

## Planning on Tap Public Input Summary

### Changing Places, Revitalized Spaces

- Conflicting wants/needs – some want to convert rails to trails, others want rail service restored
- Façade “fix-up”/matching program
- Need more consistent development code to expedite worthy projects
- One code needed for “old city” another for “suburbs”
- City should help owners of vacant lots market and/or develop them
- Very glad to see investment in the Brooklyn/Northside area
- Taking advantage of existing infrastructure is key – streets, water/sewer, sidewalks, streetlights are already here
- Use odd-shaped lots and blocks
- We were not prepared for the growth brought on by opening I-40

### Getting Around

- Improved, regular, reliable schedule for WAVE busses
- Takes too long to be practical means of transportation
- Link hotels to destinations such as downtown and Wrightsville Beach
- Observed in Asheville and Charleston: some hotels provide shuttles to take guests downtown
- Questions about standards for taxi cab drivers
- Improve the cross-city trail
- Increased access to cross-city trail
- Be bicycle friendly
- Need more than just bike lanes painted lanes on the side of the road. Drivers weave into that area creating a safety hazard. Bike lane needs to be set off with a barrier about the size of a curb or cables as used on the side of many highways.
- Strategically connect areas such as apartment complexes with bike paths so the route becomes a selling link for the apartment complex.
- Train service via Fayetteville – bus to Wilson takes 3.5 hours whereas it only takes 1.5 hours to get to Fayetteville. A shorter bus ride would better encourage train travel
- Use the old rail spur to downtown again or else turn it into a greenway/bike path
- College Road traffic is problem
- Fix intersection of Kerr Ave and College Road
- Can the port be integrated into transportation?

### Unique Places, Captivating Spaces

- Density is good
- Activate spaces/lots, even if it’s temporary
- Lighting and visual cues to connect Brooklyn/Northside to downtown
- Historic district needs more hard rules – less discretion

## **Nurturing our Environment**

- Natural resources are essential to our quality of life
- Promote local small farmers
- Better street sweeping – alternate day parking

## **Creating a Place for Everyone**

- Concerned about crime and corner stores in neighborhoods around downtown
- Farmers' market on N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street
- Permit indoor farmers market
- Need a grocery store downtown
- Positive PR for the area (Brooklyn/Northside)
- Fix up sidewalks, trees, flickering street lights
- We need a restaurant, any restaurant, on N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street (and a drug store and dry cleaner, too)
- Dog park
- Next generation will have to deal with failing infrastructure
- Neighborhood pubs are anchors in the community
- Brooklyn Arts District – arts fair event
- Community center for Brooklyn
- How to address homeless needs downtown – shipping containers are an innovative solution
- Soup kitchen and food bank are too close – concentrated social services cause issues when we are trying to improve neighborhood, hurts image
- Better communications about uniqueness of Brooklyn and downtown

## **Regional Collaboration**

- Develop a “systems map” to show which government agencies do what
- Consider city/county consolidation
- Consider shrinking the city's boundaries
- District elections
- Construction/development problems with CFPUA
- Need better coordination between agencies in development review

## **Opportunity and Prosperity**

- Need a grocery store downtown
- Focus on state port as an economic driver
- Accommodate niche port traffic being lost by other southeastern US ports; for example, cruise ships from US to Bermuda
- Refocus economic development efforts on attracting small to middle-size employers that can fill one or two stories of an office building. Also focus on employers that can utilize CFCC and UNCW graduates.

