



**Socioeconomic Prosperity Working Group:
Housing Policy Working Group, July 22, 2011**

WORKING GROUP SUMMARY

Below is a summary of the Housing Policy Working Group meeting, July 22, 2011, 1:30 – 4:00 pm, Sentinel Building, 320 Commerce Park Loop, Tucson. The meeting was led by Plan Tucson staff from the City's Housing and Community Development Department, Planning and Community Development Division. The summary is based on the meeting agenda, and concludes with a list of handouts and maps that were provided at the meeting and can be accessed, along with presentation material, on the Plan Tucson website at www.tucsonaz.gov/plantucson. Additionally, participants' responses to the exercise and comment sheet described in this summary will be posted on the website when available.

Part 1

Welcome and Introductions: 25 people participated in the Housing Policy Working Group representing a variety of interests including non-profits, for-profit builder/developers, housing related-boards and commissions, Tucson neighborhoods, and local government agencies.

Plan Tucson Process to Date: Plan Tucson staff began the meeting by reviewing Plan Tucson activities to date.

Policy Working Group Role and Schedule: Plan Tucson staff presented the master schedule for the Policy Working Group meetings, and explained that the Working Group meetings are organized under three focus areas (Socioeconomic Prosperity, Environmental Integrity, and Smart Growth) and cover 17 elements. Staff pointed out that the next Housing Working Group meeting will be Friday, November 4, 2011, and that 30 days prior to that date, participants will receive for review and comment a status report on the progress made in developing housing policy for Plan Tucson.

Socioeconomic Prosperity: The three focus areas for Plan Tucson (Environmental Integrity, Socioeconomic Prosperity, and Smart Growth) were illustrated and defined, with corresponding Plan Tucson elements listed for each.

Part 2

Housing Working Document Overview: Staff presented an overview of the 8-page working document for the Housing Element. This document contains background information, including definitions, agency/organization network, housing statistics and trends, recent City initiatives re housing, 2001 General Plan housing vision, indicators, and themes.

Initiatives and Themes: Staff highlighted six recent housing initiatives that were reviewed and from which 12 recurring housing policy themes were identified as show below:

Housing Preservation	Housing Efficiency	Homelessness
Housing Supply	Housing Choice / Access	Housing Resources
Housing Mix (type & affordability)	Housing Location	Targeted Neighborhood Revitalization
Housing Quality	Housing Design	Comprehensive Community Development (transportation, jobs, housing, open space, and business/commerce)

Indicators: Staff presented a power point presentation showing statistical and anecdotal information on the following housing indicators:

Homelessness	Foreclosures
Household Composition	Construction
Housing Conditions	Location Efficiencies and Land Use Patterns
Housing Costs (utilities, rent, insurance, mortgage, upkeep)	Assisted Living
Neighborhood Infrastructure	Affordability
Accessibility	Energy Efficiency
Sales and Financing	Subsidized Housing Waiting Lists

Part 3

Working Group Exercise: More than half of the meeting was dedicated to an interactive exercise in which meeting participants shared preliminary ideas about what should be addressed in housing policies for Plan Tucson. Participants began by breaking into four groups. Next the participants in each group individually jotted down on an exercise sheet policy concepts / statements using the housing themes referenced above under “Initiatives and Themes.” Then participants within each group shared one idea, which group facilitators recorded along with highlights of ensuing discussion. (This was repeated for as many rounds as could be accommodated in the allotted time.) The exercise concluded with each group reviewing the recorded policy ideas and commenting on whether there were certain ones that should take priority for further exploration. Groups chose not to report out, but rather to review the transcription of ideas when posted on the Plan Tucson website as referenced in the introduction to this summary.

Comment Sheets: Each participant was provided with a comment sheet on which they were asked to suggest resources and/or make requests regarding housing initiatives, data sources, maps, or housing policy not identified during the Working Group meeting,

Meeting Handouts and Maps

The following materials are available on the Plan Tucson website as referenced in the introduction to this summary.

HANDOUTS	
Agenda	2011 General Plan: Housing Element
Guiding Principles – Working Document	Glossary of Terms
Diagram of Plan Tucson Focus Areas & Elements	Policy Preparation Guidance – Working Document
Policy Working Groups – Schedule of Meetings	Exercise Instructions
Challenges & Opportunities – Housing Element - Working Document	Exercise Worksheet
Housing Element - Working Document	Comment Sheet
MAPS	
Base Map of Tucson	
Residential Zoning within Tucson	
Age of Housing Structures by Location within Tucson	

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