

imagineSanAntonio

a public policy institute for research, education, discussion and implementation

Imagine greater San Antonio as a healthier, better educated, more prosperous, easier to traverse, and more sustainable region. Imagine San Antonio's communities and neighborhoods, governments, organizations, and institutions working together to create a better San Antonio ...

that's **imagineSanAntonio**.

» Mission.

Improve the quality of life in the San Antonio area by advancing public policies that promote responsible urban growth and healthy lifestyles.

San Antonio is a wonderful place to live, work, and play. As our city grows, it has the potential to be a truly great and strikingly progressive city. But San Antonio faces many critical challenges to transform from an average city into a great city. Continued unrestrained growth, a decaying urban core, a fragile environment, limited

water resources, a culture of illiteracy and its consequences—poverty and an undereducated workforce—an underfunded public transportation system, unhealthy lifestyles, a lack of appreciation for the arts, a complacent citizenry, and a lack of a common vision and purpose—will constrain San Antonio's potential to provide a better quality of life for its citizens.

In order to be able to become a sustainable modern city that can compete in the global marketplace ... in order to sustain a vibrant economy ... San Antonio must develop comprehensive solutions to our city's problems. We must leverage the collective power of the public, institutional, philanthropic, commercial, and private sectors to effectively address the critical issues facing San Antonio in a coordinated, holistic way. We must have a common purpose.

Our Methodology and Purpose

imagineSanAntonio does not intend to draw "*the plan*" for the future, but rather to facilitate community discussion, develop alliances among various organizations and interests, find the common ground, and develop a shared vision for the future of San Antonio that will facilitate creative solutions to address multiple problems in a synergistic way.

imagineSanAntonio is ...

❖ **A think tank** consisting of a collaborative of the best and brightest minds in San Antonio—academic, civic, institutional, and private leaders and advocates—who will develop holistic strategies to address the city's problems.

❖ **An educational workshop** where experts from around the country will share their experience in developing other progressive and transformative communities. We want to grow San Antonio responsibly and understand how to improve our rich local culture and our quality of life by learning what other progressive cities are doing.

❖ Topics

- ▶ Quality of Life
- ▶ Urban Planning
- ▶ Neighborhoods
- ▶ Transportation
- ▶ Environment
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Government
- ▶ Public Health
- ▶ Culture
- ▶ The Urban Core
- ▶ Greenspace
- ▶ Water
- ▶ Design

❖ **A forum** where the academic, civic, cultural, and business people meet to discuss and debate multiple scenarios for the future of San Antonio, thereby breaking down barriers promoting the exchange and interchange of ideas.

❖ **A policy institute** where consensus for public policies is developed around a shared vision for San Antonio.

❖ **Initiatives**

- ▶ Livable San Antonio Initiative
- ▶ Distinguished Speaker Series
- ▶ Symposiums on key issues
- ▶ Forums with public officials
- ▶ Developing alliances
- ▶ Disseminating public meeting notes
- ▶ Advancing public policy

Our Leadership

imagineSanAntonio includes architects, urban planners, media leaders, civic leaders, students, and other citizens who share a common vision for San Antonio's future.

❖ **Board of Directors**

Bob Wise*, AIA, **President and Founder**; Former President, AIA San Antonio

Lewis Fisher*, AIA, **Vice President and Co-Founder**; Former Co-Chair, AIA San Antonio Urban Affairs Committee

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Bill Barker, Formerly with Office of Environmental Policy, City of San Antonio

Annalisa Peace, Executive Director, Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance

Richard Tangum, PhD, Director, Urban and Regional Planning Program, College of Architecture, UTSA

* Denotes Executive Committee

❖ **Advisory Directors**

Phil Hardberger, Former Mayor, City of San Antonio

Claudia Guerra, Vice-Chair, San Antonio Youth Literacy Council Board of Directors

Christine Drennon, PhD, Assistant Professor, Urban Studies Department, Trinity University

❖ **Affiliated Organizations**

American Institute of Architects, San Antonio Chapter

VIA Metropolitan Transit, San Antonio

Urban Land Institute, San Antonio Chapter

Alamo Area Council of Governments, San Antonio

Urban and Regional Planning Department, the College of Architecture, the University of Texas at San Antonio

Downtown Alliance/Centro Partnership, San Antonio

Office of Sustainability, City of San Antonio

Office of Environmental Policy, City of San Antonio

Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance

Urban Studies Department, Trinity University