



CITY OF  
TUCSON

PLANNING &  
DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT

June 6, 2013

The Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the Council  
City of Tucson  
PO Box 27210  
Tucson, AZ 85726-7210

**Subject:** Planning Commission Recommendation on the City of Tucson General Plan (Plan Tucson)

**Recommendation**

This letter is to inform you that the Planning Commission after consideration of the proposed City of Tucson General Plan (Plan Tucson) on June 5, 2013 voted 7-3 to recommend that the Mayor and Council not adopt Plan Tucson as presented to the Commission. (YEA – Lavaty, Bryson, Yee, Podolsky, Sayler-Brown, Rex, Keith. NAY – Maher, Beeker, Patten, ABSENT-Wissler, Rogers)

**Findings and Reasoning of the Commissioners on Motion Not to Adopt – Majority**

1. The version of the Plan presented is not ready for adoption, there is not adequate community support for a positive community response if placed on the ballot for ratification in November and staff could improve the Plan if provided with more funding.
2. There was insufficient treatment of neighborhoods, the form of the ‘blobs’ on the Opportunity Map and the relationship between existing neighborhood plans and the Opportunity Map is unclear.
3. The business community has indicated dissatisfaction with the Plan.
4. The economic environment of the City is not adequately represented as an element of the Plan.
5. The Plan needs a more positive focus on Tucson and its aspirations for the next 10 years.
6. There are concerns which arose in the community surrounding Davis Monthan Air Force Base which have not been fully resolved.
7. The Plan as presented could polarize the community and is not likely to have adequate support for voter ratification.

**Findings and Reasoning of the Commissioners Against the Motion Not to Adopt – Minority**

1. Despite the fine work of staff, the Plan could no doubt be made better with more time, but it is a General Plan and it will never be all things to all people and with minimal change will be acceptable.

2. The Plan should not be changed this late in the process based on new concerns raised by the business community at the expense of the effort of those who have worked on the Plan for two years.
3. Staff has indicated they believe they have the ability to make changes to the Plan based on discussion with the business community which would alleviate concerns raised. The Plan is already behind schedule and has consumed great expense and cost which should justify the Commission in trying to work towards adoption of the Plan at this time.

There was general agreement by the Planning Commission that the Plan should not be discarded but improved upon and that there was no intention by the Planning Commission to show dissatisfaction with staff efforts to create the Plan nor to minimize the efforts of the members of the community who contributed to the Plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ladd Keith".

Ladd Keith, Chair  
Planning Commission

LK/JM/TM/tl