# CITY OF SURPRISE GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY GROUP

**MEETING NO. 9 MEETING MINUTES**

**September 14, 2023**

**6:00-7:15 PM**

**Council Chambers Community Room**

**16000 N Civic Center Plaza, Surprise, AZ 85374**

**GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING #9**

**GPAG MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Anthony Robinson, Parks & Recreation | Jeff Gibbs, COS Resident | Mitchell Rosenbaum, Planning & Zoning Comm. |
| Chris McComb, Imagine Prep. Academy | Jennifer Breading-Goodrich, COS Resident | Scott Phillips, Developer |
| Daniel Gyorffy, COS Resident | Kent Xander, Land Broker | Steve Doolittle, COS Resident |
| Dennis Tyner, Ottawa University | Margaret Lieu, Arts Commission | Susan Draper, COS Resident |
| Holly Medina, West Mec | Mark James, Luke AFB | Taylor Earl, Land Use Attorney |
| Jay Leonard, COS Resident | Michael Boule, COS Water Resource Mgmt. Director | William Lally, Land Use Attorney |

**CITY OF SURPRISE STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Jason Moquin, Planning Manager | Lloyd Abrams, Comm. Dev. Director |
| Trever Fleetham, Planner-Senior |  |

**MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL (CONSULTANT STAFF) IN ATTENDANCE:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Matthew Klyszeiko, Consultant Project Manager | Steven Sifferman, Consultant Planner |

**General Plan Advisory Group (GPAG) Meeting convened at 6:00 P.M.**

## Call to Order:

GPAG Chair Steve Doolittle called the GPAG Meeting #9 to order at 6:00 PM. He then led an attendance roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Current Events and Reports:

## No current event nor reports were announced.

## *Consent Agenda:*

**Item No 1. Consideration and action to approve the General Plan Advisory Group Meeting #8 Minutes of June 13, 2023.**

Approved

## *Regular Agenda Item – Non-Public Hearing:*

**Item No 1. Review and Discussion of Surprise 2040 General Plan 60-Day Review Draft**

Consultant Klyszeiko of Michael Baker International gave an overview presentation on the Surprise 2040 General Plan 60-Day Review Draft. The presentation included a review of the received public comments, from the online portal and those comments sent directly to the City staff. At the final tally, there were 192 total comments received through all the collection sources, with 109 comments coming from residents withing the Surprise Planning Area. The Cities of Glendale, El Mirage, and Peoria sent emails that voiced support for the Surprise 2040 General Plan 60-Day Review Draft. There were 38 comments from governmental agencies including ASLD, BLM, Luke AFB, MAG, McDOT, Maricopa County Flood Control, and Arizona State Historic Preservation Office. From the received feedback, the trends included:

* Preservation of areas of more rural character and lifestyle to the north of the Surprise municipal limits
* Continue development of commercial options for the growing neighborhoods to the northwest of Loop 303
* Modifications to the text to enhance the 2040 General Plan’s overall consistency and comprehensiveness

Overall, the changes made to the Surprise 2040 General Plan as a result of the received public feedback during the 60-Day Review Process were:

* Executive Summary Added
* Applicable Public Comments Addressed
* Extreme Heat Mitigation Section Added
* Water Resources Section Amplified
* New Graphics and Compressed Layout

## Group Discussion

Following the presentation, the GPAG members began an open discussion on the Surprise 2040 General Plan as the document moves toward the public hearing stage of the General Plan Update process. Scott Phillips stated that this 2040 Plan Draft is fantastic. His only question was “How is the public kept informed on the implementation of this plan?” Planning Manager Moquin responded, “Differing from the current 2035 Plan, the 2040 General Plan includes a progress metric table that would be used on annual basis on the update of the implementation of the General Plan.” Both Scott Phillips and Dennis Tyner agreed that the layout of the 2040 General Plan “has a good color scheme, easy on the eyes, and fun to look at.” Vice Chair Margaret Lieu stated that she appreciated the Goals & Elements Matrix being shown in both the new Executive Summary and on Chapter 9. Susan Draper had comments regarding missing information in a chapter 9 table that was added following the GPAG Meeting #9.

Planning Manager Moquin asked all the individual GPAG members present if there was a group consensus for the City of Surprise 2040 General Plan as it moves forward through the public hearing process. All the members voiced support for this Plan as it heads toward a Planning & Zoning Commission recommendation and approval from the City Council later this year.

## Other Business and Future Agenda Items:

After wrapping the final group discussion of the Surprise 2040 General Plan, Planning Manager Moquin stated that there is a possibility of keeping a smaller contingent of the GPAG together for regular meetings in 2024 if any of the GPAG members desire. This would be a voluntary group that would assist the City staff in advertising the vote on the 2040 in the August 6, 2024 election.

The Surprise 2040 General Plan will have its first Planning & Zoning Commission Hearing on Thursday, October 5th at AZ TechCelerator. The second Planning & Zoning Commission Hearing to determine the Commission’s recommendation on the Plan will be on Thursday, November 2nd at City Hall. The Surprise City Council is scheduled to vote on the 2040 Plan’s adoption on Tuesday, December 5th. The final step for the 2040 General Plan to be implemented would be a majority ratification of the Plan by residents in the August 6, 2024 election.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At the conclusion of the agenda item and the group discussion, Chair Doolittle moved to adjourn the General Plan Advisory Group Meeting #9 at 7:15 P.M.

The foregoing instrument is a full, true, and correct copy of the original document.

ATTEST BY:

Jason Moquin, Planning Manager

DATE: September 20, 2023