

11/2/19 (Sat.) ESGVAP Community Visioning Workshop @ San Angelo Park

Time: 9:30am-11:30am

Meeting Notes:

DRP organized the meeting to get feedback on values, community issues and opportunities for the unincorporated communities of Avocado Heights, North Whittier, South El Monte, Pelissier Village, South San Jose Hills, Valinda, West Puente Valley, and any other neighboring areas.

The meeting began with an icebreaker, providing an opportunity for attendees to introduce themselves to the other attendees at their table and share a favorite place to eat in the community or dish to cook.

DRP then provided a 30-minute presentation on community planning and the background of the East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan.

The first activity followed the Place It! methodology. Participants were given 10 minutes to create their favorite childhood memory and roughly 10 minutes to share their ideas with the broader audience. Based on the values identified from the first part of the activity, attendees were given 10 minutes to create an ideal city with the other people at the table they were sitting. The participants then shared with the larger group.

In the second activity, attendees were asked to write down issues and opportunities in their communities related to Housing & Neighborhoods, Land Use & Community Design, and Transportation. After writing their ideas, a representative from each table was then asked to share with the larger group.

Attendees: Between 50-60 people.

Resident Notes

Place-it activity Key Values

- Fishing
- Camping
- Exploring
- Seeing new things
- Trees and nature
- Going to museums
- Flower arranging
- They want nice communities ("Like Catalina") where you can walk around and feel safe
- Taking the streetcar downtown to shop
- Love of natural resources
- Playing outside and being outdoors
- Opportunity to play with others out in the open
- Being and feeling safe

Group Activity

Housing:

- More housing and housing for the homeless
- Provide affordable housing around parks
- Want a relaxed building code to allow for prefab homes, tiny homes, ADUs, garage conversions
- Affordable housing, but dispersed with existing density, more granular, no big structures

Land Use and Community Design:

- Want to beautify the community
 - A community garden or more trees
 - Better quality streets
- It would be nice to have a community center in West Puente valley
- More markets, local shops, small stores, more shopping to walk around
- No space for seniors to congregate
 - Create a senior center
 - Not enough home care places
- More educational opportunities
- Lack of animal control, too many mosquitos
 - Make sure are all licensed
 - Lots of fleas and mosquitos
- Have an internal community sports league
- Better design standards for Valley Blvd. and along commercial corridors throughout the area
- Clean up existing parks in Valinda
- Monitor large industrial-use sites

Transportation:

- More infrastructure for walking and biking
- More trees, better equestrian trails
- More wider sidewalks that people can use
- No parking on Valley, and instead have bike lanes
- More speed bumps to prevent speeding
- More transit (expand the gold line)
- More buses on Valley Blvd and a community shuttle
- More ADA accessible transit

Safety:

- A place where everyone can feel safe
- Safer neighborhoods to walk around
- Better communication with the Sherriff
- More law enforcement on drug concentrations
- Strip mall in Valinda has an unsafe layout
- More abatement needed for gang tagging