

# A. Themes and Draft Goals

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## Citizen Topic Group: Governance and Decision Making

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 4<sup>th</sup> 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. 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. Citizen Involvement
2. Structure
3. Responsiveness

## Draft Goals by Subtopic

### **Citizen Involvement**

The City process will be reformed with the goal of hearing the voices of people through citizen boards and commissions that better represent the neighborhoods of Columbia, minorities, and people of all walks of life.

### **Structure**

The City government shall adopt a transparent structure that is so responsive, accountable, inclusive, equitable, and effective that other cities in the nation will seek to emulate our model.

### **Responsiveness**

The community will have confidence in City government, and there will be clear and open communication between City officials, City staff, and the public.

## Notes/Assessment by ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.

- The group has made progress in developing its draft goals.
- Two of the subtopic groups have already done a good job of identifying priority strategies. These strategies should be separate from the goal. Citizen Involvement may choose to revise its goal so that the two strategies are separated.

# Theme and Draft Goals

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Sub-Topic: Citizen Involvement

## **Original List of Themes from Kick-off**

1. City-County Operation
2. Citizen Boards and Commissions (more inductive / more access to decision-makers)
3. Guarantee that minorities have access to leadership positions (inclusiveness)

## **Draft Goal**

Reform the present City process with the goal of hearing the voice of people through:

1. Citizen boards and commissions with each one being half appointed by the Mayor and City Council and the other half selected from neighborhood associations or through a ward process.
2. Having advisory neighborhood commissions elected in areas designated throughout the City – to meet with citizens and report to the City Council. This process would be inclusive for all minorities and represent all walks of life.

## **Suggested Goal from ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.**

The City process will be reformed with the goal of hearing the voices of people through citizen boards and commissions that better represent the neighborhoods of Columbia, minorities, and people of all walks of life.

# Theme and Draft Goals

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Sub-Topic: Structure

## **Original List of Themes from Kick-off**

1. City / County cooperation
2. Budget and revenue
3. Role of boards and commission
4. Council structuring
5. Basic good structure

## **Revised List of Themes from Citizen Topic Group Meeting #2**

1. City/County Cooperation
2. Budget and Revenue (Anticipatory)
3. Role of Board and Commissions
4. Council Structuring
5. Basic Good Structure
6. Response (1)
7. Efficient
8. Accountable (2)
9. Inclusive (3)
10. Effective (4)
11. Pen Governance
12. Equitable / Fair

## **Draft Goal**

The City government shall gain from this Visioning Process and adopt a transparent structure that is so responsive, accountable, inclusive, equitable, and effective that other cities in the nation will seek to emulate our model.

## **Suggested Goal from ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.**

The City government shall adopt a transparent structure that is so responsive, accountable, inclusive, equitable, and effective that other cities in the nation will seek to emulate our model.

# Theme and Draft Goals

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Sub-Topic: Responsiveness

## **Original List of Themes from Kick-off**

1. Communicator from city to city
2. Responsiveness (legibility?)

## **Draft Goal**

Goal 1: The community will have confidence in City government.

Goal 2: There will be clear and open communication between City officials, City staff, and the public.

## **Suggested Goal from ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.**

The community will have confidence in City government, and there will be clear and open communication between City officials, City staff, and the public.