

## Frequently Asked Questions About TRRG's Involvement in Addressing City Plans

### ■ **Who (or what) is TRRG?**

Tucson Residents for Responsive Government (TRRG) is a grassroots citizen organization dedicated to seeking positive change in City of Tucson (COT) government. To learn more, read our brochure included in this packet and visit our website at <http://tucsontrrg.org>

### ■ **Why is TRRG taking the lead in addressing the City's long-time dilemma of finding a more efficient and simplified method to engage residents in land-use decision-making?**

The number of staff in Planning and Development Services Department (PDSD) has been significantly reduced as part of the City's solution to its financial crisis. Involving the public in major problem-solving is very labor-intensive. Giving responsibility to a volunteer organization while providing it resource support reduces the workload for PSDS and the process is sure to be considered citizen-friendly. Since its inception in 2014, TRRG has worked cooperatively with the City in addressing Code Enforcement, compliance to open meeting law, and better procedures for Boards, Committees and Commissions.

### ■ **Why is this an appropriate time to be conducting this study?**

Voters approved our latest General Plan, *Plan Tucson*, in 2013. Included in this packet is *Plan Tucson* page 4.4 discussion of Specific Plans. It details the need for improvement. As of now, the issue has not been addressed. If the City is to develop an alternative ready to implement in the next General Plan, due in 2023, it is time to engage the public in this endeavor now.

### ■ **Is this neighborhood plan review a singular event?**

No, TRRG envisions that this will be multi-year project. It began on January 19, 2018, with a Ward 6/TRRG co-sponsored educational forum, "Neighborhood and Area Plans—Current Status." In preparation, TRRG submitted numerous questions to be answered by City staff; City Attorney Mike Rankin gave a written response which is on the TRRG website under the Planning and Development Services link on the home page. Attendance at the meeting at the Ward 6 Community Room exceeded the room capacity, well over 100 citizens flowing into the foyers, standing along the walls. At that time, attendees were given the opportunity to choose what they would like to see the follow-up to this initial meeting be. The greatest response was "Follow-up to tonight's education forum with a community conversation about the future of Neighborhood and Area Plans."

***The March 19, 2018, Training Workshop is the starter for that conversation. Until individual neighborhoods know what is presently on the books, review those documents against what is reality today and determine the adequacy of the present system, we have no common basis for discussion.***

### ■ **What will determine if this TRRG-sponsored initiative results in improved City policy?**

If all Neighborhood Associations make a long-term commitment to fully participate in the process, the City, staff and elected officials, will take its residents' recommendations seriously. It WILL take work!!