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PORTLAND PLAN



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE E-NEWS

from the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

Issue # 1

August 2012

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Welcome to the premiere issue of the **Comprehensive Plan Update E-news**, a monthly e-newsletter with updates about the City of Portland's Comprehensive Plan Update.



Introduction to the Comprehensive Plan Update

Portland's Comprehensive Plan is a long-range plan that helps the City prepare for and manage expected population and employment growth, as well as plan for and coordinate major public investments. Portions of the City's current Comprehensive Plan have been amended many times since it was adopted in 1980, but it has never been updated as a whole. Portland is now updating the entire Comprehensive Plan, as required by the State of Oregon's Periodic Review.

The Comprehensive Plan provides direction for City decision-making on land use, transportation, parks, sewer and water systems, natural resources and other topics. It is framed in broad terms and guides future implementation, such as parcel-specific zoning or the design of infrastructure projects.

The Comprehensive Plan will be one way (but not the only way) to implement the [Portland Plan](#). All three of the Portland Plan's integrated strategies (Thriving Educated Youth, Economic Prosperity and Affordability, and Healthy Connected City) and the Equity Framework will affect the physical development of Portland as well as how we make policy decisions. Many of these initiatives build upon past principles; others provide new directions. The [Comprehensive Plan Update](#) project will help us realize the goal of a prosperous, educated, healthy and equitable Portland.



Periodic Review Update/Next Steps

The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability developed a state-required [work plan](#) for the Comprehensive Plan Update, which has been approved by City Council and the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). The work plan includes the following tasks:

- [Task 1 – Community Engagement](#): Providing open and meaningful opportunities for individuals and organizations to effectively influence the

Sep 17

[Education and Youth Success PEG Meeting](#)

Sep 19

[Economic Development PEG Meeting](#)

Sep 20

[Neighborhood Centers PEG Meeting](#)

[Community Involvement PEG Meeting](#)

Stay Involved

All Portlanders are invited to participate in the Comprehensive Plan Update. There are a variety of ways to be engaged based on your level of interest, including:

News and Updates blog

The [News and Updates](#) blog is your best source for project news and announcements. We'll be updating this page frequently with project news, agendas for upcoming meetings, draft proposals and other information.

Policy Expert Group meetings

All Comprehensive Plan Update Policy Expert Group meetings are open to the public. Check out the calendar on our [website](#) for up-to-date meeting information.

RSS feeds

If you use an RSS reader, like Google Reader, BlogLines or My Yahoo!, you can subscribe to the Comprehensive Plan Update's RSS feeds and automatically receive updates about the project. We offer three RSS feeds to stay informed: all project

Comprehensive Plan update.

- [Task 2 – Inventory and Analysis](#): Research and analysis necessary to provide a solid factual base for the Comprehensive Plan update.
- Task 3 – Consideration of Alternatives: Explore the social, economic, environmental and energy implications of alternative patterns of development.
- Task 4 – Policy Choices: Consider and make a variety of policy choices.
- Task 5 – Implementation: Identify and develop implementation measures necessary to carry out the policy choices.

We developed a community involvement plan and established the Community Involvement Committee, as required by Task 1 – Community Engagement. We are now ready to complete Task 2 – Inventory and Analysis, which requires us to compare the job and housing forecasts against our capacity to accommodate them. The tools we use to do this include:

- [Economic Opportunity Analysis \(EOA\)](#)
- [Housing Needs Analysis](#)
- [Infrastructure Condition and Capacity Analysis](#)
- [Natural Resource Inventory Report \(NRI\)](#)
- [Buildable Lands Inventory Report](#)

Together these reports form the “factual basis” for the Comprehensive Plan Update. The key finding from this background research shows that the future number of households in Portland is expected to grow by 132,000 and the number of jobs by 147,000. The data show that we have enough space to accommodate our housing needs and most, but not all, categories of jobs. We anticipate being short of land for industrial, manufacturing/production uses — particularly harbor industrial lands — but also institutional lands, such as for hospitals and educational institutions.

The factual basis for the Comprehensive Plan Update will be presented to City Council for a hearing and eventual adoption on Wednesday, Sept 5, 2012, at 2 p.m. For more information, please check the [City Council calendar](#).



Policy Expert Groups (PEGs)

Eight [Policy Expert Groups](#) (PEGs) are reviewing proposed policy recommendations for the Portland Comprehensive Plan Update and providing feedback to City staff for each topic area. Each PEG consists of approximately 15 to 25 members, representing both

community and government perspectives, as well as specific skills and expertise that relate to each PEG topic.

Each PEG is meeting monthly from June 2012 to June 2013. More information about each PEG, including lists of members, contacts, meeting schedules, agendas, notes and materials, is on the Comprehensive Plan Update [website](#). By consulting the [meetings and events calendar](#), you can easily see when and where each PEG is meeting and what is on the agenda. Many of the PEGs have scheduled their meetings out for several months, so it's easy to plan ahead.

The public is invited to attend any of the PEG meetings, and time is held at the end of each meeting for public comment. Future e-newsletters will include highlights from the previous month's PEG meetings and feature stories on a PEG or an emerging issue. The following is a brief description of the eight PEGs.

Community Involvement

The Community Involvement PEG will update the existing Comprehensive Plan's “citizen involvement” policies to be consistent with the City of Portland's adopted Public Involvement Principles. This PEG will focus on citywide community involvement policy development, community and area planning, land use reviews and permitting, and transportation and public facilities.

updates, just the news and just the calendar.

Request a presentation and discussion

Neighborhood, business, interest-based and community groups may host a Comprehensive Plan Update presentation and discussion. Call Marty Stockton at (503) 823-2041 to schedule.

Workshops, open houses and other events

Public workshops and/or open houses are planned for 2013. You might also see us at a community event near you.

Write, visit or call

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Economic Development

The Economic Development PEG will consider policies to foster business success, prosperity and employment vitality. This PEG will discuss economic development policy, responses to forecasted shortfalls of industrial and institutional land, institutional land use, prime industrial land, short-term developable land and brownfield redevelopment.

Education and Youth Success

The Education and Youth Success PEG will consider policies related to educational facilities, including how they can accommodate projected growth, flexibly provide multiple functions and serve as intergenerational community anchors. This group may also explore complementary community investments that can advance the Cradle to Career partnership's strategies to support youth academically, socially and physically.

Neighborhood Centers

The Neighborhood Centers PEG will explore how neighborhood centers and corridors can accommodate new growth, provide necessary commercial and community services, and be designed to enhance the character of their local communities. This PEG may explore the location, roles and characteristics of neighborhood centers and corridors, along with related housing, neighborhood economic development, urban design and historic preservation policies, as well as transportation and other infrastructure priorities for centers and corridors.

Networks

The Networks PEG will explore the role of public infrastructure networks in the city's future growth and land use. This PEG may consider policies and investments to integrate sustainable stormwater and active transportation networks to cost-effectively meet multiple community objectives and create a citywide greenway network of trails and pedestrian- and bike-friendly green streets. In addition, the Networks PEG may consider policies to ensure major streets, streetcar and light rail corridors become distinctive civic places that serve multi-modal needs and model ecological design.

Residential Development and Compatibility

The Residential Development and Compatibility PEG will consider policies related to the design and compatibility of new residential development in areas outside of centers and corridors. Potential policies may be considered within the context of the "five Portlands," recognizing that for many issues one size does not fit all. This PEG may explore issues related to the size, scale and location of infill development, multi-dwelling development, and transitions between centers and corridors, and residential areas.

Infrastructure Equity

The Infrastructure Equity PEG will consider infrastructure policies and investment strategies to support equitable public service provision. This PEG will foster discussions and information sharing between infrastructure service providers and equity stakeholders. It may also review infrastructure service levels and consider strategies or implementation tools to address or reduce critical disparities.

Watershed Health and Environment

The Watershed Health and Environment PEG will refine the habitat connections concept and explore how such a network of habitat corridors and green infrastructure investments can improve watershed health and access to nature for Portlanders. They will also explore ecosystem functions and services, environmental justice and natural hazards.

Equity Group

A new "Equity Group" has formed to assist with the equity discussions in each PEG and the Community Involvement Committee (CIC). The Equity Group is being convened and facilitated by the City of Portland Office of Equity and Human Rights. In addition to working with the PEGs and the CIC, this group will look at equity in the Comprehensive Plan as a whole, to help ensure that disparities in our community are being addressed and the promise of equity from the Portland Plan is fulfilled.



News from the
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Sam Adams, Mayor • Susan Anderson, Director



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