

PORTLAND PLAN**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE E-NEWS***from the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability*

Issue # 11

June 2013

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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.

**Public Feedback, Spring Mapping and Summer Tabling****What We Heard Report**

Portland residents provided their feedback on the Comprehensive Plan Part 1 from January through May, and a summary of that feedback has been compiled into a single document called the

What We Heard Report.

The report summarizes the comments, concerns, suggestions and ideas collected through a variety of public engagement efforts, including:

- 8 workshops (350+ attendees)
- 20 community events (reaching 600+ people)
- 65 community presentations (1,400 people attended) from January to May
- 175 additional community presentations prior to January (3,500 people)
- 290 comments collected online, at the workshops and at community meetings
- 427 online and paper survey responses submitted

All of the input has been sorted by relevance to chapters in the plan, topic areas and geography. Staff reviewed each comment, which will help refine the draft goals and policies.

In reviewing the demographic data, it is apparent that low-income residents, renters, people of color and youth are under-represented in the responses. Staff will work with

June 22

[District Mapping Conversation – Northwest](#)

June 22

[District Mapping Conversation – Southeast](#)

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June 29

[District Mapping Conversation – East](#)

June 29

[Good in the Hood](#) - Comprehensive Plan Update Information Table

July 10

[Infrastructure Equity PEG](#)

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

the Community Involvement Committee (CIC) to more effectively engage these communities in the next phases of the project. Upcoming opportunities include:

- Tabling at summer events (see “Out and About This Summer” below).
- Continuation of mapping conversations with community groups.
- A “Map App” that allows users to see specific places, their physical characteristics, potential opportunities and constraints for development.
- Part 2 workshops in the fall 2013.

In addition to sharing the feedback with residents, the *What We Heard Report*, and the PEG Recommendation Summaries (see article below), will inform the development of the Working Draft Part 2 maps and project lists, which will in turn guide further revisions to the Part 1 goals and policies. The entire revised package — the proposed draft — will be submitted to the Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC) in winter 2013-14. After public hearings and deliberations, the PSC will submit a Recommended Draft to City Council for consideration and adoption.

[Read the What We Heard Report](#)

District Mapping Conversations Check-In

With the District Mapping Conversations (DMC) taking place through the end of June and the summer tabling events coming soon, the Comprehensive Plan Update team is moving from sharing goals and policies to engaging with community members around the maps in the Comprehensive Plan.

At the DMCs in each district, planners, neighborhood association leadership and other community stakeholders are huddling over maps in small groups discussing the existing features and conditions of neighborhoods, environmental issues, business opportunity areas and potential parks, among other topics.

Participants are sharing preferences for additional Neighborhood Centers, insight on gaps in the Greenway or Corridors concepts and existing concerns. The comments and opinions related to the Urban Design Framework will inform the mapping concepts to be published in Part 2.

These discussions are meant to prepare Portlanders for the deeper and more complex conversations about the draft land use maps, public investments and how to leverage both for greater community benefits, given budgetary constraints.

Out and About This Summer

Keep an eye out for the Comprehensive Plan Update/BPS table this summer. Stop by and show us how you relate to your neighborhood — your favorite places, where you would like to see more growth or services, what you would do if you were in charge for the day. We'll compile all that information and use it as we move into the mapping and project lists for Part 2.

June

29 – Good in the Hood in NE Portland

July

26 – Community Fair and Movie at Gateway Park in East Portland
28 – Sunday Parkways in North Portland

August

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 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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August

6 – National Night Out throughout Portland
17 – Multnomah Days in West Portland
25 – Sunday Parkways in SE Portland

September

29 – Sunday Parkways in West Portland

Growth Scenarios Report Released

Evaluating land use options for future growth

One of the key background reports for the Comprehensive Plan Update is now published and posted on the CPU website under Periodic Review. With the publication of the [Growth Scenarios Report](#), the City of Portland kicks off Task 3: Consideration of Alternatives, as required by the state, and Portlanders now have a starting point for the community discussion around growth.

The scenarios report relies on a complex growth allocation model created by Bureau of Planning and Sustainability staff to project the impacts of population and employment growth in different parts of the city. In the report, Portlanders can see how various alternatives perform against measures for access to jobs, transit, open space and amenities as well as watershed health and tree canopy, among others. They can also drill down and see how each district “performs” for each alternative with the same metrics. Many of these indicators were taken from the [Portland Plan Measures of Success](#).

[Read the Growth Scenarios Report](#)

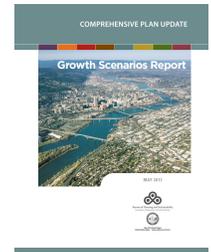
According to Metro, Portland is expected to grow by 280,000 more people and 147,000 new jobs by 2035. Land use and investment decisions will shape how and where Portland grows over the next 25 years. Portland's growth patterns will affect our ability to meet larger community goals for a prosperous, healthy, equitable, resilient city. The goal of this report is to help Portlanders evaluate different land use choices for managing future growth.

The report features four hypothetical growth patterns to help the community make decisions:

- A “**Default**” pattern based on development trends over the last 15 years.
- A dispersed network of **Centers** like Lents, Hillsdale and Gateway and less growth along corridors.
- Growing in a more linear pattern along several key **Corridors**, and less in Centers.
- A more compact growth pattern that focuses growth in the **Central City** and inner neighborhoods near the Central City.

The analysis revealed some interesting challenges:

- Two-thirds of the future built environment is already in place. This “legacy” development pattern means that new development will make up roughly one-third of the total households and employment in Portland by 2035.
- Preserving the continuity of Portland’s distinctive neighborhood character is



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important, even as the city's housing mix evolves to include more multi-family development.

- A dual investment strategy will be necessary to attract or focus growth in high-opportunity or high-performing areas and improve performance in underserved or deficient areas.

For more information about the Growth Scenarios Report contact [Tom Armstrong](#).



Policy Expert Groups Updates

May Meeting Summaries

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 May meetings, read highlights below. If you would like to learn more, full meeting notes (in addition to PEG calendars and agendas) can be found on the [Comprehensive Plan Update website](#).

Over the next few months, many of the PEGs will be winding up their work. These community experts have worked closely with staff to discuss and shape elements of the plan. A final All-PEG meeting will be scheduled in the fall. Each of these advisory groups is preparing a summary of their work, findings and recommendations over the past 12 months. Links to the completed PEG Recommendations Summaries are included in this E-news. The rest will be included in future editions of this E-news when they become available.

Community Development

Members refined suggestions for the Community Involvement policy changes in Chapter 1 and parts of Chapter 8, and recommended reorganization of the Community Involvement-related goals and policies.

Community Development PEG Recommendations Summary will be available in a future edition.

Economic Development

The PEG discussed Comprehensive Plan mapping in neighborhood commercial areas. BPS staff Debbie Bischoff, Julia Gisler and Tyler Bump shared their work on the mapping process, a project focused on updating commercial mixed-use zones and neighborhood commercial service gaps. The group discussed how policy should follow market potential to create an environment where development is encouraged by land use policies with less regulatory process.

[Economic Development Recommendations Summary](#)

Education and Youth Success

At the last meeting, the group finalized their recommendations summary, which stresses the importance of equity. Infrastructure supporting education and youth success must be distributed equitably throughout the city and in a manner that avoids gentrification, displacement or other marginalizing effects on youth already living in those neighborhoods. A measure of success is that persistent disparities in educational

outcomes for children of different races or levels of family income are reduced or eliminated. The PEG also heard a presentation about how population growth in Portland can affect schools, parks and other facilities and services, and participated in an interactive mapping exercise to discuss concerns for land use and capital investments.

Education and Youth Success Recommendations Summary will be available in a future edition.

Infrastructure Equity

The group worked on their recommendations summary. Highlights include further recognition of private development's role in implementing service provisions, consistent use of the inclusion of equity throughout Part 1, and stressing universal design in future public projects. The rest of the meeting was dedicated to Part 2, with members hearing from staff and providing feedback on recommended steps and practices as the project moves forward.

Infrastructure Equity Recommendations Summary will be available in a future edition.

Neighborhood Centers

The PEG continued work on their summary, adding stronger language about prioritizing investments in centers with deficiencies, engaging and empowering communities through center planning and implementation, and broadening language about employment in centers to include business incubation and living-wage jobs. The meeting ended with a final recommendation to staff that a key goal should be to create places where people want to live and have the choice to stay.

[Neighborhood Centers Recommendations Summary](#)

Networks

The Networks PEG met twice in May. At the first meeting, the PEG discussed in detail the work to date to prepare alternative mobility standards (alternatives to existing Level of Service standards). While there was general support for alternative mobility standards, particularly their more balanced multi-modal approach, the PEG had numerous questions about the application of measures to different modes and geographic areas and identified the need for measures on economic productivity, health and equity. In reviewing draft policies on Public Rights-of-Way, the PEG indicated that policies need to address the coordination of the various functions to be accommodated and suggested that public service/community uses need to be added. A key topic identified for further discussion was clarification of the Green Hierarchy strategy.

In the second meeting, they also discussed the role of trails in the transportation and recreation system. And, a large portion of both meetings was spent refining the PEG's recommendation summary report.

[Networks Recommendations Summary](#)

Residential Development and Compatibility

PEG members provided additional comments and edits to the summary memo, including the key policy issues and highlights related to the topics this group considered over the past year. Members also previewed the "outreach maps" being used by district liaisons in preliminary district-level discussions for Part 2. At its final meeting in June, the PEG will consider mapping issues pertaining to residential areas, focusing on nonconforming commercial uses and small and narrow lot development issues.

Residential Development and Compatibility Recommendations Summary will be available in a future edition.

Watershed Health and Environment

The meeting included a presentation on Working Draft Part 2 and mapping exercises using examples from Southwest Portland and East Portland. Members had an in-depth

using examples from Southwest Portland and East Portland. members had an in-depth conversation about resolving issues related to stormwater management and unprotected streams and habitat, which were illustrated by the mapping exercise. The group discussed potential solutions, including improving stormwater management capacity in priority development areas; using tree canopy in East Portland to address equity priorities; mitigating landslides through reductions in density, limiting impervious areas and allowing waivers of minimum density; and using environmental-centered zoning or design guidelines to protect headwater streams and other habitat areas.

[Watershed Health and Environment Recommendations Summary](#)



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