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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.



Workshop Recap and Online Survey

Portlanders Speak Up at Community Workshops

Six community workshops in February and early March have given Portlanders all over the city a chance to give feedback on the goals and policies in the Comprehensive Plan Update Working Draft Part 1.

At the workshops City staff and participants enjoyed highly engaged conversations about the future of the city and their neighborhoods. In the breakout sessions, project

[Plan Workshop](#)

Mercy Corps
45 SW Ankeny St
7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

March 14

[Residential Development and Compatibility PEG](#)

1900 SW 4th Ave
Room 7A, 7th Fl
4 – 6 p.m.

March 18

[Education and Youth Success PEG](#)

1900 SW 4th Ave
Room 7A, 7th Fl
4 – 6 p.m.

March 20

[Economic Development PEG](#)

1900 SW 4th Ave
Room 7A, 7th Fl
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

March 21

[Neighborhood Centers PEG](#)

1900 SW 4th Ave
Room 7A, 7th Fl
8 – 10 a.m.

March 21

teams shared information about housing and job growth, business development, public investments, transportation and the environment — and then listened to community members. For instance, at the East Portland workshop, where staff worked with Latino Network to encourage Spanish-speaking Portlanders to attend, Latino participants expressed a desire for more trees for shade and cooling. In the Infrastructure Investments breakout session, participants voted with their dollars by “spending” \$100 in five different areas (equity, maintenance, growth, upgrades and safety). The breakouts also featured growth scenarios for how and where to accommodate Portland’s increasing population.

While the community workshops have wrapped up, an early morning workshop has been scheduled for tomorrow to accommodate businesses and employees. All Portlanders are welcome to attend. The emphasis will be on providing information and answering questions relevant to Portland businesses as well as people who may want to give input from the perspective of their job.

Business Workshop

Thursday, March 14 | 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.
Mercy Corps, Aceh Community Room
45 SW Ankeny St | Portland, OR 97204

A number of other outreach meetings with community groups and stakeholders are scheduled in the coming months. Please visit the Comprehensive Plan [Calendar](#) for details. Community groups interested in hosting a follow-up discussion with project staff should contact Marty Stockton at 503-823-2041 or marty.stockton@portlandoregon.gov.

Policy Survey Available Online

Workshops and meetings are just one way to give input on the Working Draft, however. Portlanders can also fill out the Comprehensive Plan Update Policy Survey.

[Take the survey online now.](#)

The survey is designed to help staff answer some critical questions around

[Community Involvement PEG](#)

City Hall
1221 SW 4th Ave
Pettygrove Rm
6 – 8 p.m.

March 27

[Comprehensive Plan Update Community Involvement Committee](#)

1900 SW 4th Ave
Room 7A, 7th Fl
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

April 3

[Infrastructure Equity PEG](#)

1900 SW 4th Ave
Room 7A, 7th Fl
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

April 3

[Networks PEG](#)

1900 SW 4th Ave
Room 7A, 7th Fl
2:30 – 5 p.m.

April 3

[Environmental Comprehensive Plan Workshop](#)

710 SW Jackson
4 – 7 p.m.

infrastructure investments, watershed health, industrial land development and housing choices. The survey will be open until Tuesday, April 30.

Paper copies of the survey are available at the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, 1900 SW 4th Ave, Suite 7100, Portland, OR 97201-5380 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Getting Ready for Part 2

The insightful feedback received from the workshops and other public meetings as well as the survey will help staff refine the Working Draft and chart the course for next steps in the Comprehensive Plan Update process. Public comments on the Working Draft Part 1 will continue to be gathered through May 1.



The Working Draft Part 2 will include a set of maps and project lists for public investments, including transportation and infrastructure, to implement the policy directions laid out in the Comprehensive Plan. Working Draft Part 2 will be ready for broad public review and comment during the summer, with another set of community workshops anticipated in the fall.

To prepare Working Draft Part 2, district liaisons will be talking with stakeholders during the spring to gather district-specific information, comments, preferences and ideas to shape the draft maps and connect draft policies with geographically specific mapping possibilities. For more information, please contact your [district liaison](#).



The Comprehensive Plan: Then and Now

Although the City hasn't performed a complete update of its Comprehensive Plan in 30 years, that doesn't mean we have to start all over. Much of the 1980 Comprehensive Plan was implemented, accomplished or modified over the years so the current document has really "good bones."

April 11

[Residential Development and Compatibility PEG](#)

1900 SW 4th Ave
Room 7A, 7th Fl
4 – 6 p.m.

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

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

In preparing for the update process, City staff reviewed the current Comprehensive Plan to determine which goals and policies are still relevant and effective for creating a prosperous, educated, healthy, equitable and resilient city. They found that the new plan has 238 fewer policies than the existing plan as well as some other key comparisons.

For example, the Working Draft goals and policies carry forward a strong connection between transportation and land use planning. Preserving the city's industrial land supply through industrial sanctuaries, maintaining a vibrant Central City with jobs and housing, and emphasizing targeted growth in centers and corridors are all examples of solid principles expressed in the 1980 plan that still hold true today.

In other areas of the Comprehensive Plan Update, however, the Working Draft reflects major shifts in thinking about how the City plans for growth and development. For instance, the draft goals and policies include a focus on equity in planning, an emphasis on schools as multi-use facilities that serve the entire community, and explicit integration of public health goals and considerations in planning practices.

The Comprehensive Plan Update will revise goals and policies that performed well in 1980 but are less effective now. For example, a one-size-fits-all approach to neighborhood development does not allow for different community characteristics determined by geography and street patterns. The existing plan primarily focused on inner Portland neighborhoods, which does not serve areas like East Portland and parts of Southwest, which were annexed after 1980.

Also, the integration of watershed health with urban design, promoting green infrastructure and mitigating climate change play a much larger role in the update than the existing plan, which only emphasized protection of stream corridors. Finally, the updated Comprehensive Plan will encourage strong multi-modal transportation system development and performance standards for all modes of transportation compared to the current plan, which primarily focuses on vehicle-based measurements such as vehicle level of service.

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 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.

Write, visit or call

Ultimately, Portland's updated Comprehensive Plan will carry forward the best ideas from previous versions of the plan, modify them as necessary and create new directions for the city that respond to 21st century conditions and community aspirations.

Policy Expert Groups Updates

Observations From Community Workshops

The PEGs have started discussing the Working Draft Part 1 in their monthly meetings, generally supporting the direction reflected in the goals and policies. PEG members also attended the workshops to hear directly from the public. The following is some initial PEG feedback from the workshops. More feedback will be gathered during the March meetings.



- **Community Involvement:** While Portlanders support the Chapter 1 goals and policies, they wonder how the public will be involved in the decision-making process for the rest of the plan. How do revenue, allocation decisions and project investments all fit together, and is this process transparent, equitable and just?
- **Investment Decisions:** The breakout sessions helped participants understand how tough it is to allocate limited dollars for public infrastructure. The public prioritized maintenance of existing infrastructure, providing a basic level of service to all Portlanders and improving safety, but also recognized the need to upgrade systems and serve new residents as the city grows.
- **Watershed Health and the Environment:** People are supportive of the Designing With Nature concept. They also recognize the challenge of creating both a healthy economy and a healthy environment.
- **Economic Development:** People are mainly asking questions to understand the thinking behind policies or the relationship of economic development policies to other Comprehensive Plan topics.
- **Neighborhood Centers:** The public is generally supportive of the Centers concept. They want to know where these places will be and how the City will make them vibrant, accessible and safe. Participants also supported the concept of guiding growth and change in ways that respond to the distinctive characteristics, strengths and assets of each area of Portland.

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Take an online [survey](#) about the issues and challenges facing your city and neighborhood.

- **Networks/Transportation:** People discussed options for completing the street network/infrastructure and wondered what it would look like.

February Meeting Summaries

The eight Policy Expert Groups (PEGs) are meeting each month to provide feedback on the Comprehensive Plan Update. The public is invited to attend any of the PEG meetings, and time is held at the end of each meeting for public comment. To learn what else members discussed in their February meetings, read the highlights below. If you would like to learn more, full meeting notes (in addition to PEG calendars and agendas) can be found on the PEG [webpage](#).

Community Development

The PEG reviewed responses to the survey on community involvement in land use and development processes, and discussed the results in relation to the goals and policies in the Working Draft.

Economic Development

Members attended one of the public workshops instead of meeting.

Education and Youth Success

Members attended one of the public workshops instead of meeting.

Infrastructure Equity

This PEG reviewed the Working Draft, focusing on clarity and consistency of terminology, inspecting the recommended policies, and looking at the goals through the lense of infrastructure equity.

Neighborhood Centers

Members discussed Working Draft Part 1, focusing on policies related to centers, household prosperity and neighborhood business districts. They generally supported the draft policies, but provided suggestions for improvement, particularly the language and direction around prioritizing centers for improvement. The PEG felt the City needs to focus on those centers currently faced with a long list of deficiencies and noted that guidance was needed to better understand the relationship between centers-focused

investments and other city priorities.

Networks

Members attended one of the public workshops instead of meeting.

Residential Development and Compatibility

Project staff provided an overview of the Working Draft Part 1. PEG members shared some initial feedback but will engage in a more thorough review at the March meeting.

Watershed Health and Environment

Most of the meeting was about the Industrial Lands and Watershed Health working group's review of the Watershed Health and Environment and the Economic Development chapters of the Working Draft. The working group also shared information about brownfields. Members continue to research and discuss ways the City can achieve a balance of environmental protection and industrial land needs, and generally agreed that efficient use of land, redevelopment of existing industrial land and use of brownfields is a good way to obtain this balance.

PEG members also discussed strengthening verbs in the Watershed chapter to be more like the verbs used in the Economic Development chapter, the addition of expanded environmental justice policies and concern about how they would be implemented, and the need to further address the finite supply of land and for more regional coordination to help resolve this issue within this chapter.

Part 2 Focus for the PEGs

In preparation for the Working Draft Part 2, the PEGs will be using their March, April and May meetings to continue reviewing the goals and policies, work through mapping exercises to develop Part 2 and preview the content for Part 2. May and June will then be spent wrapping up their work on the Comprehensive Plan Update given their specific PEG charges.

News from the



Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

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