

A. Themes and Draft Goals

Citizen Topic Group: Development

As part of Imagine Columbia's Future, Citizen Topic Groups reviewed the ideas for the future generated by the public, identified subtopics for organizing these ideas, formed subtopic groups, identified themes emerging from the ideas, and generated draft subtopic goals that reflect that aspirations of the community. These draft goals will be presented to the public at the April 4th Exploring the Vision Workshop for feedback.

This document includes all of the output that has been received from your Citizen Topic Group (CTG) to this point. The first one to two pages list your agreed-upon subtopics, draft goals for each subtopic, and notes from the consultant that offer an overall assessment of the work of your CTG. The following pages provide a record of the work of each subtopic group, including identified themes, draft goal statements, and any preliminary strategies or notes that the subtopic group has submitted. (Minutes have not been included.) Any gaps in this information indicate that the consultant has not received all of your group's output.

The draft goals have been revised by ACP-Visioning and Planning, Ltd. for clarity and consistency, as necessary. The original goal and ACP's suggested revisions are clearly designated in the material provided for each subtopic. In cases where no draft goals were submitted, ACP prepared draft goals using the themes provided by the subtopic group as a guide. At the third CTG meeting, subtopic groups will review these draft goals, and will have the opportunity to accept, revise, or rewrite them.

Agreed Upon Subtopics

1. Plan and Manage Growth (includes redevelopment)
2. Infrastructure
3. Land Preservation
4. Neighborhoods

Draft Goals by Subtopic

The following draft goals were developed by the Citizen Topic Group and have been edited by the consultant for consistency and clarity, when necessary.

Plan and Manage Growth

We envision a community with open, transparent, inclusive planning that keeps growth in perspective while protecting the environment and the city character, that results in a balanced approach to growth and development, that will be beneficial and equitable to all, and that places a premium on:

- Preservation and respect for the environment, particularly unique and environmentally sensitive areas, and protection of streams, wildlife and green space;
- Infrastructure and utilities that address current needs and future growth;
- A comprehensive transportation system of roadways, walkways, ped-ways etc., with the ability to accommodate future growth;
- Sustainability and encouraging infill, redevelopment and density where appropriate;
- Sustainable, affordable, accessible, walkable, and interconnected communities with a balance of residential neighborhoods and businesses that accommodate neighborhood residents (example, Village of Cherry Hill);
- Preserves our heritage and uniqueness, including an economically viable downtown, strong neighborhood structure, thriving local businesses and institutions, and other unique features that enhance quality of life and build community such as architecture, art, festivals, etc.);

- Planning that is comprehensive, coordinated, cooperative, and includes all affected political subdivisions and taxing districts in the metropolitan area (e.g. City, County, sewer, water, electric, telecommunications, safety, library and school districts) and other stakeholders (developers, residents, others); and
- Predictability and accountability so that government actions are aligned with the community's vision.

Infrastructure

We envision a community with a well planned proactive growth strategy that address the manner in which infrastructure is developed and maintained, that offers a fair and balanced approach regarding how payment for infrastructure is shared, that offers flexibility to accommodate change, and provides coordination amongst all potential stakeholders.

Land Preservation

Land will be preserved throughout the community to ensure quality of life, active farmland, and healthy streams, watersheds, and natural areas.

Neighborhoods

Columbia neighborhoods will be located in diverse, mixed used, sustainable and self-sufficient areas demonstrating pride of ownership and supported by city-wide bicycle, pedestrian, and transit systems.

Notes/Assessment from ACP-Visioning and Planning, Ltd.

- This Citizen Topic Group is very large, is addressing a large number of ideas from the community, and is grappling with issues of great interest, which greatly impacts its ability to proceed with the work effort. Despite these challenges, the work group appears to be making good progress.
- Land Preservation could work to turn their goal statement into one sentence. The numbered list they have included in their draft goal can easily be developed into their strategies. An example has been provided by ACP (see revised goal above). Also, the Land Preservation group may want to coordinate with the Environment Citizen Topic Group to be sure there is no overlap in their goal or strategies.
- For Plan and Manage Growth, does the goal only target the "City of Columbia" or Columbia as a whole.
- It was ACP's understanding that Plan and Manage Growth had two subtopic groups. The Co-Facilitators could review the material in this document to ensure we have the latest versions of everything.

Themes and Draft Goals

Sub-Topic: Plan and Manage Growth

List of Themes from Citizen Topic Group Meeting #2

1. Planning
2. Balance
3. Equity
4. Loss of Control
5. Nostalgia
6. Keeping growth in perspective
7. Sprawl
8. Group process/power to citizens
9. Loss of character
10. Human services
11. Communciation
12. Sustainable communities
13. Environment

Draft Goal Statement from Citizen Topic Group Meeting #2

We envision a community with open, transparent, inclusive planning that keeps growth in perspective while protecting the environment and the city character, that results in a balanced approach to growth and development which is will be beneficial and equitable to all, and that places a premium on

- Preservation and respect for the environment, particularly unique and environmentally sensitive areas, and protection of streams, wildlife and green space;
- Infrastructure and utilities that addresses current needs and future growth;
- A comprehensive transportation system of roadways, walkways, ped-ways etc., with the ability to accommodate future growth;
- Sustainability, and encouraging infill, redevelopment and density where appropriate;
- Sustainable, affordable, accessible, walkable, and interconnected communities with a balance of residential neighborhoods and businesses that accommodate neighborhood residents (example, Village of Cherry Hill);
- [Preserves our heritage and uniqueness, including an economically viable downtown, and strong neighborhood structure, and thriving local businesses and institutions, and other unique features that enhance quality of life and build community such as architecture, art, festivals, etc.);
- Planning that is comprehensive, coordinated, cooperative and includes all affected political subdivisions and taxing districts in the metropolitan area (e.g., City, County, sewer, water, electric, telecommunications, safety, library and school districts) and other stakeholders (developers, residents, others); and
- [Predictability and accountability so that government actions are aligned with the community's vision.]

Suggested Revision from ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.

Minor copy editing changes were made. See suggested revision on following page.

Suggested Revision from ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd. Continued

We envision a community with open, transparent, inclusive planning that keeps growth in perspective while protecting the environment and the city character, that results in a balanced approach to growth and development, that will be beneficial and equitable to all, and that places a premium on:

- Preservation and respect for the environment, particularly unique and environmentally sensitive areas, and protection of streams, wildlife and green space;
- Infrastructure and utilities that address current needs and future growth;
- A comprehensive transportation system of roadways, walkways, ped-ways etc., with the ability to accommodate future growth;
- Sustainability and encouraging infill, redevelopment and density where appropriate;
- Sustainable, affordable, accessible, walkable, and interconnected communities with a balance of residential neighborhoods and businesses that accommodate neighborhood residents (example, Village of Cherry Hill);
- Preserves our heritage and uniqueness, including an economically viable downtown, strong neighborhood structure, thriving local businesses and institutions, and other unique features that enhance quality of life and build community such as architecture, art, festivals, etc.);
- Planning that is comprehensive, coordinated, cooperative, and includes all affected political subdivisions and taxing districts in the metropolitan area (e.g. City, County, sewer, water, electric, telecommunications, safety, library and school districts) and other stakeholders (developers, residents, others); and
- Predictability and accountability so that government actions are aligned with the community's vision.

Suggested Revision from ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.

Minor revisions were made to punctuation and wording for clarity.

Themes and Draft Goals

Sub-Topic: Land Preservation

List of Themes from Citizen Topic Group Meeting #2

1. Preserve natural areas
2. Preserve farmland
3. Collaborate with developers
4. Better regulation

Draft Goal Statement

Quality of life will be protected by:

1. Preserving and restoring streams, watersheds, and natural areas
2. Preserving farmland to encourage local food production
3. Encouraging collaboration with developers to enhance land preservation
4. Implementing more effective and protective regulation, zoning, ordinances, and tax policies to enhance land preservation.

Suggested Revision from ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.

Please turn the draft goal into one statement. The numbered list can serve as themes for the draft goal as well as material to use in the formulation of strategies. An example of a revised draft goal is provided below. The group should finalize its goal at the next meeting.

Land will be preserved throughout the community to ensure quality of life, active farmland, and healthy streams, watersheds, and natural areas.

Themes and Draft Goals

Sub-Topic: Neighborhoods

List of Themes from Citizen Topic Group Meeting #2

1. Self-sufficiency of neighborhoods to include availability of shopping and services.
2. Sustainability to include environmental soundness and access to green space.
3. Friendliness for bicycle/pedestrian traffic
4. Density – to avoid sprawl
5. Diversity to include socioeconomic, racial, age
6. Sense of ownership in neighborhood

Draft Goal Statement

Columbia neighborhoods will be located in diverse, mixed used, sustainable and self-sufficient areas demonstrating pride of ownership and supported by city-wide bicycle, pedestrian, and transit systems.

Suggested Revision from ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.

No revision suggested. This is a very good goal.

Themes and Draft Goals

Sub-Topic: Infrastructure

Themes

- 1) Who pays for infrastructure?
- 2) How is infrastructure paid?
- 3) When is infrastructure paid for?
- 4) Flexibility for change.
- 5) Growth planning and strategy.
- 6) Catch up needs (a: Maintenance and repair, b: Unmet needs).
- 7) Coordination of stakeholders (Citizens, City, County, State, Fed, development community, Schools).
- 8) Balance and Fairness.
- 9) Flexible high standards.

Themes the subtopic group members in attendance march 6, 07 meeting tentatively removed from list. These themes will be dropped from official sub-topic themes list if there is no objections at the next sub-topic group meeting.

- 1) I.D. infrastructure.
- 2) Plan where to develop.
- 3) Plan where to limit development.
- 4) Fair rules.
- 5) Directed development.
- 6) Schools.
- 7) Comprehensive plan.

Draft Goal Statement

We envision a community with a well planned proactive growth strategy that address the manner in which infrastructure is developed and maintained, that offers a fair and balanced approach regarding how payment for infrastructure is shared, that offers flexibly to accommodate change, and provides coordination amongst all potential stakeholders.

Suggested Revision from ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.

No revision suggested. This is a very good goal.