

SAMPLE "HOW WOODCREEK'S PLAN WAS CREATED " PAGE

HOW BUDA 2030 WAS CREATED

Creating a comprehensive plan is a result of an extensive process involving analysis of existing conditions, engaging the public for their input, and developing recommendations and a draft report. There were four periods in the process of developing Buda 2030:

- 1. Existing Conditions and Trends Analysis** - The Planning Team³ worked with City departments, regional agencies, key stakeholders, and interest groups to conduct an initial inventory of the existing conditions and review trends and projections of growth in Buda and the surrounding area. This process established a baseline from which to frame recommendations. It included reviewing and summarizing existing and recently completed planning documents, data collection, and exploring the Buda community and its environment.
- 2. Public Engagement** - This component of the process really extended throughout the entire planning effort. Early in the process, an advisory committee (CPAC) was established to guide the effort. City Council selected a representative from each of the City's citizen boards, residents of the city, a local business owner, and a representative from Council. Overall, the CPAC had 14 members representing a broad range of input. Throughout the planning process the CPAC met 10 times to review input and existing conditions, develop ideas, and provide guidance to the Planning Team in creating Buda 2030.

A project website was established early in the process to keep those interested informed of the progress of creating Buda 2030, including posting of presentations and draft documents. Residents could subscribe to the site to receive automatic updates to the website, such as notifications of upcoming meetings. This website received over 2,000 hits over the year.

³ The Planning Team consisted of the City's Assistant City Manager, Planning Director, and consultants that were hired to develop the Comprehensive Plan.

In addition, there were opportunities for the public to provide input. A citizen survey was also available both by mail as well as on the Internet that asked Buda's residents to identify the things they love about Buda, the things that need improvement, and their priorities for the future of Buda.

There was also a series of public workshops and presentations through which residents of Buda could provide input on the formation of the comprehensive plan.

- 3. Developing and Reviewing Recommendations and Plan Report** - With ideas and input from residents and a baseline analysis of the current state of Buda, draft goals, objectives, and recommendations were formed for each of the plan elements. These recommendations went through a series of reviews by City staff, the advisory committee, and the public.
- 4. Plan Adoption** - Once the recommendations were vetted by the community, the report and recommendations for implementation were taken through the political process for approval. This included a presentation and public hearing to both the Planning Commission and City Council, and adoption by City Council.

