

River North Master Plan

4th PLANNING TEAM MEETING

Monday, September 8, 2008

6:00 PM

Cliff Morton Development & Business Services Building (One Stop)
1901 S. Alamo, 2nd Floor, Training Rooms A & B

MEETING MINUTES

Planning Teams Members in attendance: George A. Geis, Suzanne Scott, Don Ryden, John Kenny, Scott Smith, Ben Brewer, III, Glenn Huddleston, Cathey Meyer, David Bogle, Mary Kay Martinez, Michael Westheimer, Manjiri Akalkotkar, Marcie Ince, Lewis. T. Tarver, David Marquez, Bill Myers, Carol Harris, David Adelman, Harper Huddleston, Quinn Edmondson, Terri Rubiola

Planning Team Alternates in attendance: Anne Bristol, Dean Perry

Visitors in Attendance: 18

6:05 – 6:20 **Welcome / Opening Presentation - Pat DiGiovanni, Deputy City Manager**

Mr. DiGiovanni welcomed the group and reviewed the work program with the Planning Team members. Discussion ensued on the proposed schedule. The Planning Team members agreed to the work program schedule as presented.

6:20 – 6:45 **Planning Team Question & Answer / Pressing Issues - Pat DiGiovanni**

Mr. DiGiovanni discussed invited Planning Team members to comment on what they heard at the public meeting. Planning Team members asked that the Planning Team recommendations be presented at the next public meeting on November 17. Mr. DiGiovanni concurred.

Mr. DiGiovanni referenced the Frequently Asked Questions (handout), and inquired if there was anything the Planning Team can do to address the Eminent Domain issue. He stated that Eminent Domain cannot be used to acquire someone's private property and give to another private property owner. He stated we needed to address the issue if city will use Eminent Domain for public purposes – references to public space, parkland, etc. Mr. DiGiovanni suggested that we remove any reference to public parkland, and reference that it is not the intent of the master plan to utilize eminent domain to acquire public parkland and or open space.

Mr. DiGiovanni asked for comments from each Planning Team member regarding the proposal. Comments included that perhaps streets and parking structures should also be addressed. Mr. DiGiovanni stated that streets are a public safety concern and that at times right-of-way needs to be acquired to widen a street, etc. Members inquired if the River North Master Plan could be used for authorization or the basis of approval of Eminent Domain by the City Council. Ms. Susan Guinn, City Attorney's office, responded that there are very specific legal requirements that needed to be met, and that the document alone could not authorize it. The Planning Team members also discussed the illustrative maps in the River North Plan that noted specific locations of proposed parks, linear parks at the top bank of the San Antonio River, and parking structures. It was

suggested that master plan should build on the San Antonio River Improvements and not duplicate those efforts. The consultant stated that the maps and drawings in the River North Master Plan were conceptual.

After much discussion, the Planning Team approved the following language to be added to the River North Master Plan:

1.1 Preface [insert]

This Master Plan shall not constitute the basis for or the authorization of the use of eminent domain. It is not the intent of this Plan to utilize eminent domain for the following purposes:

- A) **public park land and/or open space;**
- B) **public parking structures; and**
- C) **private use.**

The Planning Team also approved the following statement:

A) Illustrative Plan remains, but remove all references to the utilization of public use on private property.

8:00

Next Steps

The Planning team members agreed on the next Planning Team meeting and public meeting dates listed below:

- **5th Planning Team Meeting: Monday, September 22, 2008, Time: 6:00 pm,** Cliff Morton Development & Business Services Building (One Stop), 1901 S. Alamo, 2nd Floor, Training Rooms A & B
- **2nd Public Meeting: Monday, October 6, 2008,** Location & Time: TBD
⇒ *Tentative Agenda:* Review Planning Team recommendations for Plan edits

The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Nina Nixon-Mendez, Planning Manager, 207-2893 or nina.nixon-mendez@sanantonio.gov