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SA Tomorrow: It's Your Turn to Plan San Antonio's Future

JOAN VINSON on 26 March, 2015 at 01:00



Elected officials, City staff, and business and institution leaders have been working for months formulating working groups and committees that make up the structure of the massively complex comprehensive plan for 2040. Now it's time for the community to play their part – and the City is asking for as much public input as possible.

By the year 2040, 25 years from now, the city's population is expected to grow by more than 1 million people. SA Tomorrow is a city-led effort to accommodate the future influx of these people.

The comprehensive planning process was initiated last year by Mayor Lyda Taylor and is a three-phased planning effort...

<http://therivardreport.com/sa-tomorrow-its-your-turn-to-plan-san-antonios-future/>

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The comprehensive planning process was initiated last year by Mayor Ivy Taylor and is a three-tiered planning effort – a comprehensive plan, a sustainability plan, and a transportation plan – that aims to guide the city toward sustainable growth.

On April 11, the SA Tomorrow team will host a kick-off event of its public input process at the SAISD Alamo Convocation Center and invites community members to enjoy mini workshops, kids' activities, family entertainment, door prizes, free helmets, and more.

Mayor Taylor said at a press conference on Wednesday that receiving input from San Antonio residents is a crucial aspect of the planning process.

"We will be hearing from you, our neighbors across San Antonio, families, business owners, and commuters who live, work, and play in our city everyday," she said. "You're the ones who know what's working, what's not, and you're the only ones who can help us create an effective plan for the next 25 years."

She gave an overview of the fundamental issues the plan addresses, which include widespread, relatable topics.

"Everyday we are considering, piecemeal, the very issues that need to be addressed more comprehensively," Mayor Taylor said. "Questions like: Where are my aging parents going to live? How can I enjoy a night out on the town without having to drive, and what kind of community will my children want to live in when they grow up?"

The comprehensive plan will address how the layout of the city will look in 2040; the Multimodal Transportation Plan will analyze transportation methods to best meet community needs; and the Sustainability Plan will manage economic, environmental, and social resources.

SA Tomorrow
Spring 2015

About SA Tomorrow

WHO
SA Tomorrow is led by the City of San Antonio and includes the City, partner agencies, and San Antonio residents.

WHY
A three-pronged planning effort to guide the city toward smart, sustainable growth. The three plans include the Comprehensive Plan, the Sustainability Plan, and the Multimodal Transportation Plan.

WHERE
SA Tomorrow covers all of San Antonio.

WHEN
SA Tomorrow formally kicks off with a public event on Saturday, April 11, 2015, and the planning process will continue through April 2016.

HOW
The city-wide plan will set goals for San Antonio to reach by the year 2040.

SA TOMORROW: A VIBRANT NEW PLANNING EFFORT FOR SAN ANTONIO

SA Tomorrow is a three-pronged planning effort to guide the city toward smart, sustainable growth through a Comprehensive Plan, a Sustainability Plan, and a Multimodal Transportation Plan. These three plans will provide guidance on how the city will develop over the next 25 years to accommodate 2.6 million additional people who will be living, raising a family, and working within the city.

SA TOMORROW
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Comprehensive Plan will address land use, urban design and multi-modal policy to coordinate various City resources and incentive programs to accommodate projected growth and provide more choices for future and current residents.

SA TOMORROW
MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

A plan for all modes of transportation, including cars, transit, bicycles, and pedestrians. The transportation plan will communicate the City's transportation strategy and will serve as a tool to analyze transportation priorities to best meet community goals.

SA TOMORROW
SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

A plan grounded in the three pillars of sustainability – social, economic, and environmental. The sustainability plan will include metrics of success that will be tracked and reported.

City of San Antonio Department of Planning & Community Development
1400 South Flores St. | San Antonio, TX 78201 | 210.207.6044 | SA@tomorrow.com

Click to enlarge.

I offer no comment on the concept or "interpretation" of confederate monuments as opposed to removal of the monuments, but I think tall signage placed [...]



GBLATHAM on 04 Aug
DIXIE FLAG TO STOP SELLING CON...

I don't know, Oscar. How many people need to tell a lie before it's considered the truth?!



GBLATHAM on 04 Aug
DIXIE FLAG TO STOP SELLING CON...

I'll support the idea of your propagandist/revisionist plaques, Steve. If we also add a few concerning the Union. Let's explain how northerners fought the War because [...]

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Councilmember Ron Nirenberg (D8) stood in front of City Hall on Wednesday to address the future of SA Tomorrow. Photo by Joan Vinson.

Councilmember Ron Nirenberg (D8) said that as a public official, he wants to take an active role in the future growth of the city – which is to plan for the long-term quality of life for everyone.

"By focusing our growth, we can ensure that everyone's best interests are accounted for," he said.

SA Tomorrow will set policies to help preserve our resources socially, economically, and environmentally, he said. It will help develop transit quarters that consider both present and future congestion because "It's a true collaborative effort."

AUG 26
MAJESTIC THEATRE

BUY TIX

BUD LIGHT

Assistant Director of Traffic and Transportation Planning Terry Bellamy leads the coordination with the City of San Antonio's major transportation partners.

He said he is trying to improve transportation in and around San Antonio by accounting for the time it takes to get from one point to another.

UTSA

San Antonio's
Cybersecurity
University

"Having that ability to get on one seat, no stop, makes a world of a difference," he said. "That's premium transit."

He said he is also looking beyond transportation inside of San Antonio, and toward transportation between major Texas cities.

"One of the key things that is taking place in this region is the relationship between us and Austin, all the way up to Dallas, and over to Houston," he said. "I think commuter rail will continue to be discussed and high speed rail we be discussed (at SA Tomorrow meetings)."

Residents are encouraged to follow SA Tomorrow on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#), and to visit the SA Tomorrow [website](#) for more information on meeting times and locations.

Featured/top image: Mayor Ivy Taylor announced the SA Tomorrow kickoff, which will invite community members to become part of the SA Tomorrow initiative. Photo by Joan Vinson.



Terry Bellamy, Assistant Director of Traffic and Transportation Planning. Courtesy photo.

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JOAN VINSON

Rivard Report Assistant Editor Joan Vinson is a San Antonio native who graduated from The University of Texas with a bachelor in Journalism. She's a yoga fanatic and an adventurer at heart.

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'YOU'RE SCARING ME': WHY THE REDUS CASE SHOULD UNSETTLE US ALL

THERE ARE 4 COMMENTS [ADD YOURS](#)



BENJAMIN NICHOLAS VIA FACEBOOK on 26 March, 2015 at 08:54

[Reply](#)

I'd be fine never hearing the name Ivy Taylor again. She's done so little for this city.



JIM_S on 26 March, 2015 at 09:26

[Reply](#)

Having looked at the stakeholder groups involved, I find it very interesting that (i) "Community/Civil Society" is not considered a stakeholder group and that the usual suspects, i.e., real estate/development interests, are

disproportionately represented and that (ii) "comprehensive" planning is to be achieved by fragmenting the process into some 12 or 13 different silos. To quote Albert Einstein, the very definition of "insanity" is "doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results".



DIEGO GALICIA VIA FACEBOOK on 26 March, 2015 at 11:31

[Reply](#)

I wanted uber a lyft.. So much for that.



KEVIN on 26 March, 2015 at 21:46

[Reply](#)



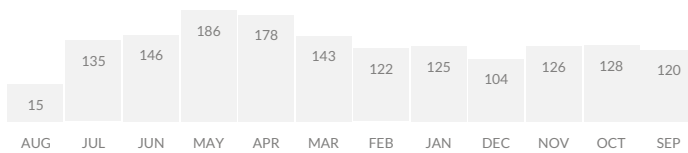
There is very promising language from Mayor Taylor, Councilman Nirenberg and Mr. Bellamy suggesting an emphasis to develop a more compact and connected city. However, I believe the focus on relieving congestion is counterproductive. Although Mayor Taylor recently noted that relieving congestion should include more than just new road capacity, the standard solution tends to be all about increasing mobility. Increased mobility almost universally equates to more highways and degraded pedestrian and cycling mobility. I would prefer to see language that prioritizes reducing the need for travel, making for a better pedestrian environment.

John Dugan presented an update at the last Infrastructure & Growth Committee meeting that included a fiscal impact analysis of various growth scenarios. Not surprisingly, the low density single-use development that dominates San Antonio development today had the least fiscal value, while dense development focused in urban activity centers had the greatest value. Compact, mixed-use development not only had the greatest fiscal value, it also places live, work, and commercial destinations close enough together that cycling and walking could be the first transportation choice. As a result, it reduces the need for transportation, so the whole mobility requirement becomes irrelevant.

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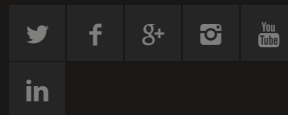
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