

Compton General Plan Focus Groups Summary

Introduction

The City of Compton, in collaboration with consultant MIG, organized a series of focus groups involving nonprofit organizations, residents, churches, agencies, business and property owners, all of whom are closely connected to the community in Compton. These focus groups aimed to address ongoing issues and challenges within the city, envision a better future for Compton, and propose more effective community engagement strategies. Six focus groups were facilitated in September and November of 2022 and included:

- Housing Advocacy Focus Group
- Family Advocacy Focus Group
- Education and Youth Focus Group
- Resident and Block Captains Focus Group
- Business and Commerce Focus Group
- Faith-Based Organizations Focus Group

Each meeting was conducted via Zoom, with note-taking facilitated through the online app, Mural. This summary document provides an overview of the key discussions held in each focus group and concludes with a summary of common themes. For detailed notes from the meetings, please refer to the attached Mural summary file.

Housing Advocacy Groups

The Housing Advocacy Group had key organizations in attendance, including the Sanctuary of Hope, The People of Concern, and the Compton Housing Authority. The meeting took place on Zoom on Tuesday, October 18, 2022, with City staff and consultants from MIG facilitating the discussion. The following provides a summary of the key discussions held by the participants.

Issues and Opportunities

The focus group comments regarding the Willow Tree Inn Conversion Project Homekey and County Partnership underscore several critical issues in Compton. These include the conversion of motels into affordable housing for the homeless, challenges related to accessing vouchers and finding suitable affordable housing units, the need to expedite the affordable housing entitlement process, and concerns about the low quality of existing affordable housing with no investments from owners. There is a clear demand for more affordable and high-quality apartments, particularly for young adults and families, as well as a desire for job readiness programs and improved access to city services. The potential of adaptive reuse projects and the efficient processing of affordable housing projects were acknowledged, but funding limitations, especially for homeless housing, were highlighted. The comments also address the discrepancy between the appeal of new housing construction and its affordability. Moreover, the need for higher-quality housing options for Housing Voucher recipients was emphasized, along with concerns about poorly maintained apartments with security issues. The group suggested that more affordable apartments could reduce waiting lists for vouchers, which are currently quite lengthy. There are challenges in providing housing affordability for younger families and youth due to budget

constraints of the Housing Authority, despite high demand. Participants called for additional city programs, including those related to recreation, children, senior activities, sports, exercise classes, and enrichment programs. The community expressed a need for a human traffic rapid rehousing program offering rental assistance and supportive financial services. Helping youth, both singles and families, become more self-sufficient through housing and community services is essential. Compton was recognized as having many resources, nonprofits, agencies, and community-based organizations, but there is a lack of awareness about available city programs, highlighting the need for better advertisement of these resources. Finally, transitional age youth, especially those transitioning from the foster care system, were identified as a group requiring more assistance, emphasizing the need for a comprehensive approach to address these issues.

Vision for Compton

The focus group comments underscore a range of vital priorities for Compton's development and community well-being. Participants highlighted the need for increased advertisement by the city regarding available resources, encompassing parks, road maintenance, healthy restaurant options, and overall community wellness. There is an evident interest in addressing housing concerns, including interim and long-term housing, particularly along Compton Blvd, where vacant land, motels, and buildings are available for potential redevelopment. Additionally, the group called for programs tailored to transitional-aged youth and former foster youth, emphasizing the importance of identifying funding sources for these initiatives. Encouraging self-sufficiency through various programs and ensuring easy access to city services were also identified as essential community needs. Furthermore, the desire for multigenerational recreational programs, adaptive reuse opportunities for old motels to convert them into affordable housing,

and the revitalization of Compton's downtown area were prominent themes. Additional requests included expanding recreational activities for children and seniors, offering sports and exercise classes, enrichment programs, and job-ready classes. These comments collectively reflect a comprehensive vision for enhancing the quality of life in Compton, focusing on community engagement, resources, housing, and well-rounded programming for residents of all ages.

Engagement

The comments from the focus group participants emphasize the importance of engaging with Compton residents in various key locations. They suggest going to the Compton Town Center at the Artesia Station, the heart of Compton near the Compton Station and courthouse, and actively conducting site visits and outreach to local businesses. These suggestions highlight the need for direct, on-the-ground engagement with the community in central and accessible areas to better understand and address their needs and concerns.

Key Discussion Themes

- More affordable housing options for younger adults and families
- Consider housing programs to assist residents
- Focus new housing along Compton major corridors
- Many existing apartments in Compton are run-down or have gang issues
- Compton needs better jobs, healthy food options, & community services
- How to Engage People: go to where they are and talk with them
- Vacant Buildings along Corridors have opportunities for more housing

Family Services and Advocacy Organizations Focus Group

Key organizations attending the Family Services Advocacy Organizations Focus Group included Shields for Families, Inc., Compton Advocates Coalition, Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights, YMCA, United Neighbors for Compton (Vecinos Unidos Por Compton), and Cater to the Streets Foundation. The meeting occurred on Zoom on Wednesday, October 19, 2022. City staff and consultants MIG facilitated the meeting. The following summarizes the key discussions held by the participants.

Issues and Opportunities

The focus group comments reveal several critical areas of concern and opportunity for the city of Compton. Participants emphasized the need for shelters and resources for survivors of substance abuse and domestic violence, as well as programs to support home ownership, particularly for first-time buyers. The shortage of affordable and low-income rental housing was highlighted, with specific concerns related to city infrastructure such as street lighting, streets, sewers, parks, and potholes. Providing services and resources for homeless individuals within the city was seen as vital, with a preference for not having to leave the city for such support. Transitional housing and improved access to resources through social media and other channels were also identified as priorities. Furthermore, participants called for mid to lower-rise apartment buildings, outreach and engagement with the Spanish-speaking community through translation services, and the availability of affordable business and retail spaces to retain businesses in the city. The potential for revitalizing Compton Blvd and filling the currently vacant storefronts was viewed as an opportunity for local businesses and economic development. These comments collectively address the pressing housing, infrastructure, and

economic development needs of Compton while underlining the importance of accessible resources and support for residents.

Vision for Compton

The focus group comments reflect a collective desire to maintain Compton's small-town feel while enhancing resources and community programs. Participants expressed the importance of community programs encompassing sports, educational classes, exercise classes, senior activities, and after-school programs. Economic development was emphasized, along with the need for legal resources, improved transportation, job fairs, and social services. Striking a balance between making investments in the city and avoiding gentrification was a central concern. Additionally, participants expressed a desire for amenities like movie theaters, bowling alleys, sit-down restaurants, and shopping options. The housing situation was a key issue, with a call to bring back pre-COVID programs and ensure the safety and maintenance of parks for family use. Lastly, there was an overarching goal to improve the stereotype of Compton as a violent city, suggesting a strong desire for positive change and community growth.

Engagement

The focus group comments highlight various strategies for improving community engagement and communication in Compton. Participants suggested using mailers, creating group chats with community leaders, and promoting events on the City's website and social media platforms. The idea of incorporating a City app to link to current events was mentioned, along with the need for translated websites and materials to reach a more diverse audience. Street teams composed of individuals from various organizations were recommended for distributing flyers and other information. Consistent and clear communication, along with better explanations of

engagement events, were seen as essential. The group also recommended reaching out to local churches, continuing collaboration with organizations that have established client bases, and placing flyers in local businesses like Starbucks and Patria Coffee shop. Leveraging the social media presence of local organizations and offering Spanish focus groups as a default option were also suggested, indicating a comprehensive approach to fostering effective community engagement.

Key Discussion Themes

- Affordable housing, first-time home-buyer program, transitional housing
- Consistent community engagement across many platforms and approaches
- Infrastructure improvements and City services and programs
- Economic development and City amenities (support local entrepreneurs)
- Retain small-town feel and avoid gentrification
- Timely and clear community outreach

Education and Youth Advocacy Focus Group

The Education and Youth Advocacy Services Focus Group meeting had key organizations in attendance, including YouthBuild, Unearth & Empower Communities, Thirty Third District PTA, Compton General Robotics, Illumination Comprehensive Development, KIPP Compton Community School, and the Black Parent Advisory Committee. The meeting took place on Zoom on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, with City staff and consultants from MIG facilitating the discussion. The following provides a summary of the key discussions held by the participants.

Issues and Opportunities

The comments from the focus group participants underscore a broad range of community needs and challenges in Compton. Community programming, especially for black students and committees, was identified as lacking, and there is a call for housing solutions for transitional-aged youth and their families. Collaboration among various entities, including the city and school district, was seen as insufficient, with a need for funding to support nonprofit programming and address housing issues, particularly the shortage of affordable housing. The desire for family engagement and accessible public spaces for all generations was expressed, emphasizing the importance of cohesion among different sectors, such as school board districts, nonprofits, and cities. The focus on black student achievement led to the suggestion of mentor groups and collaboration with organizations like Joni and Friends. Inclusive programming for special needs students and families, as well as efforts to address mental health issues stemming from COVID-19, were also emphasized. Public safety concerns in parks prompted a need for consistent programming and the presence of peacekeepers. The comments highlighted the skills gap in fields

like manufacturing and green technology and called for addressing safety and facility repair issues in parks such as Wilson and Gonzalez. The presence of a skatepark at Wilson Park was commended, but concerns about lighting and park safety were raised. These comments collectively underscore a broad range of community needs, with a focus on education, housing, collaboration, safety, and programming to support various demographics and sectors in Compton.

Vision for Compton

The comments from the focus group participants underscore a strong focus on community and youth development in Compton. They highlighted the need for a comprehensive directory or community brochure that would provide information and resources for clients, families, and schoolchildren. Workforce development and mentorship programs were emphasized, particularly in areas such as STEM and the arts, to promote skill development. Funding was sought for initiatives related to gang reduction, youth development, and pathways to college, employment, and entrepreneurship. Collaboration between colleges and the school district, along with intervention spaces and safe park areas, was viewed as crucial. The creation of a comprehensive list of community-based organizations for collaboration and internship opportunities within the city and school district was suggested. The potential for a Green/Tech Hub and art programs to enhance the city's beautification was recognized. Additionally, there was a call to restructure the curriculum to incorporate STEM subjects, as well as focus on social and emotional skill development. The proposal for an art mural program in January 2023 and the desire for more STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics) programs emphasized a holistic approach to education and community enrichment.

Engagement

Comments on engagement focused on seeking mentorship program and additional outreach to principals at each school in Compton.

Key Discussion Themes

- Need for more community programming
- Better organizational collaboration and networking with nonprofit organizations
- Dissemination & Distribution of Resources and Information (Directory)
- Youth mentorship and programming to prepare for college and employment
- Develop Green Tech Hub in Compton
- Creating safe community places and spaces
- Inclusive youth programming assistance
- Affordable housing/programs for transitional youth
- Address Health/Education Issues Post COVID
- Foster mentorship programs
- STEM/STEAM programming

General Public and Block Captains Focus Group

The City of Compton convened a focus group meeting with more than 15 residents and block captains representing different neighborhoods in Compton. The meeting took place on Zoom on Wednesday, October 26, 2022. City staff and consultants from MIG facilitated the meeting. The following provides a summary of the key topics discussed by the participants.

Issues and Opportunities

The focus group comments reveal a diverse array of concerns and priorities for Compton. Participants expressed frustration with code enforcement and the need to address blatant issues, the lack of recreational facilities like basketball courts and pools, and the importance of re-paving city alleys. Seasonal job opportunities for youth were advocated, along with a call to handle known problems effectively. Cleanliness, green spaces, walkability, and environmentally conscious development were central themes. Efficient communication tools and resident engagement were seen as essential, with an emphasis on avoiding gentrification and addressing recurring car wash and car repair businesses. The state of the streets and the utilization of Measure P funds, unopened parks, and parking shortages in residential areas were raised as issues. The need for a city budget aligned with residents' needs, the absence of healthy stores, the desire for city-wide broadband access, and the need for a downtown revitalization program were emphasized. Economic development and proper maintenance contracts with businesses were advocated, along with the importance of adhering to the General Plan and establishing designated community centers and career-tech resource centers. Preserving designated farmland and addressing the need for more law enforcement and

firefighters to match the city's population growth were highlighted. The cleanliness of the city, infrastructure, usage fees for public buildings, and concerns about cannabis dispensaries and parking at City Hall were mentioned. There was a call for designated assistance and the importance of financial stability and leadership. The need for youth development opportunities and well-maintained parks, improved safety, lighting, and trash systems, along with public trash cans along main traffic corridors, were underscored. The importance of youth engagement and agriculture education was raised, along with the need to address decades of negligence. Active transportation and safer infrastructure to alleviate congestion and improve access to the Blue Line and Silver Line were advocated. The absence of a Redevelopment Department was mentioned, and a potential solution to understaffing was proposed. Safety concerns, influential entities residing outside the city, and the importance of sustainability and addressing street takeovers were also expressed as significant community priorities.

Vision for Compton

The comments from the focus group participants reflect a collective desire for a more engaged and inclusive Compton that places emphasis on respecting constituents and preserving inclusive history in its vision. Key priorities include maintaining a thriving education system, offering more opportunities for residents to share ideas and take accountability, and actively engaging with the youth to understand their needs. Participants called for forward-thinking and big-picture planning, as well as increased voter turnout and better communication for engagement activities. The protection of historic landmarks like Richland Farms and a push for greater diversity in leadership and elected officials were seen as crucial. Community outreach was deemed imperative, with a focus on creating safer schools and reducing access to illegal activities.

Physical engagement, city safety, and the enforcement of city laws were highlighted as important considerations. Additionally, the community urged the city council to listen to their concerns and take action on identified solutions, while emphasizing the need for translated and inclusive materials for outreach efforts. Participants called for a more engaged community, unity in Compton, and even proposed making all city council seats "At-Large." Ultimately, the aim is for the city to have sufficient funding to enact these visions and a sense of pride in local assets like the golf course and college.

Engagement

The focus group comments highlight the importance of effective communication and outreach in Compton. Participants stressed the necessity of providing translated materials and distributing flyers alongside city documents and utility bills, suggesting banners be displayed at key locations such as City Hall. Better promotion of activities and improved communication with seniors, who expressed a desire for the return of the city newspaper, were identified as key objectives. Leveraging Compton's broadcast station and the city app was deemed effective for reaching residents, along with utilizing churches and faith groups as essential resources for community outreach. Reaching residents not active on social media and collaborating with community organizations with a strong online presence were emphasized. Encouraging more community involvement in schools and making the city website more user-friendly and informative were seen as vital. Bridging the generation gap between seniors and youth through opportunities to come together was advocated. Participants also suggested being mindful of the environmental impact of outreach materials and proposed using community service requirements to facilitate interactions between youth and seniors. Door-to-door communication

to inform residents and partnerships with K-12 schools, charter schools, PTA groups, and Compton College were highlighted as important engagement strategies.

Key Discussion Themes

- Streets, parks, and community facilities are poorly maintained
- Need spaces and community programs aimed at Compton's youth
- The City needs to communicate better and engage with community
- City leadership and management need to follow General Plan
- Compton should be a safe community
- Create a Community Vision by engaging with Compton's Youth
- Respect residents and constituents
- A Strong education system and community programming are important
- City cleanliness should be a priority; more public trash cans are needed
- City's website needs to be more user friendly
- Ensure new quality development without gentrification
- Engagement needs to bridge the gap between seniors and youth

Faith-Based Organizations Focus Group

Key organizations attending the Faith-Based Organizations were a church consultant, Illumination Comprehensive Development, and Our Lady of Victory. The meeting occurred on Zoom on Wednesday, October 26, 2022. City staff and consultants MIG facilitated the meeting. The following summarizes the key discussions held by the participants.

Issues and Opportunities

The focus group comments revolve around the impact of changing demographics on Black churches in Compton. Larger congregations are better equipped to sustain themselves, while smaller ones face challenges due to limited membership. There is a call for the city to emphasize the importance of Black places of worship as a means of uniting the community and advocating for their needs. Participants had mixed opinions about allowing housing on church properties, noting a lack of information on the subject. Smaller churches were encouraged to partner and provide additional services, such as financial literacy. Recidivism support and opportunities arising from churches with city support were highlighted. Suggestions included using housing on church properties to create supportive housing programs and expanding resource education for churches to maximize city resources. The importance of facilitating collaboration with the city to strengthen bonds and reduce illegal activities was emphasized. Participants noted that many are being priced out of the area, and the congregation is moving out of the city, resulting in an inability to organize and advocate for the Black community in Compton. They called for city programs to support churches and organizations, connecting with the local community through school programs and college tours, and creating community development

centers through grants and partnerships. Ultimately, a plan for development on church properties was seen as crucial to address these challenges.

Vision for Compton

The comments from the focus group underscore several key desires within Compton. Participants highlighted the need for better restaurant and dining options and emphasized the importance of well-maintained parks and facilities for children's recreational activities. Central locations that are both appealing and safe for business owners and places for hosting events were identified as essential. Additionally, there was a call for increased support from the City for faith-based organizations and a strong desire for a clean and safe Compton. Participants expressed concerns about the lack of oversight for businesses in the city, the presence of trash and homeless individuals, and underutilized or vacant land, particularly along Long Beach Blvd. and Compton Blvd. There was a feeling that support from the city has been exclusive to specific organizations or churches. Participants also sought functional office and retail spaces and more information on their availability. The unregulated status of street vendors and the need for proper regulation and fees to fund the city were mentioned. The desire for mixed-use commercial buildings combining housing and businesses in high-density areas was emphasized. Lastly, participants called for a registry of faith-based organizations and places of worship to facilitate participation in resource events in the city.

Engagement

The comments from the focus group underline the importance of building trust and strong relationships with faith-based leadership in the community. Participants recognized that pastors have established connections and associations with one another, and there was a shared desire to establish a liaison or point of contact who can help develop a strong relationship and foundation between the city and faith-based organizations. Ensuring proper follow-through and maintaining these relationships were seen as critical for effective collaboration and community support.

Key Discussion Themes

- Black Churches and faith-based organizations are closing
- Churches and faith-based organizations provide resources to the community
- More collaboration/ sharing of resources with faith-based groups
- Safe and clean Compton with gathering spaces
- Build trust and relationships with faith-based leadership

Businesses and Commerce Focus Group

Key organizations attending the Business and Commerce Focus Groups are the Los Angeles County Representative for Compton Airport, several small business owners, and a property owner. The meeting occurred on Zoom on Thursday, November 3, 2022. City staff and consultants MIG facilitated the meeting. The following summarizes the key discussions held by the participants.

Issues and Opportunities

The comments from the focus group address a range of challenges and opportunities in Compton. These include concerns about the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) challenges, street infrastructure, housing needs, and improved runway safety zones. Participants noted zoning inconsistencies and a sense of fear among visitors impacting local businesses. Disaster recovery, including the airport, was discussed, along with the importance of aligning the General Plan with zoning and exploring upzoning for underused large lots. Issues related to gunfire near the airport and the desire for a restaurant similar to one at Hawthorne Airport were mentioned. The need for natural gas infrastructure for businesses, sustainable development practices, and the utilization of transit and density bonuses for housing solutions were emphasized. There was also an opportunity highlighted to develop the old terminal for a maintenance facility and restaurant, potentially providing jobs in the community.

Focus Group Summary

Participants from multiple focus groups in Compton have raised a comprehensive set of concerns and aspirations for their community. These include the urgent need for more affordable housing options for younger adults and families and a focus on new housing developments along major corridors. The state of existing apartments, run-down or plagued by gang issues, calls for improvement. Residents seek better job opportunities, healthy food options, and access to community services. Community engagement strategies emphasize going to where people are and interacting with them. Vacant buildings along corridors offer potential for additional housing. Effective dissemination and distribution of resources and information, such as a directory, are seen as essential.

Youth mentorship programs and preparation for college and employment are highly valued, as is the development of a Green Tech Hub in Compton. Safe community spaces are a priority, along with inclusive youth programming and affordable housing options, including programs for transitional youth. Health and education concerns post-COVID are evident, and foster mentorship programs, STEM/STEAM programming, and the development of affordable housing options, including support for first-time homebuyers and transitional housing, are desired.

Residents emphasize consistent community engagement across various platforms and approaches, along with a focus on infrastructure improvements, City services, and programs. Economic development and local amenity support for entrepreneurs are significant. There is a strong desire to retain a small-town feel and avoid gentrification, accompanied by timely and clear community outreach efforts. Streets, parks, and community facilities are deemed to be poorly maintained, requiring attention. Spaces and

community programs tailored to Compton's youth are seen as important.

Improved communication and community engagement with City leadership and management following the General Plan are recommended. Residents stress the importance of a safe community and creating a community vision by engaging with Compton's youth. Respect for residents and constituents, a strong education system, and community programming are emphasized. City cleanliness and the provision of more public trash cans are seen as priorities, along with a more user-friendly city website. Residents desire new quality development without gentrification and the bridging of the generation gap between seniors and youth.

The challenges faced by Black churches and faith-based organizations, which are closing or struggling, are acknowledged. These institutions are regarded as valuable community resources that should be collaboratively utilized. Building trust and relationships with faith-based leadership is seen as important, along with increased community programming, better organizational collaboration, and networking with nonprofit organizations. These focus groups collectively reflect a community's diverse perspectives and aspirations, highlighting their shared commitment to improving the quality of life in Compton.

Key Themes

The following lists the key themes taken from all six focus groups:

Affordable Housing and Addressing Housing Concerns

- Affordable housing for young adults and families is a priority.
- Housing programs and new housing along major corridors should be considered.
- Addressing the challenges of run-down apartments and gang issues.

- Utilizing vacant buildings for additional housing opportunities.
- Ensuring affordable housing, first-time homebuyer programs, and transitional housing.

Employment Opportunities

- Prioritizing better job opportunities, healthy food, and community services.
- Development of a Green Tech Hub for Compton.
- Supporting economic development and local entrepreneurs.

Better Engagement with the Community

- Engaging residents directly by reaching out where they are.
- Enhancing the dissemination and distribution of resources and information.
- Enhancing city communication and community engagement.
- Timely and clear community outreach.
- Consistent community engagement through various platforms and approaches.
- Bridging the gap between seniors and youth through engagement.
- Improving the user-friendliness of the city's website.

Governance

- Ensuring city leadership aligns with the General Plan.
- Respecting and valuing residents and constituents.
- Advocating for more community programming.

Education and Youth

- Prioritizing a strong education system and community programming.
- Focusing on youth mentorship, college preparation, and employment programs.

- Inclusive youth programming and support for transitional youth.
- Addressing health and education challenges post-COVID.
- Promoting foster mentorship and STEM/STEAM education.
- Providing spaces and community programs tailored to Compton's youth.

Service Organizations and Non-Profit Collaboration

- Strengthening organizational collaboration and networking with nonprofit organizations.
- Addressing challenges faced by closing Black churches and faith-based organizations.
- Encouraging collaboration and resource sharing with faith-based groups.
- Building trust and relationships with faith-based leadership.

Physical Improvements and Infrastructure

- Addressing concerns about poorly maintained streets, parks, and community facilities.
- Prioritizing infrastructure improvements, city services, and programs.
- Emphasizing city cleanliness and the need for more public trash cans.

City Growth

- Balancing growth while retaining a small-town feel and avoiding gentrification.
- Ensuring new quality development without gentrification.

Community Safety

- Creating safe community spaces.
- Promoting safety and a community vision through engagement with Compton's youth.
- Promoting a safe and clean Compton with gathering spaces.

Compton General Plan Update



Business and Commerce Groups

Thursday, November 3, 2022

AGENDA

- 1

Introductions

5 min
- 2

General Plan

5 min
- 3

Discussion

45 min
- 4

Closing

5 min

MEETING RULES

- 1 One person speaks at a time.
- 2 Be respectful of others' opinions.
- 3 Please mute yourself when you're not speaking.
- 4 Please share video to stay connected.
- 5 Please be flexible and patient.
- 6 This is just one meeting of a longer process.

ICONS

- 🔧

MAINTENANCE
- 🛡️

SAFETY
- 📍

KEY LOCATION
- 🏠

HOUSING
- 🚗

TRANSPORTATION
- 🌳

COMMUNITY
- 🌲

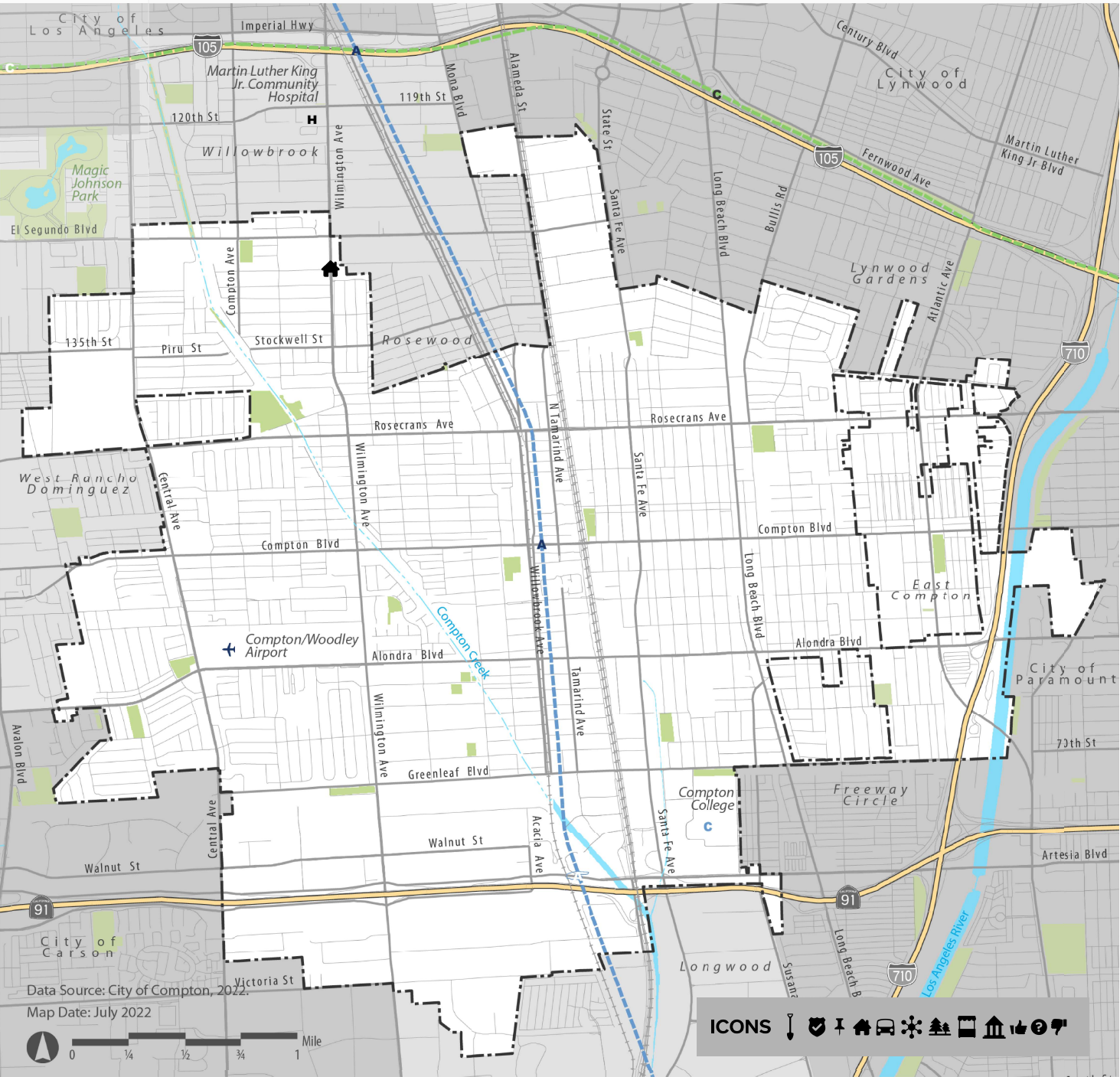
PARKS/ OPEN SPACE
- 🏡

FARMERS MARKET
- 🏢

ECONOMIC/ BUSINESS

What are the issues and opportunities the General Plan should address?

Disaster Recovery including the airport and coordinating with County	Natural gas infrastructure for businesses	SCAQMD challenges	Zoning inconsistencies	Using all electric energy for homes is not sustainable	Housing need
Upzoning, many underused large lots (40 duces)	Align GP with zoning	Utilize transit and density bonuses	Opportunity to develop old terminal (maintenance facility and provide jobs in shopping, restaurant facility)	Improved runway safety zones	Sense of fear from visitors to Compton impacts businesses
Lack of enforcement	Gunfire around airport hitting hangar	Restaurant similar to one at Hawthorne Airport	Street infrastructure	Opportunities for low income housing (N Wilmington and 130th)	



Focus Group Participants

•Dennis Lord, Airport Representative for Holly Mitchell, Airshow Services

•Clarence, Small Business Owner (property owner, real estate)

Facilitators

• Robert Delgadillo, City of Compton
• Jose M. Rodriguez, MIG
• Sasha Ragland, MIG





Compton General Plan Update

Education and Youth Focus Group

Tuesday, October 25, 2022

AGENDA

1 Introductions

5 min

2 General Plan 101

5 min

3 Discussion

45 min

4 Wrap Up

5 min

MEETING RULES

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ICONS

- MAINTENANCE
- SAFETY
- KEY LOCATION
- HOUSING
- TRANSPORTATION
- COMMUNITY
- PARKS/ OPEN SPACE
- FARMERS MARKET
- ECONOMIC/ BUSINESS

What are the issues and opportunities the General Plan should address?

Housing Issues (lack of affordable housing)	Housing for transitional aged youth (family)	Community Programming is lacking/ scarce	Funding for programming (affordable) location	Assistance for non profit programming	Lack of collaboration (city, school district, etc.)
Mentor groups needed with clear collaboration	Large competition between nonprofits and community	Few programs for black students & communities	Citywide initiative focusing on black student achievement	Create environment and infrastructure for black student achievement	Need for Family engagement
Inclusive programming for special need students & families	Join and Friends (wants to come into Compton. Coordinate with leaders)	Support for foster youth	Senior Citizen involvement (to support TAY)	STEM field development	Infrastructure to support students achieve higher learning and careers
Cohesion needed (school board district, nonprofits, cities, etc.)	Comprehensive list for existing nonprofits and resources	Accessibility for public space (multi-generational)	Need to address mental health issues (related to COVID)	Safe Intervention Programs in Gang Intervention (how to break gang recruitment cycle)	Skills Gap manufacturing/Green Technology
City cut back programming at parks	Safety concerns at Parks, need for peacekeepers	Need for consistent programming at parks for safety eyes on parks	Wilson and Gonzalez Parks safety concerns, facilities are in need of repair	Skatepark at Wilson Park is great	Wilson Park by Palia Coffee. Lights are off at 7pm

My Vision for Compton is...

Comprehensive list of Community Based Organization - Base for Collaboration	Distribution information and resources for teens and families (school children)	Directory/ Community Brochure	Intervention Spaces	Funding for Gang Reduction and Youth Development and programming	Programs related social development (Ex. STEM, Art)
Art Programs to assist with City Beautification	Internships and placement city/ school district	Work force development	Green/Tech Hub for Compton	College and School District Collaboration	Creating safe spaces at parks
Social emotional skill development	Restructure curriculum to include STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)	Art Mural Program (January 2023)	Mentorship	Pathways to college, employment, entrepreneurship	More STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, & Mathematics)

How can we better ENGAGE with the community?

Seek mentorship programs	Outreach to Principals at each school
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Focus Group Participants

- Robert Rodriguez, YouthBuild
- Sara Bomani, Unearth & Empower Communities
- Ernie Gutierrez, Compton General Robotics
- Tonya Craft-Perry, Director of Education and Programs for Thirty Third District PTA; Founding President & Lead Minister of Illumination Comprehensive Development; Chair of the District Black Parent Advisory Committee
- Cathie Pacheco, Advocacy & Community Engagement Manager KIPP Compton Community School

Facilitators

- Robert Delgadillo, City of Compton
- Jose M. Rodriguez, MIG
- Melissa Rodriguez, MIG



THEMES

Need for More Community Programming

Better Organizational Collaboration and Networking w/ Nonprofits

Dissemination & Distribution of Resources and Information (Directory)

Youth Mentorship & Programming to Prepare for College/ Employment

Develop Green Tech Hub in Compton

Creating Safe Community Places & Spaces

Inclusive Youth Programming Assistance

Affordable Housing/ Programs for Transitional Youth

Address Health/ Education Issues Post COVID

Foster Mentorship Programs

STEM/ STEAM Programming

Compton General Plan Update



Places of Worship and Churches Focus Group

Wednesday, October 26, 2022

AGENDA

- 1 Introductions
- 2 General Plan
- 3 Discussion
- 4 Closing

5 min

5 min

45 min

5 min

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ICONS

- MAINTENANCE
- SAFETY
- KEY LOCATION
- HOUSING
- TRANSPORTATION
- COMMUNITY
- PARKS/ OPEN SPACE
- FARMERS MARKET
- ECONOMIC/ BUSINESS

What are the issues and opportunities the General Plan should address?

Faith-based orgs, churches and historically Black churches are 'giving out'.	Prayed out of the area, and congregation is moving out of the City.	There is an inability to organize and advocate for the Black community in Compton.	City to provide some sort of program that can be developed to support with resources for churches and orgs.	City to highlight the necessity of Black places of worship. As a means to come together and educate.	Larger congregations are able to secure themselves, but smaller ones struggle due to smaller amount of resources.
Need more resources to acquire buildings and spaces to support.	Free after school programs provided by faith-based orgs.	Connecting with the local community by means of school programs and college tours.	Churches partner with sports organizations, food banks.	Offer resources for recidivism.	OPPORTUNITIES AS A RESULT OF CHURCHES, WITH CITY SUPPORT
Facilitate the process for City collaboration will help strengthen bonds and reduce legal issues.	Resource education for churches, to expand the use of City resources.	Create community development centers, via grants and partnerships.	Change in demographics also has an influence on the success of some Black churches.	A mixed response for allowing housing on church properties, and not enough information available.	There needs to be a plan to develop on church properties.
Use the housing on other properties to incorporate a resource program to support to individuals (supportive housing).	Smaller churches can partner and provide other services (financial literacy, etc.).				

My Vision for Compton is...

We want a clean and safe Compton.	Kids can go to the parks and nice facilities (baseball, soccer fields, pools).	Better option of restaurants/dining.	Places to hold events (e.g. DollarBros) adaptive to the audiences of interest.	Functional office/ retail spaces; information on availability.	Central locations that are appealing and safe for business owners.
Long Beach Blvd/ Compton Blvd you see underutilized vacant land that can be used for businesses.	There is no oversite for the City, anyone can come in and open a business.	Street vendors are not licensed and not properly regulated; use the fees to fund City.	Trash can be seen throughout the City. And there are lots of homeless people throughout the City.	Compton needs to have mixed use commercial buildings with housing and business (high densities).	There needs to be more support from the City for faith-based organizations.
Support from the City has been exclusive to organizations/churches that individuals are directly involved with.	Needs a registry of faith-based orgs, places of worship to be able to partner in resource events in the City.				

How can we better ENGAGE with the community?

Building trust and relationships with faith-based leadership.	Pastors have established connections and associations with one another.	Establishing a liaison to help develop a relationship/foundation.	Ensuring that there is proper follow-through.
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Focus Group Participants

- Christalyn Baker, Church Consultant, chris@four12training.com
- Tonya Craft-Perry, Illumination Comprehensive Development, Faith Based Non-Profit)
- Maribel, Our of Lady of Victory, Maribeltorreslara@yahoo.com

Facilitators

- Robert Delgadillo, City of Compton
- Jose M. Rodriguez, MIG
- Alfonso Ramirez, MIG



THEMES

- Black Churches & Faith-Based Organizations are closing
- Churches & Faith-Based Organizations provide resources to the community
- More collaboration/ sharing of resources with faith-based groups
- Safe and clean Compton with gathering spaces
- Build trust and relationships with faith-based leadership



Compton General Plan Update

Focus Group - Family Services/ Advocacy Groups

Wednesday, October 19, 2022

AGENDA

1 Introductions

5 min

2 General Plan

20 min

3 Discussion

30 min

4 Next Steps

5 min

MEETING GUIDELINES

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ICONS

- MAINTENANCE
- SAFETY
- KEY LOCATION
- HOUSING
- TRANSPORTATION
- COMMUNITY
- PARKS/ OPEN SPACE
- FARMERS MARKET
- ECONOMIC/ BUSINESS
- OTHER

What are the issues and opportunities the General Plan should address?

Housing access	Not enough affordable/ low-income housing (specifically rented)	Shelters and resources for SA and domestic violence survivors	Transitional housing	Services and resources for homeless individuals in City	City infrastructure (street lighting, streets, sewers, parks, potholes)
Affordable business/ retail spaces to keep business in City	Mid or lower rise apt buildings	Programs for home ownership (esp. first time buyers)	Engaging Spanish Speaking community (translation services)	Shelters and resources without having to leave City	Easier access to resources (on social media and other channels)
Compton is an opportunity area for businesses (currently many vacant storefronts)					

My VISION for Compton is... Housing, Parks and Open Space, Economic Development, and others.

Housing	Economic development	Retain small-town feel with greater resources	Amenities like movie theaters, bowling, slide down restaurants, shopping	Balancing investments with avoiding gentrification	Legal resources, transportation, job fairs, social services
Safety and maintenance of parks for family use	Improve stereotype of Compton as a violent city	Community programs such as sports, edu, classes, exercise classes, senior center, after school programs	Bring back pre-COVID programs		

How can we better ENGAGE with the community?

Local organizations social media	Group chat with community leaders	Mailing	Translated website and materials	City app - link to current events	Promotion on City website and social media
Flyers at local businesses (Starbucks, Panera, Coffee shop)	Consistent communication	Street team (one person from each org) putting out flyers, etc.	Continue outreach to local orgs with clientele base	Outreach to local churches	Clearer explanation of engagement events
Offer Spanish focus groups (should be default)					



THEMES

- Affordable housing, first-time home buyer program, transitional housing
- Infrastructure improvements and City services and programs
- Consistent community engagement across many platforms and approaches
- Economic development and City amenities (support local entrepreneurs)
- Retain small town feel and avoid gentrification
- Engage with and cater to Spanish speaking residents
- Timely and clear community outreach

FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS

- Kay Roberson - Program Manager, Shields for Families Inc., Family Preservation
- Candace Leos - Founder and Executive Director of Compton Advocates Coalition & TURLA (Coalition for Humane Immigrants Rights)
- Olivia Alvarez-Cordero - Program Manager, YWCA
- Yolanda Gomez - Founder of United Neighbors for Compton (Vecinos Unidos Por Compton)
- Tatierra Hayes - Founder of Cater to the Streets Foundation

FACILITATORS

- Robert Delgadillo, City of Compton
- Jose M. Rodriguez, MIG
- Sasha Ragland, MIG

Questions? Visit:
www.Compton2045.org



Compton General Plan Update

General Public and Block Clubs Group

Wednesday, October 26, 2022

AGENDA

- 1 Introductions
- 2 General Plan
- 3 Discussion
- 4 Closing

5 min
5 min
45 min
5 min

MEETING RULES

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What are the issues and opportunities the General Plan should address?

The conditions of the streets. Measure P money is not being utilized.	The conditions of the parks, poorly maintained.	Code Enforcement - give out tickets but miss latent issues.	Cleanliness of the City, green spaces, outdoor spaces, environmentally conscious innovation/ development.	Safety, lighting, more trees, updated trash systems.	Alley re-pavement throughout the City.
Parking, not enough in residential neighborhoods.	Parks - We have parks that are not covered, that have not been opened.	Parks are essential for residents.	Young residents with age of 27. There are no venues or spaces to increase "need to look into the future."	Handle the problems that we know currently exist.	Inefficient communication back to the City. Engagement with residents.
No Healthy Store or Establishment (diabetes).	The City budget needs to reflect the needs of the people.	We need a transition program that connects all residents and encourages a progressive and diverse city economy.	There are no basketball courts, pools, activities for recreation.	Seasonal jobs for the youth/young adults (ex. Summer Jobs).	Development - Ensuring the highest investments in the City.
Repetitive use of car washes/car repair businesses.	Public (Community) benefits such as affordable housing for residents.	No gentrification.	Economic Development - Establish contacts with businesses for proper maintenance.	We need city wide internet/broadband for now. We now live in the 21st Century. We are so behind.	Designated community centers, space, each resource center for the community.
Designated farm land keeping Compton's roots alive.	Federal and state funding to be managed for their intended use.	Leadership needs to follow the General Plan.	Law Enforcement, firefighters, not enough for the City. Especially with a population growth.	Cleanliness of City needs to prioritize.	Use of public buildings and public facilities, need to have fees.
Remove cannabis dispensaries.	City Infrastructure needs to be addressed (underground pipeline).	Parking at City Hall is an issue. Difficult to find a spot.	Disinfect community center (senior services). Designated individual for assistance.	Financial instability and lack of leadership.	Health care opportunities - city has been there that they don't have funding for many programs.
Public trash cans available along main traffic corridors.	Sustainability - one thing to implement and another to maintain.	Connecting Compton - positive youth engagement, agriculture education.	Decades of negligence.	Active Transportation - Lots of congestion in intergenerational homes (multiple vehicles to a household).	Safety - active transit, infrastructure to get across the City (Blue Line and other line access points).
Metro Active Transportation Plan (Technical Working Group Connection).	City does not have a Redevelopment Department. No longer allowed. Private dev. can submit their plan.	Solution to "Underwriting" is only to assign those who have never worked from each of the City's departments to additional duties/responsibilities.	Safety - The City needs to be safe.	Street takeovers need to be addressed.	Influential entities are residing outside of the City.

My Vision for Compton is...

City should be safe to come and go.	More opportunities for residents to share ideas and to take accountability.	Respect to constituents.	More diversity among leadership/elected officials. Not just in age and gender, but in thoughts and ideas.	More forward thinking and big picture thinking.	We must hear from the youth, and identify their needs. Engage the youth.
Vision from Younger Residents (Activate Youth).	Very important to consider the concerns of the City of Compton in business and roads, etc.	Inclusive History when considering Vision.	A more active/ engaged City. Aware of City resources.	We need to protect our historic landmarks.	Community outreach is imperative.
Translated and inclusive materials for outreach efforts. To engage multiple needs.	Action Plan Act on these ideas and solution identified by the Community.	More Engaged Community.	Continue a thriving education system.	Increased voter turnout. (Engaged Electorate).	Bringing a United Compton.
In-Person physical engagement.	Better Communication for Engagement Activities.	Safer schools, reduce access to illegal items/activities.	Remove Districts and make all City Council seats "At-Large".	City Council needs to listen to the Community.	A City with sufficient funding/money to enact these visions.
Proud of Golf Course.	Proud of College.				

How can we better ENGAGE with the community?

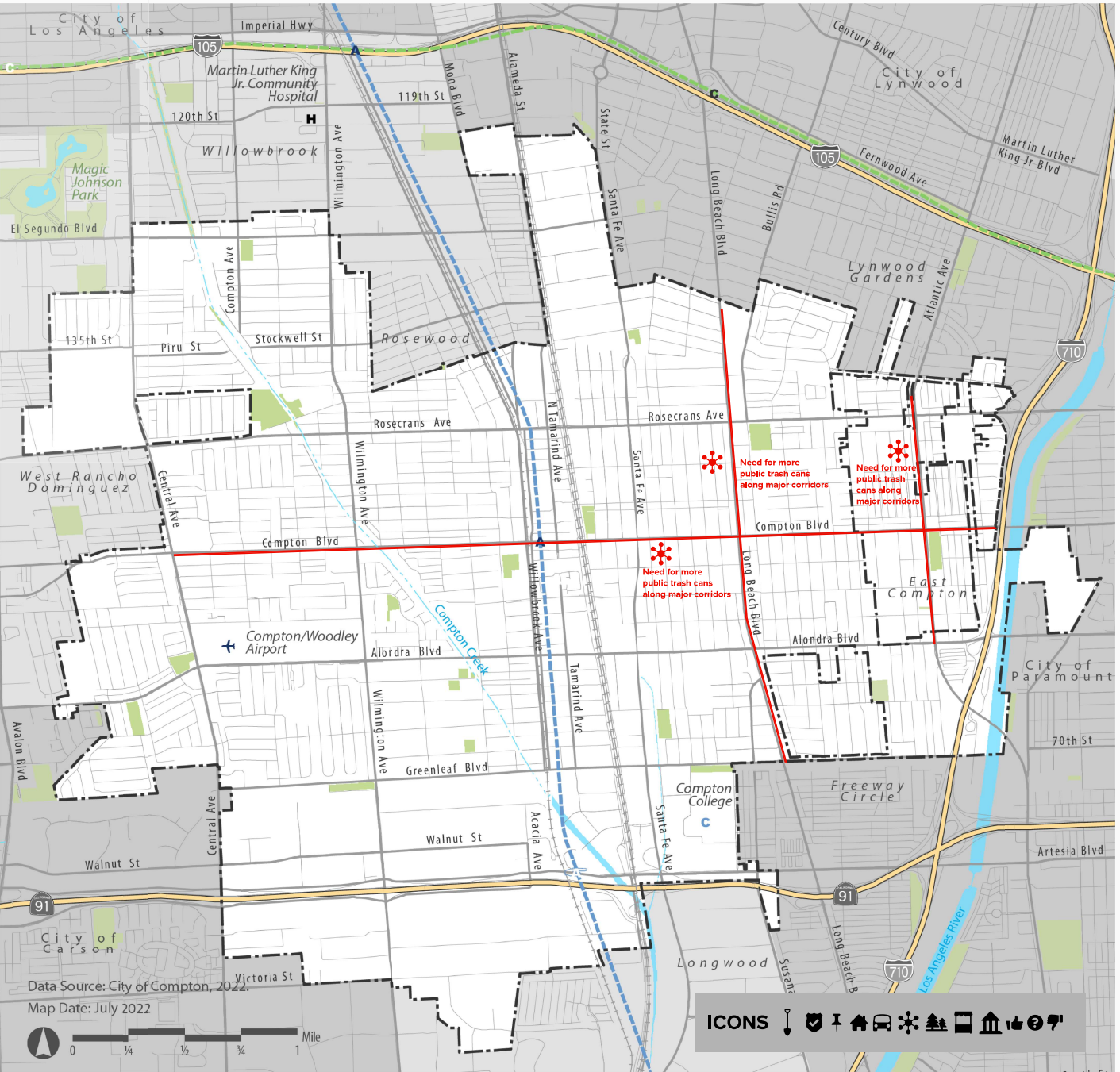
Reaching out to community organizations (with established social media presence).	Better Promotion of activities.	Translated material is a must.	Churches, faith-groups are an essential resource for community outreach.	Seniors want City Newspaper Back!	Senior Resources, Better Communication with Seniors.
Bridging the gap between seniors and youth. Opportunities to get together.	More community involvement in our schools.	Flyer provided in print along with City documents/ utility bills.	City website to be more user friendly and informative. Ensuring information is not buried.	The city app is a great way to reach residents as well.	Reaching residents who are not on social media/platforms.
Utilizing community service requirements to formulate youth/senior interactions.	Being mindful of the amount of paper used in outreach materials.	Door-to-Door Communication to inform residents.	Banner available/ posted in City Hall Key Locations.	Utilizing Compton's broadcast station, TV Channel (Seniors are aware of Channel 35).	Partnering with K-12 and Charter schools, PTA groups, and Compton College.

Focus Group Participants

- Richard Earl
- Anthony Ruff
- Lynn Finley
- Adele Cruse-Johnson
- Bruce A. Boyden
- Susan Adams
- Kinika Gardner
- Gilda Blueford
- Isai Rosa
- Maribel
- Essie
- Janet
- Liz Gutierrez
- Yolanda Gomez
- Chris M.

Facilitators

- Robert Delgadillo, City of Compton
- Jose M. Rodriguez, MIG
- Alfonso Ramirez, MIG



THEMES

- Streets, parks, and community facilities are poorly maintained.
- Need spaces and community programs aimed at Compton's youth.
- The City needs to communicate better & engage with community.
- City leadership & management needs to follow General Plan.
- Compton should be a safe community.
- Create a Community Vision by engaging with Compton's Youth.
- City cleanliness should be a priority; more public trash cans.
- Engagement needs to bridge gap between seniors & youth.
- City's website needs to be more user friendly.
- Respect residents and constituents.
- Ensure new quality development without gentrification.
- Strong education system and community programming are important.



Compton General Plan Update

Focus Groups: Housing Advocacy

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

AGENDA

- 1 Introductions
- 2 General Plan
- 3 Discussion
- 4 Next Steps

5 min
20 min
30 min
5 min

MEETING GUIDELINES

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What are the issues and opportunities the General Plan should address?

Funding pending for conversion of older motels to affordable housing projects.	Affordable housing vouchers need to be expanded.	When the City Commission passes the Housing Element, it must include a goal to increase the number of affordable housing units.	Timely process for funding available for affordable housing, specifically for homeless.	Greater need for affordable and quality apartments, especially for young adults and families.	Mapping of existing affordable housing is of low quality; no information from owners.
More affordable apartments would enable shorter waiting list for vouchers.	For persons with vouchers, a need for higher quality housing options.	Access to vouchers is prolonged.	Existing apartments are not maintained by owners and many families have no other options.	Promote for Adaptive Reuse Projects.	New housing construction are nice but not affordable.
Housing affordability not available for younger families and youth.	Long voucher waiting list (not applied in 2020), but many will get vouchers elsewhere.	Housing Authority doesn't want to raise more vouchers that budget allows, demand is great.	Voucher holder will have difficulty finding affordable housing units.	Housing clients are looking for job ready programs and easier access to City services.	Need for more City programs: recreation, children and senior activity, sports and exercise classes, enrichment classes.
Not sure what City programs are available, no one knows, so that is part of the issue, better advertisement.	Compton has many resources, nonprofits, agencies, and community-based organizations.	Resources need to be advertised so community is aware of them.	Human trafficking rapid rehousing program, rental assistance (2 years), supportive financial services.	Help youth (jingles and fun) but become more self-sufficient (housing and community services).	Transitional age youth child to adult program, foster care system - more needs more assistance.

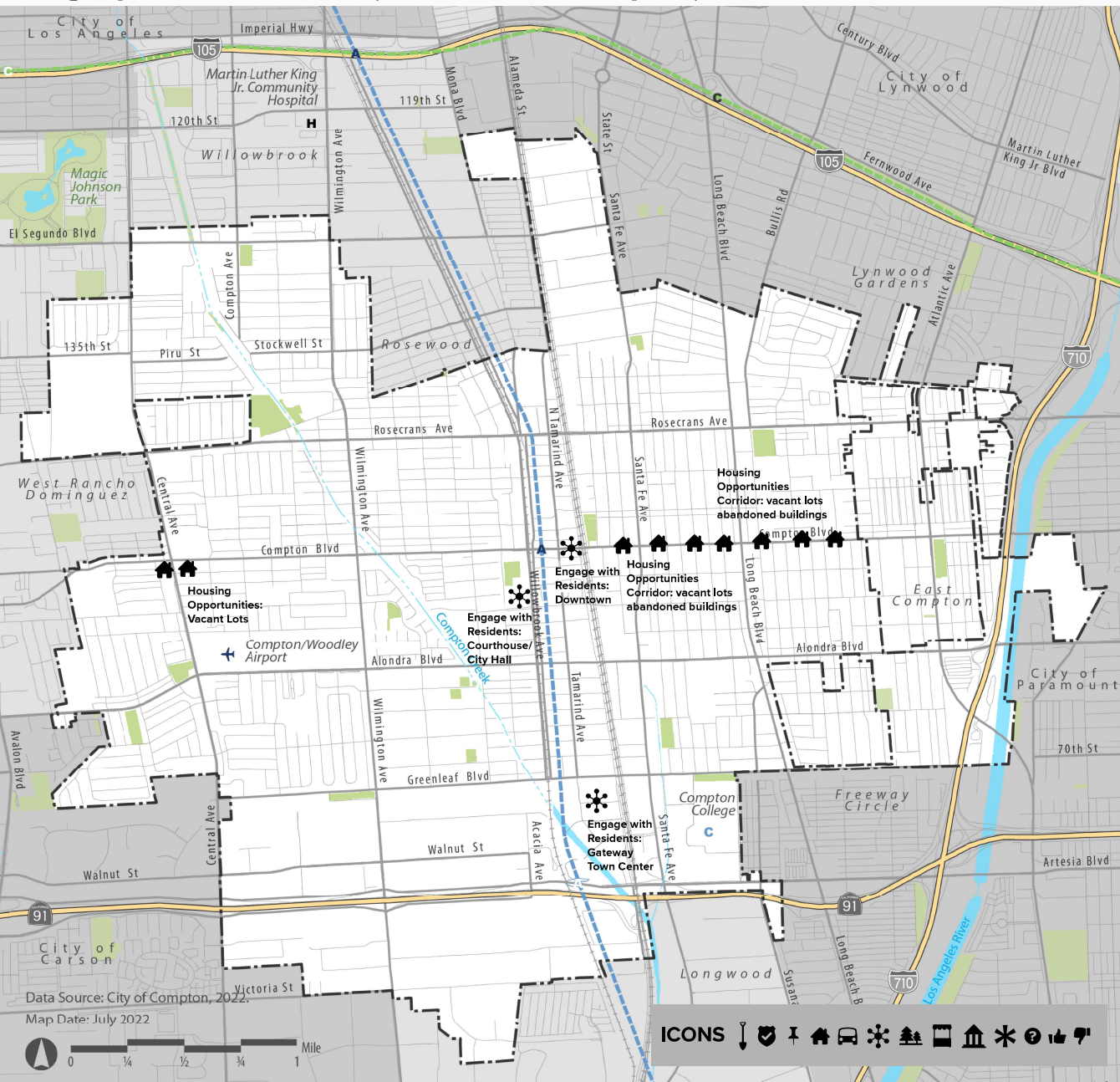
My VISION for Compton is... Housing, Parks and Open Space, Economic Development, and others.

Recreation multi-generational programs.	Interim housing and long-term housing.	Advertisement from city related to available resources.	Programs that enable self-sufficiency.	Programs for transitional aged youth/ former foster youth.	Compton Blvd, vacant land, motels, buildings (East of Willowbrook).
Corridors and vacant lots: look at Compton Blvd and Central Ave.	A more livable downtown area.	Parks, roads, healthy restaurant options, community wellness.	Adaptive Reuse Opportunity: Convert Old Motels to Affordable Housing.	A lot of abandoned buildings available; need to find available funding sources.	Easily available City services.
More recreation, children and senior activity, sports and exercise classes, enrichment classes.	More job-ready classes and programs.				

How can we better ENGAGE with the community?

Go to the people with site visit/ outreach; go to businesses.	Go to Downtown Compton (heart of Compton) by Compton Station/Courthouse to engage with residents.	Go to Compton Town Center (Artesia Station) to engage with residents.
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Geographic Comments (See Icons for Topics)



DISCUSSION THEMES

- More Affordable Housing options for younger adults and families
- Focus New Housing Along Corridors
- Consider Housing Programs to Assist Residents
- Many existing apartments in Compton are run-down or gang issues
- Compton needs better jobs, healthy foods options, & community services
- How to Engage People: GO to where they are and talk with them
- Vacant Buildings along Corridors are Opportunities for More Housing

FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS

- Andre Thomas, Sanctuary of Hope
- Kristen Aster, The People Concern
- Alena Sall, Compton Housing Authority
- Tiana Brown, Sanctuary of Hope

FOCUS GROUP FACILITATORS

- Jose M. Rodriguez | MIG
- Melissa Rodriguez | MIG

Questions? Visit:
www.Compton2045.org