

From: [Nathaniel Greensides](#)
To: [PBACComments](#)
Subject: Public Comment Item 1 - Planning Commission Regular Meeting Agenda Sep 13, 2021
Date: Sunday, September 12, 2021 3:18:47 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

Dar Planning Commission,

The Drafted EIR seemingly includes no details regarding how to reduce usage of individual automobiles to get around town. Considerations of increasing the amount of people who use public transit, carpooling, or even protected bike lanes is noticeably absent from the Draft.

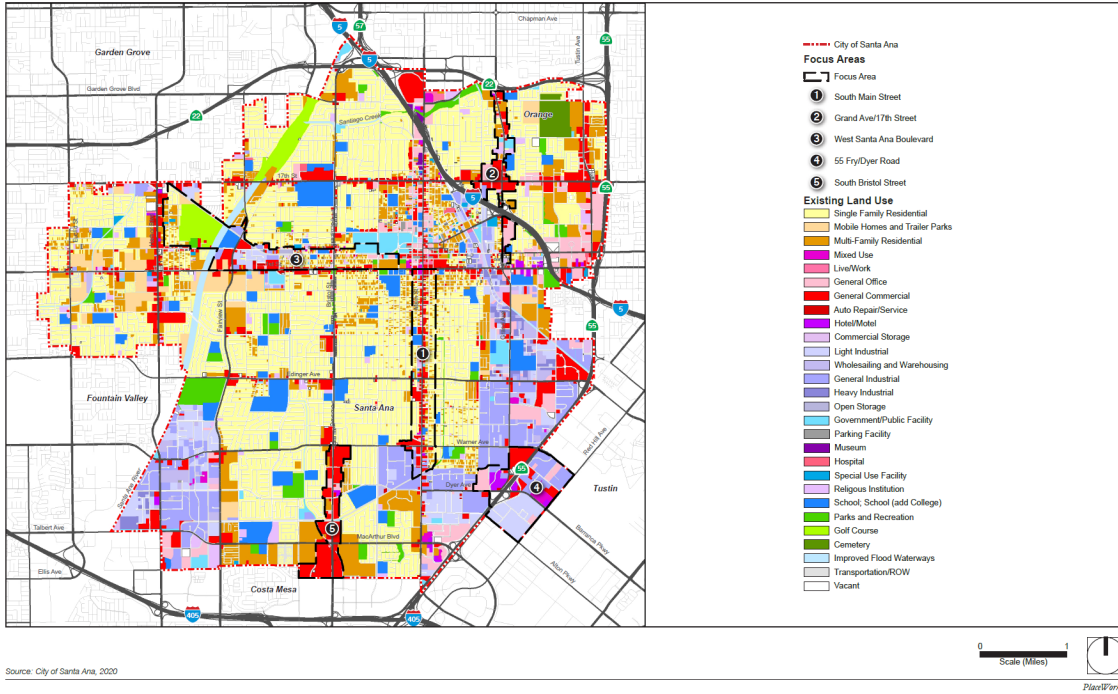
Looking at the map of existing land use, I am disappointed that the focus areas are largely already higher density residential and commercial zones. The vast majority of the rest of the city will see no changes - it largely remains zoned as single family residences reliant upon the outdated model of one person one car. The idea of the Urban Neighborhood is one I applaud - yet the proposal as it exists aims to turn areas of the city which are essentially already urban neighborhoods even moreso into urban neighborhoods.

If there is to be a serious discussion about mitigating and or reducing the environmental impacts of (re)development in the city, the discussion also needs to include the aspect of rezoning SFR zoned neighborhoods to increase density in those areas - not just in areas which are already dense. Yes, it is absolutely controversial as it goes directly against the very circumstances under which it came into existence - "The American Dream". But of course this falls outside of the currently proposed General Plan Updates.

The Draft EIR seemingly makes no mention of manners in which air quality will be affected by automobile traffic outside of periods of construction and re-development. Dedicated Bike/Bus/Carpool lanes during certain rush hours might be effective. Car free weekends to allow for pedestrian and transport shuttles on weekends is another. Incorporation of native plant species into any development plans is another.

Some of these focus areas being targeted by the GPU might also be positively served to include an aspect of green space. I don't mean that we should clear already existing structures to allow the earth to breathe again. I simply mean that creative manners of creating new parks and recreation space need to come about. In San Francisco and in Chicago there are elevated parks that allow people there to have a car free view of the world and doubly serve as transit and commercial centers. Santa Ana would benefit from this type of development in my opinion. However, this certainly does not mean to say that where there is the possibility of acquiring new space for parks - such as Willowick - that those should be foregone. After all, there is a reason why Central Park remains a beloved landmark in New York City - there'd be possibly little to no access for humans to directly connect with the soil of the earth beneath their city otherwise.

Figure 3-4 - Existing Land Use



Anyways, those are just some thoughts I have.

Sincerely,
Nathaniel Greensides
Ward 5 resident