injuries and deaths.



TRAFFIC CRASHES ARE A LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN CHILDREN

In the US in 2020, traffic crashes resulted in the deaths of 608 children and injuries in over 91,000 children.



TRANSPORTATION CONTRIBUTES TO GREENHOUSE GASES

38% of San Antonio's Greenhouse Gas Emissions come from passenger cars, light trucks and heavy trucks

Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, SA Climate Ready.

Initial Identification of Needs

ISSUES LIMITING MOVING PEOPLE

- Areas where **people riding bikes and people walking have been injured or died**
- Areas with **missing sidewalks**
- Areas with **unreliable transit**
- Areas served by **low-frequency transit**

ISSUES CONSTRAINING MOVING GOODS

- Areas with significant potholes and **pavement in poor condition**
- Area of potential **railroad-roadway conflicts**
- Streets **prone to flooding** during storm events
- Problem areas **reported by neighbors to 311**

Ranking Exercise

1) Capacity on roadways and bridges for vehicles

2) Providing more transit options

3) Aging population

4) Providing more comfortable spaces for walking and biking

5) Aging and deteriorating roads and bridges

6) Handling more trucks

7) Safe travel

8) Intro. of self-driving vehicles

9) Money to maintain and improve the transportation system

10) Increasing traffic/congestion delays

11) Rising household transportation costs

12) Protecting cultural, historic and natural resources

13) Providing connections between modes

14) Bouncing back from extreme weather events

15) Increase in electric and alternative fuel vehicles

16) Other

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Prioritizing Mobility Opportunities



Opportunities for Mobility Investments

HISTORICAL LEVELS OF FUNDING

Funding directed towards local governments with the latest transportation bill passed by congress

LOCAL SUPPORT

Successful track record of transportation bond supported by residents

EQUITABLE MAINTENANCE STRATEGY

Equitable distribution of maintenance funding to keep streets in a good state of repair



Prioritizing Areas of Opportunity

READY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Which areas align with funding priorities of those delivering projects?

EQUITY

Which transportation assets provide areas of historically marginalized communities and areas of persistent poverty?

PROVIDE ACCESS

Which areas will have future mobility demands & provide critical access to transit stops, libraries, schools, senior centers, community centers?

SIGNIFICANT NEEDS

Where are the most urgent issues challenging the movement of people and goods?

Understanding the Needs

EXERCISE #1

- **STEP 1: Map Mark Up – Where are the mobility needs?**
 - Review the subarea map of needs.
 - Mark the map with other areas of mobility needs that have not been identified.

SAFETY

TRANSIT ACCESS

MULTIMODAL

Understanding the Needs

EXERCISE #1

- **STEP 2: Group Discussion**
 - Which mobility needs are the most urgent/pressing needs?
 - Which needs present the biggest barriers for achieving our mobility-related goals?

SAFETY

TRANSIT ACCESS

MULTIMODAL

Prioritizing Areas of Opportunity

EXERCISE #2

- **STEP 1: Group Discussion – Which locations are priority?**
 - Which locations provide an opportunity to make an impact on our goals?
 - As a group, select up to 3 priority locations.

PEOPLE

FREIGHT

*NEEDS/
MAINTENANCE*

*NEEDS/
DISCRETIONARY*

Prioritizing Areas of Opportunity

EXERCISE #2

- **STEP 2: Group Discussion – What is the vision for our priority locations?**
 - How do you envision people using this existing street?
 - How are people/freight using the street now?
 - Which problems are most important to resolve to achieve our goals for this area?

PEOPLE

FREIGHT

*NEEDS/
MAINTENANCE*

*NEEDS/
DISCRETIONARY*

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Next Steps



Next Steps

NEXT PLANNING TEAM MEETING(S):

- MARCH 9th – Planning Team Meeting #7
- APRIL 6th - Digital Design Workshop
- MAY 9th – Community Meeting #3
- JUNE 15th – Planning Team Meeting #8

QUESTIONS?

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