



Goodyear 2025 General Plan Committee Meeting Summary

Meeting #5 – February 12, 2013

This month's Committee meeting focused on Transportation and Parks & Recreation, the Master Plans being developed for both, and how they should be incorporated into the various land uses.

The meeting began with presentations from three Idea Champions, committee members who have an interest in a particular topic or a point of view that they want expressed to the General Plan Committee. Since the topic of the evening was Transportation and Parks, each Champion spoke on a subject matter related to those areas.

Up first was Ted Ingalls who spoke on the subject of cycling. He cited numerous studies illustrating the benefits of supporting bikes, the merits of the Bikes Belong Foundation, as well as suggested that Goodyear host a large cycling event. Brannon Hampton was next with a presentation on the Complete Streets idea. Complete Streets is where every road is connected and all uses are accommodated and planned for on each road. He added that he is a proponent of jogging and other outdoor activities and those users should be able to come and go with ease. Last, Darren Lazano spoke on the transportation element, in particular pedestrians, bicycles, and transit. He would like to see pedestrian integration where safety, comfort, and wayfinding are made a priority. He also advocated for bicycle connections and explained the concept of a "Road Diet," in which the number of lanes on streets is cut down and buffers are added for bike lanes. Lastly, for transit, he talked about Goodyear's transit network, including entertaining the idea of reorienting the proposed light rail and the work done so far in MAG's (Maricopa Association of Governments) Southwest Local Transit System Study.

Moving from there, Katie Wilken gave a brief overview of the General Plan Land Use categories and an explanation of a Transect Model, a model illustrating a range of land uses from rural to urban and defines the zones transitioning between the two extremes. She also noted that the Land Use categories are predominant, not exclusive. So, for example, there can be housing within a business land use area.

Next was a presentation of the Transportation Master Plan given by Dave Ramirez. The purpose of the Master Plan is to guide decision making. He discussed what the study will include, that most of the content of the plan is detailed data analysis, and explained that the plan is going to be developed by a Transportation Subcommittee. It was emphasized that alternative modes of transportation are what the subcommittee would like to focus on.

The final presentation was from Nathan Torres on the Parks & Recreation Master Plan. He started with some facts about Goodyear's parks stating that the city has seventeen parks covering two hundred and six acres. Furthermore, he stated that Parks & Recreation is the background to a community. It promotes a healthy lifestyle, builds a sense of community, and serves as an economic catalyst. The Master Plan will be created by a Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission, and like the Transportation Master Plan, it too will act as a guide for future decision making. Nathan then explained the process and outcomes of the plan, gave a plan development schedule, and definitions for the various park, trail, and facility typologies.

The meeting then shifted to a group discussion and exercise. Committee members were posed with the question: In these land use categories, how are transportation and parks needs met? What is envisioned? The land use categories that were the focus of the exercise were: Scenic Neighborhoods, Neighborhoods, Business, and Industrial. Committee members were asked to provide input on what types of transportation and parks/recreation they could visualize for each of the land uses. Their responses were written on index cards and displayed on a large board that had been divided into the four land use categories, with each card being placed in the relevant section.

Finally, Katie closed with a mention that the Goodyear Connects website is up and running and that all Committee members are expected to participate. The website is www.goodyearconnects.com. Updated Land Use Plans were also distributed to Committee members.