

**DRAFT MINUTES
OF THE
VISION SALINAS 2040 STEERING COMMITTEE
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE
February 22, 2023**

WELCOME AND STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

PRESENT: Jonathan De Anda, Natalie Flores, Rosa Gonzalez, Xago Juarez, Vicente Lara, Robin Lee, David Mack, Alexis Mendez, Omar Perez, Carissa Purnell

ABSENT: Alejandro Chavez, Dennis Donohue, Jonathan Ordiano, Matt Ottone, Jacob Sandoval

STAFF: Community Development Director, Megan Hunter; Assistant Community Development Director, Lisa Brinton; Planning Manager, Grant Leonard; Senior Planner, Jonathan Moore; Associate Planner, Monica Gurmilan

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

MEETING OBJECTIVES

- I. Receive report of General Plan Update/Housing Element Process
- II. Review General Plan Annual Progress Report
- III. Review GPU Outline & Goal Structure

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Alexis Mendez called meeting to order.

Minutes from May 25, 2022 were approved.

Jon Moore began the discussion by providing a summary of the General Plan/Housing Element process, expanding on; workshops and working groups, farmworker outreach, and the transportation survey. Topics covered throughout the various engagement activities included existing conditions, climate action, community design, housing, land use, economic development, transportation, water, and environmental justice. Questions were asked regarding water studies and discussions with the Salinas Groundwater Sustainability Agency. Discussion on this topic closed with updates on staffing changes, establishment of new resources, and works in progress.

Grant Leonard covered the section on the 6th Cycle Housing Element, mostly expanding on its requirements and timeline. Committee members had questions regarding the Regional Housing Needs Allocation, specifically related to the Future Growth Area and how many units could be

counted from those future developments. Staff indicated those figures are yet to be determined due to build out projections and current litigation.

Committee members also had questions regarding the vision for engagement. Megan Hunter indicated budget engagement will be woven into the Housing Element discussion. Other engagement will include surveys and house meetings currently being covered by Center for Community Advocacy, as part of the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation grant work in progress. Committee members and staff continued discussion related to potential housing developments, programs, and State assistance. Several committee members requested additional figures stating income levels connected to affordable housing requirements.

The Annual Progress Report discussion focused on Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) figures and how we can make them more climate resilient. Staff discussed issues with ADU process due to PG&E capacity challenges. Megan Hunter indicated the new residential code is ready to streamline the process for solar. Committee members also expressed a desire to promote programs to help low-income communities use low energy alternatives.

Staff reviewed General Plan Draft Outline and indicated small changes made to the original chapter breakdown. Vicente requested Staff look at the City of Gonzales' Health Element for how it can connect to the Environmental Justice Element. Committee members had questions related to the Economic Development Element categories and how they will address economic justice and access to capital. Staff elaborated on outline approach and mentioned follow up discussion to review topics under each of the element subcategories. Committee members were also interested in staff's approach to Public Safety and how staff will communicate the City's history in the chapter. The Climate Action Plan was also discussed as an important recurring theme throughout the document.

The meeting concluded with a discussion related to the content review. Rosa Gonzalez requested staff present community feedback to signal changes/additions to current policies. Committee members indicated a willingness to explore different options for content review.

Future meetings:

- Next steering committee meeting March 22nd, 2023
- Public Safety Workshops
- Housing Element Review

FOLLOW-UP REPORTS

None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- I. Housing Element Policy Review
- II. Buildout Projections
- III. Draft Existing Conditions Report

- IV. Draft Matrix Content
- V. Public Safety

ADJOURNMENT

Alexis adjourned the meeting.