



**MILWAUKIE**  
ALL ABOARD

## *Community Vision and Action Plan Vision Advisory Committee Meeting #3*

Milwaukie Public Safety Building  
3200 SE Harrison Street  
Community Room  
November 16, 2016  
6:30 – 8:30 pm

### **AGENDA**

TIME	TOPIC	LEAD
6:30 pm	Welcome	Mayor Mark Gamba, City of Milwaukie
	Town Hall Recap	All
	Results and Looking Ahead: Vision and Action Plan Outline	Kirstin Greene, Cogan Owens Greene
7 pm	High Level Changes to Vision	All
7:20	Draft Goal Area Statements	Working Groups
8:00	Sharing and Discussion	All
8:20	Next Steps	Kirstin Greene and David Levitan, City of Milwaukie
8:30	Adjourn	Mayor Gamba

*All Vision Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Community members are welcome to observe and provide written comment at any time to [levitand@milwaukieoregon.gov](mailto:levitand@milwaukieoregon.gov). As time allows, verbal comment is welcome during the time specified on the agenda.*

*Stay engaged at [www.milwaukievision.org](http://www.milwaukievision.org)!*

## OVERVIEW

On November 2, 2016 the City of Milwaukie convened a Town Hall for its *Milwaukie All Aboard Community Vision and Action Plan* process. Formulating a Vision and Action Plan is the first phase of an update of our citywide comprehensive plan process. The vision will also help City Council with its decisions on a range of topics ranging from budget to citizen involvement and economic development. Given our commitment to a sustainable future, we are utilizing a “quadruple bottom line” sustainability lens including a range of views or lens including People, Place, Planet and Prosperity.

More than 140 participants attended the event at the Waldorf School, where childcare and refreshments were available. A wide range of participants included Spanish speaking residents, new comers and residents who had lived in Milwaukie for their entire life. From 6 – 6:30 pm, the Waldorf School string quartet played classical music while participants could review background information on the People, Place, Planet and Prosperity themes. At 6:30, after a welcome from Mayor Mark Gamba and new City Manager Ann Ober, participants heard an overview from Greg Hemer from the Milwaukie Historical Society as well as a keynote from livability expert Brian Scott, BDS Planning. Their PowerPoints are available on the City’s website. Willamette Falls Community Media streamed the event live via the Internet. Vision and Action Plan consultants Cogan Owens Greene assisted with facilitation and staffing the event.



On the comment forms, participants noted a variety of reasons for attending:

- My interest in Milwaukie/our community (2). I work in affordable housing.
- Interest in development of Milwaukie.
- Curious of future, excited by the future.
- To become familiar with what's happening.
- Love of our community, live and work here.
- Want to help shape the future of Milwaukie.

- Improving things for the better is very important.
- Lived here 25 years and wanted to promote NCSB Bond.
- We're moving to Milwaukie, just bought a lot here in March.
- Want to participate in shaping zoning policy around housing.
- New to Milwaukie, trying to get involved in my new community.
- An appreciation for this process being so inviting for the community.
- I care about the town I live and raise my child in. I want Milwaukie to be awesome.
- A genuine interest and concern for the future of Milwaukie and what Milwaukie can become.
- To make it easier and safer for Milwaukie residents to access education at Clackamas Community College.
- Personally invited.

In their comment forms, and via the online survey, participants indicated the most pressing issues they see facing Milwaukie today. They range from a concern over the cost of rent, affordable housing, grocery stores, safe transportation options and environmental sustainability. A full list of those comments are included in Appendix A.

### PRELIMINARY DRAFT VISION STATEMENT

Based on more than 17 community conversations (200 people), 55 web-based surveys, 43 postcards returned from summer fairs and events, 50 business surveys out of 200 canvassed and more than 600 unique aspirations about Milwaukie's future, citizen Vision Advisory Committee (VAC) members had created a preliminary draft vision statement. Arianna Van Bergen and Bryce Magorian read the draft:

*The Milwaukie of the future is one of shared investment. We care for and invest in our schools, providing education that prepares us for rewarding work in a changing world. We support our local businesses, creating opportunities for all kinds of people to live and work in our city. We invest in transportation systems, providing a variety of choices for walkers, cyclists, drivers and transit-riders to easily and safely travel between our neighborhoods and throughout the region. We provide a range of housing choices, so that we can meet the needs of those who want to live and work here, regardless of means. We protect and invest in our green spaces, preserving the natural beauty, clean air and pure water we all treasure for generations to come. We invest in sources of renewable energy to sustainably power our homes and invigorate our local industries. Above all, we invest in each other. Our love of our community is expressed through festivals, goodwill between neighbors and common spaces where people of all ages can share perspectives, enriching the whole town. The Milwaukie of the future is a place that diverse community members - young and old alike - are proud to call home.*

In a quick vote of hands, and via the comment forms and survey, most participants feel the statement was on the right track. VAC members will take specific suggestions mentioned at the Town Hall in discussions, from completed comment forms, and via a web-based survey and make further modifications at their November 16 meeting. Verbatim comments are included in Appendix B. Comments from the topic specific discussions are included in Appendix C.

Next, Milwaukie High School Milwaukie All Aboard part time staff Youth Vision Action Team members Odalis Aguilar-Aguilar, Maxwell Bernardi, Tyrenna Jacobs and Sarai Rodriguez reported on their outreach focusing on community conversations and business surveys by focus group. Odalis reported on *People*, and mentioned the suggestion for a health clinic or other social service hub in the community. Tyrenna spoke about *Place* and emphasized the desire to see affordability maintained in the community. Sarai touched on *Planet* and noted the enthusiasm over the development of the waterfront park. Finally, Max reported on *Prosperity*, conveying the desire to attract and retain small businesses. Daniel Franco-Nunez with Izo Marketing reported on his observations from his focused outreach to Latino Community members.



### SUSTAINABILTIY LENS FOCUS AREA DISCUSSIONS

Vision Advisory Committee members then facilitated 12 tables of discussion – 3 in each focus area to dive deeper into what participants want to see in the future of Milwaukie – in 2040 with respect to that aspect of life. VAC members will be drafting goal area statements at their November 16 meeting.

Mayor Gamba thanked participants for their participation, noted the Action Plan focused Town Hall meeting February 15, 2017 and adjourned the meeting.



## ***Appendix A: Most Pressing Issues Facing Milwaukie Today***

Town Hall participants and survey respondents expressed a range of thoughts about the most pressing issues facing Milwaukie today. They are listed below.

- Lack of vitality. Closed businesses. Lack of walkability. Need for cleanliness, sidewalks. Make it family friendly all the time and keep our business here. Give our adults and youth a place to play.
- Rising cost of living, less diversity perspective, loss of "roots" and the story of this place.
- Affordable housing.
- Controlled growth. Transportation. Aging infrastructure.
- Pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure. Vibrant downtown and neighborhood hubs. Affordable housing. General livability concerns.
- Affordable housing. Access to social resources/services.
- Families. Youth.
- Keeping the city affordable.
- Concern of rent prices rising. More businesses to walk to for socializing. Neighborhood hubs.
- Finding a grocery store. Juggling desires of long-term residents with new residents.
- Safe pedestrian routes. Managing density and growth.
- Convenient grocery stores.
- We need a grocery store within walking distance of downtown.
- Control of the real estate prices, so that private homeownership can still be a reality and big time investors do not take the control of where this city is going.
- School children in poverty. Low percentage of sidewalks.
- Safer ways for people to walk and bike, especially east-west connections.
- Transportation. Safety. Bike-friendly. Good grocery stores.
- Housing for all economic levels. Hwy 224 runs through Milwaukie. Downtown Milwaukie is way over on one side. How do we unite all of Milwaukie to have a strong community feel.
- how to improve livability (walkability, access to stores and cafes in the neighborhoods) and increase affordable housing options without becoming overwhelmed, a la SE Division
- Urban Renewal. Sale of the parking lot , and raising the fees on citizens without a vote are all reason for thinking of leaving Milwaukie. Small town gone.
- Safe passage for pedestrians and bikes.
- Growth, development.
- Attract a mix of businesses to downtown to make it a vibrant town center. Grocery, hardware, restaurants, shops. Using space in the downtown wisely. Moving Dark Horse to a new area? Using farmers market lot wisely. Neighbors go to Woodstock or Sellwood area instead of Milwaukie. Or, even to Oregon City. Let's make a deal with McMenamins for a plot overlooking the river? Orange line right to downtown Portland.
- Attracting businesses to and retaining them in downtown Milwaukie and Milwaukie Marketplace. Adequate parking to use what is available.
- Smart growth; avoiding ugly sprawl; easy access to amenities like more grocery stores.
- Council that does not listen to the citizens that have been paying taxes for more than 15 years. All they want to talk to are 30 something's riding bikes.
- Economic vitality of downtown.
- Road maintenance/condition, lack of affordable housing (especially in central areas with the best access to public transit), lack of protection/awareness of creeks and natural areas.
- Pedestrian access and safety, sidewalks needed.
- Being consumed by Portland.

- No one has a reason to visit.
- Need a grocery store downtown.
- Keeping the community centered, to continue drawing everyone together.
- Slow development, slow population growth, dramatically. Change Milwaukie back to a more natural state through focus on native trees, less grass and more native plants, more walkable city, more vibrant down town - a place for the community to come together.
- I'm just guessing - affordable housing, teaching children that are poor that speak many different languages, the lack of public transportation if you're not in the downtown core.
- Lack of sidewalks and other safe routes for pedestrians. People dangerously disregarding traffic laws.
- Lack of new development to expand and revitalize commercial districts.
- General livability, a sense of community.
- Same as the rest of the world, growing inequity between the haves and have nots and Climate Change.
- Growth and increased density.
- Stagnation in downtown.
- Environment sustainability.
- Parking, and getting more business in Milwaukie.
- Loss of housing affordability.
- SAFE project, proactive development for population growth and environmental concerns
- Making downtown more accessible and a fun place to be and spill over growth from Portland
- Small business development (family-friendly restaurants/stores), high quality grocery options, increasing walkability, good schools, heterogeneous housing opportunities.
- Pollution in our creeks, air, and soil from Precision Castparts Corp! Parking in downtown for businesses and transit riders, revival and reinvestment in play equipment for parks, no event space to continue Milwaukie Festival Daze or a bigger Farmer's Market, we need a brewery or distillery to take over The Brew, and we have zero Dutch Bros (Oregon City has 3, not fair!)

## **Appendix B: Comments on the Vision Statement**

These responses come from 19 comment forms collected at the Town Hall, 32 online survey responses on the same material presented at the Town Hall, and results from the 12 table discussions. COG staff has organized these into thematic areas for an easier read by Vision Advisory Committee members at the November 16 meeting. Topic specific statements have also been included in those more specific areas.

### General:

- Too long. Focus on important items.
- Just needs a few tweaks.
- Needs to be more succinct.
- Less flowery language, more points.
- Making it say more with less. People do not read past three to four sentences of anything before being bored. Definitely should not be more than a paragraph.
- Statement needs a core (vision draft).
- Let's move on from the Mission Statement. Looks like a lot of thought has already been put in to it. Don't add to it, if anything make it shorter.
- Make more succinct, simpler, and concise.
- Has a little too much environmental wording, but it's good.
- Say more with less.
- Work on what we have (existing Milwaukie assets).
- Add stability and self-empowerment.
- Good start; need action items, time frame for action items.
- Defining what to hold on to and how to develop (who do we want to attract? What businesses?)
- Implementation to move forward.
- Actually doing it.
- More specificity.
- It's good but generic. What about is says "Milwaukie"?
- Add a statement about creating a vibrant community that people come to live, work and play.
- Our voice, our vision: Want City to listen.
- Sustainable development.
- How innovative do we want to be?
- "We" is the collective; everyone involved.
- Eliminate the parts that aren't the city's job: "investing in schools," "providing a range of housing choices." Ok if provide means zoning for others' choices.
- Respect for the people in the community who have made it what it is today. Long time tax payers. [came after thought about mentioning cars in the vision]
- Our small group table kept coming back to the idea of connections--transportation connections, personal connections, being connected to our natural environment. I think this thread runs through everything in the vision statement. I agree with everything in the vision statement--but how is it going to be actually used by the city in a practical way? What will happen when some of those visions conflict with one another (e.g., green spaces vs development)? I also feel that we need to represent the mobility impaired in the transportation section.

### Civic Life/Identity/Arts

- People first. Diversity. Welcoming community.
- Robust volunteer outreach—in person.
- Diverse and middle income



- "Diversity" is bigger than "young or old."
- Involved community.
- Activities.
- Vision missing description of identity (breakside if the one place along 224).
- Maintain small feel.
- Culture.
- Stop trying to make Milwaukie like Portland and appreciate the small town scale.
- Reference to supporting the arts as a vital element of a healthy community should be added. Our love of our community is expressed through support of the arts, etc.

#### Finance/Infrastructure

- More funding for parks/green spaces.

#### Housing/Urban Design/Form

- Affordable and stable housing./Affordable for all. (2)
- Density—land locked, limited space
- Okay with some density.
- Maintain view of river.
- Prevent affordability crisis.
- Housing diversity – needed.
- Maintain and enrich character
- Need vibrant core of business before high-rise housing.
- Parking lot development of plaza/place.
- Focusing on housing first, schools issues are for the school board and partners to handle
- Focus on homes.
- Not growing "too fast" or "too big".
- Save/keep our single family housing and stop planning to redevelop residential areas.

#### Milwaukie identity

- Work on dividers between Milwaukie and other places.
- Prevent high rise buildings.
- Put people first - as a priority. Should sound thriving with vitality.

#### Recreation

- The greenspace protection says nothing about providing recreation options, so I worry it could be used to say all our parks should be natural areas without recognition of the need for playgrounds, ballfields, etc.

#### Commercial areas/economic development

- More grocery stores.
- A grocery store within walking distance of the light rail station.
- Downtown = "downtown" [focus on cultivating a more robust downtown].
- Would like more good restaurants downtown.
- Business growth without environmental impacts.
- Strengthen prosperity aspect (grocery stores and more, 224 food desert).
- Downtown opportunities.
- Understand business community.
- Corporate money hurting Milwaukie business.
- Sad to see small biz struggle.
- Vitalize downtown in a sustainable way while discouraging chain stores.



- Downtown sense of place/points of interest. Connect to people of Milwaukee.
- Improve workforce development in local economy.
- Keep jobs/work in Milwaukee.
- Make Milwaukee innovation hub.
- Take care of downtown businesses, attract more.
- Encouraging new business, specifically in the Milwaukee Market Place.
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#### Access/Transportation

- Safety/sidewalks. (2)
- River is the key/ cohesive connection with river. (2)
- Walkable. (2)
- Sentence 4 - "We invest in transportation systems, providing a variety of choices for **people who walk, bike, ride the bus and drive** to easily and safely travel our neighborhoods and throughout the region."
- Access to parks.
- [Support/integrate the] MAX system.
- Active transportation.
- Make it better for people who use cars. Not mentioned in the statement.

#### Environment/Energy

- More trees.
- Kellogg creek dam removal.
- Open space, community space, parks.
- Renewal energy.
- Micro grid.
- Smart energy infrastructure.
- People should be stewards of environment.
- "Invest in sources of renewable energy" could be used in the future to press the city for investments that may be inappropriate or overreaching.
- Being more visionary and specific regarding climate change.

#### Education

- Healthy neighborhood schools.
- Fewer charter/special schools.
- Good school system.

#### Other/ Detailed Statements from Comment Forms

- HUB updated.
- Neighborhood District Associations (NDA) and commercial hubs.
- Turn NDAs into neighborhoods.
- Transportation choices...I'm a person who does all of those things. Walks, bikes, rides. We aren't one or the other and don't want to put people on sides. We want transportation choices for however you get around for work or play. I feel like some of this visioning is about "old guard" vs "new guard" or "young" vs "old needs to be more common ground. Whether you've lived here for generations or are new to the neighborhood, we share reasons for loving this place." Generally good, but don't want to start this conversation from a place of conflict. Young want something that older folks don't. There are retired folks and young families mixed throughout my neighborhood, and I, personally, feel it's an awesome balance. It don't want to live around only "new" and "young." It is a selling point of this area. Established. Grown up. Quiet. Calm. Safe. We need to build on what originally attracted people to this place and make it relevant to today. Great rebrands pull through the main

threads of what makes the brand/place great, but updates them to make them relevant to today, bringing the core along and attracting new people. Support and grow.

- Will not cut down any trees on any land. Will protect and de-dam the Creek and let it flow through our neighborhoods. If more sidewalks are added they will NOT be made of cement, but material that absorbs water and is easier for people to walk on. Cement is hard, people have back, feet, ankle and knee problems from walking on cement.
- Including something about honoring our mid-1800 historical roots.
- Keeping the Business sector heavily involved with the plan-- like the Transportation Utility fees they are left out of the plan--- they need to feel the council and planning department need them---no proof so far.
- Supporting our local businesses and businesses that are invested in the community long term. Businesses that reflect the diversity of the people living in the neighborhoods and that appeal to culture and ethnic diversity.

## **Appendix C: Table Specific Discussions on Topic Areas**

### **Reference page numbers:**

People – pages 1-4

Place – pages 5-8

Planet – pages 9-11

Prosperity – pages 12-14

### **PEOPLE: Sense of community, small-town feel, community identity and assets**

*[Neighborhood centers, festivals and events, community involvement, Safe Routes to School, library, Farmers' Market, schools and educational opportunities (environmental, technology and trade learning centers)]*

- Love the library, fit modern needs.
- Public meeting spaces for community groups.
- Good job on small town feel.
- Community center downtown.
- Soup night successful (good for people with kids, knowing neighbors).
- First Friday and Farmers Markets—like size, convenient parking.
- Milwaukie Days: needs organization.
- Safe streets and education.
- Community jeopardy—sense of community.
- More traditional citywide events and more days/hours for farmer's market.
- Charity-focused community for all.
- More vocational/technical opportunities (equal education, school pride, community assets).
- Business cares about people in community.
- I know the mayor.
- Charitable culture/community that provides resources for all through ongoing efforts.
- Quality education.
- Livelier city (boring, plain).
- More options for entertainment.
- More places to hang out during the day.
- Stronger community as a whole.
- Better funding for early education (zero to five years) and daycare.
- More vibrant city.
- More housing in the downtown area.
- Mix of residential and commercial.
- Sidewalks.
- Not turn into a ghost town.
- Community center for sports (all ages).
- Game swaps.
- Nightlife.
- Neighborhood planning for their specific neighborhood theater.
- Socializing but supporting each other at the same time.
- Live work and play.
- Character of NDA matters.
- Similar setbacks to neighborhood.
- Creating more sense of community in outer, more "suburban" neighborhoods like Linwood/Hector Campbell. Safe walking routes and better street lighting. More information and opportunities for engagement for citizens.
- Revitalize the old town, downtown area to make it a place the community can come together. Across from city hall on the empty lot, make it a park and build a walking/biking bridge from the downtown to the river to connect the 2 areas and create a safer way for people to get to the river.

- More community events, more outreach to minorities, families, and young people.
- More inclusion of diverse populations.
- Community building/networking.
- Creating a sense of community for Milwaukie's citizens through a focused effort to fund and support education and provide resources. (Schools and access to education especially for low income, support businesses to grow more job opportunities, fund access to affordable or free physical and mental health care.).
- Health clinics. Community center.
- Support more community events such as Milwaukie Days.
- Public art. Community gardens. Safe routes to school. Economic Diversity.
- Food carts. Summer concerts.
- More activities for all generations.
- Community center large and small.
- Open up schools to community.
- Older/younger people mixing together.
- Gathering spaces in each neighborhood (plazas, community gardens, etc.).
- Each neighborhood having its own identity and businesses.
- We need a parking structure to support the parking needs of downtown businesses and special events. We need an open space with accessible electricity to host events such as Milwaukie Festival Daze, a Christmas Bazaar for the Tree Lighting, some type of comic based event to celebrate Dark Horse Comics to drive more attention to our city, and create opportunity for more events.
- Neighborhood centers for neighbors to communicate (parks).
- Be daring; be unconventional.
- City should have great heart where people want to be.
- Accessible common spaces.
- Vibrant and engaged neighborhood.
- Expand Milwaukie Sunday Market.
- Like Farmer's Market.
- Farmer's Market, community events.
- First Friday.
- Need places for people to hang out like wine 30.
- Community center, gym/places people can enjoy, music.
- Meet the 21st century goals of the region.
- Involved community.
- Maintain small feel.
- Downtown sense of place/points of interest. Connect to people of Milwaukie

### **Quality of life for families and seniors**

*[Social support networks, safe and convenient transportation, proximity to family and employment, access to nature, youth activities]*

- Sidewalks for seniors and families. (2)
- Senior center location—need transportation.
- Good support systems: need centralized organization to coordinate. Should be downtown.
- Local bus system, not TriMet—city route.
- Cohesive center, not disparate services.
- Youth activities: more coordination to bring all kids together, create same league, grow existing programs.
- No hungry children/families due to finances, income.
- Have clean air and water.
- Living wage jobs that offer work/life balance, access to quality housing, happiness.
- Mental health.
- People should be first.
- Honor cultures.
- More inclusive of everyone.
- Youth, family are very important.
- Promote healthy activities.
- Social services.
- Family friendly.
- Socializing but supporting each other at the same time.
- Live work and play.
- Safety, walking access, street repair.
- Need more jobs that pay a living wage. Lack of industrial base is a detriment to future growth.
- A broader employment base paying family wages to reduce transit times and increase residents' quality of life.
- Meet the 21st century goals of the region.
- More child care availability and activities which are age appropriate for everyone.
- Creating a sense of community for Milwaukie's citizens through a focused effort to fund and support education and provide resources. (Schools and access to education especially for low income, support businesses to grow more job opportunities, fund access to affordable or free physical and mental health care.)
- Take care of teachers and schools.
- More activities for all generations.
- Community center large and small.
- Good school system.

### **Health and Safety**

*[Crime (absence of), seismic infrastructure upgrades, safe walking and biking routes, active recreational opportunities, street lighting]*

- Sidewalks on all streets (2).
- Safe place to live.
- Outside of city = more camping; worries about camping encroaching. Priority.
- Staffing concerns and philosophy/strategy towards issue.
- People become members of community. Helping.
- Annie Ross growth? (expansion?) (congestion, etc, number of people).
- Lake Road has street lighting.
- Safe streets and education.

- No road kill.
- Transportation, safe streets for biking.
- Cleaner streets (parks, city in general).
- Promote healthy activities.
- Disaster preparedness, safe pedestrian walkways.
- Safety.
- Emergency response.
- Increased police attention on drugs/crime vs. ticketing.
- Public presence of cops.
- Public servants living in city.
- Bike cops.
- Community policing.

### ***Transparency and access to information and City government***

*[Information dissemination, jurisdictional coordination, political continuity, civic pride]*

- Information online: local city government meetings, agenda, etc.
- To continue to listen to the community about what makes them happy and feel safe in their community.
- An app that facilitates two way communication between the city and the citizens.
- More surveys like this. More reaching out to businesses and citizens alike on major issues.
- Outreach more about trees in community, parks, and playgrounds.
- City could provide more guides about green use.
- Where's the resilience piece -- need to add emergency preparedness activities and training, both for City functions (water system, etc.) and for residents.
- Removal of Kellogg Dam and restoration of Kellogg Creek.
- Community engagement for DIY in community: community/group improvement to business, homes.
- Robust volunteer outreach—in person.
- Turn NDAs into neighborhoods.
- Density—land locked, limited space.
- I know the mayor.

**PLACE: Accessible transportation for cars, bicyclists, pedestrians and transit users**

*[Complete sidewalks, bike paths, safe and convenient connections across physical barriers, transit options, walkable neighborhoods, convenient access to the Portland region]*

- Sidewalks (8)
- New bike lanes (added connections); pedestrian connectivity (off-roads); short transportation times; commercial hub zones in NDAs; small connections inside city limits; transit connections inside city to keep elderly age in place (example: Canby CAT).
- All modes of transport without obstacles, environmentally friendly.
- Cars are forced to travel outside city to get to city through streets be created.
- Parking issues, downtown/new commercial parking below or above.
- Create more creative off-street parking.
- Car sharing program.
- Become less auto dependent.
- Neighborhood commercial centers, 20 minute neighborhoods.
- Walkability for all neighborhoods with local hubs. Include adult activities.
- Build sidewalks and infrastructure to keep people safe.
- Connections to public transit (build sidewalks).
- Connections between neighborhoods.
- Sunday parkways event; more Greenways.
- Multimodal ways to travel.
- Walkable neighborhoods with amenities nearby.
- Frequent bus services.
- Bike paths.
- Parking.
- Alternative transportation modes stitched together better.
- Make more of a walkable community.
- Lot spaces preserved and used correctly.
- Increase connections for people w/ transportation issues (carpool).
- Solve ADA access and repair roads.
- Accessible transportation for cars, bicyclists, pedestrians and transit users.
- Complete sidewalks! Make Railroad Ave walkable, bikeable, and a bus route. Diverse, denser housing options that are developed AROUND environmental features like wetlands and with an eye to public transportation.
- Vision Zero.
- public spaces and transportation nodes being connected.
- No cement sidewalks.
- Better crossings of 224/99E for pedestrians.
- Would be nice to get some new buildings downtown with residences and new businesses.
- Bike lanes.
- Safer streets (lights, speed bumps).
- We still need parking and Park and Ride spots.
- Safe routes to public spaces.
- A network of paths and greenways across the city.
- Car share—Zip Car as option.
- More biking/lanes; also, entire carefree streets in certain areas.
- Make more appeal not to drive; more parking (car/bike) at MAX stations.
- Bike share in tandem with MAX.
- Bus lines better, especially to MAX lines.
- Bridge over Hwy 224 and 99; pedestrian and bikes.
- Transit oriented development —incentivize transit.



- Pedestrian only downtown: car free days.
- Move into the street, parking is not number one.
- Get people out of their cars. Shuttles.
- Need better access across 99 to river (“green bridge”), pedestrian/bike bridge.
- Downtown greenway system; connections.
- Parking for these locations you want people to access.
- More walking/biking paths with good lighting and safe feel. Good police presence on isolated walking paths. Good city involvement to keep area free of trash.
- Clean and safe streets. More parks. Alternate energy.
- Increase percentage of streets with sidewalks. Increase accessibility to riverfront (bridge for walkers?).
- 224: no man’s land, barrier, hazard (connect two sides together, sky bridge?).
- Walkable.
- Safety.
- MAX system.
- Active transportation.

### ***Affordable housing and gentrification/displacement pressures***

*[Diverse housing options, design, affordability, high quality development, homelessness]*

- Affordability—same dwellings but some market, some income sensitive. (10)
- Increase density around shopping cores/NDA nodes.
- Increase heights/floors.
- ADU/cottage cluster/tiny houses.
- Reduce zoning numbers, residential.
- Balance of yard vs houses.
- Mixed use: residential/commercial.
- Inclusionary zoning.
- Avoid additional high density housing. We already have a mix of high density, duplex, triplex. Support more senior housing.
- Bring rents down. Create affordable housing and transportation for seniors and low income people.
- Slowing down rent increases.
- Tiny housing.
- Alternative housing plan with rent control.
- Give home owners the right to build tiny houses.
- Maintain downtown.
- Integrating our neighborhoods with "missing middle" housing options -- but NOT with four-story condos like are going up in Sellwood and along SE Division.
- Don't ignore the need for parking spaces, both downtown and with any multi-family housing. The Mayor's vision of a car-free city may happen by 2040, but we have more than a generation until that time.
- Vision Zero, a park within a half mile of every citizen.
- Support efforts to increase affordable housing options and preserve those that already exist.
- Sidewalks. Cafes and neighborhood hubs.
- Rent control ordinance.
- Housing options.
- Affordable options for single income homes.
- Keep Milwaukie affordable.
- Middle housing allowed in all neighborhoods.
- Reduce minimum lot size for duplexes and triplexes. Shouldn't need a 10,000 sf lot for a modest duplex.
- Matching heights.

- Commercial building up front to street.
- Small homes allowed on one lot with shared common spaces.
- Various kinds of housing models and social arrangements.
- Reusing older buildings to add housing above commercial.
- Increase density in downtown, more people living downtown.
- Balancing development and preservation (not tearing down one house to make more).
- Pick best places for density—affordable, mixed use buildings.
- Encourage homeownership downtown.
- Possibly multi-family housing at Milwaukie Market Place.
- Provide denser affordable housing options.
- Prevent high rise buildings.
- Prevent affordability crisis.
- Okay with some density.
- Housing diversity – needed.
- Diverse housing options, design, affordability, high quality development: the way these questions are worded is a bit strange. Ask people to choose one or select an assortment of words.
- Focus on residents.

### ***Art and public space***

*[Plazas, amphitheaters, public art, tours and exhibits, aesthetic, public programming, playgrounds]*

- Again, add City support for the arts because it adds so much to the livability of the community, and fosters creativity among all residents. You have it in the headline, but it needs its own bullet line.
- More community gardens.
- Identify spaces available for people to gather.
- Use spaces creatively.
- More art murals.
- School yards after school hours be used for community purposes.
- Arts accessible to all, and an integral part of the public environment.
- Have art that people like and that people will want to come to Milwaukie to see. Art that inspires, that people admire and look up to. NO Conceptual art that just gets ignored because you need a PhD to understand it.
- Sidewalks, clean steam.
- Art focus in city, centralized with schools.
- Collaborative art shows between two high schools.
- Culture.
- Parking lot development of plaza/place.

## ***PLANET: Riverfront, creeks, trees and other natural resources***

*[Clean air and water, green space, parks with amenities, restored watersheds, waterfront, gardens, tree canopy and ordinance]*

- Parks. (3)
- More green spaces around higher density zones.
- Take advantage of river more: floating restaurant, human-powered regatta, and programming.
- Removal of dam / restore Kellogg Creek.
- Continue to reclaim and preserve waterfront.
- Still have greenery; Parks updated, build a heart, more gardens.
- Movable trees and shrubs. Preserving wetlands.
- Embrace the river. Allow appropriate access yet protect the habitat. Modernize old parks. Make school ground vital civic places (green space).
- Community centers.
- More fruits/edibles in parks.
- More community gardens—use produce to build community, food nights.
- Waldorf has community gardens.
- Preserve heritage trees for better air quality, life quality.
- Save trees as incentive to reduce storm water.
- Tree canopy helps with solar, keep cool.
- Incentive programs around storm water management.
- Drain Kellogg Lake to create a better park.
- Preserve tree canopy. Replacement policy needed.
- Kellogg Creek—an amenity, a community-wide resource.
- Keep trees/green within DT/courtyard/town square; make connections.
- More community garden spaces.
- “Green up” Milwaukie marketplace; improve the resources area, revitalize.
- No more cutting down trees.
- Wildlife and fish protecting.
- Restoring the place.
- Accessible common spaces.
- Less grass, more park.
- Native plants, animals.
- Creating space for animals like bugs, birds, etc.
- Working with partner with environment.
- Bridge over to waterfront.
- Water systems.
- Moving the dam somewhere else.
- Got it back to natural state.
- More community involved into the about environment.
- Live in nature rather than around it.
- Help the forest garden grow, providing food.
- Community garden.
- Reinstate protected areas along creeks and open spaces.
- To keep the lovely large tree next to library on Harrison. Voices want to cut it down to expand library.
- Fix the mess with the sewage treatment plant.
- Restored watersheds and creeks, and development that works around natural areas. Public transportation is also a huge component of the Planet section.
- A free flowing creeks into the river, all creeks.
- Improving water quality and wildlife habitat.

- Food forests. Lots of resources on this in the permaculture movement.
- Clean water. Bringing back creeks and rivers to pristine state.
- Restore our creeks.
- Gray water management. Composting solutions. Tree management. Wildlife habitats.
- Keep our trees protected.
- Trees and flowers to keep city looking nice.
- Freeing up Kellogg Creek.
- Recreation for the river.
- Kayak/recreation businesses that use river.
- Keep parks and natural areas free of litter and polluting camp sites.
- Cohesive connection with river.
- River is the key.
- Maintain view of river.
- Access to parks.
- More trees.
- Kellogg Creek dam removal.
- Open space, community space.

### ***Sustainable energy (green use and production)***

*[Net-zero buildings, solar panels, fiber optics, renewable energy sources, low-impact, sustainable experimental and demonstrative learning centers]*

- Green standards gives efficiency.
- Would love to see more houses with solar panels.
- Mandate for LEED buildings, living buildings, net zero.
- Solar panels on businesses, homes.
- Be example of sustainability.
- As city grows, solar protection for neighboring homes (shadows cover entire yard).
- Compost program.
- Sustainable businesses: eco/environmental businesses, corporate investment in city, incentivize/attract green companies, small/independent businesses.
- Eco-industrial concepts: clean industry, clean practices. Incentives.
- Encourage clean energy (solar/wind), incentivize; promote solar (residential and commercial).
- Climate-conscious planting, construction (native plants).
- Turn invasive plants into resource.
- More recycling cans.
- Giving back to planet.
- Storm rain going to reuse for their own home.
- More solar power—solar farm.
- Green roof recycling water.
- City could provide more guides about green use.
- More composting for schools.
- Where's the resilience piece -- need to add emergency preparedness activities and training, both for City functions (water system, etc.) and for residents.
- Removal of Kellogg Dam and restoration of Kellogg Creek.
- Net Zero city. Tree lined streets and totally restored creeks, Kellogg dam gone, Fiber to home as a city utility like Sandy did.
- Inspire people to put solar on their house with some incentive program to offset the cost of the panels. Inspire people to create backyard habitats in their neighborhoods to attract native bugs and birds back to the area.

- Don't jump into fiber optics, renewable energy, solar panels until some other communities have a long-term track-record about the efficiencies and true costs of the above.
- Renewable energy should run the city and its residents.
- Provide more options for private home to be run in a renewable way and to feed into grid (tax credits?).
- Renewal energy.
- Micro grid.
- Smart energy infrastructure.
- Sustainable development.
- Renewal energy.
- Micro grid.
- Smart energy infrastructure.
- Use more public transportation.

*Other*

- Brownfield remediation program.
- Flood planning.
- Post warnings and begin the cleanup of the chemicals that have been dumped in to our environment from local businesses like Precision Castparts Corp! Have regular monitoring and testing stations.

**PROSPERITY: Inclusivity of diverse populations and physical neighborhoods**

*[Addressing homelessness, diversity, multicultural celebration, social services, neighborhood connections, neighborhood identity, equitable distribution of infrastructure investments]*

- Outside of city has more camping; worries about camping encroaching. Priority.
- Diversity for real though, not just lip service.
- Inclusive communities. Welcoming to everyone. Diversity. More businesses and entertainment.
- Welcome more diverse people. More homeless social services.
- Transportation. Cultural events.
- Vibrant neighborhoods to create community.
- Diversity.
- Not leave out other parts of Milwaukee.
- Advocate use of light rail.
- Increase neighborhood access to LR, LR across to business.
- Linking SWC more efficiently, further u toward Oregon City.

**Supportive mix of diverse business and local economic growth**

*[Local businesses, diverse shops, pedestrian-oriented downtown, vibrant Main Street, grocery stores, restaurants, living-wage jobs, large employers]*

- Business. Revitalizing the downtown. If you build it, they will come. I'm not sure where business and development is in these goals. Schools.
- Need more jobs that pay a living wage. Lack of industrial base is a detriment to future growth.
- Revitalize downtown.
- Affordable grocery stores (healthy).
- Need to establish a growing employment base before we move to artsy and craft issues.
- Economic Diversity.
- More food options; food coops, grocery stores.
- Create demand downtown; need residents.
- Need to address food desert.
- Cultivate instead of invest.
- Chain stores.
- Business with purpose.
- Businesses that are community stakeholders.
- Encourage good business development.
- Increased use of industrial area.
- Maintain business prosperity in industrial.
- Strong small pedestrian business on main streets (downtown).
- Vibrant downtown.
- Office space to bring business in.
- Grocery store (Green Zebra).
- Convenient healthcare, possibly Zoom Care.
- Food carts.
- Small biz to serve workers.
- Utilize waterfront access for hotels and other business.
- Nicer, affordable grocery store (Trader Joes, outlets, Buffalo Exchange).
- Grocery store downtown (walkable groceries, hubs).
- Need focal points to draw other businesses, draw attention to existing businesses without losing character.
- Supplement downtown businesses with more choices, need restaurants.
- Housing mixed use to provide customers for businesses.

- Fitness businesses.
- Using space for new businesses available.
- Interconnected economic hubs driven by social industry/mixed use industry and social service, convenience, leverage natural and existing attractions of space.
- I would clarify large employers to be large high-wage employers. And NO BIG BOX retail. Balance encouragement of businesses with traffic concerns that some types of businesses will generate.
- Keep chains out of downtown. More grocery shopping/retail opportunities in the neighborhoods between 82nd and downtown.
- Low income housing, work force housing, fees/taxes higher for big businesses and huge house, lower on small houses/businesses, job training for local jobs.
- Yes: Local businesses, diverse shops, pedestrian-oriented downtown, vibrant Main Street, grocery stores. Yes: Zoning and development code that maintains Milwaukie character. No more development in Milwaukie. Use the structures that are already here and revitalize those. Make more green spaces with native plants and trees.
- More businesses. Music store, book store, less pubs, a hobby shop.
- Make downtown and other parts of Milwaukie attractive to more businesses to create jobs and make sure that citizens have access to healthcare including mental care.
- Need more jobs that pay a living wage. Lack of industrial base is a detriment to future growth.
- Local businesses that reflect the community.
- Diverse businesses by type and ownership. Businesses for work and play.
- Open more store fronts downtown.
- The food cart pod is a great idea - and to attract businesses run in a sustainable way.
- Increase vibrancy of downtown. Expand Milwaukie Sunday Market.
- More grocery stores.
- Diverse and middle income.
- Would like more good restaurants downtown.
- Business growth without environmental impacts.
- Downtown opportunities.
- Corporate money hurting Milwaukie business.
- Sad to see small business struggle.
- Need vibrant core of business before high-rise housing.
- Take care of downtown businesses, attract more.
- Keep jobs/work in Milwaukie.

### **Implementation, Funding and policy**

*[Zoning and development code that maintains Milwaukie character, increases choice, equitable distribution of infrastructure investments east/west/north/south, business incentives, sustainable funding mechanisms, maintaining and improving infrastructure and services]*

- Take into consideration who pays for these services. Car owners footing the total bill. Its time bikers and other transportation pay their fair share.
- Goals are one thing, realities, i.e. costs are another.
- Setting rules for doing business in Milwaukie.
- Starting a business in difficult: fees, development rules.
- Zoning support affordable housing in downtown.
- Zoning to protect natural resources (such as incentive to not develop on natural areas).
- Soliciting/enticing small business.
- Zoning with high required storefront transparency.
- "Working area" zoning in industrial Milwaukie.
- Annexation of park station.
- Focus and theme to increase Milwaukie's reputation (food, beer, wine).
- Tax incentives to make affordable housing in regular neighborhoods, 80-20 plan.



- Extra floor for low income.
- Needed from city: zoning, develop programs/incentives, mixed-used businesses, more business events (ie: first Fridays).
- Focus on better use of north industrial area. Create better jobs per acre.
- Have a common tax for businesses.
- Grants for small businesses supporting diversity and community.
- Plan to framework for that business to work within.
- Grants for small business to move into undesirable locations. More retail space.
- Implementation to move forward.
- Understand business community.
- Improve workforce development in local economy.
- Make Milwaukie innovation hub.
- More funding for parks/green spaces.



# MILWAUKIE ALL ABOARD

Community Vision and Action Strategy  
Vision Advisory Committee Meeting #2  
October 6, 2016 6:30-8:30 pm

## MEETING SUMMARY

### **Members Present**

Jessica Neu, Barbara Eiswerth, Zara Logue, Arianna Van Bergen, Douglas Craig, Shannah Anderson, Adrianna Stanley, Angel Falconer, Howie Oaks, Misty Collard, Bryce Magorian, Ben Rousseau

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

Rochelle MacDonald, Greg Baartz-Bowman, Chris Davis, Alejandra Torres

### **City of Milwaukie**

Mark Gamba, Mayor; Lisa Batey, Councilor  
David Levitan, Mary Heberling, City of Milwaukie

### **Consultants**

Kirstin Greene and Anais Mathez, *Cogan Owens Greene*  
Daniel Franco-Nunez, *IZO Marketing*

### **Others Present**

Sarai Rodriguez, Maxwell Bernard, Odalis Aguilar-Aguilar, Tyrenna Jacobs; *Youth Vision Action Team*

*Conversation is summarized by agenda item below.*

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### **Welcome**

Mayor Mark Gamba opened the meeting and welcomed members of the Vision Advisory Committee (VAC). He thanked participants for serving on the committee to help steer the direction of the City.

### **Introductions**

Kirstin Greene, Cogan Owens Greene, invited VAC members to introduce themselves and describe what prompted their desire to serve on the VAC. Reflections, summarized by participant, include:

- Jessica Neu: I have a degree in political science and family ties to the Air Force, so I feel a strong sense of civic duty.
- Barbara Eiswerth: I've been a resident here for 21 years and am a local artist. I believe in community. I want to keep Milwaukie great, but also want to see the City progress.
- Zara Logue: I want to see the community grow in a healthy way, and preserve some of its great qualities because I have kids that will be growing up here.
- Arianna Van Bergen: I'm really interested in local politics.
- Odalis Aguilar-Aguilar: I thought this would be a great way to learn more about where I go to school, and maybe make it a place I could continue to live in.
- Sarai Rodriguez: The Youth Vision Action Team interested me because Milwaukie is a great place. I came from Gresham, and it feels much safer here.

- Douglas Craig: I want to help change and revitalize the downtown, and keep it as a place for families.
- Shannah Anderson: I feel close to nature, in a community-oriented environment. I want to make sure we maintain that.
- Adrianna Stanley: I'm a transportation engineer and was curious to see what it's like to be on the other side of things for once!
- Angel Falconer: I have kids here and look forward to building a community that is more accessible for everyone.
- Maxwell Bernard: I have interest in political science and urban planning. I think that small government and small groups like this is where the most change happens.
- Tyrenna Jacobs: I go to school here and I wanted to be involved in something that helps make this city more vibrant, pleasing and better for everyone.
- Daniel Franco-Nunez: I represent a Spanish marketing company and work to support the minority voice. This project seemed important. I grew up here and went to Milwaukie High School. This is a great opportunity to have impact on people's lives.
- Howie Oaks: I've been involved since moving here and building an intentional community. I felt the need to expand that to the local neighborhood and bring forward lessons to help broaden the scope. I am looking at the city through my children's eyes.
- Anais Mathez: I am part of the consulting firm that was hired to help facilitate this process. I'm excited by the energy in the room.
- Kirstin Greene: I am the principal of Cogan Owens Greene and am honored to be able to carry your voices forward.
- Misty Collard: My kids are my motivation. I volunteered with the AmeriCorps and Habitat for Humanity when I was younger. As a result, issues such as housing and accessibility are important to me. As an adult, this is my attempt to reengage in the work that I participated in when I was younger. I grew up in a small Colorado town where there was so much life and artwork around, creating really vibrant spaces. I have a desire to see that here in Milwaukie.
- Bryce Magorian: I'm from Milwaukie and am really interested in the micro scale of politics.
- Ben Rousseau: I love this town and I plan to stay here. I'm motivated by my children and want this to be a great place for them. I have a desire to see major changes throughout the world as well, so this is one area where I feel like I may be able to affect some change.
- Mayor Mark Gamba: I ran for office because of the issue of climate change. However, that is only one of the big problems we have. Equity is the other. I want Milwaukie to be the most livable, equitable and sustainable city in the country.
- Lisa Batey: I'm a Councilor and have a desire to see a more vibrant City.
- Mary Heberling: I'm an Assistant Planner with the City and am excited to work on this project because I grew up here.
- David Levitan: I'm a Senior Planner with the City and this project was one of the main reasons I moved from my position in Beaverton.

### **Vision and Action Plan Updates**

Kirstin Greene, Cogan Owens Greene, provides an update on several phase 1 activities and documents.

- The verbatim comments, attached as an appendix, to the Stakeholder Interview Summary are highlighted as a source of good feedback.
- The group is reminded that the school district and parks and recreation district are partners in this project.

- Kirstin reviews the key messages in the Communications and Engagement Strategy, pointing out the message on growth, i.e. *as you're poised to grow more, how can you grow better?*
- The group is reminded that the online survey is still up and running, and to help spread the word. There is also an article out in the Pilot. VAC members are ambassadors, each with your own networks. Kirstin asks that everyone shares out on Facebook, to their friends and family, etc.

#### Town Hall Save-the-Date and Discussion Leaders

- Postcards for the Town Hall are printed. VAC members are encouraged to take a stack and pass them out.
- VAC members are called upon to be discussion leaders or a note-taker at the Town Hall. A notice will be sent out to see who can do what. There will be a brief training and overview shortly before the event. Every discussion leader will be paired with a note-taker.

#### Updated Draft Community Profile

- As suggested by the VAC, the community profile is organized by the 4 sustainability lenses.
- The VAC had said it is important to address the challenges we know we are facing, so a list of potential challenges has also been added to the text.
- Kirstin reviews the challenges and opportunities noted in each of the four key categories and then opens it up to observations (summarized):
  - Surprised that 40% of MHS students live below the federal poverty line.
  - How do we allow the people that live here to be able to continue to be able to live here? What do we have to do with our housing stock? Zoning should be fixed so that everyone can continue to live here.
  - There may be a human function here, in addition to land use and zoning.
  - Having a local social services hub be very helpful for people.
  - Rent control should be part of the City's programming. However, cities are currently disallowed from making rent controls, though this is being reviewed with the legislature. There is talk about making no-cause evictions illegal, and also allowing cities to be able to impose some sort of limit.

#### **Emerging Themes**

Kirstin reviews some of the emerging themes, noting:

- Accessibility is more than transportation. It will be beneficial to unpack that over time.
- Funding is a key piece.
- Communications can always be continually improved. Additional translation languages may be needed in the future.

Kirstin reminded the group that the Youth are scheduled to code all the input received to date on October 24<sup>th</sup>. A call was made for VAC members who would be willing to come together for a worksession on October 25<sup>th</sup> to craft the vision statement in advance of the Town Hall. Misty, Bryce, Ben, Mark, Jessica, Arianna, Angel and Howie all volunteered.

#### **Youth Reflection**

Anais Mathez, Cogan Owens Greene, provided an update on some of the community outreach and youth engagement activities. To date, seven Community Conversations have been completed, with nine more scheduled. The Youth team canvassed downtown Milwaukie and got 20 surveys. They will be visiting the Business District and the North Milwaukie Industrial Area next.

Anais introduced the Youth Team and Daniel from Izo Marketing, who is helping lead the Youth Team. They briefly summarized their activities to date and noted anything surprising that they heard.

- Tyrenna took notes at two Community Conversations (Madres de Corazon and Ledding Library) and helped with business canvassing in one day. She noted that people have great things to say about the library and often emphasized the small town feel. She was surprised to hear that parking was such a big issue.
- Max spent time canvassing businesses downtown. He mentioned that people had very strong opinions about parking. There was also questions about what else would be done with the waterfront, and a desire to see more park amenities for kids.
- Sarai took notes at the Citizen’s Utility Advisory Board Community Conversation. She mentioned that there was a lot of concern about affordability, both currently and in the future.
- Odalis joined in business canvassing downtown. She felt that business owners seemed worried, especially about parking for their employees.

Daniel noted that the concerns of most small businesses tend to be more immediate. They are not necessarily looking 15 years down the road, but rather to the next month or paycheck. Kirstin mentioned that this suggests a phased approach in the action plan development.

### **Town Hall Agenda**

Kirstin reviews the draft agenda for the Town Hall. The new City Manager will be introduced to the community at this event. Mark Gamba provided a brief overview of her background for the VAC. Other aspects of the town hall draft agenda include:

- Opportunities for instant polling.
- Discussion around the vision statement and whether it is on the right track.
- Discussion around the City’s old vision statement to identify what progress has been made.
- Focus of this Town Hall will be what we aspire to; metrics will be identified at the next Town Hall.
- Mary Heberling will create an historical overview board that describes key trends in demographics, history of growth and settlement, etc.

### **Emerging Themes (*revisit*)**

Kirstin revisits emerging themes, asking the group what may be missing from the list. The following comments and reflections were noted:

- The aesthetic piece wasn’t quite included, like art. There are many underutilized spaces that could be revamped with art.
- Accessibility was mentioned in terms of transit and the physical obstacles that disconnect neighborhoods. However, it also reflects the ability to interact with the City. Translation, information dissemination (i.e. like a pamphlet in the utility bill), and considerations for flexible meetings is all part of “accessibility.”
- Specific thoughts are missing about energy, building codes, compost, green construction, water and air quality.
- The “hyper-local” idea of community is very important. Little neighborhood nodes are what create the sense of community and encourage engagement rather than apathy. How can community design support socially connected communities? Zoning can help create these neighborhood nodes, but the density requirements to support small businesses will remain an issue. Tax credits exist to create mixed-use areas with mixed-income housing. This will be

important to consider moving into the Comprehensive Plan Update. Ideally, solutions are organic to the neighborhood in order to keep the fabric of the neighborhood.

- The City's identity is missing from this list. The Bing Cherry was proposed as a concept for branding Milwaukie's identity. Kirstin mentioned that Brian Scott could be invited to weigh in on community identity.
- School demographics are a missing item. The accessibility and community piece should be broadened to reflect the diversity of Milwaukie.
- Neighborhood nodes should include a shared activity that overcomes language barriers and political/cultural barriers to create connection.
- An interesting idea is a "community weatherization" program, like a modern version of a "barn raising," for people that can't afford to upkeep their houses. The neighborhood can get together once a month to work on a house or yard. This could be extended to installing solar panels, planting new trees, etc.
- Inclusivity should stand on its own a little bit more.
- A multicultural event should be highlighted at the farmers' market every 6 months or so. There is a big Hispanic community in the City and at the High School, but not at events like the Farmer's Market and First Fridays. It was suggested that the community be asked what kind of things could be celebrated if a parade or festival were set aside.
- Creating a new fruit like the Bing Cherry takes creativity and innovation. Labeling Milwaukie as innovative is a nod to the Bing Cherry, Dark Horse Comics, ArtMob, etc.

#### **Public Comment/Announcements**

Lisa Batey announced the dedication of new sculptures in town will happen on October 7<sup>th</sup>. She also mentioned that a Boys and Girls Club opened in Oak Grove, having moved down from Sellwood. It currently is inviting children from three elementary schools.

#### **Next Steps/Concluding Remarks**

David announced that a doodle poll will be sent within the week to schedule the next VAC meeting for November. In addition, there will be a booth at the Farmer's Market on Sunday. He reminded everyone to continue to spread the word about the Town Hall.

#### **Adjourn**

Mayor Mark Gamba thanked the group and adjourned the meeting at 8:30pm.