

CITY OF PLANO
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

September 21, 2015

Agenda Item No. 4

Public Hearing: Consideration of the Plano Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan

Applicant: City of Plano

DESCRIPTION:

Consideration of the Plano Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan, the long-range guide for the future growth, development, and redevelopment of the city. Tabled March 2, 2015 and April 20, 2015.

REMARKS:

This item was tabled at the March 2, 2015 and the April 20, 2015 Planning & Zoning Commission meetings. It must be removed from the table for consideration.

Background

The Plano Tomorrow plan was developed over a 26-month period with assistance from the Planning & Zoning Commission, City Council, and the general public. This plan will replace the city's existing comprehensive plan, which was adopted in 1986 with numerous updates throughout its nearly 30-year lifespan. The Plano Tomorrow plan is the key long-range guide for the future growth, development, and redevelopment of the city and is intended to serve as a 20- to 30-year visionary guide, providing policy and direction for land use, transportation, housing, city services, and other important aspects of the community.

Vision of Plano Tomorrow

The plan focuses on fulfilling a vision that Plano is *"...a global leader, excelling in exceptional education, abounding with world class businesses, and vibrant neighborhoods"*. The plan will build on the foundation of the city's past and create a future of excellence by reinforcing the community's current strengths and addressing opportunities for change.

Public Involvement

A thorough public outreach campaign was conducted as part of the planning process, which included public workshops, public hearings, open houses, on-site meetings, online opinion polls, and many detailed work sessions with the Planning & Zoning Commission. Nearly 4,000 respondents have provided information on their vision of Plano's future, and the plan attempts to coalesce and best represent the diverse and varied options for the community. The detailed public involvement process can be viewed at <http://www.planotomorrow.org/31/Public-Outreach-Process>.

The city has also received letters from the public regarding the Plano Tomorrow plan dating from November, 2014. These letters can be accessed online at <http://www.plano.gov/1347/Plano-Tomorrow-Home>.

Scope of Plan

One of the most important considerations in reviewing the plan is its broad scope. The Plano Tomorrow plan contains 5 pillars, 10 components, 41 policies, and 274 action statements, all of which are intended to work together to improve Plano for the future, balancing the diverse needs and desires of our varied and dynamic community. It is necessary to look at the policies and supportive maps in concert with one another to realize the full nature of the plan. Community leaders will revisit the vision of the plan every five years to ensure relevancy of the document as conditions change and actions are completed. An Executive Summary of the plan can be downloaded at <http://www.plano.gov/DocumentCenter/View/13417>. A summary of the 10 Key Components of the plan can also be viewed at <http://www.planotomorrow.org/232/Key-Components-Summary>.

Plano Tomorrow Maps

The Plano Tomorrow plan includes five maps, which are intended to provide guidance on land use development and provision of city services. These include:

- Future Land Use Map - guides appropriate locations for future uses and activities
- Growth and Change Map - describes the level of change that is expected to occur on sites
- Thoroughfare Plan Map and Cross-Sections - illustrates locations for planned capacity of existing and future roads
- Park Master Plan Map - illustrates locations and amenities of existing and future parks, open space, and facilities
- Bicycle Transportation Plan Map - illustrates locations for existing and future bicycle routes and paths

Electronic copies of these maps can also be viewed at <http://www.planotomorrow.org/229/Maps-of-Plano-Tomorrow>.

Plan Implementation

During review of land development projects, the Planning & Zoning Commission and City Council will consider conformance with the Plano Tomorrow plan as one of the criteria for approval. Maps and policies will provide guidance to city leaders not only in decisions and directives for land use development, but also with the provision and delivery of city services and prioritization of the Community Investment Program budget. The plan implementation process is outlined at <http://www.planotomorrow.org/9/Your-Plan-Your-Future>.

New Format for Plano Tomorrow Plan

The plan is a fully web-based, interactive plan and can be found at www.planotomorrow.org. There is no printed version of the plan. This new format is an emerging concept in cities around the world and is the first to be introduced by a Texas community. The plan is more visual and accessible as elements are presented through a series of short videos and infographics. The web-based format also allows the plan to be more interactive with public feedback polls and status bar updates for each action statement. As of September 14, 2015, the web-based plan has collected over 1,100 visits, 2,300 downloads, and 675 votes within the public feedback polls. The Planning & Zoning Commission will consider the Plano Tomorrow plan as a web-based document.

Summary

The proposed Plano Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan is the culmination of over two years of intense research and refinement, which has been created through conversations with the public, staff, and the Planning & Zoning Commission. The web-based layout is a ground-breaking new format for a comprehensive plan. The content of the plan has been established through the input of the community, including many comments by Plano's citizens, and the plan makes every effort to represent the needs and desires of an increasingly diverse community. Staff believes the plan is consistent with the vision established by the Planning & Zoning Commission and builds on the foundation of the city's past while providing a vision for Plano's future. The plan as presented will provide a long-range guide that will allow Plano to enhance its stature as the City of Excellence. For these reasons, staff is recommending approval of the Plano Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommended for approval as submitted.