Guiding Concept: Connecting Places & Spaces

Downtown Strategy

Olympia

o Reduce development uncertainties

- Encourage private investment
- Enhance public spaces

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• Preserve unique qualities

ELEMENT	STRATEGIC GOALS/PRIORITIES	TASKS FOR 2016	NOTES
	 Implement several goals of the Sustainable Development Plan for the Thurston Region by creating a compact, vibrant urban center that serves the region Integrate housing, employment, shopping and entertainment in a 	Define "Character Areas" within downtown and take steps to enhance their individual identity, special activities, and cohesiveness Develop historic preservation strategy	See Character Area map and definitions. Steps relate to various elements described herein, including updates to design & development standards, tools/incentives, and strategic public investments. The consultant team will propose some adaptive use measures based on the April
LAND USE	compact way to increase activity and promote walking, biking and transit	Develop an adaptive reuse strategy	12 Heritage Commission meeting. The consultant team will propose some adaptive use measures.
		OPTIONS – POTENTIAL ACTIONS FOR 2017-2021	
		Adopt a land-use, circulation, design and environmental enhancement plan for the isthmus.	
		More potential actions may be proposed	

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ELEMENT	STRATEGIC GOALS/PRIORITIES	TASKS FOR 2016	NOTES
DESIGN	 Apply a cohesive urban design strategy; consider how places and spaces between buildings & structures function for people as well as attract investment Promote high quality architecture and an attractive, pedestrian-oriented environment Enhance downtown's unique character historic fabric, art and landscaping Create better connections to the waterfront and between major cultural destinations such as the State Capitol Campus, Farmers Market, and Hands on Children's Museum Incorporate Crime Prevention though Environmental Design (CPTED) principles in order to discourage crime and increase sense of safety (light, landscaping, intersections) Focus on both new development and rehabilitation of existing structures Protect key views to enhance sense of place, beauty, and connections to the natural and historic landscape See also - public space element 	Develop recommendations for clear, well- organized design guidelines to enhance character areas, and address key objectives and issues, including historic preservation, crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED), mixed use buildings, etc. Outline preliminary recommendations for an update to the street design standards in the Engineering Development & Design Standards (EDDS) that promote unique character, pedestrian-oriented lighting and other safety features, etc. Complete a 3D viewshed analysis to determine viewsheds for protection or enhancement through design Complete and adopt street design and building, site design guidelines Continue to improve wayfinding <i>More potential actions may be proposed</i>	Design concepts will be presented at the May 23 public meeting. The draft DTS will include an outline of recommended concepts along with illustrations, to be followed by an update to design guidelines in 2017. Preliminary concepts will be presented on May 23. Further discussions and analysis by Public Works will be necessary for full implementation. 3D viewshed analysis will be presented to the public at the June 6 workshop. Updates to view protection standards will be included with design guidelines. 2017

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ELEMENT	STRATEGIC GOALS/PRIORITIES	TASKS FOR 2016	NOTES
SIDEWALKS,AND PATHWAYS)	 Communicate the relationship of downtown to the regional transportation network Offer multiple transportation options to help reduce car trips and traffic congestion; improve air quality; and support compact growth Focus especially on creating a more pedestrian-friendly environment as this is the primary mode serving visitors from throughout the region 	Identify a complete network circulation strategy, including:	See Draft Major Investments Streets map. This was developed by the team and reviewed by the Stakeholder Work Group. A necessary first step before street design of starred proposals will be to conduct a transportation analysis to determine the impacts of proposed improvements. Other projects, (not starred) could be initiated earlier. Significant street improvements with traffic impacts generally take longer than 6 years design, fund and construct.
PUBLIC SPACES (STREETS, SIDEWALK	 (once they park*) Balance the pedestrian-oriented environment with downtown's function as an east/west connection for vehicles Consider continuing needs for truck 	Complete conceptual designs to transform 5 street segments in the Core that are scheduled for repaving over the next 5 years. Incorporate key elements of the Greening Capitol Way Plan	See Draft Major Investments Streets map. A proposed order of improvements and capital improvement strategy will be included as part of the DTS. Further discussions and analysis by Public Works will be necessary for full implementation.
	routes and loading zonesImprove pedestrian connections	Make recommendations to the capital improvement plan	June-August timeframe
	from the IT transit center to key locations, with special focus on ADA accessibility	Outline preliminary recommendations for an update to the EDDS	See "Design" element
LIC SP	 Identify short-term opportunities that will create positive impact, and 	OPTIONS – POTENTIAL ACTIONS FOR 2017-2021	
PUB	also strategize toward longer-term opportunities (i.e., a family-friendly bicycle route going north/south through downtown and along the	Transform 5 street segments in the downtown core that have been scheduled for repaving on: Capitol Way, Legion, Jefferson, Washington and Franklin.	A proposed order of improvements and a capital improvement strategy will be included as part of the DTS

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water)		Using the recently updated traffic model from TRPC, conduct a traffic analysis to analyze impacts and mitigation for	See stars on <i>Draft Major Investments</i> <i>Streets</i> map for options that would need to be included as part of a traffic analysis.
* see "Other element re: u strategy)	ipcoming parking	recommended options	An additional option that could be included as part of the analysis would be changing 4 th and/or State from one-way two-way streets.
		Update the entrance sign at the corner of Plum Street & Union Avenue	
		Work with the State to make connections to the Campus and identify an entrance/viewpoint towards downtown on Capitol Way near the Capitol Campus.	Also consider the visual and physical connectivity between the Campus and Downtown in the Capitol Way improvements design.
		Update the City's Bicycle Master Plan. Identify routes to and through downtown.	
		Identify most important actions and means of implementation to keep improving the waterfront area, including Percival Landing Phases 2 & 3 renovations, and street/ streetscape connections to the water from the Market and Capitol Way. Address sea level rise adaptation measures to be outlined in upcoming management plan.	
		Focus on steps to complete the Olympia Waterfront Route.	This trail is identified in the Regional Trails Plan, and most of the needed right of way is now owned by the public sector.
		Identify a historical/cultural trail that links to the Olympia Waterfront Route.	Interim measures might include interpretive displays and artwork, but a general plan of access and enhancement measures should be developed first.
		More potential actions may be proposed	

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ELEMENT	STRATEGIC GOALS/PRIORITIES	TASKS FOR 2016	NOTES
DEVELOPMENT (incl. RETAIL)	 The overall Downtown Strategy aims to increase downtown's status as a regional destination and place for investment, as well as a unique regional destination for shopping, dining, entertainment, cultural activity and recreation Improve downtown's image by addressing parking and safety concerns 	Complete a Downtown Market Analysis to identify downtown's relationship to the regional economy, development opportunities, businesses and occupations that are most feasible in downtown. Incorporate this information, along with the EDC's 2015 survey of downtown businesses, into recommendations.	Market Analysis Report will be released in May
	 Connect existing assets and investments Through redevelopment toward a concentration of complimentary activities, compel visitors to spend more time in downtown when they are visiting major destinations, such as the Capitol Campus, Hands on Children's Museum, Market, etc. Enhance and promote local, historical 	Complete proformas (economic feasibility analysis) for three types of desired developments in order to help identify cost barriers and best tools to advance them Identify tools to facilitate adaptive reuse or rehabilitation of existing buildings (address cost barriers). One focus should be on converting existing Class B office into housing or retail space.	May-June timeframe June-August timeframe
IIC & COMMUNITY	 and recreational tourism opportunities Support small business retention and expansion by promoting and connecting them to resources Capture demand for Class A office space 	Outline steps needed to align development standards, incentives and other tools with the guiding framework. Address barriers such as contamination, include recommendations for SEPA exemptions,	June-August timeframe
ECONOMIC	 through enhancements in appearance and amenities and by addressing parking and safety concerns Attract workers by building on retail and entertainment activities in the core and 	Identify specific steps to align economic development priorities regarding business recruitment and expansion with the DTS Coordinate the DTS with the CRA Water Street Redevelopment project	June-August timeframe ongoing

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 partnering with Evergreen and others to leverage college opportunities Capture regional growth in sectors identified within the <i>Downtown Market</i> <i>Analysis</i> as strong for downtown, and in the growing downtown residential population Increase opportunities for businesses to 	Communicate with Port of Olympia to share information about the DTS and promote alignment with development of Port's East Bay parcels Work with the State to identify collaborative efforts to provide commercial services to government workers and officials OPTIONS –	ongoing
capture more foot traffic with overall	POTENTIAL ACTIONS FOR 2017-2021	
 enhancements to create a clean, comfortable and attractive environment Create/ maintain affordable space for small, entrepreneurial businesses Strategize to provide convenient, available parking for shoppers and other 	Partner with relevant organizations to lead formation of a coordinated marketing strategy for downtown that will promote a positive identify, tourism and other investmentEnhance and promote an entertainment	
 downtown visitors Address negative perceptions regarding parking and security Structure development standards, 	district for eating/drinking, music, theater, and visual arts. Should have a special focus on safety and integration with surrounding uses.	
 incentives and other tools to facilitate: private investment; residential and commercial 	Encourage Thurston County to select Downtown location for office and court functions	
 development; redevelopment of vacant or underused or warehouse properties; energy efficiency and other 'green building' methods 	Partner with Economic Development Council (EDC) and others to promote business assistance and workforce training programs to existing or prospective downtown businesses	Many tools are available through the EDC and other partners, but we hear from businesses that they are not aware of these tools
 Clear standards and efficient permitting process 	Along with partners, identify specific actions to enhance waterfront recreation opportunities.	 Online survey #2 results identified priorities to: Establish more viewpoints/seating areas Non-motorized craft launch points Additional restaurants Space for outdoor concerts

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	Align business recruitment efforts with specific needs identified in the Market Analysis: full service hotel; drug store; another supermarket	
	Engage the Evergreen State College, SPSCC, State of WA, Providence Health Services and others & identify ways to encourage their activities in the downtown.	
	Adopt a Community Renewal Area	What year? 2016?
	More potential actions may be proposed	

ELEMENT	STRATEGIC GOALS/PRIORITIES	TASKS FOR 2016	NOTES
	 Accommodate 25% of Olympia's population growth (approximately 5,000 residents) within downtown over 20 	Establish a baseline of data to characterize the current balance of housing options in downtown	Completed
HOUSING	 Provide a mix of urban housing options to fit a range of incomes and lifestyles Increase the ratio of market-rate housing in the short term. In the long-term provide a more balanced ratio of 	Identify a scope for the development of a housing strategy that includes: housing objectives, targets, metrics, and demographics. Also, the strategy should identify measures to encourage residential development and reach targets.	Include recommendations based on discussions and a feasibility analysis of different development types in 2016 May – August timeframe
НС	 Encourage adaptive reuse of non- residential buildings to provide low to moderate income options 	Study the feasibility of providing commercial and support services to make complete neighborhoods, especially in the SE Neighborhood on or near Union.	May – August timeframe
	 Retain existing subsidized and low- income housing stock 	OPTIONS – POTENTIAL ACTIONS FOR 2017-2021	

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 Enable downtown residents to meet their day-to-day retail/service needs within a ¼ mile of home Establish neighborhoods with services 	Better define housing objectives, targets, metrics, and demographics. Identify strategies to encourage residential development and reach targets
 and a range of housing options. Require developments to be sensitive to the scale and character of existing neighborhoods and most housing to be "ground related" Retain residential in the mixed-use core 	More potential actions may be proposed

ELEMENT	STRATEGIC GOALS/PRIORITIES	TASKS FOR 2016	NOTES
CES	 Work in coordination with regional partners Sustain a coordinated network of 	Met with Social Service providers in February, and will host a second meeting in Q3 to present and refine specific recommendations	June-August timeframe
AL SERVICES	shelter, subsidized housing and social servicesExpand inter-jurisdictional	Explore options for locating public restrooms in downtown	CP&D Task separate from MAKERS work- Currently in discussion by Council's General Government Committee
SOCIAL	 commitment to essential funding and policy environment Encourage a more integrated definition of success to include 	Support location of Providence Community Care Center in downtown that will provide continuum of care needs addressing mental health issues	CP&D Task separate from MAKERS work- Providence is exploring a temporary downtown location planned to open in summer 2016

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 humanitarian, business and residential goals for downtown Prevent displacement of existing social services in downtown Improve access to social service facilities by working with transit agencies and improving sidewalks and intersections on routes to service providers 	Review, summarize and synthesis the existing data and reports relevant to homelessness in our community; design an instrument and approach to help us document the number and characteristics of the homeless population that lives in an around Olympia's downtown; Develop a scope of work for a planning process that would lead toward a more coordinated response to homelessness and its impacts, particularly in our downtown	CP&D Task separate from MAKERS work CP&D Task separate from MAKERS work
	OPTIONS – POTENTIAL ACTIONS FOR 2017-2021	
	Advance the regional effort to develop a coordinated homeless strategy. Target is the development of a strategic action plan directed toward expanding housing and shelter opportunities as well as addressing the impacts of homelessness [and street dependency] in our downtown. The action plan would address how regional partners coordinate, communicate and use resources to include clear responsibilities, partners, timeframes and regular and ongoing reporting	To be successful this effort would require broad partnership between the City of Olympia, County, other cities, not for profits, businesses and faith-based organizations.
	Initiate a communication strategy involving social service advocates, developers, and public officials to address misconceptions and stigma associated with social service needs and providers	Consultants will refine recommendation through 2 nd meeting with social service providers
	More potential actions may be proposed	

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ELEMENT	STRATEGIC GOALS/PRIORITIES	TASKS FOR 2016	NOTES
	 Leverage resources through partnerships and a coordinated approach Enhance security downtown by adding ambassadors and police activities, 	Develop a Parking Strategy that is aligned with the DTS MAKERS helped develop the scope.	RFQ for a parking strategy consultant goes out @ May - See May 3 City Council packet for parking strategy scope of work.
	 improving lighting, addressing civility concerns and other means. Drovide predictable available parking 	Work with PBIA and ODA to develop clean and safe priorities for future years	Host a possible joint meeting in the Fall
ER	 Provide predictable, available parking solutions allow users to quickly navigate to a convenient space; provides opportunity for existing surface parking lots to redevelop into a higher and better use; and can evolve with rapidly changing market conditions Protect downtown from sea level rise through steps identified in a long-term management plan to include assessment of risk, a progression of adaptation and response actions, 	Incorporate proposed actions related to downtown from the draft Action Plan into prioritization process for 6-year implementation strategy	(e.g., Fund nighttime walking patrol year-round)
		Explore and adopt increased requirements for floodproofing in downtown (interim step to address flood risk associated with sea level rise)	CP&D Task separate from MAKERS work- Briefing for Land Use & Environment Committee on April 21
ОТ		Continue ongoing Downtown Project steps (Alley Lighting Phase 2, etc.)	CP&D Task separate from MAKERS work
		Explore options for public restrooms downtown	CP&D Task separate from MAKERS work
	partnerships and funding structureAddress perception vs. reality	Initiate and assess shared trash compactor pilot project	PW Task separate from MAKERS work
		OPTIONS – POTENTIAL ACTIONS FOR 2017-2021	
		Form a comprehensive management plan to address sea level rise	2017
		More potential actions may be proposed	