



Preliminary Results from Workshop #2

- Workshop #2 was held at the Olympia Center on Saturday, Feb 20 from 9:30 am to noon
- **About 110 members of the public were in attendance**
 - 90 general participants + 20 volunteer facilitators from the community
- Participants discussed (24) proposals that emphasized live, work and visit elements (*see attached*)
 - The proposals had been shaped by prior input and analysis
 - Through individual and small group evaluation, participants:
 - Prioritized these
 - Gave input about how to make these better
- Public input will be used to:
 - Refine the proposals
 - Begin to prioritize as we determine what we can do to strategically move our vision for downtown forward over the next 6 years
- Nothing is set in stone at this point
 - More analysis needed; online survey coming up

Prioritization by Small Groups (refer to attached scenario maps)

SCENARIO	ELEMENT	PROPOSAL	WS2-VOTES
LIVE	BIG PICTURE	B1. Neighborhoods with services and diverse housing	15
WORK	BIG PICTURE	C1. Tech and artisans district with eclectic character	13
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A1. Capitol to Farmers Market high activity spine	12
LIVE	BIG PICTURE	B2. Retain residential in the core	10
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A2. Enhance entertainment district	9
LIVE	TRANSPORTATION	B4. Create a pedestrian network for neighborhoods	7
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A6. Improve Capitol Way	6
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A9. Improve alleys	6
LIVE	TRANSPORTATION	B5. Study the potential of converting 4th Ave and State St to two-way streets	5
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A4. Master Plan the isthmus	5
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A8. Legion and Washington as “festival streets”	5
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A5. Enhance waterfront recreation opportunities	4
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A11. Shared streets from Capitol Way to waterfront	4
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A13. Olympia waterfront route and historic/cultural trail	4
WORK	TRANSPORTATION	C4. Capitol Way improvements	4



VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A12. Enhance major entries	3
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A7. Improve circulation around 4th and 5th Streets	3
WORK	BIG PICTURE	C3. Attract workers through activities and partnerships	3
WORK	TRANSPORTATION	C5. Functional streets with pedestrian access	3
WORK	TRANSPORTATION	C6. Pedestrian network and transit connections	2
LIVE	BIG PICTURE	B3. Consider parks and facilities for neighborhoods	1
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A3. Add museum and plaza	1
WORK	BIG PICTURE	C2. Finance/office redevelopment on Union and Capitol	1
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A10. Improve pedestrian connections on Thurston	0

At the end of the workshop, participants were asked to identify their top 6 priorities- the results:

SCENARIO	ELEMENT	PROPOSAL	WS2-VOTES
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A1. Capitol to Farmers Market high activity spine	50
LIVE	BIG PICTURE	B1. Neighborhoods with services and diverse housing	44
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A2. Enhance entertainment district	33
WORK	BIG PICTURE	C1. Tech and artisans district with eclectic character	33
WORK	TRANSPORTATION	C6. Pedestrian network and transit connections	28
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A4. Master Plan the isthmus	27
LIVE	TRANSPORTATION	B4. Create a pedestrian network for neighborhoods	27
LIVE	TRANSPORTATION	B5. Study the potential of converting 4th Ave and State St to two-way streets	27
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A5. Enhance waterfront recreation opportunities	26
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A7. Improve circulation around 4th and 5th Streets	21
WORK	BIG PICTURE	C3. Attract workers through activities and partnerships	18
LIVE	BIG PICTURE	B2. Retain residential in the core	16
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A8. Legion and Washington as “festival streets”	15
WORK	TRANSPORTATION	C5. Functional streets with pedestrian access	15
WORK	TRANSPORTATION	C4. Capitol Way improvements	14
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A3. Add museum and plaza	12
LIVE	BIG PICTURE	B3. Consider parks and facilities for neighborhoods	11
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A11. Shared streets from Capitol Way to waterfront	10
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A6. Improve Capitol Way	9
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A9. Improve alleys	8
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A12. Enhance major entries	6
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A13. Olympia waterfront route and historic/cultural trail	5
WORK	BIG PICTURE	C2. Finance/office redevelopment on Union and Capitol	3
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A10. Improve pedestrian connections on Thurston	2



Individual Preferences from Ind. Evaluation Sheets

of 'votes'

SCENARIO	ELEMENT	PROPOSAL	# of 'votes'		
			Like it	Neutral	Don't like
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A1. Capitol to Farmers Market high activity spine	81	8	2
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A2. Enhance entertainment district	73	10	8
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A3. Add museum and plaza	44	27	18
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A4. Master Plan the isthmus	63	23	3
VISIT	BIG PICTURE	A5. Enhance waterfront recreation opportunities	64	19	6
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A6. Improve Capitol Way	69	17	2
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A7. Improve circulation around 4th and 5th	62	18	9
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A8. Legion and Washington as "festival streets"	57	22	8
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A9. Improve alleys	63	22	6
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A10. Improve pedestrian connections on Thurston	54	22	7
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A11. Shared streets from Capitol Way to waterfront	64	13	9
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A12. Enhance major entries	44	30	11
VISIT	TRANSPORTATION	A13. Olympia waterfront route and historic/cultural trail	72	17	4
LIVE	BIG PICTURE	B1. Neighborhoods with services and diverse housing	83	5	3
LIVE	BIG PICTURE	B2. Retain residential in the core	76	10	3
LIVE	BIG PICTURE	B3. Consider parks and facilities for neighborhoods	65	17	5
LIVE	TRANSPORTATION	B4. Create a pedestrian network for neighborhoods	74	9	3
LIVE	TRANSPORTATION	B5. Study the potential of converting 4th Ave and State St to two-way streets	38	18	30
WORK	BIG PICTURE	C1. Tech and artisans district with eclectic character	67	17	4
WORK	BIG PICTURE	C2. Finance/office redevelopment on Union and Capitol	40	28	20
WORK	BIG PICTURE	C3. Attract workers through activities and partnerships	61	15	7
WORK	TRANSPORTATION	C4. Capitol Way improvements	66	13	6
WORK	TRANSPORTATION	C5. Functional streets with pedestrian access	72	10	3
WORK	TRANSPORTATION	C6. Pedestrian network and transit connections	70	9	3

**NEXT STEPS:**

- **Proposals will evolve, and priorities will eventually form a guiding framework**
 - Visit, live, work elements will be integrated
 - Framework will be more than maps identifying emphasis areas – will also include:
 - Economic, retail, housing, design & historic preservation strategies
 - MAKERS & staff are fleshing out what the priorities and action steps could be; the Stakeholder Work Group (SWG) and public will be asked for feedback
 - *Example #1:*
 - **Housing priority:** *Provide a range of housing types for a range of income levels.*
 - **Potential Tactic #1:** *adopt “inclusionary zoning” which requires a given share of new construction to be affordable by people with low to moderate incomes.*
 - **Next steps:** *Determine what it would take to make this a viable option. Garner feedback from development community at Forum #1. Etc.*
 - *Example #2:*
 - **Retail priority:** *Retail services meet the day-to-day needs of downtown residents*
 - **Potential Tactic #1:** *Recruit a pharmacy to locate downtown*
 - **Next steps:** *Determine general locations and steps needed to do this. Etc.*
 - Those were just general examples, folks
 - A proposed guiding framework will be presented to Council in May
- **Guiding framework will inform:**
 - Updates to design & development regulations - to ensure alignment
 - 30% designs for sections of 5 downtown streets that are already slated for transformation within the next 6 years
 - Franklin from Legion to State
 - Legion from Water to Franklin
 - Capitol from Legion to State
 - Washington from Legion to Olympia
 - Jefferson from 7th to State
 - 6-year capital improvement plan for downtown
 - 6-Years of actions to move downtown goals (will be identified), including whose in the lead and year it will occur:
 - *Example #1: Steps to improve regional & downtown social service coordination*
 - *Example #2: clean & safe actions*
 - A downtown parking strategy
 - A sea level rise strategy
 - City work plans, budgets, partnerships for next 6 years



- **Public Engagement during March:**
 - Publish online survey
 - Post response to questions posed at the workshop online
 - At the workshop, the public was also asked to write their question on index cards:
 - Important questions about sea level rise, market realities of housing, development regulations, and more
 - Responses will be written up and published online
- **At the March 2 meeting, staff & MAKERS will update the SWG regarding other next steps.**

SCENARIO A: VISIT

The Big Picture

PROPOSALS

- 1 Build on existing attractions (*) in waterfront and core, and develop a Capitol to Market "high activity spine" with:
 - Diverse, high quality architecture and historic preservation,
 - A positive relationship between social services and businesses/attractions, and
 - Highly visible and active public spaces and amenities.



- 2 Enhance "entertainment district" with special focus on safety and integration with surrounding uses.



- 3 Add new museum and plaza/park to waterfront (location not specified).



- 4 Develop a master plan for the isthmus.

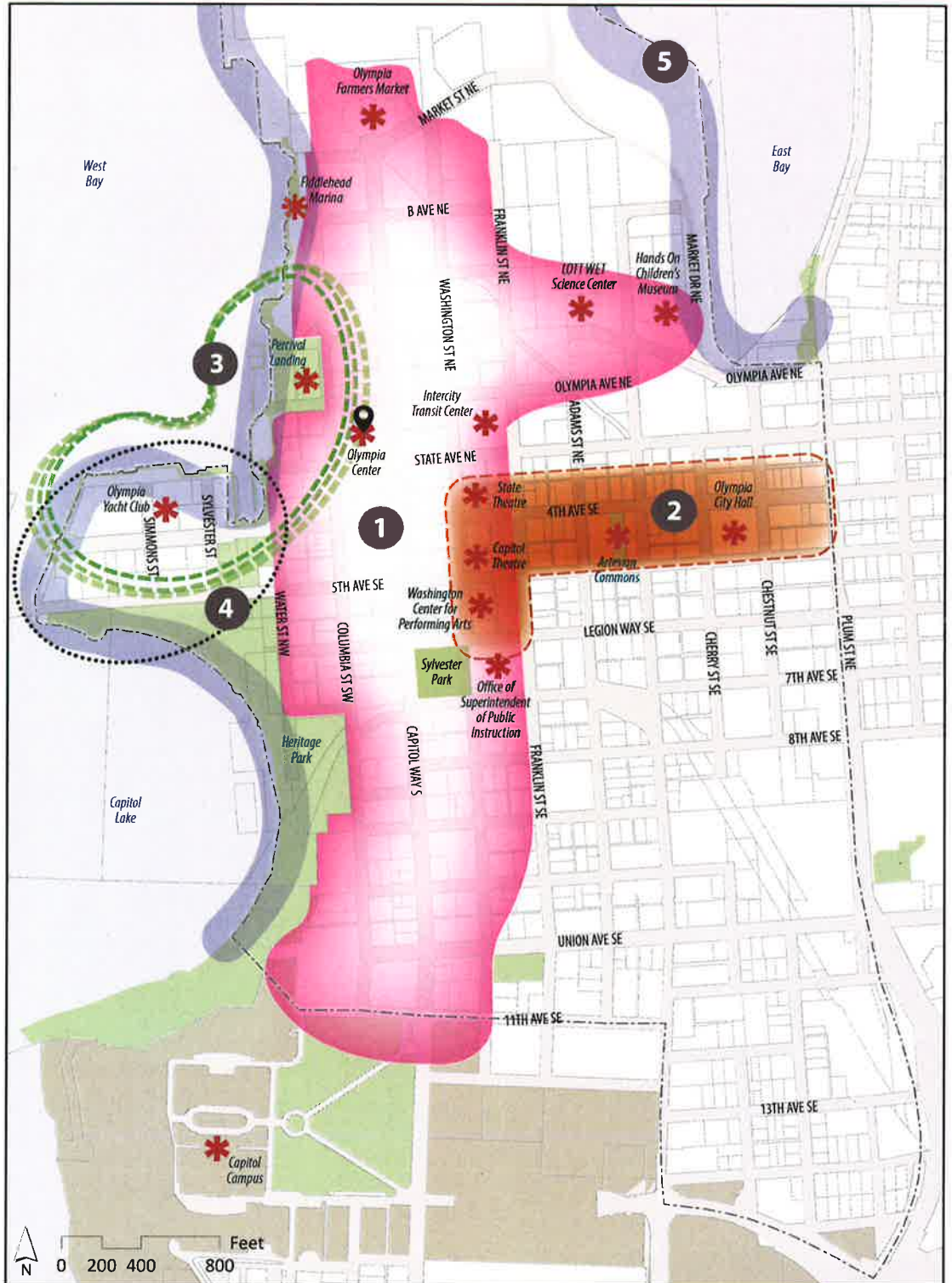


- 5 Enhance waterfront recreation opportunities.



EXISTING FEATURES

- Downtown planning area
- City and State parks
- State Capitol Campus
- You are here (Olympia Center)



STRENGTHS

- Builds on assets and current identity
- Draws regional visitors
- Enhances retail activity
- Enlivens Capitol Lake waterfront
- Encourages bus ridership
- Invites State workers and visitors into downtown
- Encourages high quality architecture and civic spaces

CHALLENGES

- Would require additional parking supply
- Nighttime activity near residential areas
- High cost, especially for new attractions
- Requires high quality development
- Sea level rise/flooding generally north of Legion Way

Transportation

PROPOSALS

- 6 Improve Capitol Way as the City's "signature street."

- 7 Improve circulation, especially pedestrian, around 4th and 5th Aves.
W 4th and 5th St
Pedestrian improvements
 Pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular improvements
- 8 Design Legion Way (between Capitol and Washington) and Washington St (between Legion and 5th) as "festival streets" that can be closed for scheduled activities.

- 9 Continue to improve alleys in core.

- 10 Improve pedestrian connections on Thurston Ave.
St 10th 9th 8th 7th 6th 5th 4th 3rd 2nd 1st
- 11 Create "shared streets" from Capitol Way to Percival Landing and Capitol Lake.





- 12 Enhance major entries into downtown.

- 13 Continue to develop the Olympia Waterfront Route and connect to a new walking/biking trail that highlights cultural and historic features (route not identified).


BIG PICTURE PROPOSALS

- High activity core and waterfront
Entertainment district

EXISTING FEATURES

-  Downtown planning area
-  City and State parks
-  State Capitol Campus
-  You are here (Olympia Center)



OLYMPIA DOWNTOWN STRATEGY
Workshop 2 February 20, 2016



STRENGTHS

- Capitol Way could be a striking “Main St”
- Attractions are better connected for pedestrians, bicycles, and cars
- Builds on current alley improvements
- Includes several innovative street design concepts that emphasize public space

CHALLENGES







- Requires traffic analysis
- High cost

SCENARIO B: LIVE







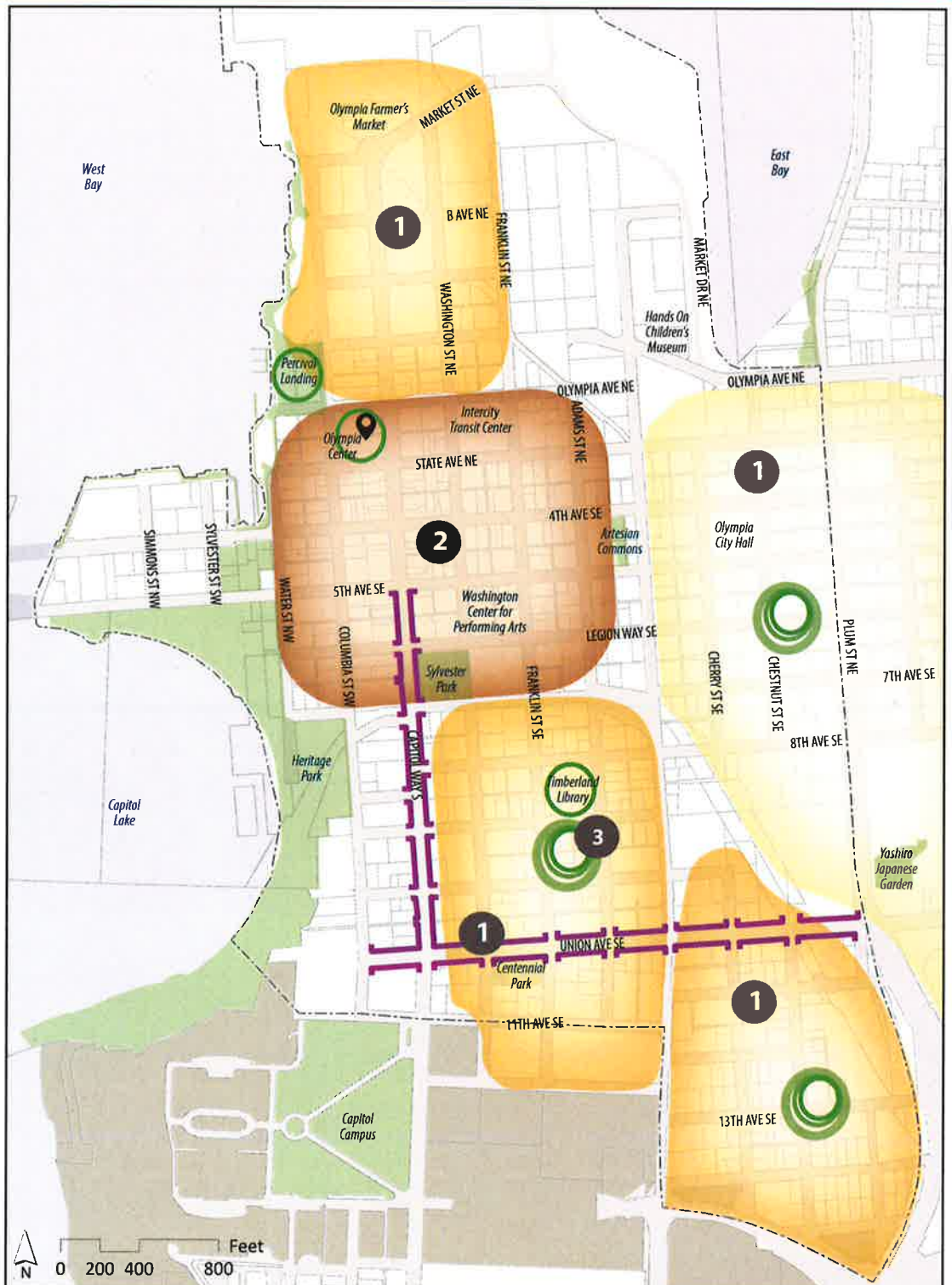
The Big Picture

PROPOSALS

- 1** Establish neighborhoods with services and a range of housing options. Require development to be sensitive to the scale and character of existing neighborhoods and most housing to be "ground related."
-  Significant residential growth
-  Modest residential growth
-  Neighborhood-oriented services (retail, professional, etc.)
- 2** Retain residential in the mixed-use core.
- 
- 3** In the next Park Plan update, consider how existing or new parks and/or public facilities (e.g., library, Olympia Center, recreation center) serve neighborhoods.
-  Location not determined
-  Existing park or facility serving neighborhood

EXISTING FEATURES

-  Downtown planning area
-  City and State parks
-  State Capitol Campus
-  You are here (Olympia Center)



STRENGTHS

- Will easily accommodate 5,000 new residents
- Links downtown to eastern neighborhoods
- Increases the variety of housing types and prices
- Neighborhood services and parks/facilities will make downtown more livable, including for families
- Enhances residential character
- Moderate cost

CHALLENGES

- Sea level rise/flooding north of Legion Way
- Will require strong design review guidelines and process
- Neighborhood amenities won't be accomplished in short term
- No "wow" factor

SCENARIO B: LIVE



Transportation

PROPOSALS

- 4 Create a network of pleasant pedestrian connections in and between neighborhoods (specific streets to be determined).

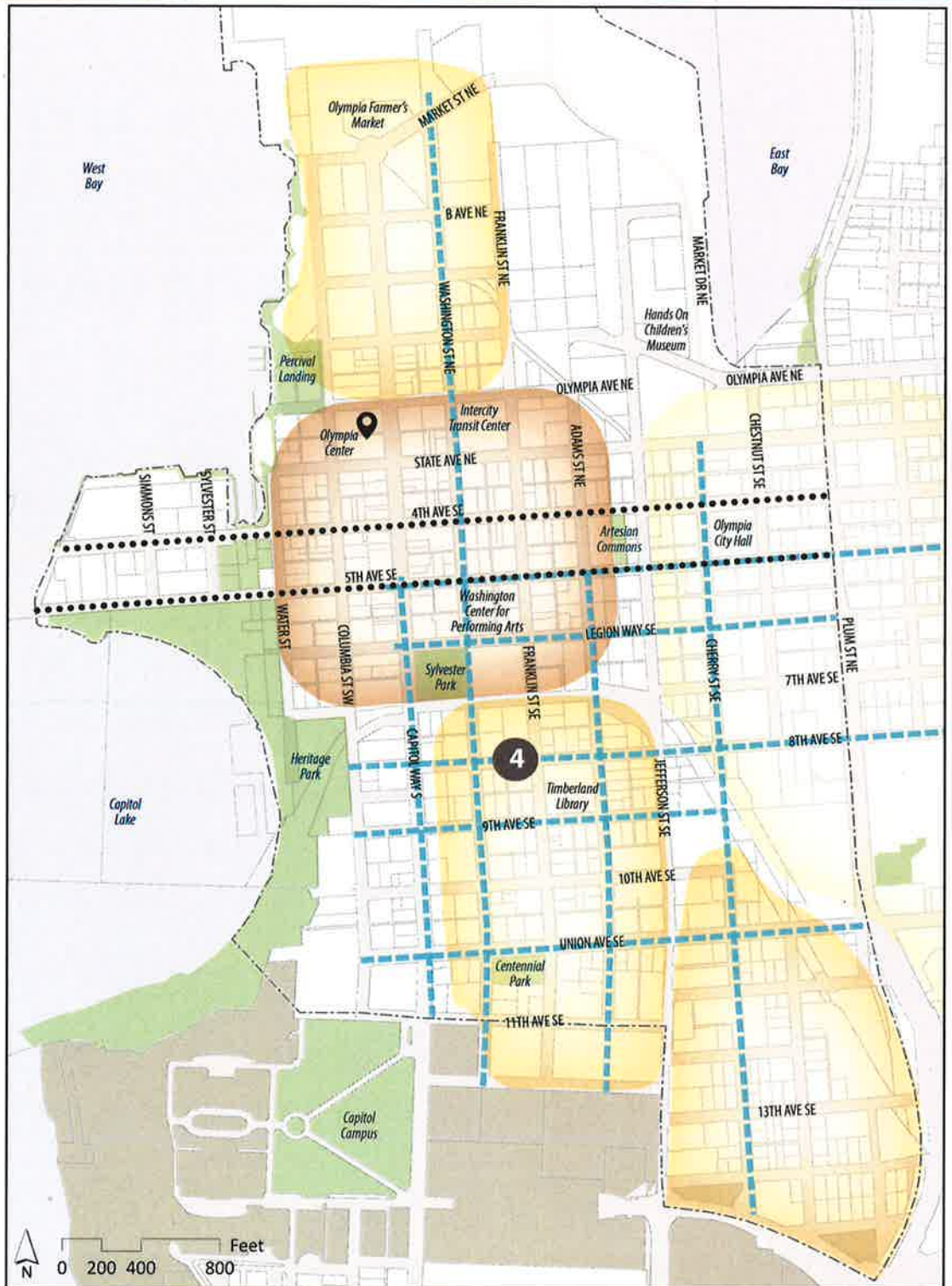
- 5 Study the conversion of one-way streets to two-way streets.

BIG PICTURE PROPOSALS

- Establish neighborhoods with services
- Retain residential in the core

EXISTING FEATURES

- Downtown planning area
- City and State parks
- State Capitol Campus
- You are here (Olympia Center)



STRENGTHS

- Distributes street improvements around the downtown
- Creates unifying pedestrian environment
- Connects residents to services
- Parking and access demands are more easily met with development
- Low cost

CHALLENGES

- Neighborhood streets focus doesn't address citywide/regional traffic issues (i.e., benefits are very localized)
- Ignores northeast sector
- Bicycle network not specifically addressed

SCENARIO C: WORK

The Big Picture

PROPOSALS

- 1 Building on Port and LOTT activities and existing warehouses, encourage employment opportunities by supporting a "tech" and "artisans district" with plenty of affordable commercial space. Encourage the re-use of industrial buildings and very diverse, eclectic, and energy- and water-efficient architecture.



- 2 Encourage infill development to grow finance and office district with energy- and water-efficient construction.

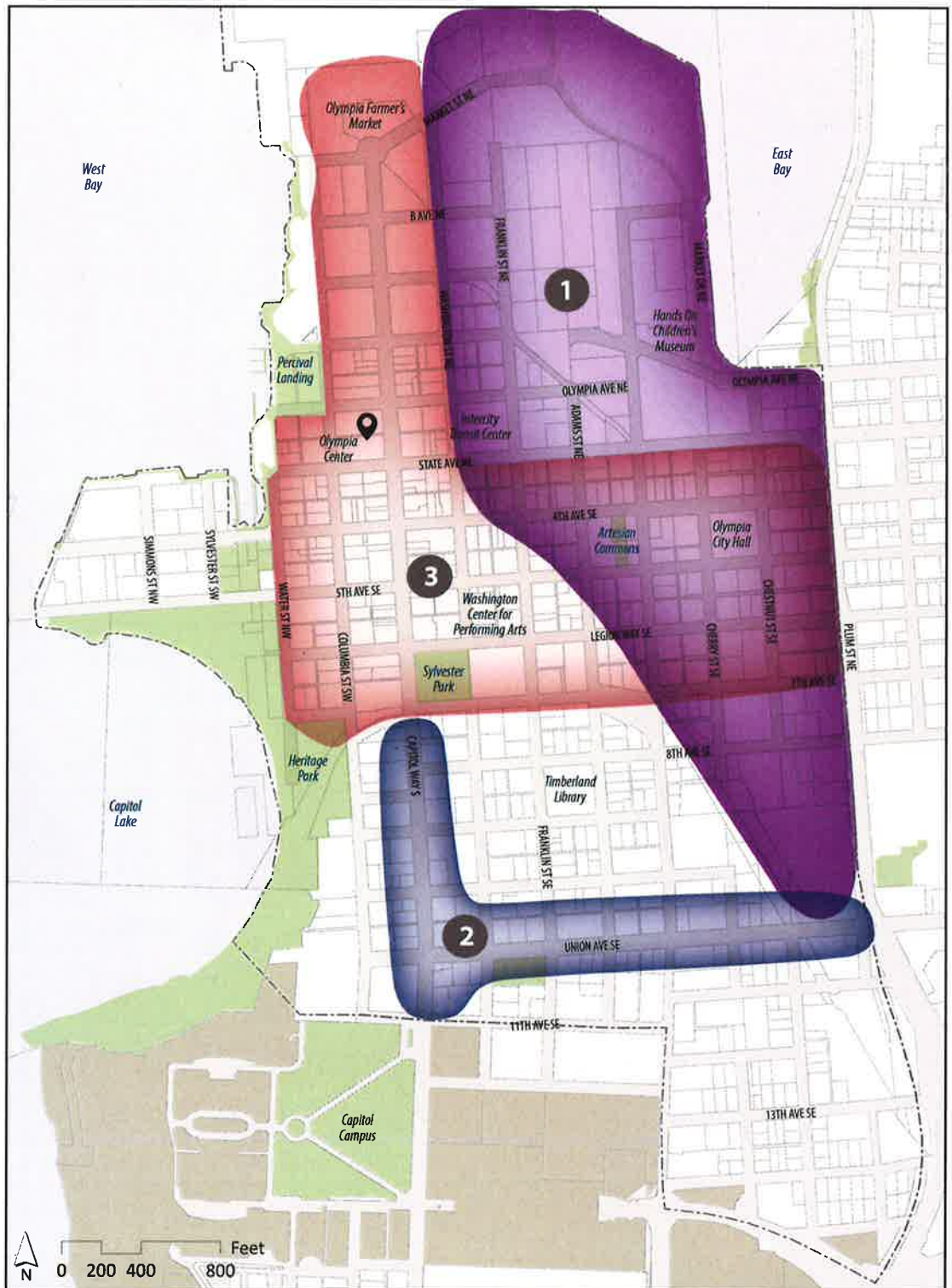


- 3 Attract workers by building on retail and entertainment activities in the core and partnering with Evergreen or others to leverage college opportunities.



EXISTING FEATURES

- Downtown planning area
- City and State parks
- State Capitol Campus
- You are here (Olympia Center)



STRENGTHS

- Creates more diverse economy
- Leverages youthful and entrepreneurial energy
- Makes use of available land and existing building stock
- Artisan studios also attract visitors
- Leverages private investment
- Low cost

CHALLENGES

- Requires collaboration with Evergreen, County, and other interests
- Attracting tech industries may take work
- Industries may create impacts (noise, truck traffic)
- Sea level rise/flooding
- Soil/groundwater contamination from prior land uses
- Generally caters only to young and "creative class"

SCENARIO C: WORK

Transportation

PROPOSALS

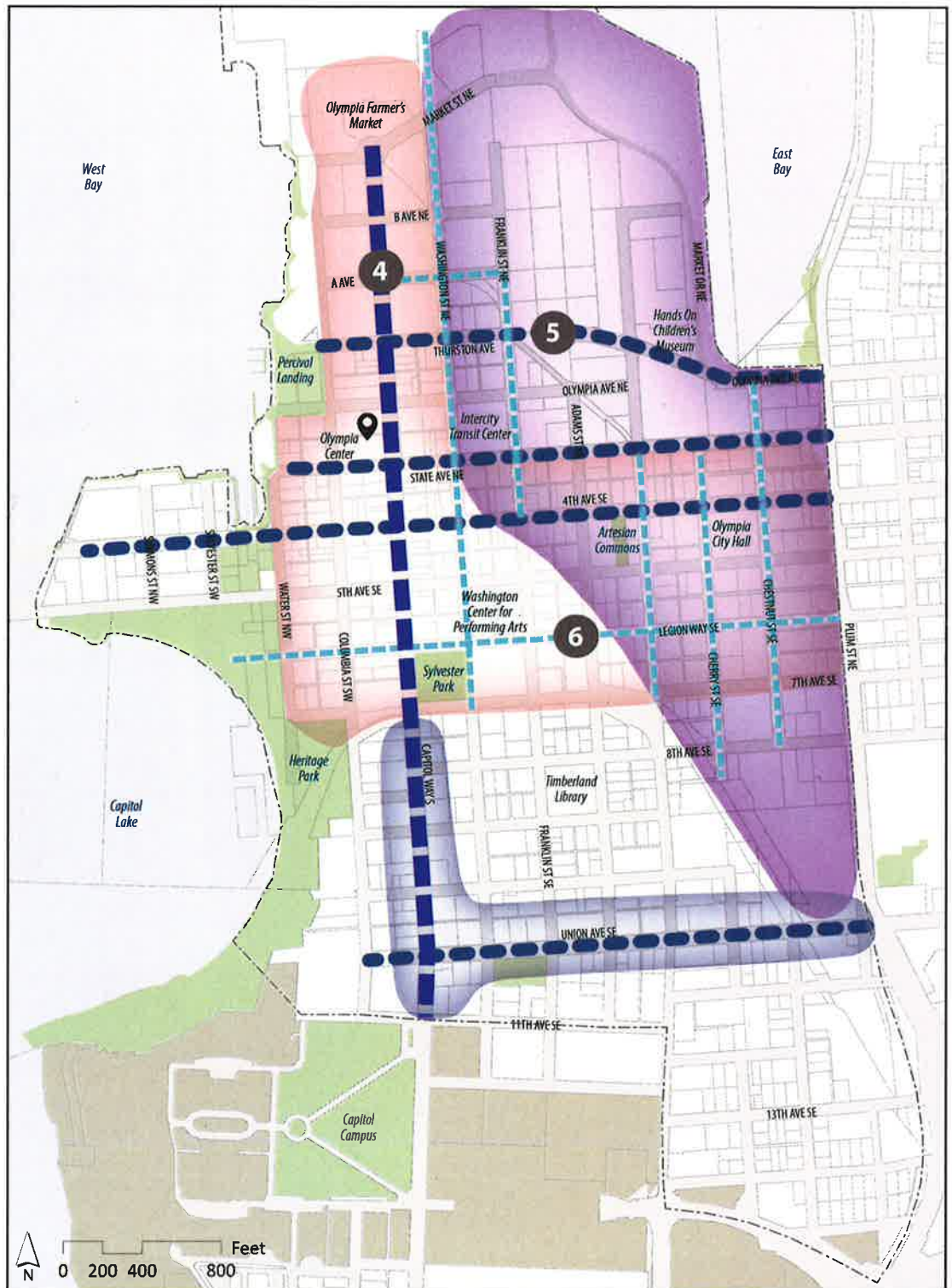
- 4 Implement transit, vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle improvements to serve businesses.
- 5 Ensure functional streets for businesses with transit, pedestrian, and bicycle access.
- 6 Implement pedestrian-oriented improvements to create lively live/work environment. Emphasize comfortable connections to transit.

BIG PICTURE PROPOSALS

- Artisan and tech district employment opportunities
- Finance/office district
- Retail and entertainment core improvements

EXISTING FEATURES

- Downtown planning area
- City and State parks
- State Capitol Campus
- You are here (Olympia Center)



STRENGTHS

- Focused improvements would have high impact on northeast sector business opportunities
- Focus on transit and access to the Intercity Transit Center benefits regional workers and people using social services
- Moderate cost

CHALLENGES

- Requires a parking and access needs study
- Increased jobs downtown may increase traffic
- Doesn't address south sector work opportunities
- Need to balance truck loading and routes with pedestrian orientation
- Streetscapes focus on functional rather than aesthetic and environmental needs

SUMMARY COMMENTS FROM TABLE FACILITATOR REPORTS

OLYMPIA DTS WORKSHOP #2 2016-02-23

At the end of the workshop, table facilitators shared one or two key points from their table discussions:

1. We want it all – Live, Work, Visit
2. Diversity is a key value
3. Build on existing assets as in Scenario #1. Increase amenities. Add grocery, for example locate a co-op downtown.
4. Add convention center and tear down high rise on Isthmus. Expand Dash downtown
5. Need more pedestrian spaces and parking garages
6. Improve bicycle safety; add a museum and a grocery, downtown needs more services
7. Improve inclusivity – make all people feel welcome
8. Provide housing for a variety of income groups and needs, for example housing for families and single people. Improve pedestrian connections throughout downtown
9. Address sea-level rise. Improve walkability and waterfront access
10. Density is key. Provide housing diversity and geographic distribution. Address sea-level rise
11. Focus on the core and Capitol Way spine
12. Density is key to making everything happen downtown
13. Add density and strengthen core. Make sure there is a ‘there, there’. Improve and emphasize Capitol Way
14. Improve transportation
15. Live, Visit, Work – in that order - Must have a “wow” factor
16. Waterfront needs help, more uses and activities, but not density. Make sure that the plans and activities are integrated
17. A fine grained network of streets is most important. A network of bike friendly and pedestrian friendly streets and connectivity
18. Safety, cleanliness and access need improvement. Hold activities on festival streets more often, throughout the year, especially during the summer

19. Live Scenario - Achieve more diversity and density, plus need for more services to support residential. Focus on entertainment district
20. Address climate change adaptation including sea-level rise. Access to waterfront needs a social context
21. Improve connectivity throughout all parts of downtown. Improve design of buildings and sidewalks

DTS 2/20/16 Public Workshop
Public Questions for staff/MAKERS
From index cards

1. Will you meet with Olympia Arts Commission regarding their “Gateways” planning?
2. How to help finance “artisans district”? How to work with State Legislators and WA Arts Commission on definition of this?
3. Can we move the Japanese Garden to the core? It is a wasted resource where it is!
4. If the isthmus Master Plan is not going to be part of the downtown plan, will the City work to have a similar public input process and how does it affect the CRA?
5. How will the City promote the next public event to encourage communities of color to participate in this process? Thurston Black Alliance/Risen Faith/Muslim Community of Olympia/Evergreen Longhouse
6. What if we see something regarding the “proposals” that we believe are not yet ideal? i.e. – Connections that should be included that currently are not. (card is marked answered)
7. What is “Urban Olympia”?
8. How are you addressing accessibility for those of us who can’t walk or bike? Transit to areas not just Capital, 4th & 5th.
9. Where are bike routes?
10. Why logging trucks on Plum St.?
11. Is there parking in State parking garages? Too many parking lots (private) to be pedestrian friendly.
12. What are the pros and cons of two-way traffic on State and 4th?
13. How can we plan where developments should be when those blocks/buildings that are already off limits are not coded on the map?
14. What kind of development would best benefit the average Olympia resident/business owner, i.e. people who own stock in the municipal corporation of Olympia?
15. How does new development help us? What kind? Will it pay for itself?
16. Is the proposal for high or moderate housing density in retail core or on waterfront?
17. We are concerned the effect of sea level rise due to fossil fuel global warming is being unclearly estimated. Scientists are astonished at how hot the Arctic got this Winter, flooding could seriously impact Olympia.
18. What are the demographics of the 5,000 people expected over the next 20 years?
19. What are type of incentives will the City use to promote downtown residential?
20. How will additional housing development impact existing housing stock and prevent gentrification of downtown?
21. Will there be displacement of older, existing housing stock?
22. What are the major barriers to bringing market rate, smaller scale owned housing downtown, including the waterfront?
23. How do we remove barriers to small business ownership of downtown and market rate housing ownership versus rental units?
24. What measures will be taken to hinder gentrification/urban displacement processes and preserve affordable housing and commercial rents?
25. What are barriers to condo development downtown? Bellingham has a ton of condos that have been built and sold in past 10 years – very popular & downtown is busy and thriving.
26. How will this be funded?
27. How will zoning changes be addressed?
28. In order to encourage density, is the City going to reconsider its height restrictions?

29. Is the City willing to look at strict permitting, parking and other requirements and restrictions that make it challenging for entrepreneurs to bring strong business concepts to the City? i.e. – My husband wants to put a restaurant into a commercial space up 4th Ave. just out of “downtown” on Central according to zoning but the parking space requirement 1/100 sq.ft. is too restrictive! With all the businesses/homes in area, people would walk or bike! Too much emphasis on driving/parking!
30. The City of Olympia just had a report from the Utility that the City should expect about 4 – 8 feet of sea level rise by 2100. Sea level rise might reach 23 feet under certain scenarios. How is sea level rise being factored into the Downtown Strategy?
31. If downtown (or some portion) is going to be defended against sea level rise, who is going to pay for it? I suggest a district LID. Is it the City’s responsibility to caution new development about the problems caused by sea level rise? Are building codes adequate to prevent damage from liquefaction during an earthquake?
32. What is the plan for adapting to sea level rise? It seems this needs to be addressed in accordance with creating a vision for downtown.
33. What is the plan for arriving at a decision regarding Capitol Lake (lake vs. estuary)? Also important to creating a vision for downtown.
34. How to ensure a mix of housing for all types of people?
35. How would partnerships help meet needs? i.e. YMCA rebuild aquatics center, other services and activities, YMCA rebuild is a huge opportunity.
36. What is the projected cost of cleaning up the buildings near East Bay that were contaminated in the past?
37. Should the City investigate the toxin levels in areas likely to be used by children as in adjacent to the Hands On Children’s Museum?
38. Can we pull together an interdisciplinary team (Elected, City Staff, developer, energy & water specialists) and funding (\$6,000 for 5 people & \$1,200 per person) to send to the EcoDistricts Incubator annually each April? See EcoDistricts.org
39. Please eliminate the barrier on Jefferson Street at 7th Avenue. What is that there for anyway?
40. The Olympia Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee has done an extensive study on downtown linkage of same, why was that info not presented at these two meetings?
41. Why are we not addressing climate changes – flooding/liquefaction in the event of an earthquake? The costs?
42. Evaluation Criteria #2 – Is the proposal realistic? Olympia Public Works Department has outlined the imperative to address the consequences of sea level rise, liquefaction flooding. Include this info in your next presentation. We need to know the costs and options for addressing these issues at the next community meeting.