

Workshop #1 - Response Summary

Neighborhood Area 3
Fairbanks Neighborhood Plans
November 7th, 2007- Ryan Middle School



Summary

The first of two neighborhood workshops for the Vision Fairbanks Downtown Master Plan was held at the Ryan Middle School on Wednesday, November 7, 2007 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. In attendance were nearly 50 community members who signed in and submitted 36 response sheets identifying their interest in pedestrian and bike connections, possible locations for neighborhood centers, and defining the primary land uses within their neighborhood area.

Workshop Purpose

The purpose of the workshop was to:

- 1) Inform the community about the neighborhood planning process
- 2) Obtain neighbors thinking on:
 - Issues that need to be addressed
 - Possible locations for neighborhood centers and pedestrian/bike connections
 - Primary Land Uses
- 3) Answer questions

Workshop Format

The workshop began with consultants presentation of the neighborhood planning process and schedule (shown at right). An educational piece the best neighborhoods and best commercial corridors was presented in conjunction with three neighborhood possibilities for pedestrian and bike circulation, neighborhood center locations, and recommendations to consider for primary land uses. A question and answer period followed. Community members seated at tables were then encouraged to discuss issues in their neighborhood area (see upper right) and fill out individual written response sheets (shown on following page). Verbal summary reports were presented by an individual from each table including topics of discussion and individual responses. The reports were documented by the consultants.

The following pages include:

1. The Response Sheet Tally
2. Pedestrian/Bike Connections, Neighborhood Center Locations and Neighborhood Districts' Primary Land Use
3. Table Discussion Summary Reports
4. Questions and Written Comments from Response Sheets



Neighborhood Area 3

Process & Schedule		2007	N	D	J	2008
1)	Neighborhood Workshop #1 –Identify Potential Neighborhood Centers, Ped/Bike Connections and Primary Land Uses		1	November 6,7,8		
2)	Refine Neighborhood Centers Concept to include Land Use and Pedestrian/Bike Circulation Plans					
3)	Neighborhood Workshop #2 – Review Neighborhood Centers, Land Use and Circulation Plan Maps			2	December 12,13	
4)	Refine Neighborhood Centers Conceptual Land Use and Circulation Plan					
5)	Develop Recommendations for Code and Ordinance Updates					
6)	Provide Final Plan Documents					

Schedule

Individual Response Sheet Tally

Response Sheet Tally

Fairbanks Neighborhood Plans
Workshop #1-Neighborhood Area 3

November 7th, 2007-Ryan Middle School

1

Pedestrian/Bike Connections:

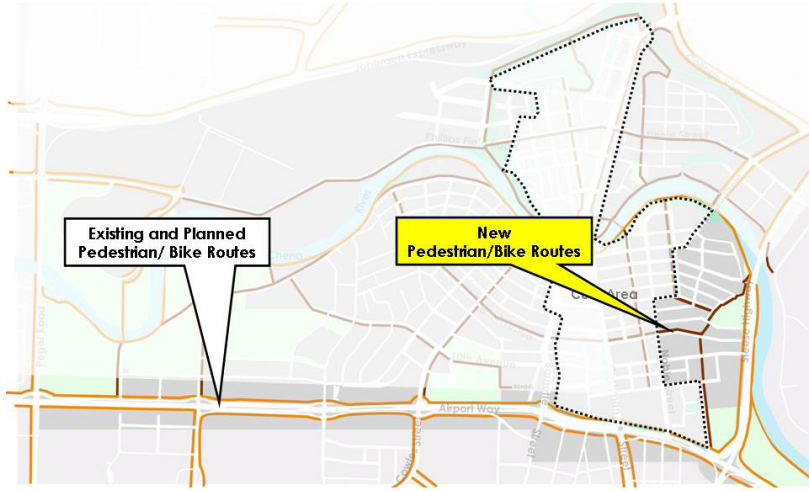
	Yes	No
Primary Pedestrian/Bike Routes	29	05
Other - Please identify in comments below	04	01

Neighborhood Center Locations:

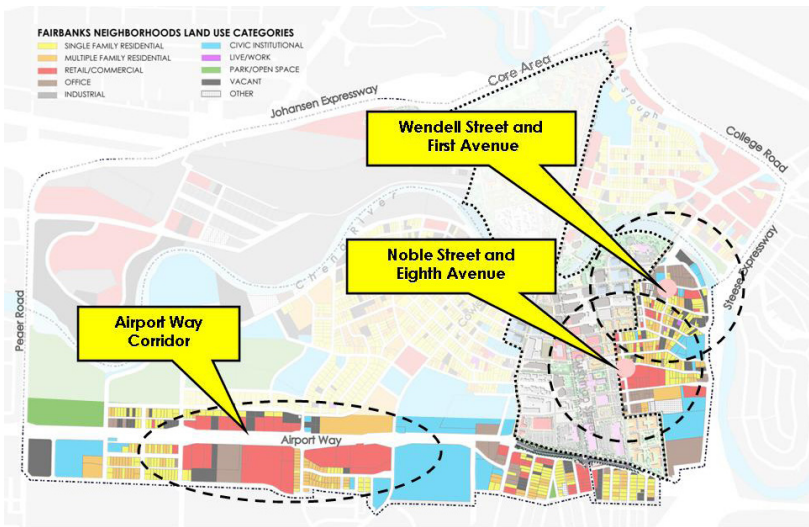
	Yes	No
1) Wendell Street & First Avenue	19	09
2) Noble Street & 8th Avenue	10	14
3) Airport Way Corridor	15	07
4) Other - Please identify in comments below	05	03

Neighborhood Districts' Primary Land Use:

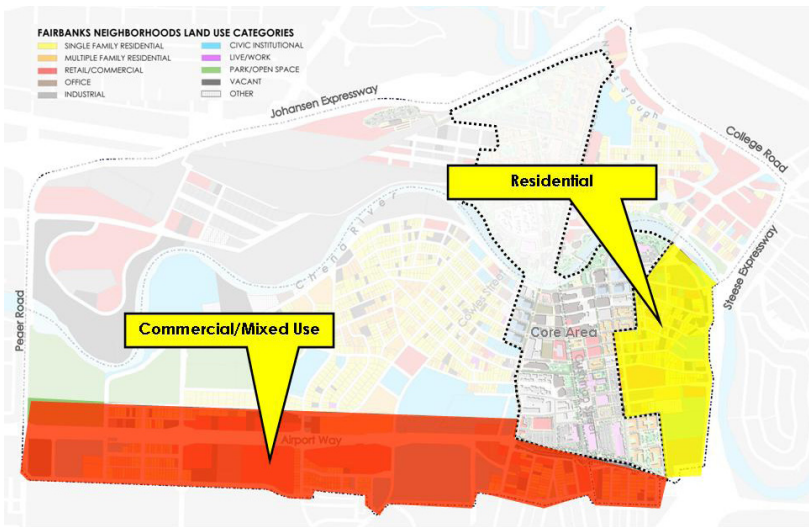
	Yes	No
Residential	15	04
Airport Way Commercial/Mixed-Use	23	03
Other - Please identify in comments below	03	01



Pedestrian/Bike Connections



Neighborhood Centers



Primary Land Use

Table Discussion Summary

A summary of each table discussion is recorded below:

General Comments and Questions:

- What population area are you from? We have no traffic in our neighborhoods to support this
- Noble Street is two-way and a mess today. Accidents, stalls and pollution- your traffic counts are wrong
- Will ADOT remove fences and barriers along Airport Way?
- The only spot for a center is at Noble and 8th- but there is too much traffic
- Why centers?- I can just drive to Old Steese and College Road
- What are in these centers?
- The reason Lacey and Noble are two-way is because of the parking garage- can it go back to one-way?
- Is Cushman going two-way? Does this include Barnette?
- The center at 1st Ave and Wendell will eliminate the traffic I need to support my gas station
- With Barnette Bridge will there be more commercial along this roadway?- Will this increase traffic into neighborhoods?
- Around 2nd Ave and Dunkle people are buying up property- used to be residential- houses are sitting vacant- what is going on here?

Table 1

- For a first meeting these are some monumental ideas-My gas station has been at the corner of Noble and 1st Ave for 33 years. I see downtown going toward TCC and see light commercial near residential- Much of this area is blighted
- We have a nice graveyard and housing around the cemetery- but a lot of commercial from 4th Avenue north to 1st Avenue
- This neighborhood should not just be residential- its starting to go commercial- many housing being purchased and sitting vacant.

Table 2

- Along 11th Avenue from Cushman to Barnette the sidewalks are impossible to use- we need ramps and continuous walkways
- Locate a full size grocery at Foodland site

Table 3

- Neighborhood grocery- not sure how this works with inflated property values- how can new businesses start up if the cost of land starts sky-rocketing
- Wendell and 1st Avenue may not have the population to support itself- there is no immediate housing- Locate near Airport Way

- Bike routes- we need more along Airport Way
- Future trolley on Airport Way?- Why not improve existing bus lines and hours of service?

Table 4

- We had a mix of ideas- the western edge of Airport Way is residential- protect this
- If the sidewalks are enhanced- who maintains them? will we be taxed more?

Table 5

- Offer district heat to residents

Table 6

- Preserve the residential area near Wilbur and Airport Way
- We like the residential how it is!

Table 7

- Would like to see a grocery between 4th and 5th at Noble
- We need more connections into downtown

Summary of Written Comments on Response Sheets

1. Pedestrian/Bike

- More continuous sidewalks without gaps and ADA ramps; better maintenance (5)
- Bus routes and extended hours (2)
- Bike paths are good where they are.
- More bike routes along Airport Way
- More ski routes (not snow mobiles)
- Lighting- could be bike paths summers and ski trails in winter- Like Anchorage
- Have more that link parks and rec. and other routes with maps showing all routes and locations
- 8th Avenue- go all the way across to Cowles we need sidewalks
- Davis Road Bike Path
- Will they cross private property?
- Longer crosswalk lights

2. Neighborhood Centers

- Build a full sized grocery between Chena River and Airport way- Old Foodland area? (3)
- Airport and Noble St
- I believe that some of the community center would prompt more teens to skip school and promote more areas for drug use and sales
- Extend commercial core from TCC to river
- What exactly do you think is going to happen to the existing homes and properties. 8th and Noble has existing bank and senior housing
- There is no room to put in anything on Noble and 8th Avenue
- Could clean up commercial area
- Leave residential area alone
- I live on Eagan and Wilbur and like the quiet residential area and would not like to see it changed. I would not like my home that has been ours since 1967- the flood
- We need more stores
- 12th and Noble is already a nice neighborhood small park
- Too much fluff and cosmetics- really not addressing what we need in Fairbanks/Alaskan needs
- I don't think we have the population center in Fairbanks for centers
- Between Carlson Center and Pioneer Park on Chena River curve on north bank

- Airport if you get rid of fence and concrete barriers and make it a boulevard with trees and bushes- What about the hub? Open this again as a grocery store
- Strengthen existing centers at Wendell St and 1st Ave and Noble St and 8th Avenue

3. Neighborhood Districts-Primary Land Use

- We need a small grocery store (4)
- 12th and Noble we need a store (2)
- Downtown Shopping Center near Airport Way and Cushman
- Are you talking taking properties, homes and businesses?
- I would like to see the old Carre location be brought back to life- maybe a neighborhood center or a mini-mall—I think this area when developed would be right for this side of town.
- Leave more acres area- residential—more housing in Fairview Manor
- More bus service in late evenings and full service on Saturday- possibly some Sunday service as well
- Bigger issues are looming- plans should be to retrofit housing with steam heat due to oil costs- improve and update sewer lines
- Super mall, more commercial competition for consumer use, larger tech support center for computer and other office equipment
- More multi-family in residential
- Airport Way, protect but do not expand-buffer residential
- Airport way needs a name change- “Broadway”
- Airport Way corridor- how much traffic will increase with the Barnette Bridge? Too busy for a neighborhood Center- Maybe this should be an access area for traffic to flow through?

4. Other

- I would like to see speed bumps installed on Kennicott Ave. There are a lot of children in the neighborhood and people speed through these areas