



# MILWAUKIE ALL ABOARD

Community Vision and Action Strategy  
Vision Advisory Committee Meeting #1  
August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 6:30-8:30 pm

## MEETING SUMMARY

### **Members Present**

Shannah Anderson, Misty Collard, Douglas Craig, Chris Davis, Barbara Eiswerth, Angelene Falconer, Zara Logue, Bryce Magorian, Jessica Neu, Howie Oakes, Ben Rousseau, Adrianna Stanley, Alejandra Torres, Arianna Van Bergen

### **Members Not Able to Attend**

Rochelle MacDonald, Greg Baartz-Bowman

### **City of Milwaukie**

Mark Gamba, Mayor; Councilors Wilda Parks and Lisa Batey  
David Levitan, Denny Egner, Mary Heberling, City of Milwaukie

### **Cogan Owens Greene**

Kirstin Greene and Anais Mathez

### **Others Present**

*Conversation is summarized by agenda item below. Raw flipchart notes and the PowerPoint presentation are attached as appendices to this summary (Appendix A and Appendix B, respectively).*

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### **Welcome**

Mayor Mark Gamba opened the meeting and welcomed members of the Vision Advisory Committee (VAC). He thanked participants for their applications. Mayor Gamba encouraged the committee to think outside the box throughout the vision process and help create vision statements that are unique to Milwaukie. He prompted them to reflect on what is true in Milwaukie today, and imagine what the perfect community should look like in 20 years.

### **Vision and Action Plan Overview: Objectives**

David Levitan, Senior Planner, introduced his role as project manager. He said that this vision will lead into an update of the City's Comprehensive (Land Use) Plan. The City's current Comprehensive Plan is dated in 1988, so we are due for an update. David articulated his hope for the Vision and Action Plan process to provide aspiration and a strong foundation for the upcoming Comprehensive Plan update.

David recognized Councilor Wilda Parks and Councilor Lisa Batey in the room and introduced them to the VAC.

### **Project Schedule**

Kirstin Greene, Cogan Owens Greene, thanked the VAC for their interest and commitment to the VAC, reiterating the importance of their guidance throughout the process. She provided an overview of the

project timeline, touching briefly on the three phases of the project. The Quadruple Bottom Line lens was briefly introduced as a sustainability framework to use throughout this process for analyzing the positive trends and some of the challenges in Milwaukie. Kirstin turned to the VAC committee and asked for a round of introductions, noting the diversity among members in terms of age, geography and length of time living in Milwaukie.

### **Introductions: Values and Challenges**

VAC members went around the room and introduced themselves, as well as one thing they value about Milwaukie. Reflections included:

- Sense of community
- Small town
- Tranquility
- Potential
- Accessibility
- Enriching education
- Progressiveness
- Trees, water, springs
- Natural beauty
- Safety
- Quaint, peaceful
- People, dedication, ambition
- Downtown/livability
- Neighborliness
- Friendliness

Many VAC members noted the “potential” of Milwaukie as an attribute that they value most about their City.

After introductions, Kirstin invited VAC members to reflect on some of the challenges that they felt face Milwaukie today, or in the future. Concerns included:

- Displacement/“ghettoization”
- Smart, sustainable development
- Fostering an artistic environment
- Quality of water and air
- Diversifying downtown ownership patterns, i.e. Dark Horse Comics.
- Lack of neighborhood nodes like parks and community meeting places
- Shifting demographics
- Ensuring clean energy, earthquake resilience and watershed restoration/dam removal
- Disparities in education
- Retaining Milwaukie’s “personality” and separation from SE Portland
- Including Dark Horse in this process
- Alienation of neighborhoods within Milwaukie
- Affordability/inclusion
- Building and maintaining infrastructure

Many VAC members noted that displacement and/or “ghettoization” of neighborhoods in Milwaukie is a challenge that may be exacerbated in the future. In relation to shifting demographics, one member shared an example about an innovative intergenerational community in Finland, where a retirement

home also provided affordable university housing in exchange for volunteerism. Another VAC member noted that although Milwaukie faces educational disparities, the diversity of its schools should also be recognized as a strength. Finally, members suggested that there are potential opportunities and synergies if a good relationship is cultivated with Dark Horse Comics in this visioning process.

### **Communications/Engagement Strategies and Feedback**

Anais Mathez, Cogan Owens Greene, provided an overview of the engagement strategies in each of the three phases of the project. She explained the different activities and their associated goals and outcomes in each phase, and how these activities build upon each other and are integrated in order to create vision statements and action strategies (PowerPoint slides from this agenda item are attached as an appendix to this meeting summary).

The VAC provided feedback on the communication and engagement strategies. Suggestions were made about when to hold the Town Hall in October and venue options. Members agreed that holding a town hall during the last weekend in October, after the Harvest Festival (last Farmer's Market of the season) could capture many people. Suggested venues included the Waldorf School gym or the High School cafeteria and mezzanine. The VAC also provided a list of businesses to survey, as part of the youth outreach team described by Anais. The list of businesses include:

Milwaukie Center	Industrial Way
Carson Footwear	School Backpacks
Wichita Center	Moda Insurance
Ledding Library	Blount
Downtown businesses (Grammas, Beer Store)	Mill End Store
Dave's Killer Bread	Pendleton Woolen Mill Store
The Meadows Restaurant	Bob's Red Mill
Breakside Brewery	Mike's Drive In
Safeway (and surrounding businesses)	Bowling Alley
Vinyl Press	Milwaukie Wunderland
Wine 30	Elks Lodge
Wichita Feed and Hardware	Veterans of Foreign Wars
Warrior Room	Nursing/Senior (King) Homes
Great American Video	NW Housing Alternatives
M. Floral and Garden	NW Family Services
Concentrates	Hillside Manor
Providence Hospital	Cardegana Farm
Precision	Clackamas Community College/Harmony Campus
32 <sup>nd</sup> Microbusinesses	Barber shop

### **Community Conversation Questions**

Kirstin asked participants to pair up to dry run the questions participants in the upcoming community conversations would discuss. She asked for content as well as for guidance on the questions and flow.

### **Summary Reports**

After discussion, Kirstin asked participants to report what they heard from each other in conversation. Summaries follow.

1. Why did you choose Milwaukie to be your home and/or place of business?
  - Affordability

- “Milwaukie chose me”
- Convenient commute
- Nearby family
- Employment
- Livability
- Safety
- Transportation options
- Rural feel yet well connected
- Accessibility
- Sense of community
- Farmer’s Market
- The houses (architecture)
- Waldorf School
- Safe Routes to Schools

Common responses included: affordability and Milwaukie’s rural feel yet close proximity to downtown Portland.

2. What is going well in Milwaukie?

- Excitement, vibe
- Knowing your neighbors
- Sense of community (gardens)
- Relationships (see “sense of community”)
- Forward-thinking/proactive
- Civic pride
- Desire to integrate

3. Looking into the future, what do you want to see in the Milwaukie of 2040?

- Art/murals everywhere
- Affordability
- Sidewalks, bike paths
- Better transit stops/shelters (buses)
- More transit/better SW connectivity and E-W connections
- Downtown becomes a hub
- Livable, inclusive does not equal sterile, homogenous, A+ infrastructure
- Connections between Milwaukie neighborhoods
- Community events/programming/age-inclusive
- New development, well integrated, modern/old architecture
- 10 minute neighborhoods
- Healthy, local economy
- Clean air and water
- Clean energy

Common themes included: sidewalks and bike paths, a vibrant downtown hub, access and connectivity between Milwaukie neighborhoods, robust community programming, smart and well-integrated development and communities with “ten minute neighborhood” attributes.

Due to time, Kirstin prepared to adjourn the meeting and said that staff would review responses to question #4 (“what, if anything, causes you concern about the future of Milwaukie?”) from their notes.

No additional community members were present for comment.

### **Next Steps**

Kirstin noted upcoming events including the summer concerts and invited members to distribute postcards to their friends and neighbors. She reminded participants of the online survey, text-in number, and invited members to schedule Community Conversations with originations, their friends and family. Staff are doing up to 18 meetings, but there is no limit on those VAC members could hold. David asked participants about future VAC meetings. Members confirmed that Wednesday evenings work well. David and Mayor Gamba thanked VAC members again for serving on this important committee.

### **Adjourn**

David adjourned the meeting at 8:30pm.

## APPENDIX A. RAW FLIPCHART NOTES

### Introductions

- Sense of community
- Small town
- Tranquility
- ★• Potential
- Accessibility
- Enriching education
- Progressiveness
- Trees, water, springs
- Natural beauty
- Safety
- Quaint, peaceful
- People, dedication, ambition
- Downtown/livability
- Neighborliness
- Friendliness

### Challenges (QBL)

- ★• Displacement/"ghettoization"
- Smart development/sustainable
- Artistic environment
- Water and air quality
- Downtown ownership patterns
  - Ie: Dark Horse
- Neighborhood nodes/community
  - Ie: Park, meeting place
- Shifting demographics, intergenerational community
  - Ie: Retirement homes and University housing
- Sustainability:
  - Clean energy
  - Watershed restoration/dam removal
  - Earthquake
- ★• Education: both strength and challenge
  - Disparity
- Retaining "personality", separation from SE
- Include Dark Horse in this discussion.
  - Synergies/potential?
- Alienation of neighborhoods to Milwaukee identify. Inclusion of entire city.
  - Neighborhood nodes
- Affordability/inclusion
- Build and maintain infrastructure

Businesses to Survey:

Milwaukie Center  
Carson Footwear  
Wichita Center  
Ledding Library  
Downtown business: Grammas, Mil. B.S.  
Dave's Killer Bread  
The Meadows (restaurant)  
Breakside  
Safeway and surrounding businesses  
Vinyl Press  
Wine 30  
Wichita Feed and Hardware  
Warrior Room  
Great American Video  
M. Floral and Garden  
Concentrates  
Providence Hospital  
Precision  
32<sup>nd</sup> Microbusinesses

Industrial Way  
School – backpacks  
Moda  
Blount  
Mill End Store  
Pendelton Woolen Mill Store  
Bob's Red Mill  
Mike's Drive In  
Bowling alleys  
Milwaukie Wunderland  
Elks  
VFW  
Nursing/Senior (King) Homes  
NW Housing Alternatives  
NW Family Services  
Hillside Manor (ok)  
Cardegana Farm off Lynnwood  
Harmony Community Campus – CCC  
Barber shop

Community Conversation Questions

4. Why Milwaukie?

- ★ • Affordability
- "Milwaukie chose me"
- Convenient commute
- Nearby family
- Employment
- Livability
- Safety
- Transportation options
- ★ • Rural feel yet well connected
- Accessibility
- Sense of community
- Farmer's Market
- The houses
- Waldorf
- Safe Routes to School

5. What is going well?

- Excitement, vibe
- Knowing your neighbors
- Sense of community (gardens)
- Relationships (see "sense of community")
- Forward-thinking/proactive
- Civic pride
- Desire to integrate

## 6. 2040 Vision

- Art/murals everywhere
- Affordability
- ★• Sidewalks, bike paths
- Better transit stops/shelters (buses)
- More transit/better SW connectivity and E-W connections
- ★• Downtown becomes a hub
- Livable, inclusive does not equal sterile, homogenous, A+ infrastructure
- ★• Connections between Milwaukie neighborhoods
- ★• Community events/programming/age-inclusive
- ★• New development, well integrated, modern/old architecture
- ★• 10 minute neighborhoods
- Healthy, local economy
- Clean air and water
- Clean energy

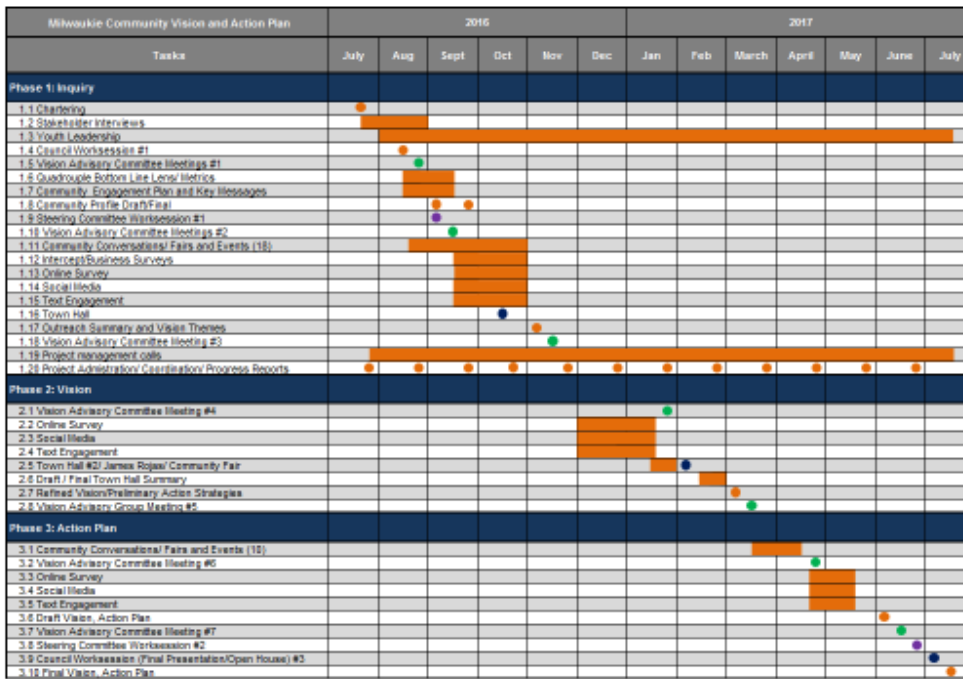


APPENDIX B. COMMUNICATIONS/ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES: POWERPOINT SLIDES



MILWAUKIE  
ALL ABOARD

Vision Advisory Committee:  
Meeting #1  
August 23, 2016



- Meeting/ Product
- Task
- Vision Advisory Committee Meeting
- Steering Committee Meeting
- Town Hall/ Public Event

## Quadruple Bottom Line Lens



## Phase 1: Inquiry

### Activities

- Stakeholder Interviews
- Community Profile
- Engagement Strategy
- Fairs and Events
- Community Conversations
- Intercept/Business Surveys
- Web Engagement
- Text-in Opportunities
- October Town Hall #1

### Inquiry

- *Why did you choose Milwaukee to be your home and/or place of business?*
- *What is going well in Milwaukee?*
- *Looking into the future, what do you want to see in the Milwaukee of 2040?*
- *What do we need to work on and overcome to get there?*

### Outcomes

- Outreach Summary and Vision Themes (going in)
- Vision Statements and Preliminary Action Strategies co-created at Town Hall #1 (coming out)

## Phase 2: Vision

### Activities

- Web Engagement
- Text-in Opportunities
- "Place-It" place-based imaginative exercises in schools, at community events, etc.)
- February Town Hall #2

### Inquiry

- *Considering the overarching and topic-specific vision statements, implementation strategies and metrics, what refinements are needed?*
- *What community partners should be lead? What community partners should be support?*

### Outcomes

- Overarching Vision Statement
- Topic-specific Vision Statements
- Preliminary Action Strategies, Community Partners

## Phase 3: Action Plan

### Activities

- Community Conversations
- Fairs and Events
- Web Engagement
- Text-in Opportunities
- Final Presentation/Open House

### Inquiry

- *Considering the final draft 2040 Vision Statement and Action Strategies, are we on the right track?*

### Outcomes

Final Milwaukee 2040 Vision and Action Plan

## Preliminary Stakeholders

- City Council
- Steering Committee
- Vision Advisory Committee
- Planning Department
- Bike Milwaukie
- Downtown Business Association
- North Clackamas Chamber
- Neighborhood District Association Chairs (7)
- Art Mob
- Parks and Recreation
- Citizens Utility Advisory Board
- Chairs of Advisory Committees
- NW Housing Alternatives
- American Legion/Rotary

## Community Conversation Questions

*Why did you choose Milwaukie to be your home and/or place of business?*

*What is going well in Milwaukie?*

*Looking into the future, what do you want to see in the Milwaukie of 2040?*

*What do we need to work on and overcome to get there?*

*Sign up for updates at [www.milwaukievision.org](http://www.milwaukievision.org)!*