

Who Knows About the Feasibility Study

CPS Advisory Committee
Mayor Phil Hardberger's Office
Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff
Larry Clark, Bender, Clark and Wells
Ann McGlone, City Historic
Preservation Officer
District 1 Councilman Roger Flores
Emil Moncivais, City Planning
Director
Bruce MacDougal, Virginia Nichols,
Marcie Ince, Conservation Society
Sally Buchanan, San Antonio River
Authority
District 5 Councilwoman Patti Radle
Lila Cockrell, Chair, River Oversight
Committee
J. Kit Walker, President, King
William Neighborhood Association
Charles Mazuca, District 3
Councilman Roland Gutierrez's
Assistant
Candy and Augie Beltran, Roosevelt
Park Neighborhood Association
Louis Rowe, Chair, San Antonio
River Authority
Roberto Anguiano, Southside
Neighborhood Leader
Mary Ozuna, Lone Star
Neighborhood Association
City Manager Sheryl Sculley's Office
Ellen Garza, Fields of the Mission
Neighborhood Association
County Commissioner Chico
Rodriguez 's Office
Monsignor Dermot Brosnan
St. Cecilia Priest Father Ruben
Garcia
County Commissioner Tommy
Adkisson
Jim Johnson, San Antonio River
Authority
Greg Rothe, San Antonio River
Authority
District 4 Councilman Richard Perez
David Vekasy, San Antonio
Missions Historic Parks
Neighbors on Highland,
Yellowstone, Mission, Roosevelt
And Castillo

Mission Road Power Plant Feasibility Study COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

GETTING THE WORD OUT

From January to March 2007, more than 100 selected community leaders and neighbors of the Mission Road Power Plant were engaged in interviews and visits to share news of the feasibility study for new uses of the 100 year-old facility.

INTERVIEWS AND WRITTEN REPORTS

Initial interviews by phone and in person with elected officials, city staff, individuals from the San Antonio River Authority, neighborhood associations, the CPS Advisory Committee, and Southside leaders, had three purposes. One was to let all know about the feasibility study, another was to ask for help naming stakeholders, and the final and most important purpose was to discover what are the most important concerns of the area. An extensive mailing list compiled by the Roosevelt Park Neighborhood Association was added to the list of stakeholders created by GRE Creative Communications, and all were invited to the March 10 open house and tour of the plant.

A common theme of remarks by community leaders was that the predominance of public land near the plant lends itself to exciting possibilities. Opinions by this group of the preference for mixed use or public uses, with the new development being open and inviting to surrounding neighbors, predicted accurately what the neighbors themselves said.

SURVEYING NEIGHBORS

Door to door interviews of about 20 neighbors of the plant revealed that the overall outlook is positive for the neighborhood's future, with neighbors being enthusiastic about river improvements and the coming hike and bike trail. Residents were intrigued by the thought that the empty buildings would be converted to a place for living, working or recreation.

Responses to an opinion survey of the best hoped-for outcome of the redevelopment can be analyzed in several ways, depending on who is responding. Those individuals who are not part of a neighborhood association and have not been in group discussions, are giving an opinion that has not been shaped by the interaction of a group. The spontaneous negative reaction to a possible corporate campus or exclusive condominiums are a clear indication from the public that these would be the least desirable outcomes. As groups meet and the discussion evolves, opinion could change, but most likely, the strong feelings about best outcome and worst outcome will not.

