



San Marcos Planning Committee Meeting #13 Meeting Summary 2.27.19

Introductions and Committee Participation

Staff met with the San Marcos Planning Committee on February 27th for the 13th group meeting of the 2019 San Marcos District Plan process. Commissioner Moreno joined 19 community members and four Planning Staff to discuss the language needed in the Plan to address desired SLDC overlay changes. New members are always welcome and do not need prior authorization to attend. Please let community members know about these meetings.

Planning Process Overview

The group reviewed the planning process phases. Phase 1 included gathering existing conditions for agriculture, natural resources, cultural resources, history, land use, infrastructure and community services. Phase 1 also started the visioning process, identifying what the community likes to be like in the future. Phase 2 expanded on the visioning process to plan for the future, starting to develop the future land use plan and implementation goals and strategies. Currently, the group is working on Phase 3, starting to compile the 2019 San Marcos District Draft Plan and looking at how the County's San Marcos Overlay will reflect the current planning process after the 2019 San Marcos District Plan is adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. In order for the Plan to be adopted, it will need to be presented to the entire San Marcos community in two public meetings before going to the Santa Fe County Planning Commission and the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners.

Group Activity: Review Comparison Tool

Staff compiled a spreadsheet comparing each element of the San Marcos Overlay in the Sustainable Land Development Code to the 2015 San Marcos District Update and the other Sustainable Land Development Code standards. This exercise was aimed at identifying the basis for the current San Marcos Overlay and for reviewing desired changes to the Overlay that will need justification in the 2019 San Marcos District Plan.

As a group, the 19 participants reviewed the Overlay elements and whether or not the 2019 District Plan should keep each of the elements the same, increase the standard or decrease the standard, along with justification for why a change should be made.

For example, the Overlay currently says in SLDC Section 9.14.2.1 Setbacks "Parcels bordering NM 14 shall be setback 200 ft in Rural Residential." The 2015 San Marcos Community Plan Update does not identify need for setbacks, the SLDC standard in SLDC Section 7.3.3.2 Highway Setbacks says that unless established through a right-of-way, all development shall be setback at least 150 feet from the road pavement of a federal highway and 100 feet from a highway, major arterial or railroad. The 2019 San Marcos District Plan identified Turquoise Trail Scenic Byway but does not identify need for additional setbacks. In the group's review of this comparison, they asked, "What was the basis for a 200 ft. setback? There are already structures well within 200 ft. of NM 14, suggest that San Marcos use the County standard."

Through this exercise, the group is working to establish the basis for changes to the Overlay that County staff will make after the 2019 San Marcos District Plan is adopted.

The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, March 27th. All current materials related to the planning process can be found on the website:

https://www.santafecountynm.gov/growth_management/community_planning_center/san_marcos