



MEETING DATE: February 14, 2018

AGENDA ITEM: 5.D

ATTACHMENT: 1

REPORT TO GENERAL PLAN 2040 STEERING COMMITTEE

Subject: Eight Questions to Get Us Started

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

February 14 will be the first opportunity for Committee members to express their views on the major issues facing San Rafael and priorities for the future. This is intended to be an “ice breaking” discussion to prepare us for the next meeting, which will include reviewing the General Plan Vision Statement and confirming General Plan goals.

REPORT

We hope to have a productive and thoughtful conversation about the eight questions below at our upcoming meeting. **We encourage each of you to jot down your thoughts on the next few pages.** Please come prepared to share your views and ideas.

Given the large number of Committee members, it may not be possible to hear everyone’s views on each question at the meeting. We encourage you to also submit your remarks in writing (via email, or a printed/ digital copy of this report). If you are a Committee alternate, you can also provide your thoughts via email or on paper. We’ll provide a summary of feedback at the March meeting. The questions are:

- What is precious here that we don’t want to lose?
- What is almost good that we need to make better?
- What is terrible that needs to change?
- What is missing?
- What is happening nearby that we should take advantage of?
- What is happening nearby that we should be worried about?
- What do we aspire to be?
- How do we get started?

YOUR NAME: _____

What is precious here that we don't want to lose?

Think about the things that make San Rafael a great place to live or work—the things you cherish and value about the community. What are the city's greatest strengths?

What is almost good that we need to make better?

Where do we get a "B" on our report card? Think about the things that are pretty good but could be better with a little bit of work. What are our big opportunities for improvement?

What is terrible that needs to change?

What are the City's greatest weaknesses? Where are we really falling short?

What is missing?

Are there things missing from our community that could improve the quality of life or make San Rafael a better place?

What is happening nearby that we should take advantage of?

We are part of a large metropolitan region with over 7 million people. Are there things we as a City should be doing given our location? What's our future relationship to the rest of Marin County and the Bay Area?

What is happening nearby that we should be worried about?

How are changes in nearby cities and the surrounding region negatively affecting San Rafael? What do you worry about when you think about the future of the Bay Area and Marin?

What do we aspire to be?

What should San Rafael be known for in the Year 2040? What's our vision for the City's future?

How do we get started?

If you were the Mayor, what would you do next?