



The City of



Economic Development

MEETING NOTES

San Diego Promise Zone

Healthy Communities Working Group

Thursday, August 19th | 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Via Zoom (Meeting ID: 979 7737 1015 | Passcode: 486144)

Working Group Goal: To increase access to healthcare and healthy foods.

In Attendance

Barrio Botany, Champions for Health, City of San Diego's Council District 4, City of San Diego's Economic Development Department, City of San Diego's Planning Department, County of San Diego's Health and Human Services, Future Achievers Preschool, Kate Sessions Commitment, Logan Heights Community Development Corporation, Mongol Tribe, Office of Mayor Todd Gloria, Project New Village, Rady Children's Hospital, Sherman Heights Community Center, Spin, Urban Corps of San Diego County

Meeting Notes

Welcome, Agenda Review, and Introduction

- Culture Share: If cars did not exist what would be your preferred method of transportation?

Partner Announcements

- **Kate Sessions Commitment:** You're invited to apply for the Tree Ambassador pilot program to invite communities to plant, care for, and advocate for trees. Interns (any age) will receive modest stipend of \$600 for engaging groups, organizations, or neighborhoods to get and grow trees.
 - [Applications](#) open on August 16th, 2021, and will remain open until ten interns are selected. Contact Anne Fege (anne@katestrees.org) with questions.
 - Tree Equity Score and maps, at <https://www.treeequityscore.org/>. Type in "San Diego, CA" to view and zoom in
 - Video "tour" of the maps and applications for San Diego, at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/12lqxSoiQp-gKgBITE6NBwY1ibwofH-gK/view?usp=sharing>
- **Sherman Elementary School Garden:** On Friday, August 20th, 2021, Sherman Elementary will host a volunteer workday. They currently have 9-10 network volunteers visiting to work with them.

Click the following links to stay connected to the San Diego Promise Zone

[Slack Workspace](#) | [Newsletter](#) | [Website](#) | [Email](#) | (619) 236-6700 | 1200 Third Ave, 14th Floor, San Diego, CA 92101

- For more information on network volunteers, please contact Christina Abuelo (shermangrows@gmail.com)
- **Sherman Heights Community Center:** After-school programming will begin in September including academic support and cultural enrichment. Please share with youth you know who may be interested in participating.
- **Champions of Health:** Saturday, August 21st, 2021, Champions of Health will be at Jackie Robinson YMCA providing COVID-19 vaccines.
 - Please reach out to Andrew (andrew.gonzalez@championsofh.org) if you know any home-bound patients who would like to be vaccinated or would like to request a [presentation](#).
- **Second Chance:** The Youth Garden is hosting a volunteer day at the Peace Garden, 3850 Westgate Place on Saturday, August 21st from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. This will be a leading event to the Kale Festival happening at the Peace Garden on Saturday, September 18th.
- **Promise Zone Staff:** Promise Zone Staff, the Healthy Communities Co-Chairs, and key Partners met with Heidi Vonblum at the Planning Department earlier this month to communicate the barriers that CBOs and Partners have experienced in implementing urban agriculture projects in the Promise Zone. Since, Planning Department staff put an amendment to allow community gardens in parks into the City's Land Development Code update package, which they anticipate to be at City Council later in the year. This is only a first step in what will be a continued partnership with Planning and all other City Departments to streamline rules and regulations, and we will keep you updated as we learn more.

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

- [SNAP Online Purchasing Participation Assistance for Farmers and Farmers Markets:](#) Offers \$4,000,000 to give assistance to farmers' markets and direct marketing farmers that wish to accept SNAP benefits through online transactions. Due August 23rd, 2021.
- [Areas of Persistent Poverty Program:](#) Offers \$16,259,614 to improve transit services or facilities in areas of persistent poverty. Due August 30th, 2021.
- [Agriculture Innovation Center Grant Program Department of Agriculture Business and Cooperative Programs:](#) Offers \$7,392,479 total to provide technical assistance to agricultural producers to market value-added agricultural products. Due September 27th, 2021.
- [CA Outdoor Equity Grants Program:](#) Offers \$19,000,000 total to increase the ability of residents in low-income urban and rural communities to participate in outdoor experiences at state parks and other public lands. Due October 8th, 2021.
- [Plant America Community Project Grants:](#) Offers up to \$1,000.00 for each project in communities may include school gardens/classrooms. Due October 15th, 2021.
- [CA Community Connections:](#) Offers \$500,000 total to eliminate barriers that prevent people from accessing vital community resources. Due October 15th, 2021.

- [CA Parks Regional Park Program](#): Offers \$23,125,000 total to create, expand, or improve regional parks and regional parks facilities. Due November 5th, 2021.
- [Healthy Day Partners + SDG&E Healthy Communities Tree Program](#): Offers a \$1,500 microgrant as well as 10+ fruit trees to community and school gardens in San Diego County. Rolling deadline.

Environmental Health Coalition Transformative Climate Communities Tree Planting

- Apply to have more trees planted in the Promise Zone community by filling out [this survey](#) on where tree cover would be most needed/appreciated. There are currently about 200 trees available.
 - [Click here](#) for a map of vacant sites in Barrio Logan
 - Urban Corps will maintain the trees for the first 3 years, after which the land owner or City of San Diego.
- 20 trees will be planted in Caesar Chavez Park soon.
- If you would like to reference heat mapping data for your proposal, you can [view NASA's data here](#).

Funding Success: USDA Farm-to-School Grant

Natasha Salgado & Shannon Hontz, Logan Heights Community Development Corporation

- Logan Heights CDC received the USDA Farm-to-School Grant for its Future Achievers Preschool. They will plan and execute an Edible Garden, which will be used to provide healthy snacks and educational opportunities for their students.
- Once the garden has been planned and created, they will work with a Master Gardener to teach STEAM concepts and develop an interest in related careers.
- Partners were very supportive and excited for Logan Heights CDC, offering resources including education materials, connections with other organizations, and plants.

COVID-19 Update

Stephanie Estrada, Mayor's Office

Dr. Chris Kahn, Chief Medical Officer with Fire & Rescue Department

- Two million San Diegans have been vaccinated so far. As of August 6th, there have been 300,000 COVID-19 cases in San Diego.
- Dr. Kahn shared that Delta is now the dominant strain and he does not expect hospitalizations to increase by much more.
- However, he still recommends the "3 W's": washing hands, wearing a mask, and watching your distance, as well as vaccination.
- For parents concerned about sending their children to in-person school, Dr. Kahn suggests the San Diego Unified School District's [COVID-19 FAQ](#) and to get vaccinated if their child is old enough. Additionally, he emphasized the importance of following

contact tracing protocols by keeping children at home if they are showing any symptoms.

Spin Access and Transportation Options in the Promise Zone (15 minutes)

Daniel Bezinovich & Alex April, Community Partnership Associate, Spin.

- Founded in 2017, Spin operates in over 80 cities and campuses all over the world. They have been in San Diego since 2019, working closely with the City.
- Scooters operate 24 hours per day and cost \$1.00 to unlock, followed by \$0.39 per minute.
- [Spin Access](#) riders receive five free 30-minute rides per day.
 - To [enroll](#), community members must provide proof of address and either a letter vouching for status or an enrollment document for state, local, or federal programs like Medicaid, SNAP, WIC, etc.
- Riders can use SPIN scooters with or without a smartphone as well as with or without a credit card or bank account.
- A dedicated portion of the fleet will be in the Promise Zone.
- For more information, contact Daniel Bezinovich (daniel.bezinovich@spin.pm).

Subgroup Updates:

- **Active Living, Active Transportation:** The subgroup did not meet this month as Promise Zone Staff are still coordinating with the City's Communication Department regarding the Bike Rack Flyer.
- **Re-Engaging Healthcare Agencies:** Promise Zone Staff sent a letter of support to Blue Shield regarding the mural project.
- **Urban Agriculture:** Promise Zone Staff, Co-Chairs, and key partners met with Heidi Vonblum from the Planning Department to discuss community gardens. Additionally, the Jackie Robinson YMCA is moving forward with their healing garden. In partnership with the Union of Pan Asian Communities (UPAC), they held two community input sessions and construction will begin in September or October, once pool construction is completed.

Wrap Up and Adjourn

- Please leave any feedback using our [digital comment box](#).

Next Meeting

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