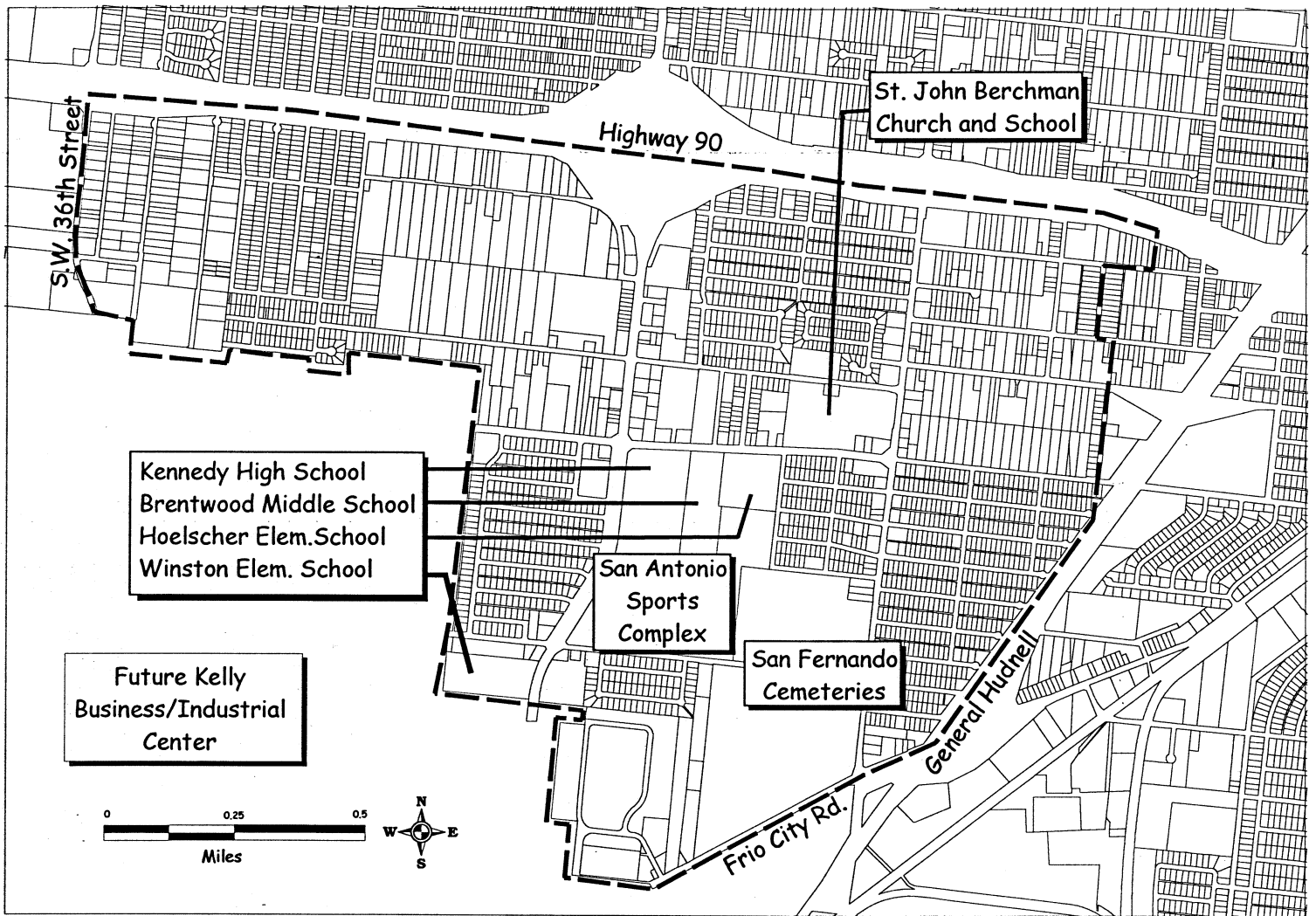


Thompson Community Association GOALS AND STRATEGIES REPORT



November 1998

Based on the Ideas from the
Thompson Community Association
September 12, 1998 Community Meeting

Prepared by
City of San Antonio Planning Department

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November 1998

Dear Neighbors,

The City of San Antonio Planning Department met with a group of community members from the Thompson Community Association area to brainstorm and identify the goals and strategies for the neighborhood.

This Goals and Strategies Report is a snapshot of the values of the community. The purpose of this snapshot is to focus the community energies on commonly agreed upon goals and strategies. There is no funding in this planning effort.

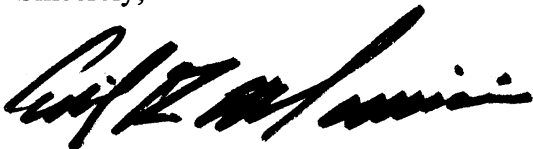
The real value of this report is that it functions as a catalyst that will bring community residents and stakeholders together to focus their energies.

The September 12, 1998 workshop resulted in short-term goals that include better school safety, education and enforcement of code compliance, recruitment and participation in the Thompson Community Association, addressing the tagging and graffiti problem, installing new sidewalks where they are needed the most, working toward getting a Recreation/Community Center in the neighborhood, re-paving the Kennedy Park walking trail, and gathering information on available city, county and school services. Long-term goals include maintaining the integrity of the neighborhood, addressing drainage issues at Jamar and Dexter, improving the alleys, moving overhead utility lines underground or to the rear of properties, and completing the sidewalk network.

The City cannot improve neighborhoods alone. Today, neighborhoods must partner with all stakeholders such as schools, businesses, non-profit organizations, churches, and other community institutions to make a positive impact in our neighborhoods.

The Thompson Community Association Goals and Strategies Report will be distributed to appropriate City departments as well as to Councilman Vásquez, District 5, Councilman Menéndez, District 6, and to Mayor Peak. As Planning Director, I applaud your efforts and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Emil R. Moncivais, Director
City of San Antonio Planning Department

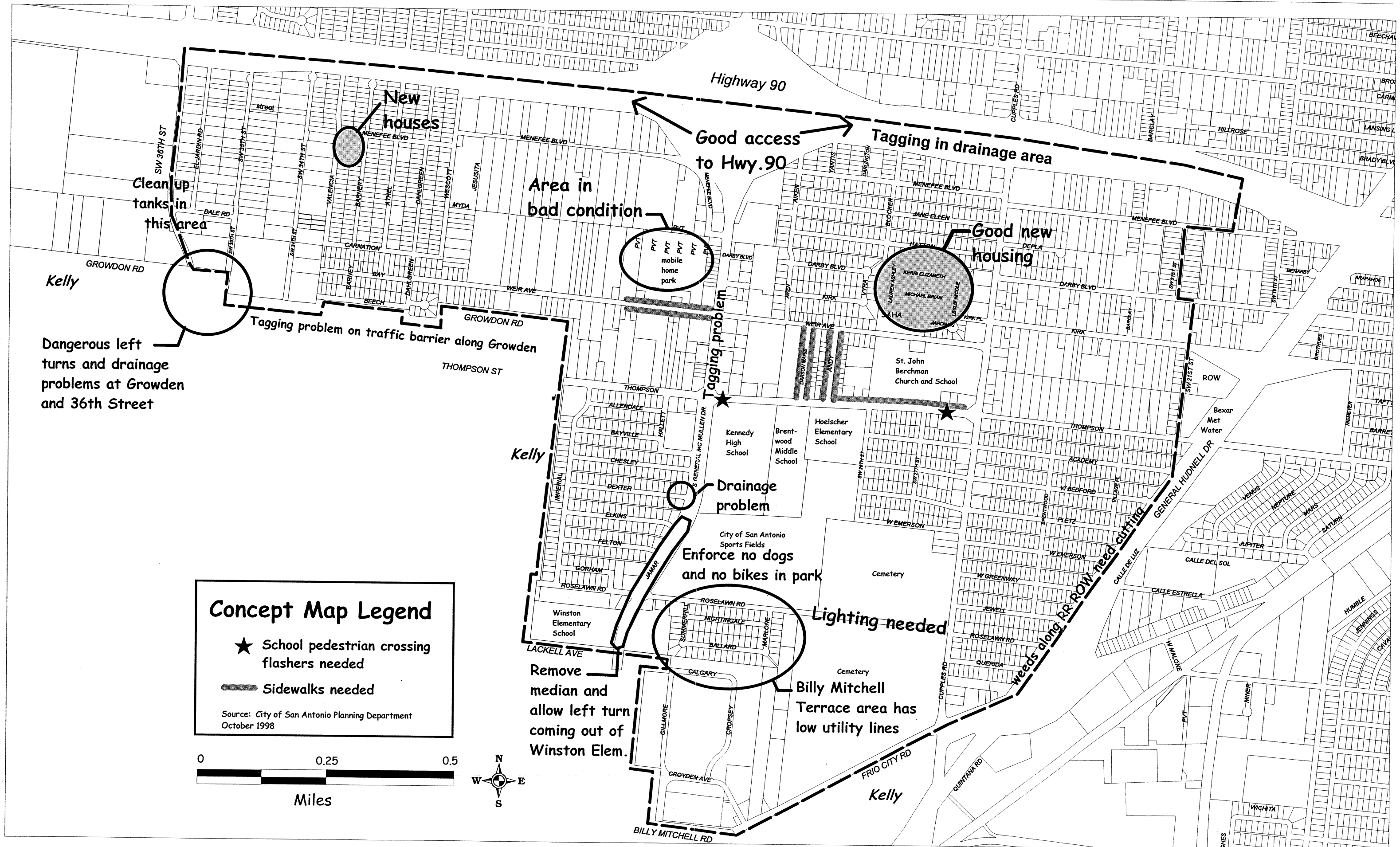
Summary of Goals and Strategies (see pages 6 to 8 for entire text)

Short Term (1 to 2 years)

- Better **school safety** by gathering statistics and going before the school district administration and city council.
- Education about and enforcement of **code compliance** by distributing informational brochures and recruiting a neighborhood code compliance committee.
- Increase recruitment and **participation in the Thompson Community Association** by surveying residents about what they want, writing and distributing a newsletter, and establishing block captains.
- Address **tagging and graffiti** by participating in the Cellular on Patrol Program and working with neighborhood SAFFE officers.
- Install **new sidewalks** where they are needed most by identifying where they are needed and submitting an application to the MPO.
- Work toward getting a **Recreation/Community Center** in the neighborhood by studying area programs and working with the Parks and Recreation Department.
- Plan a strategy to **have the Kennedy Park walking trail re-paved** by discussing the issue at a neighborhood meeting.
- Gather information on **available city, county, and school services** by asking the city, county and school district to provide information.

Long Term (3 to 5 years)

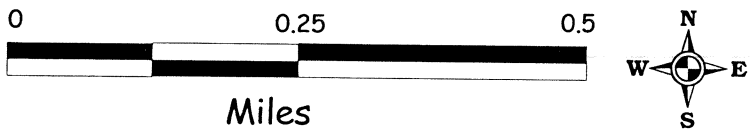
- **Maintain the integrity of the neighborhood** by collecting information on programs for home ownership, working with landowners of vacant properties, and talking with SAHA and HUD representatives.
- Address **drainage issues** at Jamar and Dexter by submitting an MPO application.
- **Improve the alleys** by organizing a committee to address this issue.
- **Relocate overhead utility lines** to underground services or the rear of properties by organizing a committee to address this issue.
- **Complete the network of sidewalks** throughout the neighborhood by organizing a committee to address this issue.



Concept Map Legend

- ★ School pedestrian crossing flashers needed
- Sidewalks needed

Source: City of San Antonio Planning Department
October 1998



Neighborhood Strengths

This section outlines the strengths of the neighborhood identified by the community at a public workshop held September 12, 1998.

1. Good location and access to public facilities including:
 - many denominations of churches
 - parks and sports complex
 - schools and stadiums in the neighborhood
 - medical clinics
 - Community Link and branch library at Las Palmas
 - EMS and fire service
 - police store front station
2. Housing
 - is a quiet, established neighborhood
 - high percentage of single family houses
 - good new single family areas
 - high percentage of owner occupied houses
 - people take care of their property
 - good senior citizen housing
3. Good People
 - sense of family and community
 - conservative attitude with sense of values and self-reliance
 - a mix of age groups, including retired people with incomes
 - residents are working
4. Small business establishments
5. Represented by two council districts
6. Good street and exterior lighting

Neighborhood Weaknesses

This section outlines the weaknesses of the neighborhood identified by the community at a public workshop held September 12, 1998. The issues outlined have not been verified.

1. Assisted housing; large concentration of Section 8 housing for the area
 - apartments have a high percentage of Section 8 tenants
 - housing in Kelly will be used for homeless
 - displacement of people from Mirasol housing project into the neighborhood
2. Streets, sidewalks, alleys, drainage
 - drainage problem at Dexter and Jaymar
 - lack of sidewalks on streets heavily used by students
 - Darson Marie and Andy Streets across from Brentwood Middle School
 - Thompson Street from 21st Street to 28th Street
 - Weir from General McMullen to Acme
 - the alleys have deep holes with standing water and need to be paved and lighted
3. Traffic and Transit
 - the traffic island near Winston Elementary School prevents traffic from turning left when exiting the school, causing circulation problems
 - VIA bus traffic on Weir and Darson Marie will damage the new road
4. Code Compliance
 - two houses on Thompson Place near the Diplomat Apartments have R1 zoning but are being used as tri-plexes.
 - property on Weir that back up to Growden has livestock
 - overgrown weeds on Railroad ROW near General Hudnell
 - the trailer park is not maintained
5. Graffiti
 - on General McMullen commercial area
 - on Cupples by drainage area near Highway 90
 - on new sidewalks on Roselawn Ave.
 - road barrier near Kelly is constantly cleaned and immediately re-tagged
 - Kennedy Park
6. Utility lines are low over the road on Billy Mitchell Terrace
7. Tanks near Alamo Aircraft need to be cleaned up
8. Large concentration of bars on Cupples south of Thompson
9. Kennedy Park problems
 - problem with drinking in the sports complex parking area
 - the “no pets” and “no bikes” rules need enforcement
 - lack of park ranger patrol
 - the walking area needs re-paving and better lighting

Goals and Strategies

This section describes the long and short term goals of the neighborhood and strategies to meet those goals as identified by the community at a public workshop held September 12, 1998.

Short Term Goals and Strategies (1 to 2 years)

1. School safety

- install school warning lights on Thompson between General McMullen and Cupples
- study school pedestrian crossings
- remove the median on General McMullen from Thompson south (first priority is the area near Winston Elementary School)

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- *gather statistics from the City and Edgewood School District Public Information Office*
- *recruit neighborhood association people to go before the Edgewood School District administration and City Council*

2. Enforcement of code compliance and education of residents about codes

- conversion of homes to multi-family with R-1 zoning
- weeds on vacant lots, city properties, medians, railroad rights-of-way
- junk autos
- low utility wires

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- *the Thompson Community Association will distribute information brochures about code compliance to residents in targeted areas*
- *recruit a neighborhood association code compliance committee*

3. Increase recruitment and participation in the Thompson Community Association

- start a community newsletter

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- *survey residents door to door about what they want and what activities will attract their participation*
- *start a neighborhood newsletter*
- *establish block captains to pass out newsletters and identify problems in their block*
- *contact the media to promote the neighborhood's accomplishments*

Short Term Goals and Strategies (1 to 2 years) *continued*

4. Address tagging and graffiti in the neighborhood

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- *have a presentation on the Cellular on Patrol (COP) program*
- *recruit people for Cellular on Patrol training*
- *have a "sting" type operation to catch taggers*
- *work with the SAFFE officers*

5. Install new sidewalks where they are needed the most in areas with high pedestrian traffic

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- *have block captains survey their streets to identify need*
- *submit application for sidewalks to the MPO in October*

6. Begin work toward getting a Recreation/Community Center in the neighborhood

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- *work with the City Parks and Recreation Department to determine feasibility*
- *study youth services, elderly activities, recreational programs, and arts and crafts programs in the area*

7. Re-pave the walking trail in Kennedy Park

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- *put this on the agenda for a neighborhood association meeting*

8. Gather information on available services

- school district
- city and county services for the elderly and handicapped

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- *ask the City, County, and School District to provide information to the neighborhood association*

Long Term Goals and Strategies (3 to 5 years)

1. Preserve and maintain the integrity of the neighborhood
 - encourage single family owner-occupied housing

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- collect information from housing agencies which provide programs for home ownership
- identify landowners of vacant properties to develop and market new single family housing
- get information from the San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA) and the district HUD office on the percentage of people in the area with assisted housing
- invite SAHA and/or HUD district office representatives to attend a neighborhood meeting

2. Address drainage issues at Jamar and Dexter

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- submit an MPO application

3. Improve the appearance of the alleys

- an all weather surface is needed
- add lighting on existing poles

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- organize a committee to address this issue

4. Remove overhead utility lines throughout the neighborhood and place them underground or in the rear of properties.

Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- organize a committee to address this issue

5. Complete the network of sidewalks throughout the neighborhood

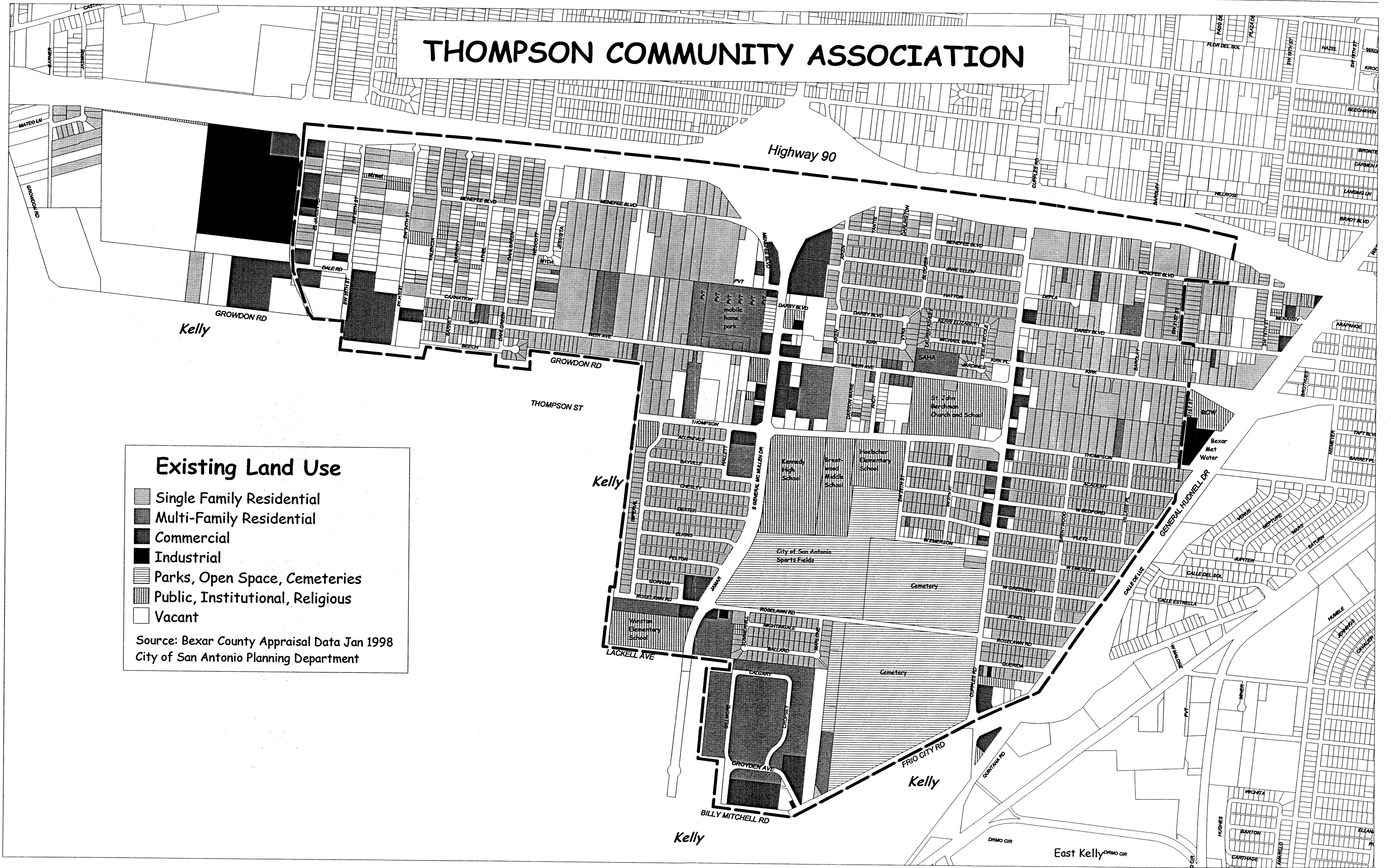
Strategies to accomplish this goal:

- organize a committee to address this issue

Appendices

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THOMPSON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

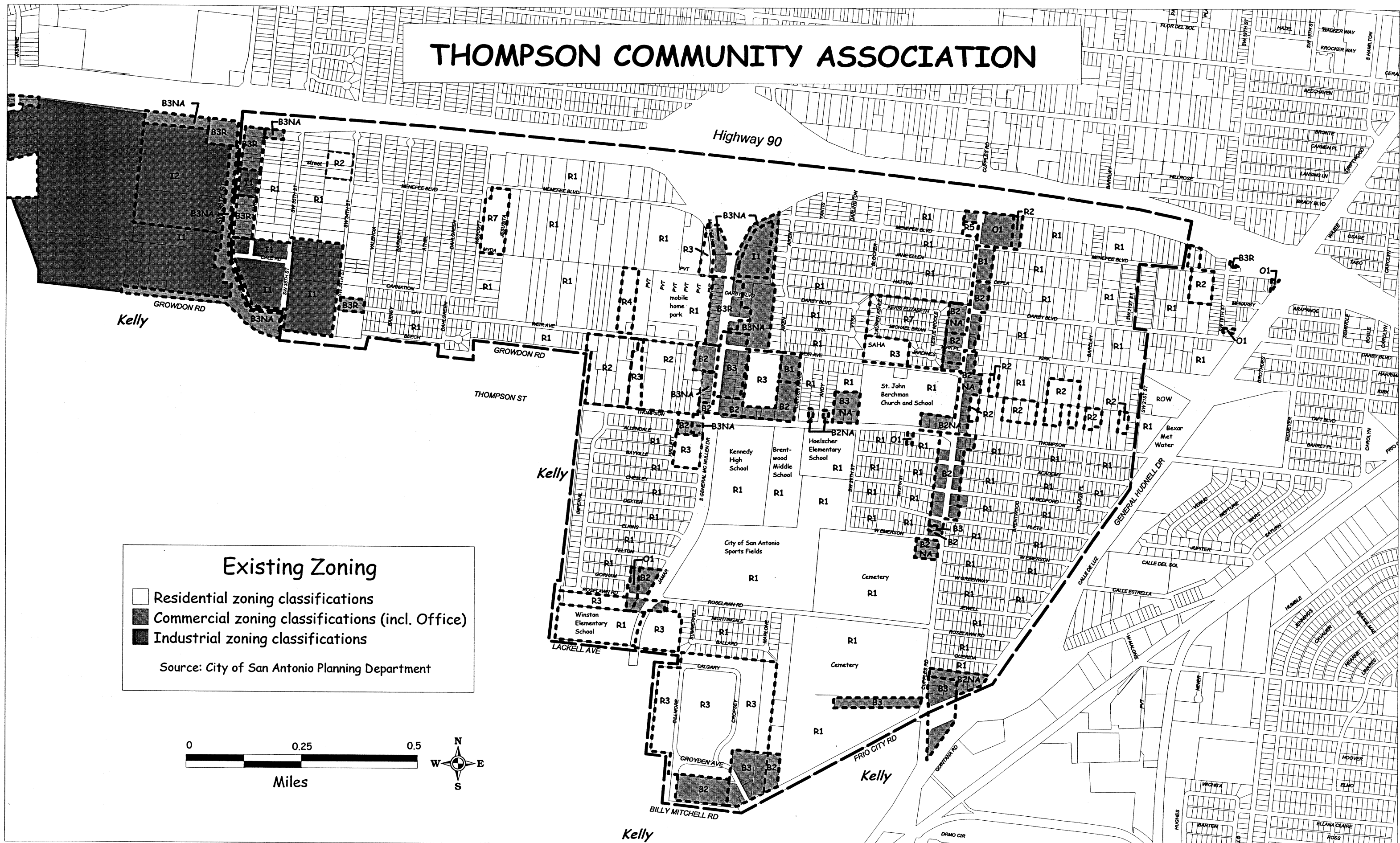


Existing Land Use

- Single Family Residential
- Multi-Family Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Parks, Open Space, Cemeteries
- Public, Institutional, Religious
- Vacant

Source: Bexar County Appraisal Data Jan 1998
City of San Antonio Planning Department

THOMPSON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



THOMPSON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING

Goals and Strategies Work Session

Saturday, September 12, 1998

SIGN IN SHEET

Name	Address	Phone
1. Louis Reher	146 Felton	433-4190
2. Tina Morales	3127 Darby	435-0103
3. ROQUE A LABASAN	146 DEXTER	434-3991
4. ORFELINA LABASAN	"	"
5. RAY YOUNG, JR	147 DEXTER	435-5944
6. ANDRES RODRIGUEZ	139 ELKINS DR.	434-8120
7. Rachel Solis	114 Ballard	434-8132
8. RAY SOLIS	" "	" "
9. Sonia G. Huerta	3003 Jane Ellen	"
10. OSCAR EMMA LOPEZ	166 DEXTER	433-0513
11. El Picon	207 SW 29th	433-5391
12. Paul L Perez	239 Plaz Dr.	432-3528
13. Gloria V. Lloyd	171 Dexter	433-9370
14. Pat Anita Perez	179 Chesley dr.	435-4765
15. Aurora Gonzalez	2523 Aiken	432 6851
16. Jim Boyer	City of San Antonio Planning Dept.	
17. Ricardo Soliz	"	
18. Carol Hayward	207-7395	