



Tesuque Planning Committee Meeting Meeting Summary 9.14.20

Tesuque Planning Committee Process

The Tesuque Planning Committee met virtually on September 14th via WebEx to continue working on the Tesuque Community Plan Update. Due to COVID-19, the group has met virtually to maintain social distancing requirements. As the second meeting held via this platform, some of the logistics became clearer and the group started the meeting with a short tutorial on functions of the site. The Tesuque Planning Committee held their first meeting in spring 2019 after Resolution 2019-47 authorized the planning process. The meetings are always open and welcome to any member of the public. For information on how to join the mailing list, please contact Lucy Foma lfoma@santafecountynm.gov

Tesuque Plan Update Progress to Date

After a five month break in the planning process due to COVID, the group reconvened in August to continue working on the Tesuque Community Plan Update. After the August meeting, many comments came to County staff about the meeting and specifics regarding ideas for the fence and wall section. It became apparent in the comments that the group was diverging from consensus points, rather than aligning commonalities. As a result, one committee member suggested that the group pause on the plan update content in order to focus on establishing a process to move forward. Within the framework of the County's policy documents, the Sustainable Land Development Code's chapter on Planning 2.1.5.5. states:

“County planning staff shall provide planning expertise and administrative support to the planning committee. The planning committee shall determine the planning process to be used and the basic guidelines for consensus decision-making.”

The topic of the September 14th meeting was to refocus on the need to establish a process by which the group could find consensus. County staff asked committee members to volunteer to form a subcommittee directed to explore a consensus-based decision-making process that could be brought back to the whole group for approval.

Some committee members were concerned that forming a subcommittee would reduce opportunities for the whole group to participate in the eventual update. Staff emphasized that the subcommittee would not work on content of the Plan Update, only on a process. Once a process has been established and agreed upon, the whole group can resume discussing the content and details of the plan.

Other members suggested that professional facilitators could be brought into the group meetings to help reach agreement. County staff offered that they could assist in subcommittee meetings in any capacity needed, including by providing materials on consensus-based decision making.

The subcommittee will meet and prepare a process to bring to the next full committee meeting.