

# Master Plan 2035 Environment-Focus Public Input Workshop

## November 7, 2018

The meeting facilitator welcomed everyone and introduced the purpose of a master plan and the Village's Master Plan. Those present introduced themselves, after which MRGCD Board Member John Kelly and City of Albuquerque Director of Parks and Recreation Dave Simon presented information on water, water rights, ditches, the value of the environment economically and for human health, open space and open land, incentivizing private landowners, citizen engagement, and how the environment connects to other issues in the Village such as an aging demographic, higher home values, and water scarcity. More detail on their presentations will be available in a separate document.

The central question for small group discussion was: What are three or four of your biggest ideas for the Master Plan involving the environment? Small tables discussed a variety of broad values and specific actions in response to that question before convening as a whole. The following are some ideas mentioned by attendees grouped into larger themes:

- **Education for landowners** and residents on:
  - Water conservation options and methods
  - Environmental conservation options and methods
    - Ordinances
    - Conservation easement requirements and eligibility
    - Air quality options
    - Light pollution/dark skies
    - Maintenance
    - Minimizing impact of development on health
- **Incentives for landowners** to conserve the environment by:
  - Discouraging sale of water rights
  - Encourage and/or incentivize use of renewable energy and green building techniques/materials
  - Encourage and/or incentivize replanting of trees
  - Encourage less use of herbicides/pesticides
- **Direct Village involvement** possible in:
  - Interjurisdictional and agency communication and cooperation (eg. MRGCD, WUA, other governments
    - Village liaison
  - Buying and leasing water rights
  - Not severing water rights for properties Village buys
  - Buying and/or encouraging private landowners to keep ditch accessibility
- Recognizing the **interconnected, holistic system of the environment** and its connection to health and quality of life
- **Balancing** change and a “slow creep” of development with core values and a rural atmosphere in past and present
- Becoming **better stewards of the environment** by minimizing our impact and better co-existence with nature

The biggest themes of the whole group highlighted education for landowners and Village involvement and cooperation with other agencies and jurisdictions.

The next Master Plan public input meeting will be Tuesday, December 4, 2018 from 7-9 PM at Village Hall. The discussion will focus on the Village's community facilities and services and how it relates to land use, quality of life, and recreation. This covers amenities and facilities including but not limited to fire and police (emergency services), education (schools), electricity, water, infrastructure (eg. Internet, cell service), parks, libraries, and community centers. Cost and maintenance of these facilities will also be discussed. For those facilities and services not provided by or in the Village, provider relationship and proximity to facilities and services will be discussed.

Below is the written work product from the environmental focus meeting. The suggestions below are numbered by the order they were mentioned by attendees and do not necessarily reflect priority or importance.

# MASTER PLAN IDEAS: ENVIRONMENT

- 1) <sup>Encourage</sup> Replanting trees  
- Village
- 2) Set up fund for "last 1/4 ac"  
- even: dwelling farm  
- keep ditches permeable
- 3) Look at envt as a system  
- trees, roads, people
- 4) Use const'n mat'ls w/  
less global warming imp.
- 5) Slow creep away from  
rural "feel" → noise + light  
- stop/reverse/enforce
- 6) Resist westside corr. pressure  
thru Village
- 7) Dark skies - strengthen  
ordinances; educate people  
- part of identity
- 8) Cooperate w/ APS + Valley HS  
re: STEM
- 9) Preserve water rights in Vill  
- incentives; coop w/ MRGCD
- 10) Create liaison w/ MRGCD  
+ WVA - ag use - protecting H<sub>2</sub>O
- 11) Dev expectation to  
care for property to  
the street
- 12) Incentivize renewable  
energy
- 13) ~~Dist~~ Minimize impact  
(fugitive dust)  
of dirt roads on air quality  
- drive slowly - education
- 14) How do mean it? Pay  
for it?
- 15) Outlaw diesel traffic
- 16) Encourage native veget'n
- 17) Discourage use of  
herbicides/pesticides  
→ Integrated veg. mgmt (IVM)
- 18) Discourage sale of  
water rights
- 19) Encourage to go back to  
the way we were  
JR ARABIAN NATLS TO ALBA
- 20) Demand Do not allow  
H<sub>2</sub>O Severa ~~city~~ Village  
land purchases
- 21) Village purchase H<sub>2</sub>O  
rights + lease back to  
prop. owners
- 22) Inc. density in a way  
that preserves Vill character
- 23) Minimize traffic impacts  
w/ inc. density

## MASTER PLAN IDEAS: ENVIRONMENT

- 1) Encourage replanting trees
  - Village
- 2) Set up fund for “last ¼ acre”
  - even: [small] dwelling/farm
  - keep ditches permeable
- 3) Look at environment as a system
  - trees, roads, people
- 4) Use construction materials with less global warming impact
- 5) Slow creep away from rural “feel” → noise and light
  - stop/reverse/enforce
- 6) Resist Westside corridor pressure through Village
- 7) Dark skies – strengthen ordinances; education people
  - part of identity
- 8) Cooperate with APS and Valley HS re: STEAM
- 9) Preserve water rights in Village
  - incentives; cooperate with MRGCD
- 10) Create liaison with MRGCD and WUA
  - agricultural use
  - protecting water
- 11) Develop expectations to care for property to the street/pavement
- 12) Incentivize renewable energy
- 13) Minimize impact of dirt roads on air quality (fugitive dust)
  - drive slowly
  - education
- 14) How do [we] mean it? Pay for it?
- 15) Outlaw diesel traffic
- 16) Encourage native vegetation
- 17) Discourage use of herbicides/pesticides
  - Integrated regulation management (IVM)
- 18) Discourage sale of water rights
- 19) Encourage to go back to the way we were
  - Junior Arabian Nationals to Albuquerque
- 20) Do not allow water severance by Village land purchases
- 21) Village purchase water rights and lease back to property owners
- 22) Increase density in a way that preserves Village character
- 23) Minimize traffic impacts with increased density