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PORTLAND PLAN



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE E-NEWS

from the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

Issue # 5

December 2012

Table of Contents

- [Project Overview](#)
- [Feature Story: Plugged In and Highly Engaged](#)
- [PEG Updates](#)

Upcoming Meetings

Dec 17

[Education and Youth Success PEG Meeting](#)

Dec 19

[Economic Development PEG Meeting](#)

Dec 20

[Neighborhood Centers PEG Meeting](#)

Dec 20

[Community Involvement PEG Meeting](#)

Jan 8

[Infrastructure Equity PEG Meeting](#)

Jan 10

The **Comprehensive Plan Update E-news** is a monthly e-newsletter with updates about the City of Portland's Comprehensive Plan Update. You are receiving this because you expressed an interest in the project and/or you are on the Portland Plan e-mail distribution list. If you do not wish to receive this e-newsletter in the future, please feel free to unsubscribe by clicking the "opt out" button at the bottom of this email.



Project Overview: Working Draft, Public Workshops and Next Steps

A Good Winter Read

As we head into the holidays, we're excited to announce that the Working Draft of the Comprehensive Plan Update will be released in mid-January 2013. Happy New Year! We'll be sure to let you know as soon as it is available.

The Working Draft will be about 60 percent complete. That means there's still a lot of work to be done to refine the goals and policies within the draft. All Portlanders are invited to learn more about the draft plan and provide feedback during the public workshops in February and March.

Public Workshop Schedule

- Feb. 19, evening at Multnomah Art Center
- Feb. 26, evening at De La Salle North Catholic High School
- Feb. 28, evening at Franklin High School
- Mar. 2, mid-morning at David Douglas High School
- Mar. 9, mid-morning at Beaumont Middle School
- At publication, a Central City workshop was still being scheduled for the week of March 2 – 8.

Be sure to [check the website for current information](#).

[Residential Development and Compatibility PEG Meeting](#)

Jan 16

[Comprehensive Plan Update – Community Involvement Committee \(CIC\) 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

You may also send comments about the draft plan in writing by using the contact information to the lower left. Feel free to identify issues, concerns, needs or ideas that can help make the Working Draft more reflective of your community's priorities. We hope the mid-January release gives all who are interested plenty of time to read it and discuss it with friends and neighbors. Stay tuned for an announcement about the release or check the website for updates.

Holiday Cheer

If you are doing any holiday shopping at the Lloyd Center Mall next week (Dec. 15 – 21), be sure to look for the Comprehensive Plan Update information kiosk near the second floor entrance to Macy's.

The Lloyd Center Mall management company, Glimcher Realty Trust, has generously donated this space so we can share information about the Comprehensive Plan Update, how Portlanders can get involved in the project and upcoming workshop dates. The kiosk will be accessible while the mall is open, and team members will be staffing it at different times throughout the week to talk with visitors and answer questions.

This early outreach period is just one of several improvements staff is making — based on feedback and evaluation from previous planning efforts — to reach a broader audience. Come on by and say, "Hi." We'd like to meet you.

Plugged In and Highly Engaged

Ever wonder how many people actually read all that stuff posted to the Comprehensive Plan Update (CPU) website? Well, apparently, quite a few of you.

At the launch of the project, the website averaged 14,000 visits per month. The Policy Expert Group (PEG) section of the CPU website is averaging 7,000 external visits a month, and the individual PEG pages are getting a lot of attention from external visitors (non-City employees):

- Community Involvement: 900 – 1300 views/month
- Economic Development: 600 – 1200 views/month
- Education and Youth Success: 600 – 900 views/month
- Infrastructure Equity: 600 – 900 views/month
- Neighborhood Centers: 600 – 1500 views/month
- Networks: 300 – 600 views/month
- Residential Development: 600 – 900 views/month
- Watershed Health: 700 – 1200 views/month

That's a lot of hits! Thanks Portland, for keeping up with all the work the PEGs and project team are doing to help make Portland more prosperous, educated, healthy and equitable.



Policy Expert Groups: November Meeting Summaries

RSS feeds to stay informed: all project 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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Community Involvement Survey Still Open

The citywide [Community Involvement Survey](#) deadline has been extended until Monday, Dec. 31, 2012.

Don't miss your chance to help improve the City's outreach efforts.

The City has formed eight Policy Expert Groups (PEGs) that meet monthly to help develop, review and provide comments to City staff on the Comprehensive Plan Update. By consulting the meetings and events calendar, you can easily see when and where each PEG is meeting and what is on the agenda. The public is invited to attend any of the PEG meetings, and time is held at the end of each meeting for public comment.

What did PEG members discuss in their November meetings? Read highlights below. If you would like to learn more, full meeting notes can be found on the [PEG web pages](#).

November PEG Meetings Focus on Equity

At the November meetings, Dante James and Judith Mowry of the Office of Equity and Human Rights, and Equity Specialist Desiree Williams-Rajee facilitated discussions about why equity is important to the planning process, why Portland is using a racial equity lens and strategies for moving forward. The PEGs participated in exercises to explore issues around racial equity and broke into smaller groups to discuss the role of assumptions in our thinking and decision-making processes. The updates below summarize other topics the PEGs discussed in their November meetings.

Community Involvement

This PEG broke into three smaller groups to discuss equity considerations, using the N/NE Quadrant Plan as a case study to understand recent community involvement experiences and test ideas and theories that have been discussed already for inclusion in the draft goals and policies for community involvement.

Economic Development

Economic Planner Steve Kountz demonstrated how economic inequity is widening in Portland and that people of color in Multnomah County experience deep inequalities. PEG members, staff and visitors divided into three small groups to apply an equity lens to three issues: industrial lands, institutional lands and brownfields.

Education and Youth Success

Members of this PEG worked to develop a shared understanding of equity and how it applies to educational issues. The group reviewed a sampling of data excerpted from the report *Communities of Color in Multnomah County: An Unsettling Profile*, which reveals stark disparities in educational outcomes for students of color. The PEG then broke into small discussion groups.

Infrastructure Equity

This PEG learned about gentrification research being conducted throughout the city. Gentrification happens when lower income residents are forced to move out of a neighborhood as under-valued neighborhoods become more desirable and attract new investment. The group also resumed small group discussions about equity issues related to infrastructure service levels.

Neighborhood Centers

PEG members discussed how equity relates to three topics: neighborhood centers, respecting and enhancing neighborhood characteristics, and apartments and parking. Members related that policies need to be: 1) more explicit about equity; 2) responsive to the differing needs and perspectives of Portland's diverse communities; 3) mindful of avoiding displacement to ensure that all people can benefit from improvement of centers; and 4) flexible enough to be refined at the local scale by specific communities.

Networks

The Networks meeting used the equity lens to discuss a transportation system that supports quality of life. Small groups talked about how communities of color disproportionately bear the burden in terms of negative effects of the transportation system. For example, accident rates tend to be higher in communities of color. Also, the use of non-automobile modes of transportation (walking, bicycling, mass transit) are higher in communities of color, but alternative mode services are lacking in these same areas. Members felt there was strong support and high, latent demand for transit services.

Residential Development and Compatibility

The facilitated discussion in this PEG centered around two questions: 1) When you think about “single-family” residential, what does that mean and look like; and 2) How might “maintaining character” mean different things for different neighborhoods? December’s PEG meeting will include a presentation on gentrification and the factors and indicators of neighborhood change. A second presentation will focus on growth scenarios and the best ways for Portland to accommodate growth while achieving other community goals.

Watershed Health and Environment

Members discussed the impacts policies can have on people of color, low income residents as well as wildlife and other species. The group recognized that those who are more negatively affected need to be part of the policy conversation, and those who are already part of that conversation need to be allies, asking critical questions based on this awareness.

Equity Group

There was no formal Equity Group meeting in November. Instead, members of the Equity Group attended the various PEG meetings mentioned above to lead participatory discussions about equity and race in the planning process. The PEGs followed broad discussion with small group conversations about how people who are not part of the dominant culture might read some of the draft policies the PEGs have been working on.

News from the



Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
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