

**Palm School Steering Committee Meeting #8 Summary**  
**January 8, 2025, 1-3pm**  
**700 Lavaca Street, Austin Texas**

**Members Present:** Marcos de Leon, Linda Quintanilla, Maria Solis, Anna Maciel, Ted Eubanks, Gilbert Rivera, John Rosato, Colette Pierce Burnette

**Members Absent:** Peggy Vasquez, Andrew Gonzales, Novert Morales, Toña Vasquez

**County Staff:** Sergio Plaza, Bill Wilson, Selena Muñoz, Madai Montes, Jasmin Gardner

**The Steering Committee Charge**

The Palm School Steering Committee (the Committee) will be an active partner in the Palm School Concept Plan development process and in efforts leading up to the restoration and reimagining of the Palm School property. Working in partnership with the County’s consultant and staff, the Steering Committee will:

1. Provide input for the design of a community engagement plan that will be used to inform a Concept Plan for the Palm School property
2. Review and offer feedback on processes, plans, and materials created by the consultant leading up to and including the Concept Plan for the Palm School property
3. Review and offer feedback on processes, plans, and materials created by staff and/or consultants related to any restoration and reimagining of the Palm School property
4. Provide a consensus recommendation to the Commissioners Court on the community engagement process used to inform a Concept Plan and the Concept Plan for the Palm School property

**1. Welcome & Announcements**

No Announcements

**2. Review and Approve Meeting Summaries**

Staff asked the Committee to approve the Meeting Summary from the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Meeting Summary was approved.

**3. Partner Organization Updates**

City of Austin

Committee members inquired as to the missing representative from the City of Austin. Committee members asked staff to make a stronger effort to find a representative.

Save Palm School Coalition

There will be a meeting with the Austin City Council’s Latino Caucus members, Waterloo Greenway, and Save Palm School Coalition. One Steering Committee member expressed interest in attending and hearing updates.

Travis County Historic Commission

None.

ULI – Austin

None.

Waterloo Greenway Conservancy

None.

Committee members want more information about the local, state and national Historical Designation processes and what each would mean for the future protection of the Palm School building. Staff will follow up.

**4. Travis County Update**

Staff updated Steering Committee members about future challenges regarding access to the Palm School property due to TxDOT's I-35 Expansion project construction around Palm School. Committee Members and Staff engaged in a conversation about what that might mean for the Concept Plan and engaging the community. The Steering Committee came to a consensus to move forward with a Concept Plan.

The Steering Committee requested more information from staff regarding publicly available TXDOT plans.

**5. Community Engagement Plan**

Will be discussed at the next meeting.

**6. Meeting Schedule and Follow Up**

**a) Future Meeting Schedule**

- February 12<sup>th</sup>, 700 Lavaca, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MF-B
- March 12<sup>th</sup>, 700 Lavaca, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MF-C

**b) Action Items before next meeting**

- Committee members ask Staff to make a stronger effort to find a representative from the City of Austin.
- Committee members want more information about the local, state and national Historical Designation processes and what each would mean for the future protection of the Palm School building. Staff will follow up.
- Steering Committee requests more information from staff regarding publicly available TXDOT plans.
- Continue organizing thoughts around community engagement.