1. **Introductory Remarks**

Principal Planner Verny Carvajal of the Planning and Building Agency welcomed the participants to the sixth meeting of the General Plan Advisory Group (GPAG) and introduced the two General Plan elements to be discussed: Safety and Open Space, respectively.

Mr. Carvajal then provided a synopsis of the discussion from the previous meeting that focused on the core values that will be present in each element, how the General Plan will be organized, and how the draft goals and policies that are presented to the GPAG members are developed. The process includes review of the existing General Plan goals and policies “best practices,” the Santa Ana Strategic Plan, affirmative statements and draft vision statements prepared by the GPAG; along with other recommendations made by community groups such Santa Ana Building Healthy Communities.

2. **Video Presentation**

Associate Planner Ricardo Soto of the Planning and Building Agency provided a brief introduction to two short video clips related to the elements being discussed at the meeting. The first film was a selection from *Dante’s Peak* depicting groupthink during emergency situations and potential hazards associated with it. The second video clip depicted benefits associated with open space, parks, and recreational activities.

3. **Open Space and Safety**

Senior Planner Melanie McCann of the Planning and Building Agency then discussed the Open Space Element and provided background information on the various types of open space found in Santa Ana. Open space typologies found in Santa Ana include natural habitat, such as Santiago Creek; urban farms; landscaped areas in residential neighborhoods; joint use facilities; the two golf courses, including the Santa Ana Riverview Golf Course and adjacent trail system; and traditional neighborhood parks.
Ms. McCann then discussed the Safety Element. Ms. McCann discussed potential hazards posed by flood and earthquakes due to large portions of Santa Ana being located in the Santa Ana River floodplain and the city’s relative proximity to various earthquake fault lines.

4. Draft Goals and Policies – Group Exercise

The GPAG was then divided into small groups, and members were asked to review and critique the draft goals and policies using the same approach used in the previous meeting, a “POV” approach; an approach by which each member critiques the policy from the perspective, or point-of-view, based on the group they represent within the community. Each small group included a City staff facilitator to record the comments and feedback to refine draft Open Space Element and Safety Element goals and policies.

5. Group Exercise – Potential for Improvement

After completion of the group exercise, the group discussed potential changes in the format of the group exercise to enable a more thorough analysis of all the draft policies presented. Potential changes discussed included: providing more background and information about the existing conditions related to policies that are discussed, having more time to review the draft, having smaller groups, and allowing members to select which topic areas they want to review and provide feedback. Staff acknowledged the group’s concerns and encouraged the group to communicate any other suggested changes to the format or novels approaches to reviewing and critiquing the draft policies that could be utilized.

6. Next Step

Mr. Carvajal concluded the meeting by confirming that the next GPAG meeting will be on June 7, 2017, and will focus on an element in the Built Environment section of the General Plan framework.
List of GPAG Member Attendees:

Claudia Arellanes, Downtown Business Owner
Phil Bacerra, Planning Commission
Ekta Naik, Alliance Development
Kathi Davis-Bowman, WisePlace
Peter Katz, Santa Ana Communication Linkages Forum
Nancy Mejia, Latino Health Access
Laura Morfin, Former Community Redevelopment and Housing Commission
Soledad Valentin, Multi-Family Housing Representative
Orin Williams, Santa Ana Unified School District
Berry Cottle, C & C Development
Lynette Guzman, Parks and Recreation Board
Gilad Salmon, Environmental and Transportation Advisory Committee
Isaac Michaca, Santa Ana Building Healthy Communities
Ken Nguyen, Planning Commission
Beatriz Mendoza, Planning Commission
Alberto Cruz, Youth Commission

Absent:                     Marlene Buitron, Youth Commission
                              Tish Leon, Senior Advocate-Downtown Neighborhood
                              Richard Chiarini, Industrial Business Owner

Note: the PowerPoint presentation used for the meeting is available at http://www.santa-ana.org/generalplan/default.asp