

**JUNE 4, 2013: GRASSLAND VILLAGE SPECIAL AREA PLAN
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MEETING #3**

Williamson County Planning Staff and the Grassland Citizen's Advisory Committee were on site to gain community feedback on the drafted Vision Statement and Goals for the Grassland Village and the desired development patterns for the next twenty years. The Public Involvement Meeting, which ran from 6:30 - 8:30 PM in the Grassland Middle School Cafeteria, began with a brief presentation that reviewed the planning process with the community. Following the presentation, community members took part in two individual visioning exercises, designed to bring focus to the type of development patterns the community preferred for the future of the Grassland Village.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MEETING #3 PRESENTATION

This material was presented by Mike Matteson and Katy Rucker, members of Williamson County Planning Staff during the meeting. The presentation provided a brief review of the Plan's process, including timeline and events. In addition, Staff presented the draft versions of both the Vision Statement and Goals to the community. These documents were developed through review of the community developed Vision Statements and Goals from the third Public Involvement Meeting and revised to include input from Planning Staff as well as the Grassland Citizen's Advisory Committee. Finally, the presentation explained the individual visioning exercises for the group.

A copy of the presentation is available on the Meeting Notes page.

DRAFT VISION STATEMENT

The Grassland Village will be a vibrant, walkable, mixed-use community comprised of distinct sub-areas, each with their own unique character, woven together through unifying streetscape and common design elements, and linked to surrounding neighborhoods by a safe and efficient network of roads, sidewalks, and trails. Compatible new development will create and sustain a unique character in the Village and will provide an expanded array of community-scaled businesses and services to meet the daily needs of the surrounding community. Important natural resources, such as stream corridors and forested hillsides will coexist with new development, preserving sensitive environmental features and aesthetic amenities.

DRAFT GOALS

Government Services, Infrastructure, and Traffic Issues

1. Improve the safety and efficiency of vehicular traffic within the Village
2. Create strong connections for pedestrians and bicyclists between various activity centers within the Village and to surrounding neighborhoods

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3. Pursue wastewater solutions to address current limitations and deficiencies, as well as to support new development that is consistent with the vision for the future of the Village

Land Use Issues

1. Promote a variety of complimentary land uses that reinforce the desired Village character
2. Encourage compatible new development that provides an expanded array of neighborhood-serving businesses and helps create an economically vibrant, pedestrian-friendly environment
3. Discourage land uses that would detract from the desired character of the Village
4. Carefully integrate new development with environmentally sensitive areas to protect these important resources and to provide recreational amenities where feasible

Natural Resources and Design and Character Issues

1. Create a unique and unifying image for the Village
2. Ensure that new development is compatible with desired Village character
3. Create an atmosphere within the Village that is safe and inviting for pedestrian activity
4. Preserve the Village's valuable natural resources and promote the retention of open space

INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE: COLOR THE PREFERENCE MAP

Following the presentation of the draft Vision Statement and Goals, participants had an opportunity to color a map of the Grassland Village based on their individual preference for the type of community they felt Grassland could become. In short, participants answered the question:

If Grassland was a blank canvas, and you could put anything in it, what would you want Grassland to be over the next twenty years?

Examples of the completed color exercises



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Reference maps and a copy of the photo example board used for the exercise are available on the Meeting Notes page for reference.

INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE: COMPLETE THE PREFERENCE SURVEY

Participants also had an opportunity to complete a survey based on ranking for the type of development they felt would be a benefit to the Grassland Village. This survey was completed using a ranking scale of 1-5 (*strongly disagree*) – (*strongly agree*) and concluded with an open area for any comments about the community to be added.

The survey is available online through Sunday, June 4th for participants who were unable to attend the meeting but wanted an opportunity to voice their opinions about the Grassland Village.

A copy of the Survey is available on the Meeting Notes page.