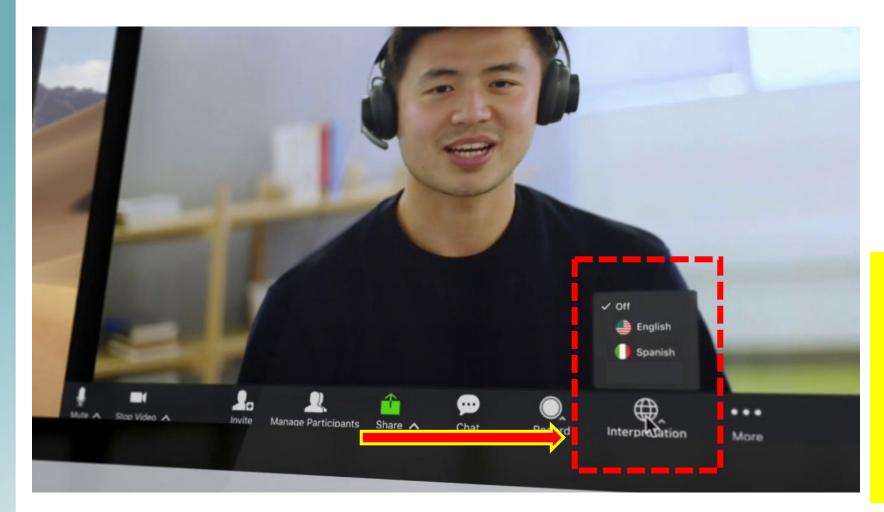


General Plan Advisory Committee Meeting #8 January 20, 2022



#### Welcome to the City of San Marcos' GPAC Meeting

#### Bienvenidos al Taller Virtual sobre Vivienda de la Ciudad de San Marcos



Tonight's meeting will be facilitated in both English and Spanish. **The presentation will begin shortly.** 

La junta de hoy se llevará a cabo enambos idiomas Inglés y Español. La presentación empezará en unos momentos.

Please click on the "Interpretation" icon and select your preferred language to hear the audio presentation. See the image to the left for an example.

Haga clic en el ícono de "interpretación" y escoja el idioma de su preferencia para escuchar la presentación. Vea la imagen de la izquierda.





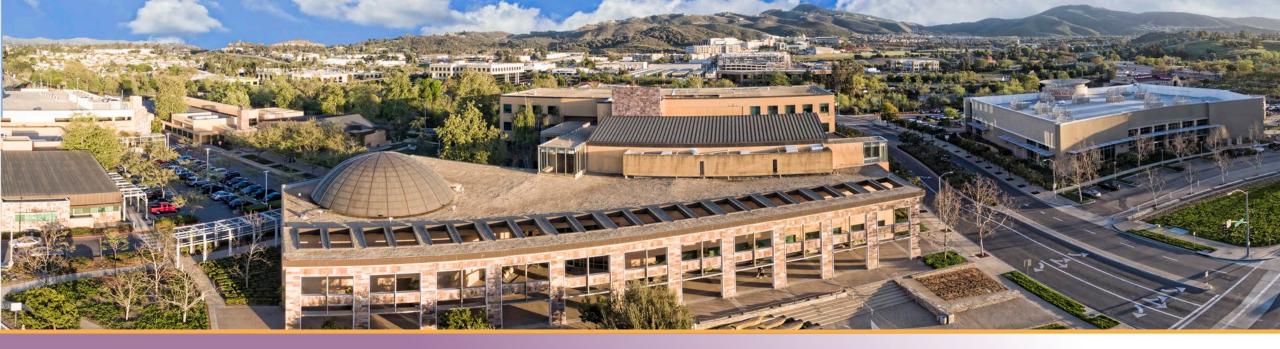
- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Attendance
- 3. Consultant Presentation
- 4. Public Comment Opportunity #1
- 5. Roundtable Discussion
- 6. Public Comment Opportunity #2



#### **Guides for Productive Virtual Meetings**

- Actively participate
- Be respectful of other perspectives
- Listen for understanding
- Stay concise to allow time for everyone to participate
- Enjoy the meeting!





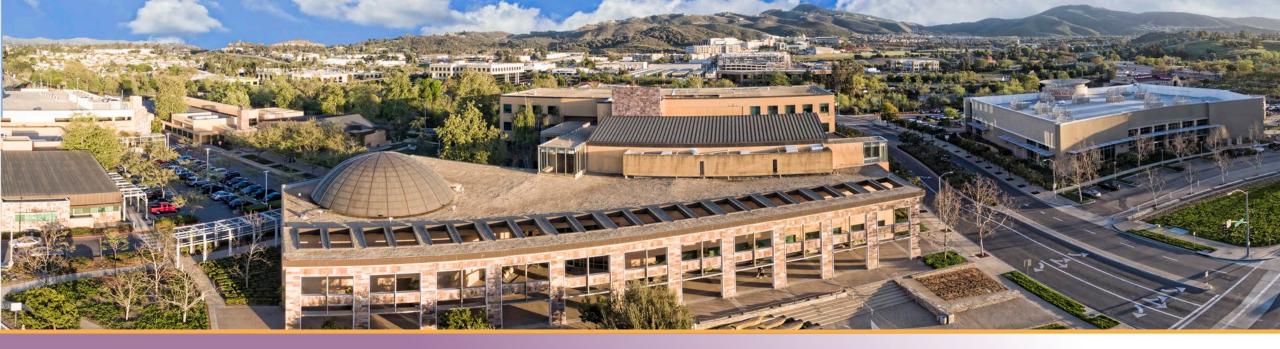
# Call to Order and Attendance



### Hello!

Regular meeting of the General Plan Advisory Committee is called to order at \_\_\_\_\_ on Thursday January 20, 2022

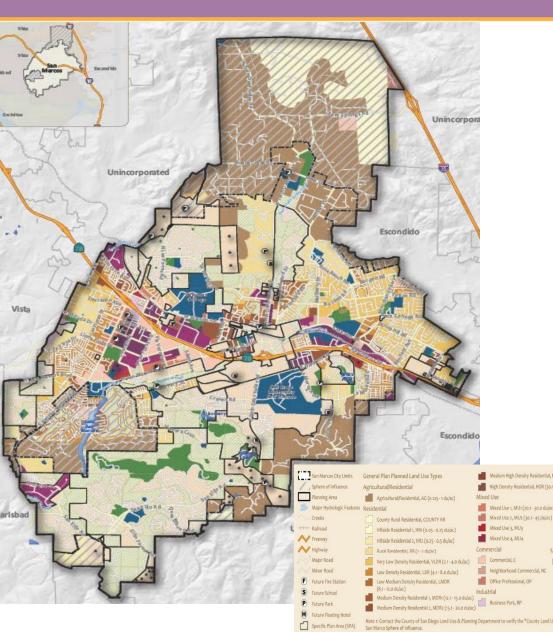




# Land Use Planning



### **Current Land Use Planning in San Marcos**



- <u>Residential</u>- 10 designations; Defined by density ranges
- <u>Mixed Use</u>- 4 designations; Defined by floor area ratios
- <u>Commercial</u>- 3 designations; Defined by floor area ratios
- Industrial- 3 designations; Defined by floor area ratios
- <u>Public/Institutional</u>- Defined by floor area ratios
- <u>Recreation</u>- 2 designations (Parks & Open Space)
- <u>Agricultural</u> 1 designation (Agricultural/Residential)
- <u>Specific Plan Areas</u>; Density/intensity variable by location
  - San Marcos has 48 Specific Plan Areas

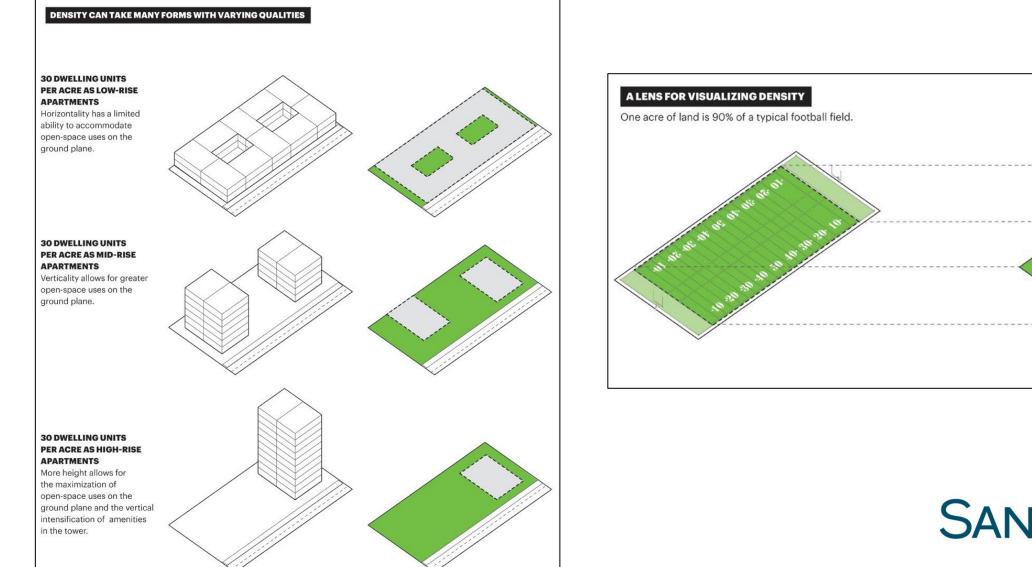


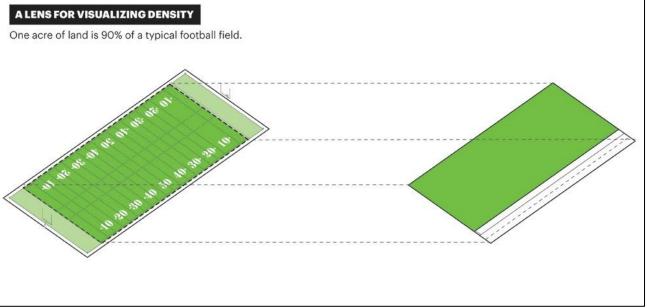
# What is Density?

• Density represents the number of housing units that fit within a defined area. Traditionally, density is described as the number of housing units within an acre of land (1 acre = 43,560 square feet)



# What is Density?





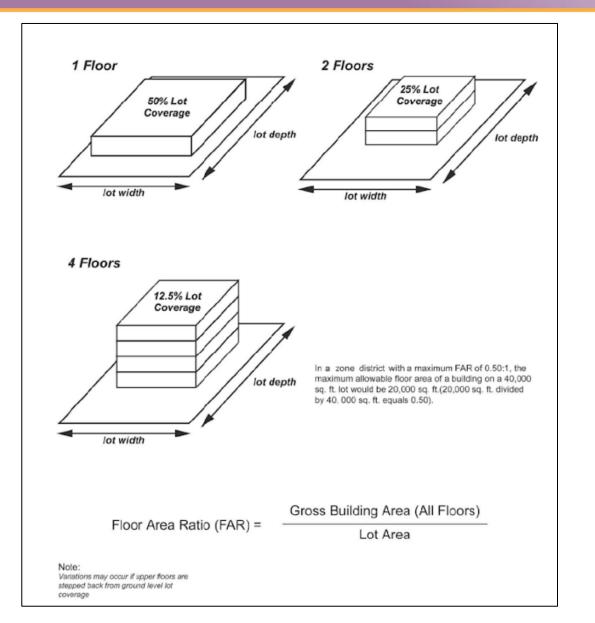


### What is Intensity?

- The intensity of nonresidential uses are measured by Floor Area Ratio (FAR)
- FAR is the ratio of the total net floor area of a building on a parcel to the total adjusted gross square footage of that parcel
- FAR calculations do not include floor areas for parking structures or outdoor open storage
- A one-story building with 50 percent coverage to a three-story building with 10 percent coverage might have the same FAR



### What is Intensity?





### What does "Form-Based" mean?

- Traditional zoning ordinances emphasize the regulation of land uses
  - Ex: Land designated Residential may contain homes or apartments
  - Ex: Land designated Commercial máy contain restaurants or shopping centers
- Form-based codes/zoning emphasizes on shaping the *character* of an area (rather than focusing on land uses).
  - Emphasis is on building placement/form in relation to other buildings/streets/public spaces- creates a more livable and human scale environment
- City examples of Form-based codes:
  - San Marcos Creek Specific Plan
  - University District Specific Plan



Land Use Designation	Typical Illustration	Description
Agricultural/Residential		
AG Agricultural/ Residential 0.125–1.0 dwelling unit (du) per parcel based on location and slope		Agricultural uses as the primary use. Agricultural uses include greenhouses, wholesale nurseries, and agricul- tural crops. Raising poultry, cattle, birds, small animals, horses, and bovine animals is permitted. Agricultural tourism activities may also be allowed.
Residential		
HR1 Hillside Residential 1 0.05–0.25 du/acre, depending on slope		Single-family homes on larger lots in hillside areas as the primary use with the objective of preserving the hillside. Agricultural uses include trees, flower and vegetable gardens, and other horticultural stock. Horses and certain combinations of poultry and bovine animals are permitted.

HR<sub>2</sub> **Hillside Residential 2** 0.25-0.5 du/acre. depending on slope



Single-family homes in hillside areas as the primary use with the objective of preserving the hillside. Agricultural uses include trees, flower and vegetable gardens, and other horticultural stock. Horses and certain combinations of poultry and bovine animals are permitted.

- Of development in the City's hillside areas (only applied in the SOI)
- Could HR1 and HR2 be combined (zoning could distinguish lot size)?



Land Use Designation	Typical Illustration	Description
RR Rural Residential 1.0-2.0 du/ac, max 2.0 du/ac		Single-family homes and limited agricultural uses. Agricultural uses include flower and vegetable gardens, fruit trees, and horticultural stock.
VLDR Very Low Density Residential 2.1– 4.0 du/ac		Conventional single-family residential development char- acterized by individual single-family homes constructed in subdivisions, or by custom units built on individual lots.
LDR Low Density Residential 4.1–8.0 du/ac		Single-family and duplex residential development including detached condominiums, clustered homes, and courtyard housing. Mobile home parks are also allowed.

- Could RR be combined with HR?
- VLDR and LDR designations generally working well; descriptions describe actual housing types, is this helpful?



Land Use Designation	Typical Illustration	Description
LMDR Low Medium Density Residential 8.1–12.0 du/ac		Row homes, townhomes, and multi-family (apartments and condominiums), and duplex units. Small-lot single-family homes with alley access and unique design features are included. Mobile home parks are allowed as consistent with zoning.
MDR1 Medium Density Residential 1 12.1–15.0 du/ac		Row homes, townhomes, and multi-family (apartments and condominiums) units.
MDR2 Medium Density Residential 2 15.1-20.0 du/ac		Row homes, townhomes, and multi-family (apartments and condominiums) units.

- LMDR applies to less than 0.7% of the Planning Area, could it be combined with another category?
- What is the material difference between MDR1 and MDR2, if the same types of housing are allowed?



Land Use Designation	Typical Illustration	Description
MHDR Medium High Density Residential 20.1–30.0 du/ac		Multi-family units (apartments and condominiums), row homes, and townhomes.
HDR High Density Residential 30.1–45.0 du/ac		Multi-story, multi-family (apartments and condominiums) developments with either surface or structured parking, typically found along or near major transportation corridors within walking distance of commercial centers and transit services.

- Only 0.2% of the Planning Area is MHDR, are there other areas this use is appropriate?
- The current land use map does not designate any area for HDR, is this appropriate somewhere in the City?



Land Use Designation	Typical Illustration	Description
MU1 Mixed Use 1 Max 1.75 floor area ratio (FAR), 20.1–30.0 du/ac		A wide variety of commercial, office, civic, and residential uses integrated as a cohesive development. These uses may be mixed "vertically" (on separate floors of a build- ing) or "horizontally" (in separate buildings) on a single site or on adjacent parcels. Structured parking may be necessary to accommodate maximum allowable densities, and shared parking arrangements may be allowed consistent with the nature of the mixed uses. To maintain a pedestrian scale and orientation, retail and other active uses are encouraged at street level.
MU2 Mixed Use 2 Max 2.25 FAR, 30.1–45.0 du/ac		A wide variety of commercial, office, civic, and residential uses integrated as a cohesive development. These uses may be mixed "vertically" (on separate floors of a build- ing) or "horizontally" (in separate buildings) on a single site or on adjacent parcels. Structured parking may be necessary to accommodate maximum allowable densities, and shared parking arrangements may be allowed consistent with the nature of the mixed uses. To maintain a pedestrian scale and orientation, retail and other active uses shall be located at street level.

- Very little area is designated as MU1 (0.5% of the Planning Area) and no area designated as MU<sub>2</sub>
- MU2 requires retail/active uses at the street level; given that no areas is designated as MU<sub>2</sub>, is this an impediment?



	-	
Land Use Designation	Typical Illustration	Description
MU 3 Mixed Use 3 (Nonresidential) Max 1.50 FAR		Provides for a variety of commercial and office uses integrated as a cohesive development. These uses may be mixed "vertically" (on separate floors of a building) or "horizontally" (on a single site or adjacent parcels). Structured parking, while not required to achieve the maximum FAR, may be allowed. Shared parking arrange- ments may also be allowed consistent with the nature of mixed uses. Typical uses include retail, commercial services, administrative and office uses, institutional and government uses, business support and financial uses, restaurants, and health care facilities. To maintain a pedestrian scale and orientation, retail and other active services are encouraged at street level. This designation does not allow residential uses. A Specific Plan is required for development.
<b>MU 4</b> <b>Mixed Use 4</b> (Nonresidential) Max 1.50 FAR		Provides for a variety of commercial, office professional, and business park uses integrated as a cohesive develop- ment. These uses may be mixed "vertically" (on separate floors of a building) or "horizontally" (on a single site or adjacent parcels). Structured parking may be necessary and/or shared parking arrangements may be allowed consistent with the nature of mixed uses. Typical uses include commercial retail, commercial services, office, and business park uses. Retail and other active services are encouraged at street level. This designation does

#### uirec or ary ces not allow residential uses. A Specific Plan is required fo development

- MU3 and MU4 do not allow residential uses
- MU<sub>3</sub> and MU<sub>4</sub> require preparation of a Specific Plan
- Same maximum FARs
- Could Zoning Code provide the detailed use direction?



Land Use Designation	Typical Illustration	Description
Commercial Land Uses		
C Commercial Max 0.70 FAR	O TARDET	Commercial areas where a wide range of retail activities, services, and offices are permitted. Typical uses include general retail, markets, commercial services, restaurants, hardware, home improvements centers, financial institu- tions, lodging, and commercial recreation.
NC Neighborhood Commercial Max 0.30 FAR		General retail, markets, commercial services, offices,, and restaurants designed to serve primarily the needs of surrounding neighborhood and residential areas.
OP Office Professional Max 1.50 FAR		Office-based working environments for administrative and professional offices and necessary support uses. Typical uses include administrative and professional offices, supporting retail and service functions, and health care facilities.

- Commercial designation is well-used and understood
- Less than 0.1% of the Planning Area is NC
- Can NC be absorbed into C (at an FAR of 0.70)?
- What is different between OP and BP?



Land Use Designation	Typical Illustration	Description
Industrial Land Uses		
BP Business Park Max 1.20 FAR		Employee-intensive uses including research and develop ment, "clean" industry, technology centers, offices, administrative uses, supporting retail, and industrial support services.
LI Light Industrial Max 0.60 FAR		Light manufacturing, processing, assembly, wholesale, office, and research and development laboratories, all within enclosed buildings with limited outdoor storage, in freestanding or campus-style industrial development. Supporting uses, such as office, limited retail, and busi- ness services, are also allowed.
<b>Industrial</b> Max 0.50 FAR		Manufacturing, assembly, processing, and distribution of goods. Warehousing and wholesale activities associ- ated with industrial operations, and small-scale support retail, service commercial, and office uses may also be established. Allows outdoor storage as part of industrial operations and, in limited circumstances, without build- ings on-site.

- Can BP and OP be combined?
- LI and I uses are materially different and separate designations are working well



Land Use Designation	Typical Illustration	Description	
Public/Institutional Land	Uses		
<b>PI</b> <b>Public/Institutional</b> Max 3.0 FAR		Facilities built and maintained for public use such as academic facilities, institutional uses, community service facilities, water and sewer facilities, detention and drainage facilities, cemeteries, police and fire stations, and other government buildings and property. This designa- tion may include privately owned facilities built and maintained for public use.	
Recreation Land Uses			
P Parks		Active and passive public or privately owned parks. Park lands are for outdoor and indoor recreation including playing fields, playgrounds, community centers, small accessory buildings, and other appropriate recreational uses. Community gardens may be considered for some parks.	
OS Open Space		Undeveloped lands, visually significant open lands, trails, utility corridors, water areas, and wildlife habitat. Land designated as open space is intended to remain undeveloped in the future.	

#### **Things to Consider**

• No changes recommended



Land Use Designation	Typical Illustration	Description
Specific Plan Area		
SPA Specific Plan Area Density/intensity variable by location		Applied to areas where a Specific Plan has been adopted by the City. A Specific Plan is a detailed plan for the devel- opment of a particular area and may contain residential, commercial, industrial, public, and/or open space uses. Detailed land use regulations are contained within each adopted Specific Plan document.

#### **Things to Consider**

• No changes recommended



### **Recent Development in the City**



**Mission Terrace** 



Anden



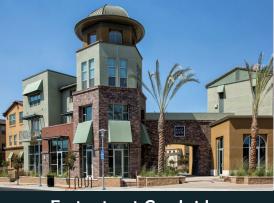
Westlake Village







Promenade at Creekside

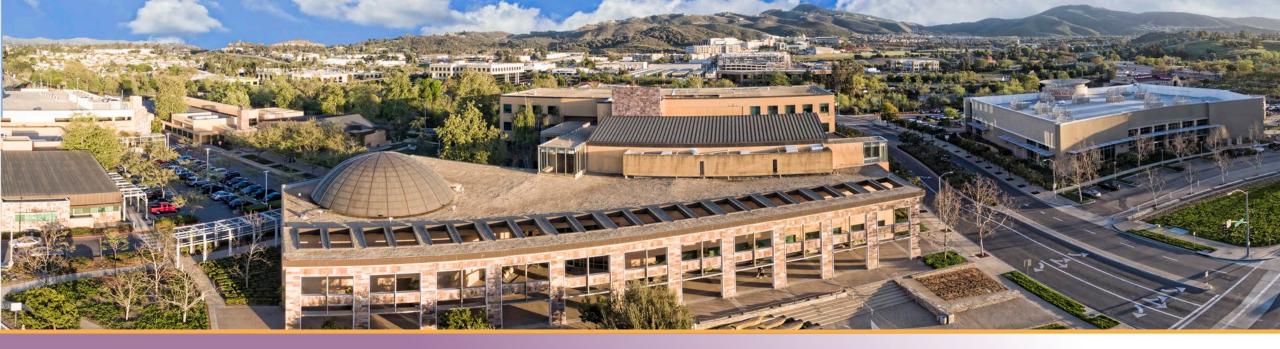


Eastgate at Creekside









Summary of Public Input/Focus Area Identification



# Workshops 1 & 2 Recap

#### Workshop 1 – October 25, 2021

- Vision and Values
- ~68 attendees



#### Workshop 2 – November 16, 2021

Land Use and Community Design

~65 attendees





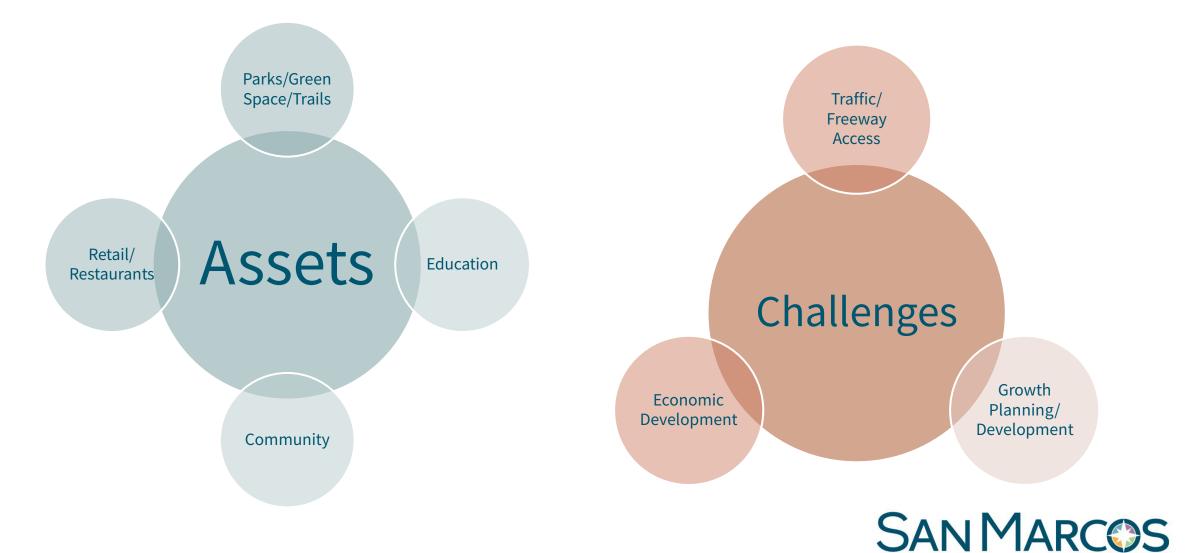
### Workshop 1 – Assets and Challenges





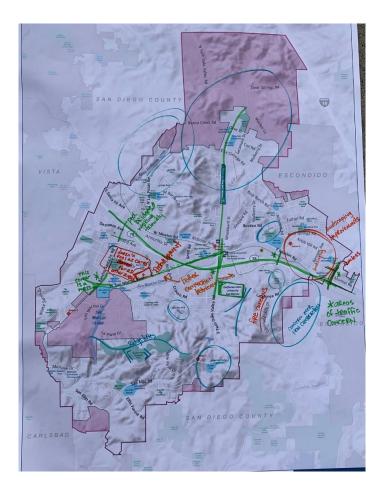


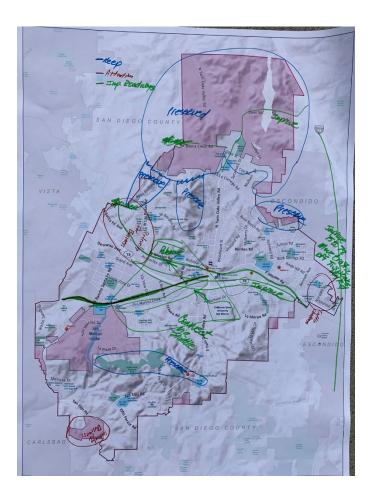
### Workshop 1 – Assets and Challenges



DISCOVER LIFE'S POSSIBILITIES

# Workshop 1 – Mapping

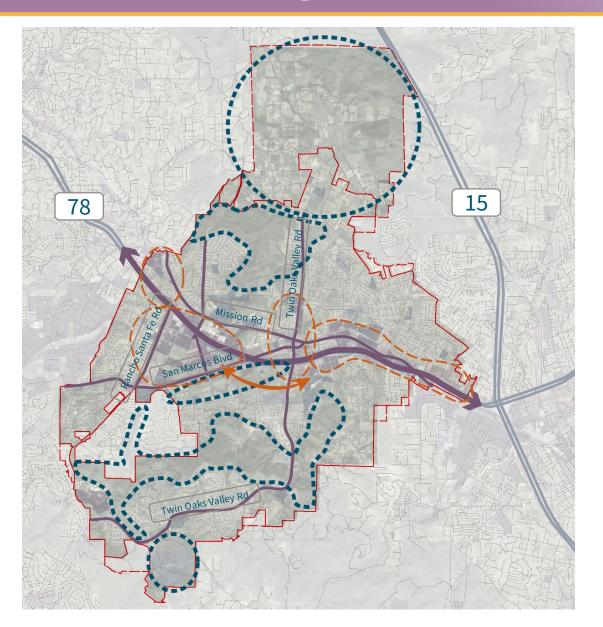








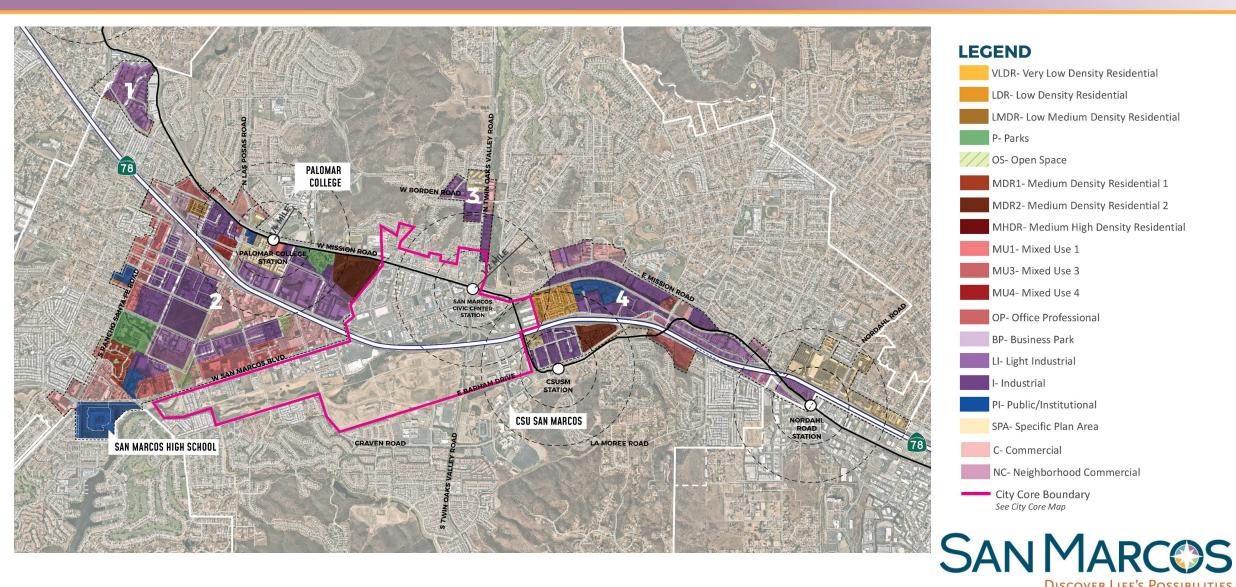
# Key Takeaways from Workshop 1



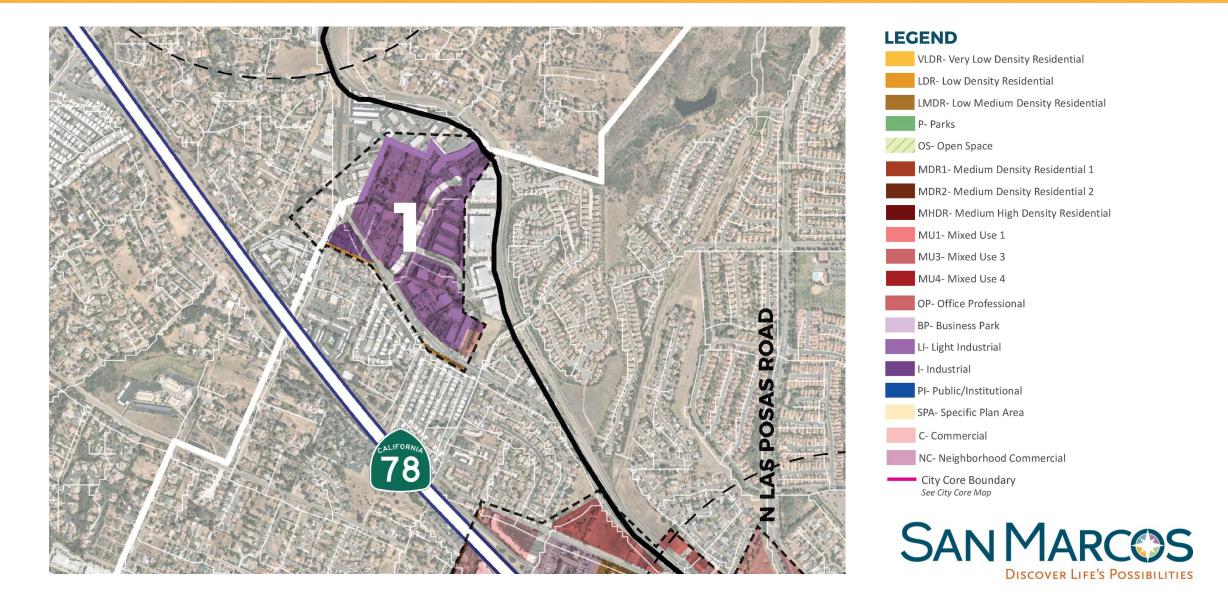
Areas to be Preserved & Protected
Important Roadways & Corridors
Areas that Need Special Attention
SANMARCOS

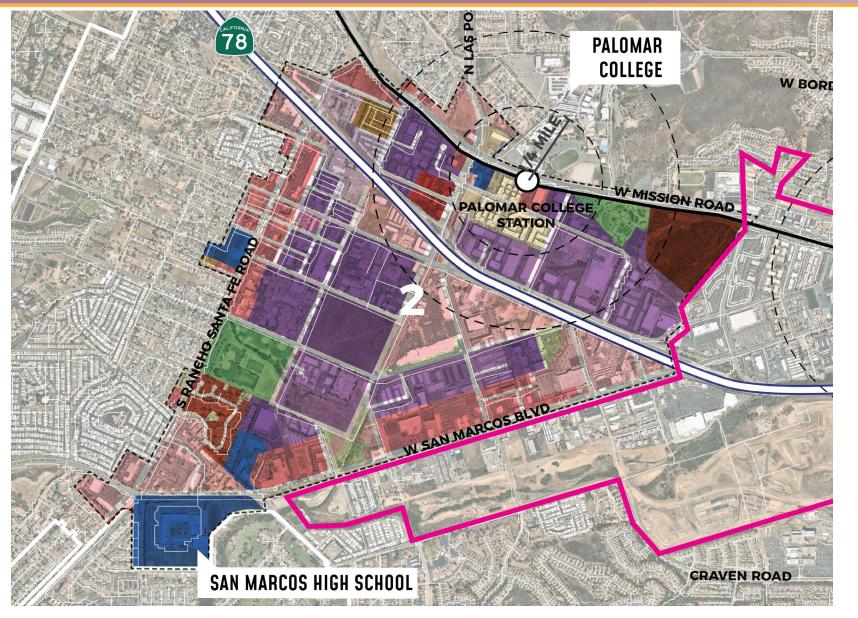
**DISCOVER LIFE'S POSSIBILITIES** 

### Transit Corridor Map



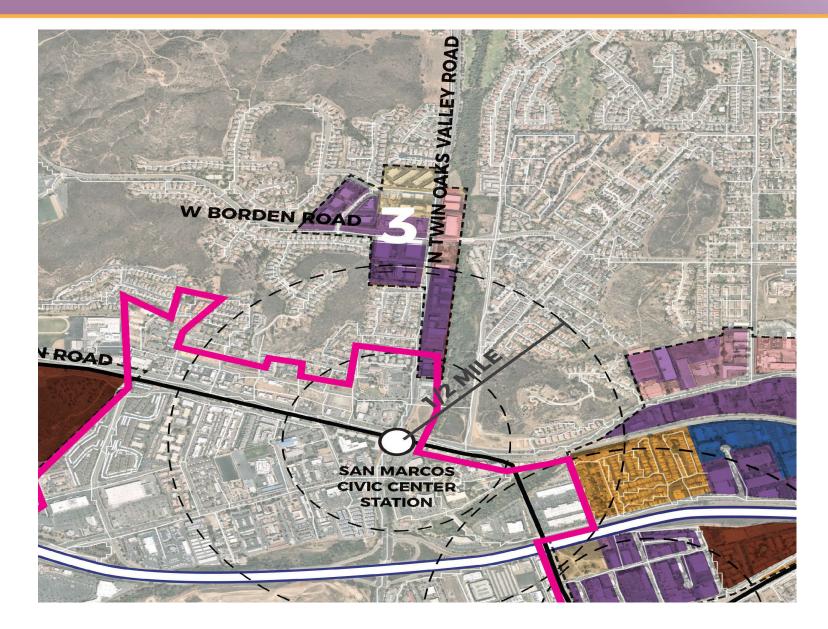
**DISCOVER LIFE'S POSSIBILITIES** 





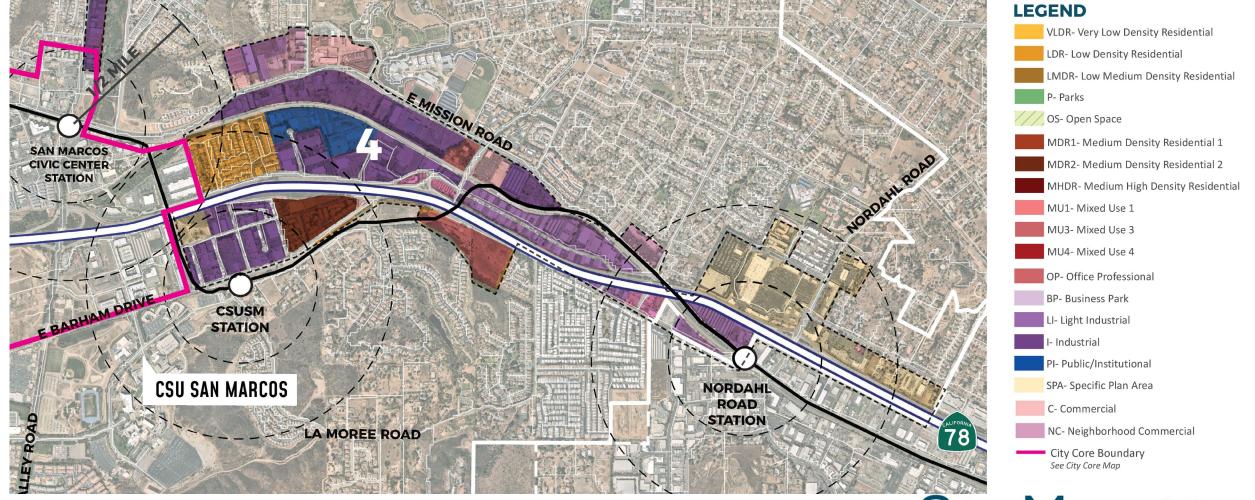






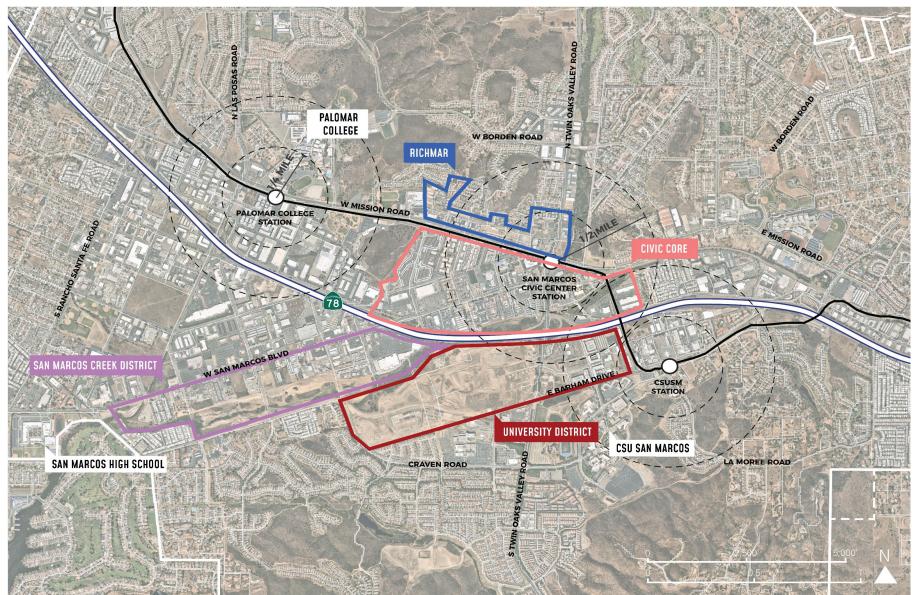






SAN MARCOS DISCOVER LIFE'S POSSIBILITIES

### City Core Map

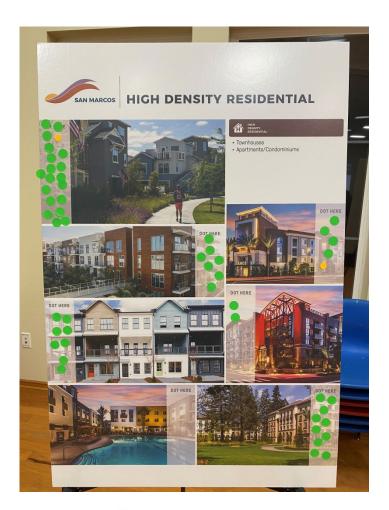




### Workshop 2 – Dot Polling

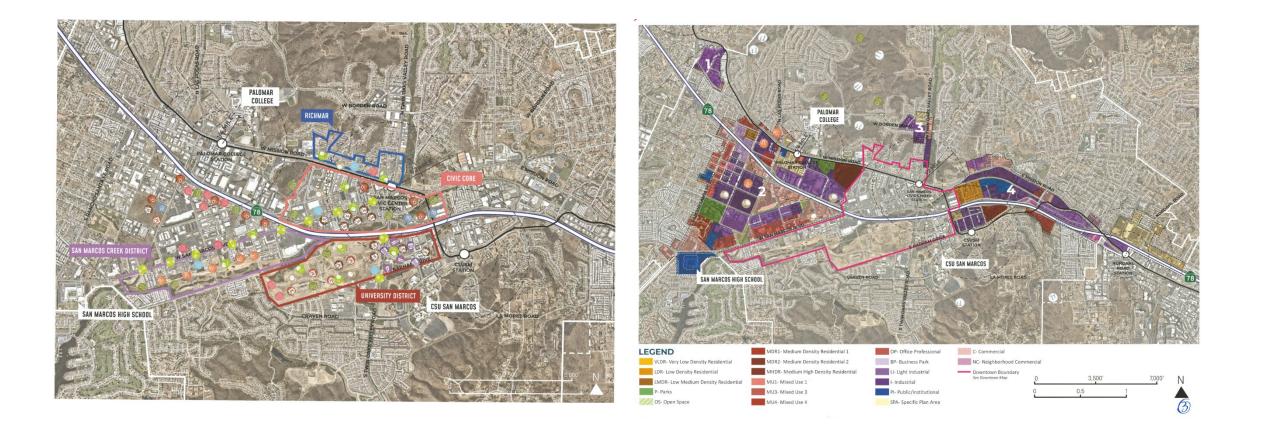








### Workshop 2 – Mapping





### Workshop 2 – Mapping Results

- University District: 40 stickers
  - Top categories: Pocket Park (6), Streetscape (5), and Student Housing (5)
- Civic Core Area: 27 stickers
  - Top categories: Student Housing (6), Trails (5), and Streetscape (5)
- San Marcos Creek District: 24 stickers
  - Top categories: Streetscape (9), Residential/Commercial Mixed Use (5), and Pocket Park (4)
- Palomar College Area: 19 stickers
  - Top categories: Retail (4), Residential/Commercial Mixed Use (3), Plaza/Parklet (2), Trails (2), and Pocket Park (2)
- Richmar Area: 17 stickers
  - Top categories: Streetscape (4), Pocket Park (2), and Retail (2).

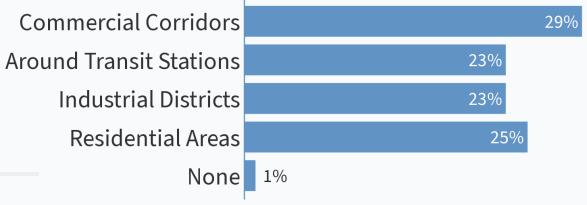


### Workshop 2 – Poll Questions

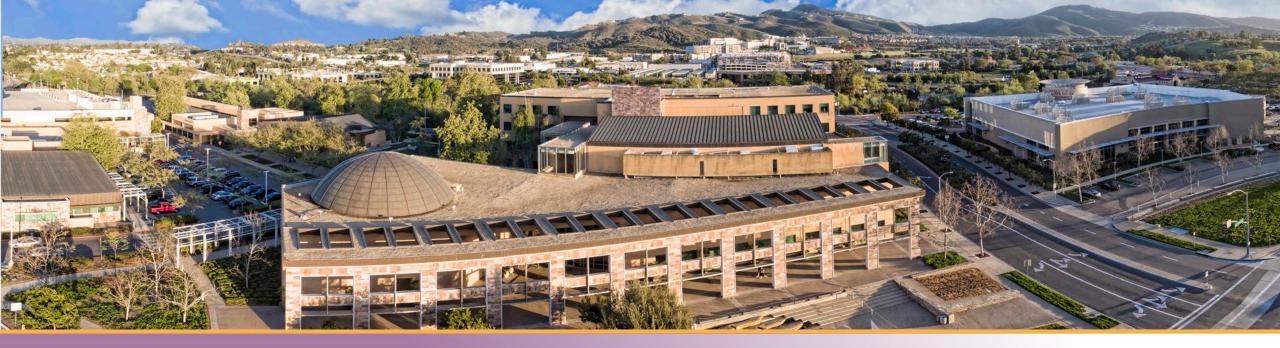
Goal #5: Promote community design that produces a distinctive, high-quality built environment with forms and character that create memorable places and enrich community life.

Still very relevantStill relevant, but could be refinedNo longer very relevant3%

#### Where do you want to see streetscape improvements?







### Property Owner Requests



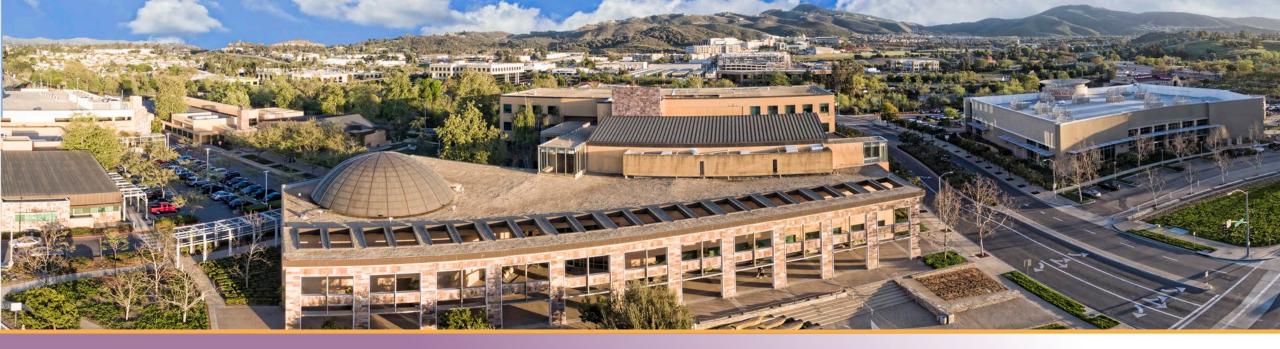
### Summary of Requests Received

Current Designation	Requested Designation
Agricultural/Residential	Ability to develop clustered housing
Rural Residential	Agricultural (specific request for ag not residential zoning)
VLDR	LDR
MU-3	Industrial (expansion of adjacent uses)
MU-3	Specific Plan to allow residential up to 60 du/ac
MU-3	Ability to develop residential uses up to 50 du/ac
Public Institutional (Church)	Ability to develop residential uses for affordable housing
Industrial	Specific Plan to allow residential up 30 du/ac
Industrial	High Density Residential
Industrial	Ability to develop residential uses up to 20 du/ac
Specific Plan	Light Industrial (would require Specific Plan Amendment)
Multiple (industrial, commercial, MU-3)	Specific Plan to allow residential up to 60 du/ac
Multiple (residential, industrial, public, commercial)	Specific Plan to allow for HDR (45-55 du/ac) on a portion of the site (keep some existing uses)

#### **Key Findings**

- General interest in higher density residential development
- MU-3 is not working well
- Interest in changing industrial to residential
- Specific Plans are tools to facilitate development





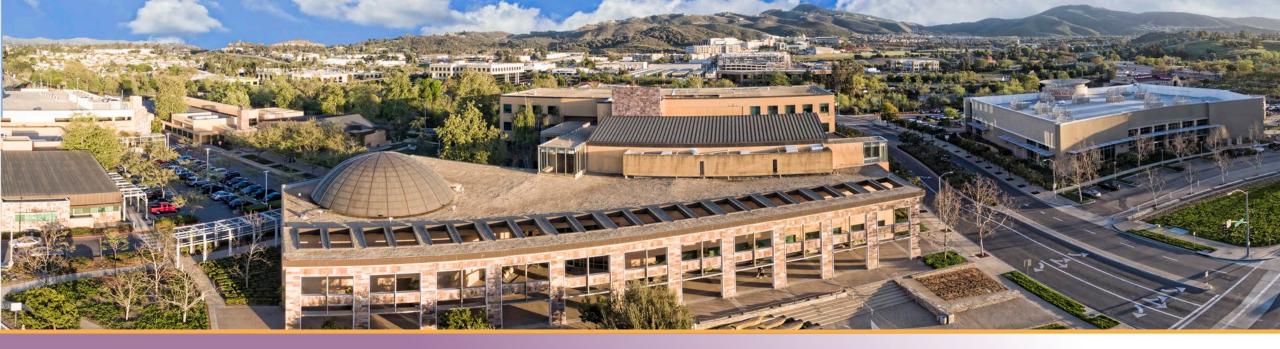
Public Comment Opportunity #1



#### Public Comment

- Please use the "raised hand" function in the top of the webinar window; click again to lower your hand after speaking.
- The facilitator will call on you when it is your turn to speak. You will then be unmuted.
- If you are a phone call-in user, dial \*9 on your phone to Speak in order; facilitator will mind the queue.
- Provide your name and affiliation before you speak.
- Public comment will be approximately 3 minutes per person; please be respectful of everyone's time and opportunity to speak.

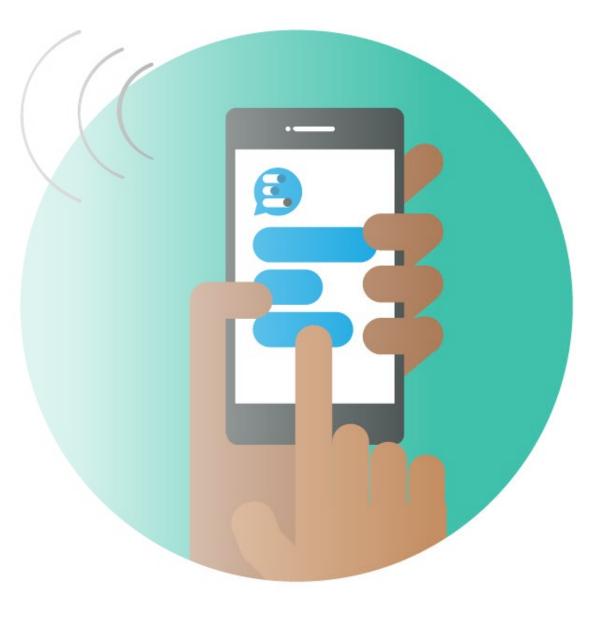




Roundtable Discussion/GPAC Activities



### Polling Questions

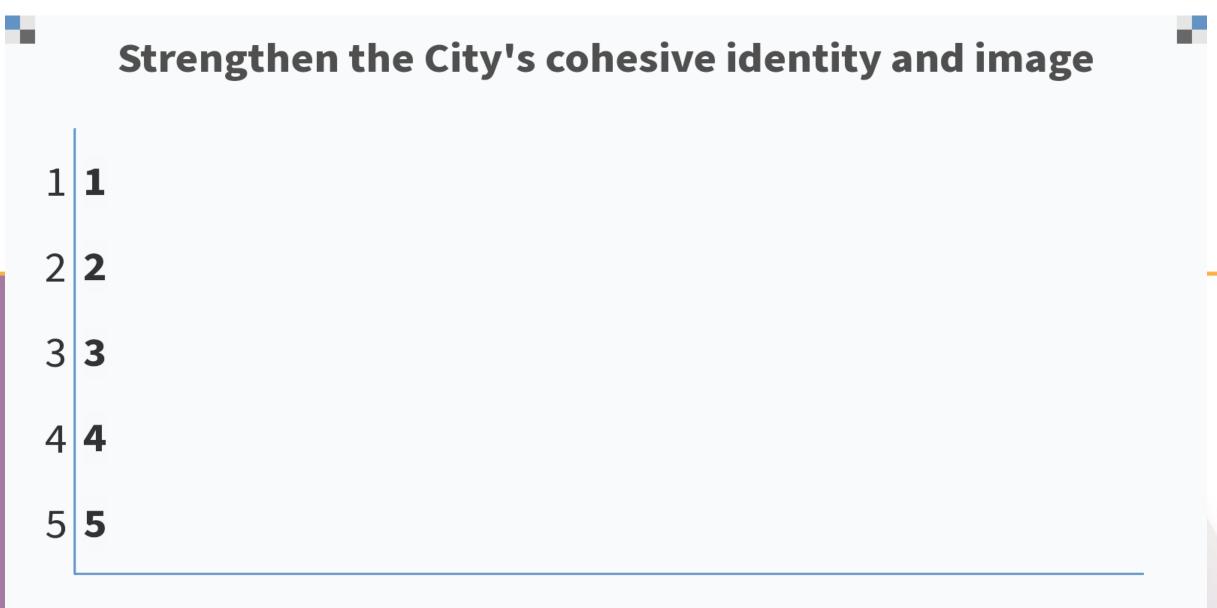


### **Polling Questions**

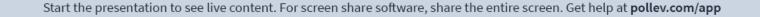
Our goal is to develop a "Land Use Planning Framework" to guide the land use planning process. The "Framework" will be a set of **core principles** that are fundamental to the City's future land use planning decisions. Among other things, these principles will:

- Establish the parameters for land use options to be studied as part of the Land Use Alternatives Report
- Provide guidance on how to evaluate property owner requests for land use changes
- Inform recommended changes to the City's land use designations
- Guide the development of goals, policies, and programs



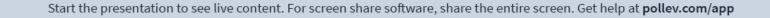


## Encourage the development of distinctly different nodes of activity throughout the City

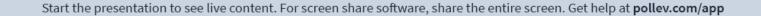


### Maintain a land use plan that is easy to understand and implement

н**.**Т.



### Expand the range of attainable housing choices to allow more people to live and work in San Marcos



### Accommodate most future new growth in areas within a half-mile of a transit stop

н<sup>а</sup> Т



#### Accommodate future new growth throughout the community so that it is not concentrated in any specific neighborhood or type of area



1

### Create flexible land use options and development standards to prepare for changing market conditions



#### Prioritize enhancing the City's multimodal transportation network



## Expand the local economy by planning for emerging industries and employment opportunities



2

2

3

4

5

## Create a fiscally-sustainable land use plan with balanced residential and nonresidential development

# Of these 10 potential principles, which three are your highest priority?

Strengthen the City's cohesive identity and image

Encourage the development of distinctly different nodes of activity throughout the City

Maintain a land use plan that is easy to understand and implement

Expand the range of attainable housing choices to allow more people to live and work in San Marcos

Accommodate most future new growth in areas within a half-mile of a transit stop

Accommodate future new growth throughout the community so that it is not concentrated in any specific neighborhood or type of area

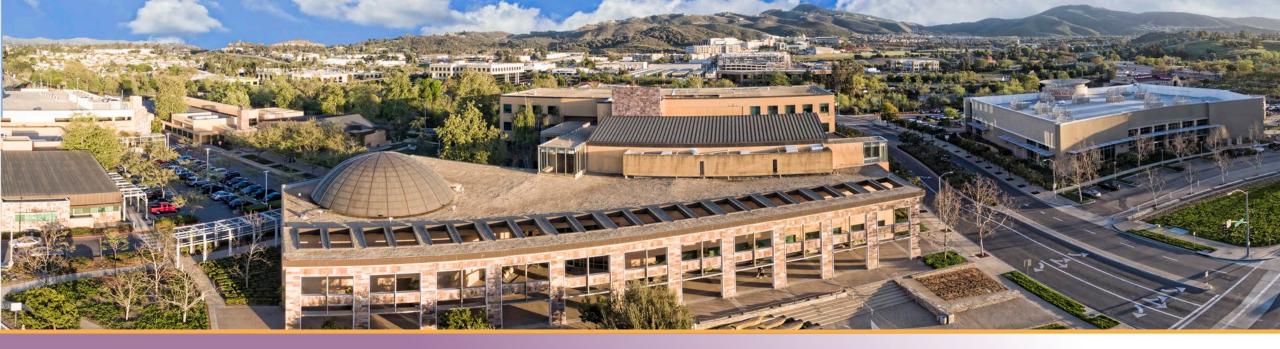
Create flexible land use options and development standards to prepare for changing market conditions

Prioritize enhancing the City's multimodal transportation network

Expand the local economy by planning for emerging industries and employment opportunities

Create a fiscally-sustainable land use plan with balanced residential and nonresidential development

### Annotated Mapping



Public Comment Opportunity #2



#### Public Comment

- Please use the "raised hand" function in the top of the webinar window; click again to lower your hand after speaking.
- The facilitator will call on you when it is your turn to speak. You will then be unmuted.
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General Plan Advisory Committee Meeting #8 January 20, 2022

