



Fairfield Forward General Plan Update and Climate Action Plan

General Plan Advisory Committee Meeting 2

April 15, 2021

FAIRFIELD

FORWARD

2050



2. GPAC Meeting 1: Recap



ROLE OF THE GPAC

- Provide recommendations and direction at key stages
 - Review products, options presented
 - Attend community meetings/review feedback
- Be a sounding board for ideas
- Serve as ambassadors/links to your constituencies, neighbors, etc. to promote the GPU in Fairfield
- Maintain a citywide perspective



Project Timeline



TENTATIVE GPAC SCHEDULE

Meeting	Date	Topic(s)
1	March 25, 2021	Introduction; Vision and Issue Brainstorming
2	Today	Vision and Guiding Principles
3, 4	May 6, May 13*, 2021	Existing Conditions Report
5	Summer 2021	Project Alternatives
6	Fall 2021	Preferred Plan
7, 8, 9	Winter 2021-2022	Draft General Plan Policies

Public review of Draft General Plan in Summer 2022 and
Plan adoption in Fall 2022

**change since last meeting*

2. Community Outreach



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GOALS

- Engage a broad spectrum of the community
- Educate the community about the purpose of the General Plan and the planning process
- Build ownership of the final product and vision for Fairfield
- Make the process relevant and inclusive for all members of the community



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Flyers, Meetings, & Workshops:

- Citywide Postcard Mailer
- Community Workshops
- Small Group Stakeholder Meetings
- Neighborhood and Pop-Up Outreach
- General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) Meetings
- Planning Commission and City Council Meetings



HELP PLAN FAIRFIELD'S FUTURE!
¡Ayude planificar el futuro de Fairfield!
Tulongan ilipat ang Fairfield pasulong!

A collage of six images: an aerial view of a residential area, a colorful car, a street scene with a person on a bicycle, a large tree, a person sitting on a bench, and a signpost.

The City of Fairfield is drafting its General Plan for the next 30 years. We need your participation to help us identify and fix what could be better, preserve and enhance what is special, and shape a more equitable, sustainable and dynamic Fairfield in 2050. No matter how much time you have, there are ways to contribute and **make your voice heard**.

Ang Lungsod ng Fairfield ay naglalabas ng Pangkalahatang Plano para sa susunod na tatimpung taon. Kailangan namin ang iyong pakikilahok upang matulungan kaming makilala at ayusin kung ano ang maaaring maging mas mahusay, mapanatili at mapahusay kung ano ang espesyal, at bumuo ng isang mas pantay, napapanatili at pabagobagong Fairfield noong 2050. Hindi mahalaga kung gaano karaming oras ang mayroon ka, may mga paraan upang mag-ambag at gumawa nating ng boses mo.

La ciudad de Fairfield está redactando su plan general para los próximos 30 años. Necesitamos su participación para ayudarnos a identificar y arreglar lo que podría ser mejor, preservar y mejorar lo que es especial y dar forma a un Fairfield más equitativo, sostenible y dinámico en el año 2050. No importa cuánto tiempo tenga, hay varias formas de contribuir y hacer su voz escuchada.

Get Involved today at / Participe hoy en /
Makisali ngayon sa :
www.FairfieldForward.com

The logo for Fairfield Forward 2050, featuring the word "FAIRFIELD" in a blue arrow pointing right, "FORWARD 2050" below it, and a small airplane icon to the right.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Digital Engagement:

- Project Website
 - www.FairfieldForward.com
- Online Surveys
- E-Newsletters
- Social Media

The screenshot displays the website for Fairfield Forward 2050. At the top left is the logo with the text "FAIRFIELD FORWARD 2050" and a graphic of an airplane. To the right are navigation links for "About", "Library", "Participate", and a "Sign Up" button. Below the navigation is a large image of the "FAIRFIELD COUNTY SEAT SOLANO COUNTY" archway with an orange overlay that says "Welcome to Fairfield Forward!". Below this are two smaller images: a wetland landscape and a park with a fountain. At the bottom, there are two content sections: "Reports and Products" with a sub-section for "Project Reports & Documents" and "Meetings and Workshops" with a "Participate" sub-section. The "Participate" section includes text about creating a long-term vision and a roadmap for Fairfield, and mentions that events will be held throughout the process.

TBD ACTIVITIES

TBD ACTIVITIES

- Asian American arts and crafts fair, vendors, and stores.
- Church youth group virtual and in-person discussions
- African American leadership & church groups event or workshop.
- Latino Small Business Interviews/ Blogs

- Partnership with radio 102.5 events pending
- Apartment complex community leader outreach and onsite session
- Multi-cultural outside event pending location

COMPLETED OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

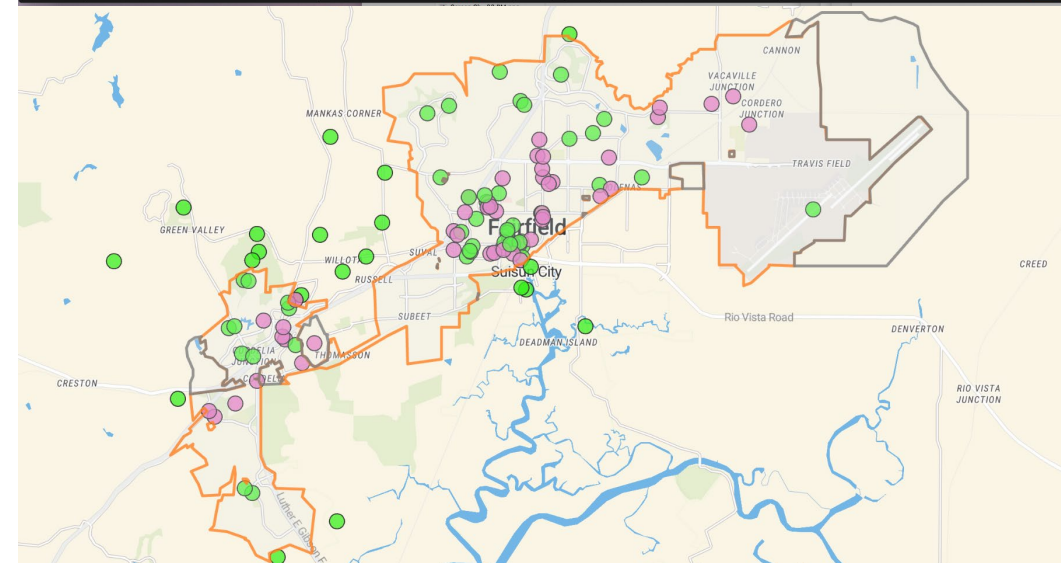
- Community Workshops 1 & 2
- Community Survey
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Youth Outreach
- GPAC Meeting #1

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS 1 & 2

WHAT: A series of two community workshops held virtually over Zoom. Workshops provided participants with background information on the General Plan, and then solicited their input on vision and priorities for the Update

WHEN: February 11 & 13, 2021

WHO: Open to all members of the Fairfield community. 63 total participants



COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS 1 & 2

KEY FINDINGS

- Diversity is Fairfield's strength and **equity** should be prioritized
- Need for **community cohesion**, citywide identity, and "sense of place"
- Preservation of **open space** and agricultural land is key
- Emphasize mixed-use, **infill development**
- Revitalize **downtown Fairfield** with fun activities
- Pressing need to provide long-term solutions to address **homelessness**
- Decreasing auto-dependence and promoting **multi-modal streets**

COMMUNITY SURVEY

WHAT: An online survey focused on identifying community priorities and issues for housing, mobility, economic development, conservation and open space, community facilities, and other areas of the General Plan

WHEN: February 3—March 15, 2021

WHO: Open to all members of the Fairfield community. 272 total responses were received

agriculture geographic location Bay Area community events
living Quiet weather admire small Sacramento big cities affordable
green safe feel activities small town hills
surrounding Diversity local location
Centrally located Open space Suisun Valley
small town feel nice city open space agricultural
agriculture geographic location Bay Area community events
SF climate people Growing business Wineries proximity nature
surrounded open space Farm parks convenient rural
rolling hills close central location good population Fairfield
walking areas Diverse population community

COMMUNITY SURVEY

KEY FINDINGS

- Fairfield's location is ideal with a desirable combination of **urban and rural** qualities
- Addressing **homelessness** is one of Fairfield's most urgent priorities
- **Downtown** and **North Texas Street** should be more vibrant spaces
- New job opportunities and **small business support** are key
- A greater **variety of housing** types is needed with a focus on mixed-use
- Increasing **pedestrian safety** and comfort is a top priority
- **Diversity** is important to Fairfield and should be promoted

STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

WHAT: Small group discussions between key individuals representing agencies, businesses, or community groups, and project staff to solicit their knowledge and expertise regarding conditions in Fairfield

WHEN: January—March 2021

WHO: Representatives from 26 organizations participated.



Summary of
Stakeholder Interviews
January - March 2021



STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

KEY FINDINGS

- **Addressing homelessness** was the top priority of most stakeholders
- Need for more **affordable housing** for both low and middle-income residents
- **Diverse housing options** beyond single-family homeownership should be focused in infill areas
- **Protection of open space** and agricultural lands is necessary
- Additional **youth programming** that reflects diversity is needed
- Demand for accessible **walking and biking infrastructure** is increasing
- The city's existing assets should be promoted to ensure **economic growth** across the spectrum

YOUTH OUTREACH

KEY FINDINGS

- Being able to access parks and schools by **walking and biking** is important
- The **Solano Town Center mall** is major gathering hub
- Expanded **entertainment options** are needed
- Increasing **community connections** and cohesion creates safe neighborhoods
- Resources should be **better distributed** across neighborhoods
- **Youth programming** can provide opportunities for education and socialization

GPAC MEETING #1

WHAT: The first meeting of the GPAC, an advisory body appointed by Fairfield City Council, to introduce GPU topics and solicit GPAC member input on their vision and priorities for Fairfield

WHEN: March 25, 2021

WHO: All 13 GPAC members attended the meeting



GPAC MEETING #1

KEY FINDINGS

- Need for a greater **variety of housing** types such as mixed-use and multi-family housing; concerns about affordability
- Emphasize well-connected and **complete neighborhoods** with resources within walking distance
- Secure access to local **park space** and surrounding open space is crucial
- Small business development and **job training programs** are needed
- Revitalize **downtown Fairfield**
- Faster and more **reliable public transit** should be emphasized
- **Public health** should be addressed through an equity lens

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What other critical stakeholders we should reach out to?
- Where should we go for neighborhood and pop-up outreach activities?
- What are the best ways to spread the word about future outreach events?

3. Draft Vision and Guiding Principles



VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES PURPOSE

- Provide direction for the future and introduce key themes to be addressed in the General Plan
- Represents a *draft* drawn from visioning and outreach to-date but will continue to be refined
- Draft Vision and Guiding Principles presented to City Council for finalization on June 1st

Do these adequately represent the community's vision? Are there other topics that should be included?

VISION

Fairfield has built upon its strengths—a charming downtown, thriving and diverse neighborhoods, natural surroundings and ecological riches, and economic assets—and blossomed into a complete, vibrant city, a place renowned for walkable, affordable, and pleasant neighborhoods and ecologically rich natural environments; economic prosperity and educational opportunity; social stability and equity; and cultural, entertainment and recreation possibilities.



1. WELL-CONNECTED NEIGHBORHOODS

Foster Fairfield as a community of well-connected neighborhoods, with vibrant, walkable districts, and revitalized corridors.

- Encourage a mix of uses to create enjoyable, complete neighborhoods
- Focus development in areas that are served by existing infrastructure and city services
- Promote walkable and bikeable connections within and between destinations
- Transform key corridors such as West Texas and North Texas streets
- Designate land use intensities that stimulate investment, while appropriate scale and attractive design

2. MOBILITY AND CONNECTIONS

Improve Fairfield's transportation network with safe and connected walking and biking facilities, accessible and reliable public transit, and new transportation technology.

- Design complete streets to accommodate a variety of transportation modes and prioritize walking, biking, and transit access
- Enhance connectivity by completing trails, creating new paths, and strengthening links to neighborhoods and transit hubs
- Integrate new transportation technologies

3. RESILIENT, STRONG ECONOMY

Achieve a resilient, dynamic, and competitive local economy that offers opportunities across the economic spectrum.

- Promote economic resilience in Fairfield by bolstering its existing strengths
- Attract and incubate businesses that are climate- and energy-conscious, and provide job opportunities to local residents
- Proactively plan for the future of business, including physical and digital infrastructure, adequate and flexible land uses, and employee housing and transportation needs
- Create an environment supportive of continued operation and needs of Travis AFB
- Develop partnerships with economic development centers to provide job readiness and local hire programs that promote employment opportunities.
- Encourage economic diversity and equitable opportunities for Fairfield's diverse residents

4. HOUSING FOR ALL

Promote housing and support a diverse array of housing types to meet the needs of all segments of the population.

- Increase the supply of new housing to support existing and future needs
- Encourage development of a mix of housing types that provide current and future Fairfield residents with access to a full range of housing opportunities
- Promote housing in a diversity of amenity-rich locations: along corridors, in existing neighborhoods, and in downtown, for those desirous of living in integrated mixed-use environments
- Prioritize a range of housing and shelter options that meet needs of Fairfield's unhoused populations

5. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Preserve and foster connections to nature, agricultural heritage, and open space.

- Preserve Fairfield's natural, agricultural, and open space surroundings, which contribute to its visual identity, biodiversity, and economic strength
- Expand connections to open space and regional park space and strategically add smaller parks accessible from within neighborhoods
- Increase opportunities for residents and visitors to experience and learn about the importance of the surrounding area's ecological benefits and noteworthy agricultural output

6. SUSTAINABILITY

Emphasize environmental sustainability.

- Strive toward a zero-carbon footprint by reduce greenhouse gas emissions from energy use and transportation
- Promote climate adaptation strategies that improve the urban environment and socioeconomic opportunity, such as tree planting, adaptive community facilities, green job training, addressing urban heat islands, wildfire preparation and resiliency, and others
- Decrease reliance on automobile use through climate-conscious land use and growth patterns, increased access to public and active transportation, and improved infrastructure that supports operation of bicycles, autonomous vehicles, and zero-emissions vehicles

7. PUBLIC HEALTH

Achieve a healthy and safe community for all.

- Support development patterns that promote active living through walking and biking, connected paths, green space and open space networks, access to fresh, local healthy food, and amenities and services within walking distance
- Improve public safety and effective emergency responsiveness, including police, fire, and medical response, and plan for adaptation and resiliency in the face of increased risks for wildfires and flooding
- Prioritize community investments and resources, such as park maintenance, street trees, or other infrastructure improvements, in areas of Fairfield with the greatest socioeconomic need

8. OPPORTUNITY AREAS

Foster revitalization in the city's core and along key corridors, building on the momentum of recent planning efforts, including the Heart of Fairfield and Train Station specific plans.

- Build on the planning that has occurred for the Heart of Fairfield by encouraging small business development and promoting accessibility for all residents and visitors to downtown
- Expand efforts to increase person-oriented land uses (including housing and mixed uses) along North Texas Street. Public realm improvements—more street trees, continued sidewalk and bikeway improvements—will continue to be emphasized for all streets
- Connect transit-oriented development and amenities occurring within the Fairfield Train Station Specific Plan area to Central Fairfield through transit, bicycle, and pedestrian infrastructure

9. COMMUNITY COHESION AND DIVERSITY

Create community cohesion and sense of place by celebrating and showcasing Fairfield's diversity.

- Celebrate Fairfield's diversity by encouraging a range of programming and events that are culturally relevant and attractive to community members of all ages
- Foster creation of locations, gathering places, and community resources that provide safe, attractive, and fun activities for residents of varying backgrounds
- Partner with nonprofits, faith communities, and other community groups in delivering community services and planning processes

NEXT STEPS

- Community Event: Super La Favorita April 17th
- GPAC Meeting 3: Existing Conditions, pt. 1 May 6th
- GPAC Meeting 4: Existing Conditions, pt. 2 May 13th
- City Council Review: ECR and V+GP June 1st
- Alternatives Phase Summer



Thank you!

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