"COMMUNITY VOICES & VISIONS"

stories to values & beyond

Jane Lafleur, Heart & Soul Damariscotta
Dahvi Wilson, Envision Victor
Steve Glueck, Golden Vision 2030
Alece Otero, Orton Family Foundation









10th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth - 2011



Heart

where do you want to ive

anywhere?





or somewhere







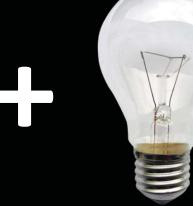
how do we keep somewhere

from becoming

anywhere











character



traditions



heritage places



culture





neighbors values



"The unique characteristics of place may be the only truly defensible source of competitive advantage for communities."

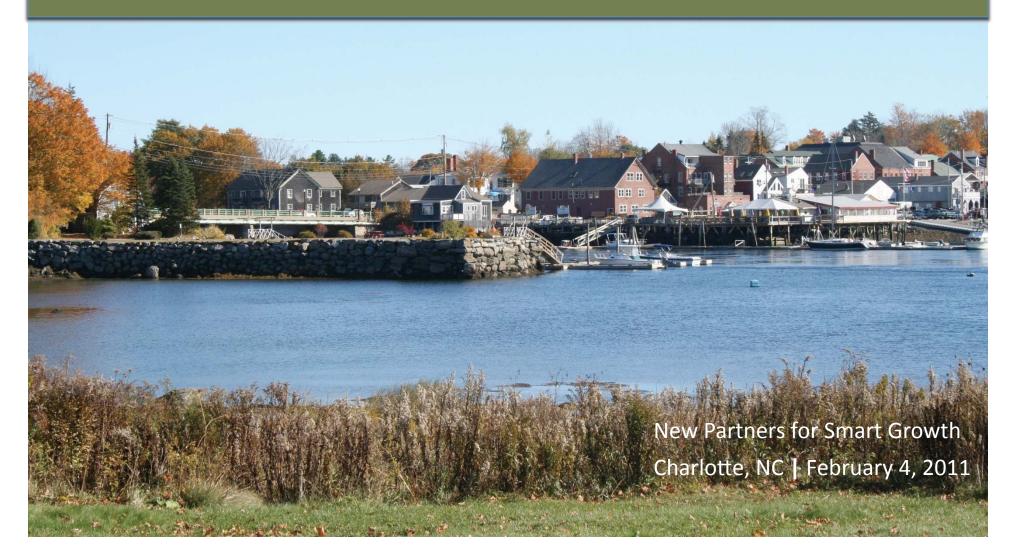


Joe Cortwright, City Vitals

Got Values?

Community Voices & Visions for the Future: Stories to Values to Action

Damariscotta, Maine: The Heart and Soul Planning Project with The Orton Family Foundation and Friends of Midcoast Maine





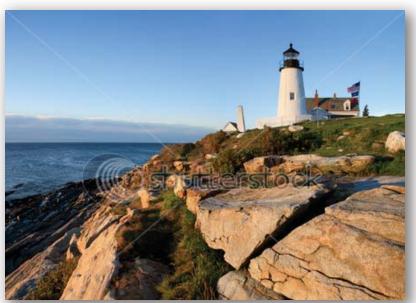












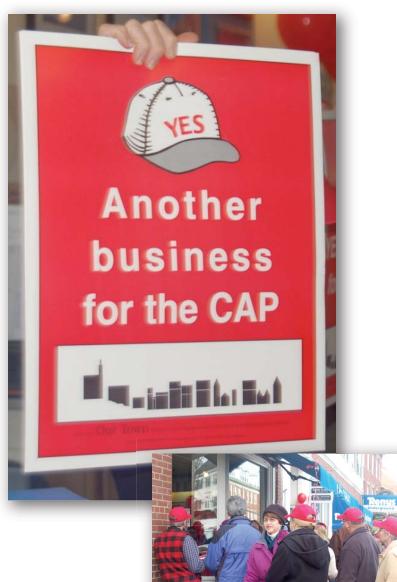












Big Box Size Cap Initiative





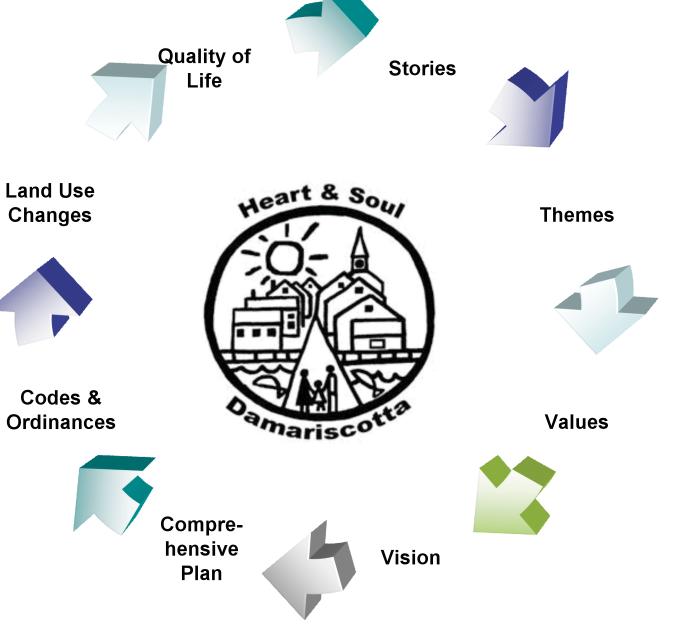
















Storytelling





















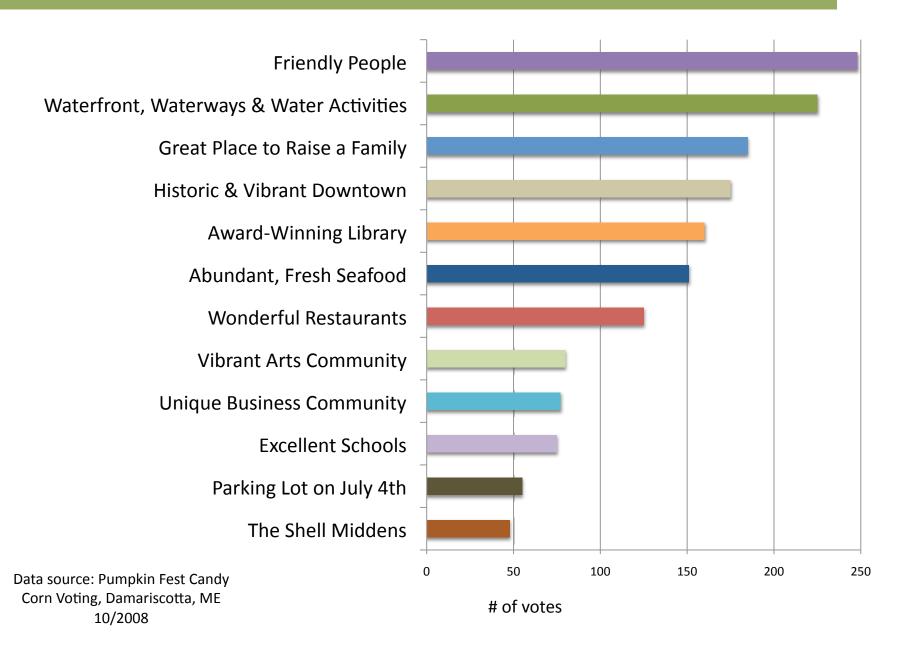


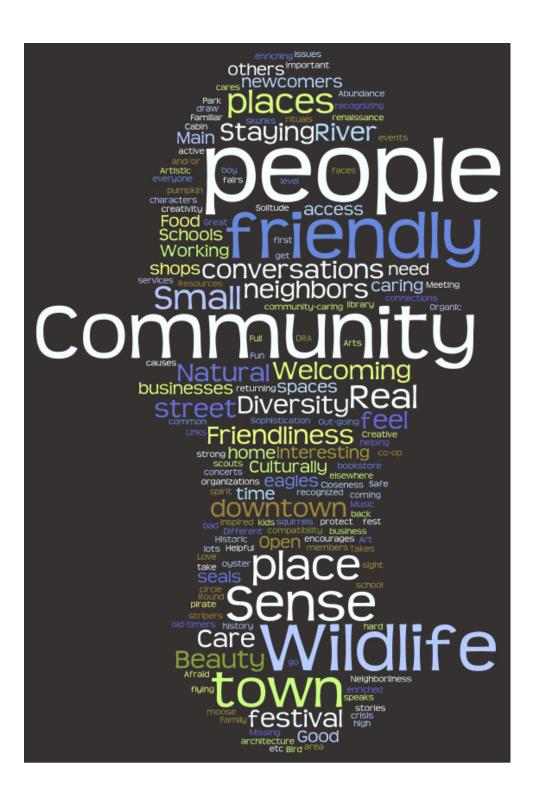


Festivals and Events



What Makes Damariscotta Special?





Damariscotta Values

we work locally



We value **working locally** and growing locally owned businesses.

culture & nature meet



We value having **culture and nature in close proximity**, where we might see a seal or a moose but we also have restaurants, art galleries, local theater and a library, all within walking distance.

we live locally



We value **living locally**, being able to afford to live and shop in Town.

town is accessible



We value an **accessible community** where we have easy access to goods and services, to local government and information.

community is involved



We value **community involvement** where people participate in schools, organizations, churches and community events and festivals.

sense of community



We value a strong **sense of community** where people trust one another and feel safe.





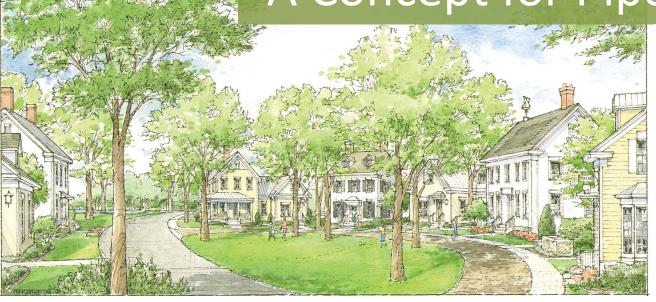


Town-wide Charrette



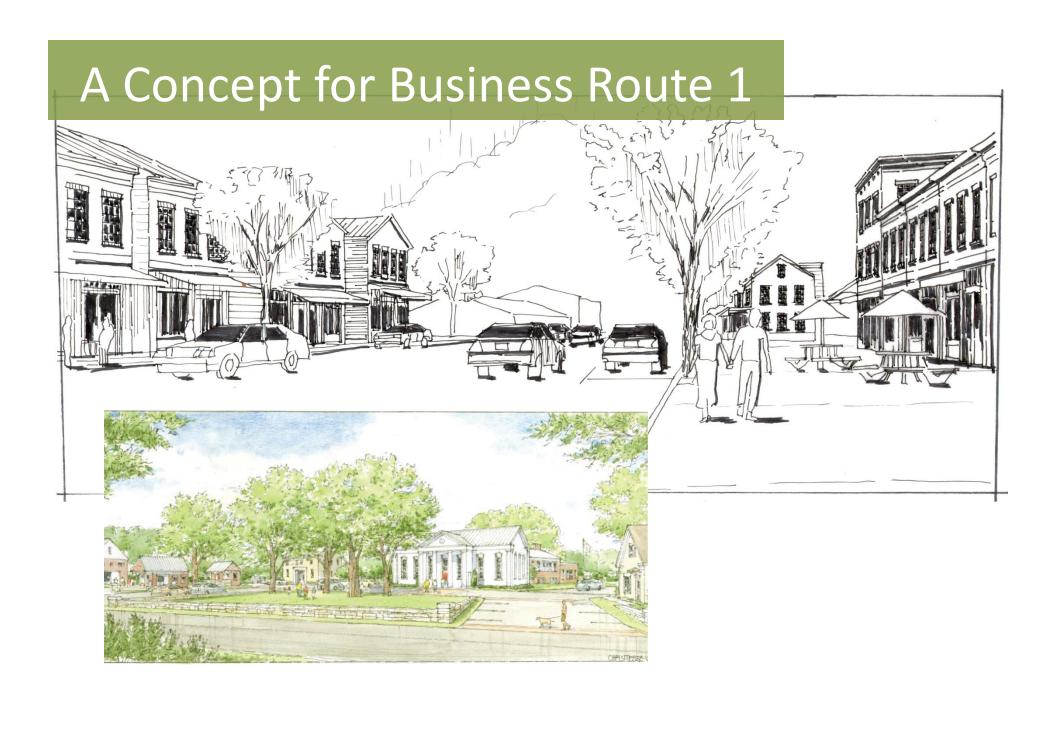
A Concept for Downtown

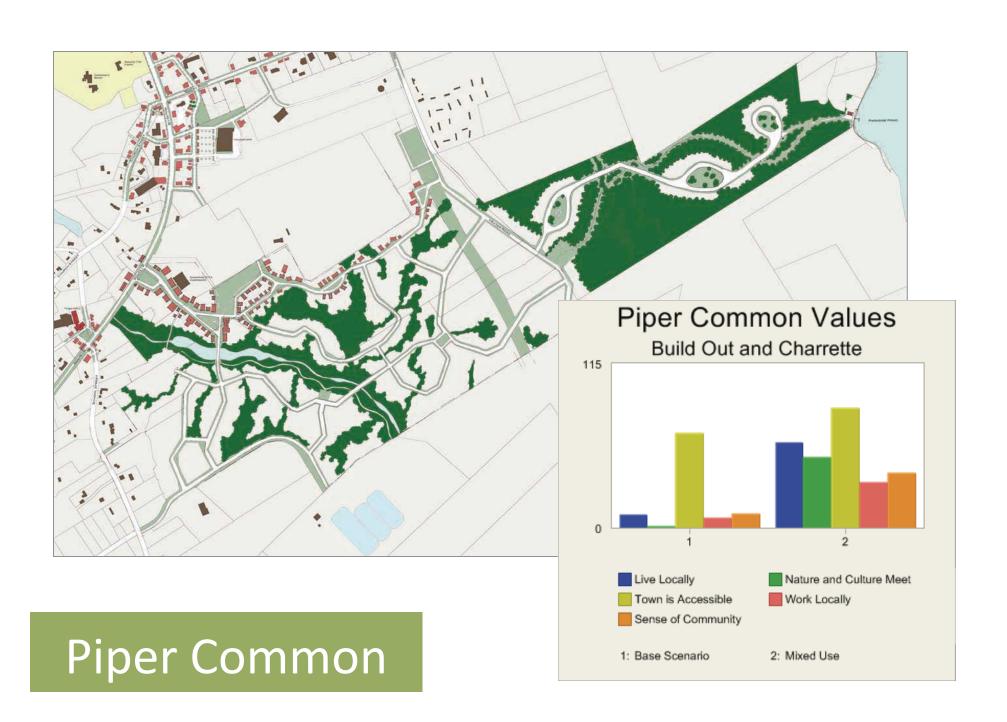
A Concept for Piper Common













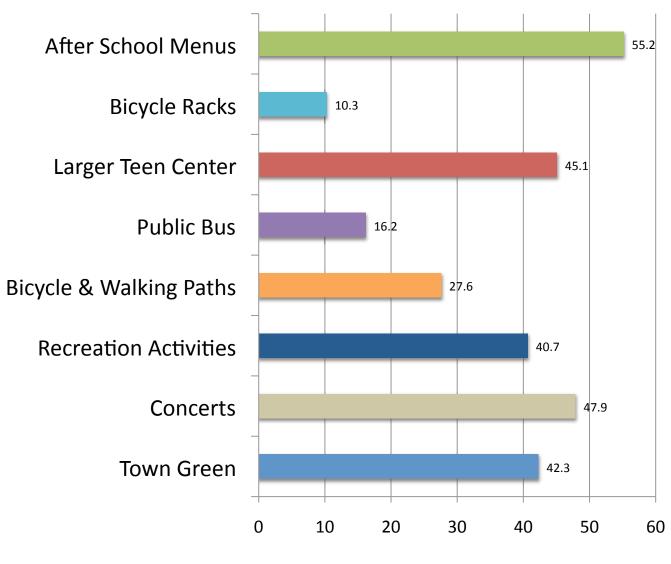


Sticky Notes and Dot Voting





Youth Interest in Potential Town Improvements



Data source: survey of 368 high school students

% of students interested







Youth Engagement



Values Based Planning for Damariscotta's Future



What are the Damariscotta Heart & Soul project and the Damariscotta Charrette? The Damariscotta

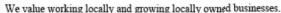
Heart & Soul project began in 2008 with help from the Orton Family Foundation and the Friends of Midcoast Maine to engage citizens in discussions about the future and to determine what the values of the Town are so that future growth and development and future activities can be gauged against those values. Since 2008, dozens of meetings, discussions, and events were held to identify and test these values. In October 2009, a Town-wide planning Charrette was held to develop a road map for the future. The consultants worked with the public to craft an Illustrative plan and other supporting documents to show how and change can happen in a way that reflects the



FAQs in the Press

What kind of development doe Damariscotta want to see? As was determined in a series of workshops over the past two years and a design Charrette, people want to see walkable, people-friendly neighborhoods, with locally owned, small scale businesses that fit in with what we value in Damariscotta. Several consistent themes emerged about what people hold dear and value about living and working in Damariscotta including:







We value living locally, being able to afford to live and shop in town.



We value having nature and culture in close proximity, where we might see a seal or a moose but we also have restaurants, art galleries, local theater and a library, all within walking distance.



We value an accessible community where we have easy access to goods and services, to local government and to information.



We value community involvement where people participate in schools, organizations, churches, and community events and festivals.



We value a strong sense of community where people trust one another and feel safe.

The Damariscotta Charrette Report represents the opinions of 400 or more citizens and business owners, synthesized into an Illustrative Vision Plan with the help of a team of professional designers.

How can Damariscotta ensure it gets this vision and maintain its values? There are several ways to implement this vision including regulatory (codes and ordinances), public investments, volunteer efforts and developer investment. The Charrette Report and professional design consultants recommended code amendments because the current land use codes will not produce the kind of land development the community



Brochures on Form-Based Codes

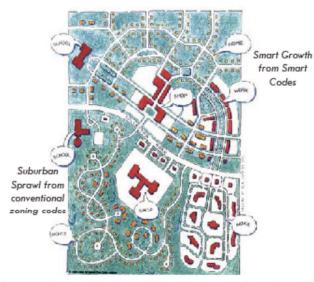


Diagram of some of the planned differences between Smart Codes (top) and conventional use based codes (bottom). Both contain the same uses, but the top smart code plan is interconnected, mixed use and places buildings to create walkable streets and squares.

This brochure was prepared by the Damariscotta Planning Advisory Committee (DPAC) using the Charrette Report (April 2010) and resources from the Form Based Codes Institute. Approved by Damariscotta's Select Board, it is intended to further inform the community of the Heart & Soul planning process and solicit additional community input.

DPAC is a committee of the Town of Damariscotta, appointed by the Select Board to lead a community-driven visioning process to make the Damariscotta region a better place to live, work and play, do business and visit. For more information, or to view a copy of the Charrette Report (April 2010), please visit www.damariscottame.com.



Implementing the Charrette Report "Smart" or Form Based Codes and What they Mean for Damariscotta

The 2010 Heart & Soul Charrette Report recommended the adoption of "Smart" or Form- Based Codes for Damariscotta's future development in the areas of Route 1B, Downtown and the proposed Piper Common area located behind Damariscotta Hardware. Smart Codes will better shape how new development occurs, consistent with the values and vision defined by those living and working in Damariscotta. These codes are a type of policy or ordinance that guides development on how we want our Town to look and feel, consistent with the values and vision defined by those living and working in Damariscotta.

This brochure describes Smart Codes and compares them to conventional codes and ordinances, such as those currently used in Damariscotta.

Form Based or Smart Codes Defined

A Smart Code is a land development regulation that focuses on how new development relates to the street and surrounding development as opposed to conventional codes that focus more on how buildings are used. Land use is not ignored, but regulated, using broad parameters that can better respond to market economies. In some cases, specific uses may be prohibited or specific mixes of uses may be required.

Adopting the Town's Values

RESOLUTION Damariscotta Board of Selectmen

The Damariscotta Planning Advisory Committee met at its regular meeting of November 16, 2010, and unanimously recommended that the Damariscotta Board of Selectmen adopt the six community values and the Heart & Soul planning process as were developed through the two and a half year planning process undertaken by the townspeople of Damariscotta and contained in the Heart & Soul Final Report, and based on the following findings:

WHEREAS, the Damariscotta Planning Advisory Committee is charged by Board of Selectmen to lead a community driven process to make the Damariscotta region a better place to live, work, play, do business and visit for all people by advancing policies and practices that foater sustainable land use and prosperity, and with fostering a community visioning process, establishing and maintaining an engoing long range strottegic planning process and community implementation, incorporating and promoting public dialogue about community and regional planning and recommending implementation strategies, and providing community outreach and promoting, facilitating and incorporating public dialogue in on-going planning efforts, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen, in conjunction with the currenunity, has completed a two year innevative community evaluation of Damariscotta's community values and prepared the Damariscotta Charrette Report and the Heart & Soul Final Report; and

WHEREAS, extensive public discussion and input was soficited in the course of public events, activities, workshops and meetings in 2003, 2009 and 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen finds that adoption of the Heart & Soui values will promote the use of the guiding principles and values articulated therein in the preparation of future policy and strategic plans of the Tewn, as well as in operational and investment decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen finds that the open, inclusionary public organizant process is a model to follow in all future town operations and activities:

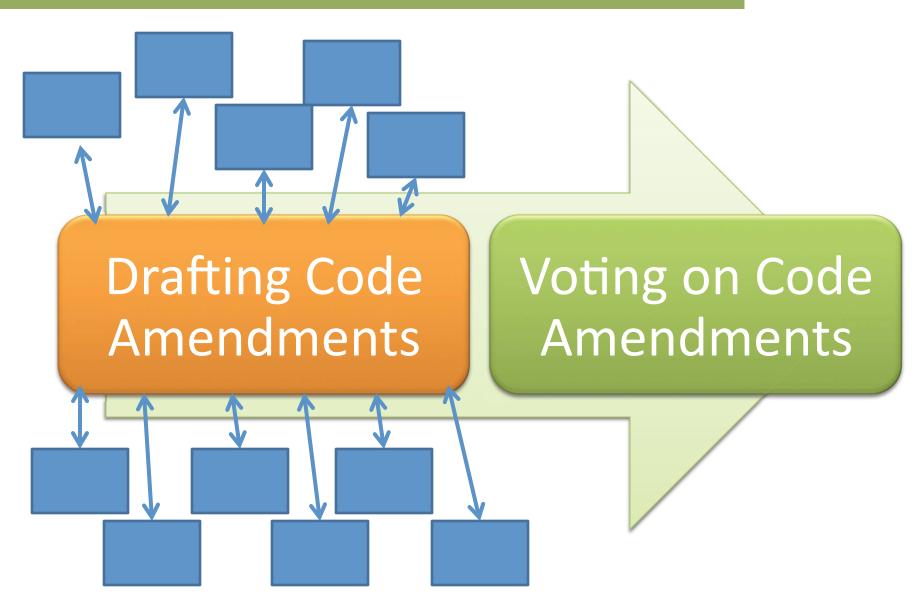
NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Damariscotta that the Damariscotta Heart & Soul Final Report, the values articulated it even and the innovative, inclusive Heart & Soul public engagement process are ADOPTED by the Town of Damariscotta Board of Selectmen and recommended for inclusion in the 2012 Damariscotta Comprehensive Plan update and all tidure community planning efforts and activities.

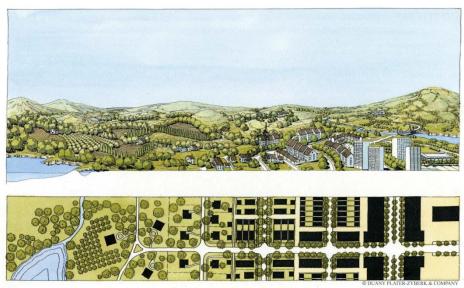
Resolved this 45th day of December, 2010.

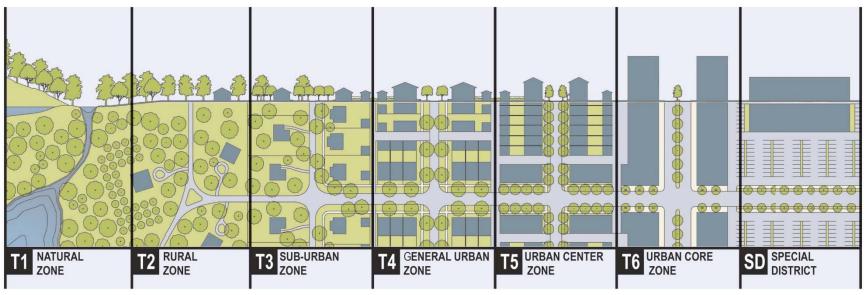
Richard McLeap, Chairman



Code Drafting Process







Developing Form-Based Codes





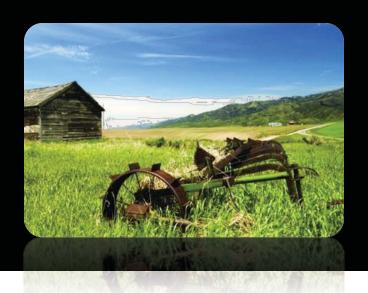
From Values to Visualization New Partners for Smart Growth 2011



A First Generation Project of the Orton Family Foundation's Heart and Soul Initiative

Envision Victor's Mission:

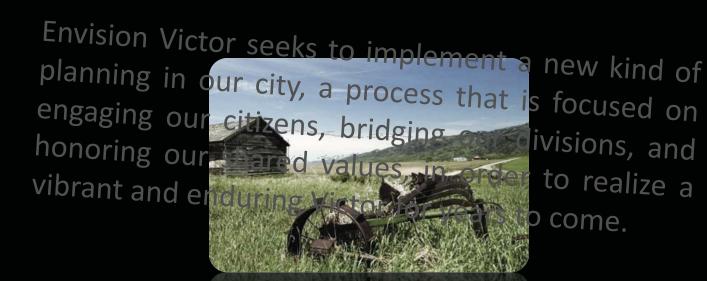
Envision Victor seeks to implement a new kind of planning in our city, a process that is focused on engaging our citizens, bridging our divisions, and honoring our shared values, in order to realize a vibrant and enduring Victor for years to come.





Envision Victor's Mission:

Envision Victor works to engage more people in planning our city and strives to root that planning in the values we share.





How Do You Go From Values to Planning?

- 1. Gather shared values from community
- 2. Define what those values mean to the community ON THE GROUND
- 3. Help make the link between those values and actual planning decisions







Gathering Shared Values

Story Circles

Events

Surveys

polls

Story interviews



Gathering Shared Values

- 1. Sustainability (mostly economic)
- 2. Small Town Feel

- 3. Family Friendly
- 4. Connection to Nature
- 5. Culturally Historic

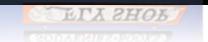


How Do You Go From Values to Planning?

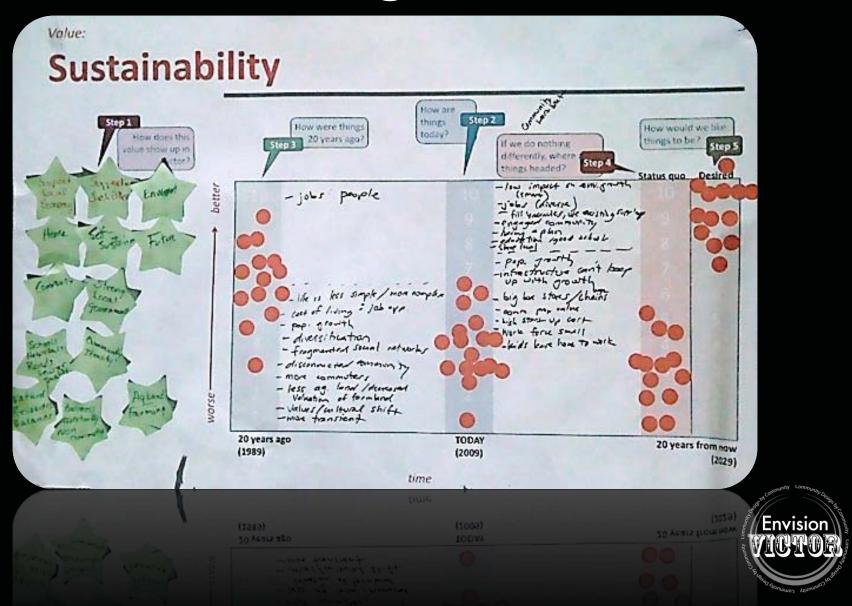
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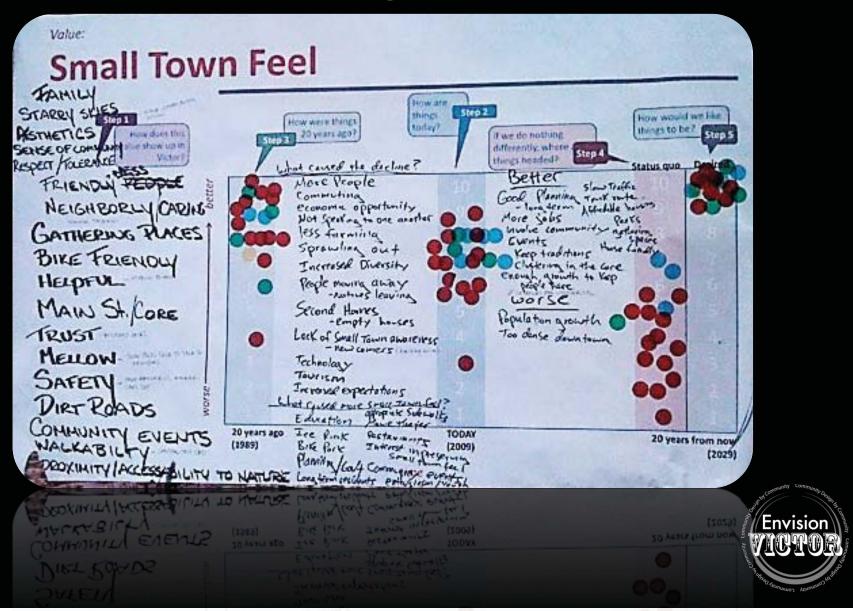




Defining Values



Defining Values



Defining Values





How Do You Go From Values to Planning?

- ✓ Gather shared values from community
- ✓ Define what those values mean to the community ON THE GROUND
- 3. Help make the link between those values and actual planning decisions







1. Designing Main Street





ELEVATED IMAGE © 2009 HTPHOTOGRAPHICS.COM











Main Street Work Sheet

Envision Victor

Scale key:

1 = Detracts from value a lot ---- 3 = Does not affect value ----

5 = Strengthens value a lot

Use the scales below to rate how design features affect values

Scenario 1: Thinking Back... Four Lanes

1. Two lanes of traffic in each direction

Family friendly: 1 2 3 4 5
Small town feel: 1 2 3 4 5
Connection to nature: 1 2 3 4 5

Sustainability: 1 2 3 4 5 Cultural history: 1 2 3 4 5

Comments (optional):

2. No signal (two-way stop) at Center and Main

Family friendly: 1 2 3 4 5
Small town feel: 1 2 3 4 5
Connection to nature: 1 2 3 4 5

Sustainability: 1 2 3 4 5 Cultural history: 1 2 3 4 5

Comments (optional):

3. Nose-in parking

Family friendly: 1 2 3 4 5
Small town feel: 1 2 3 4 5
Connection to nature: 1 2 3 4 5

Sustainability: 1 2 3 4 5 Cultural history: 1 2 3 4 5

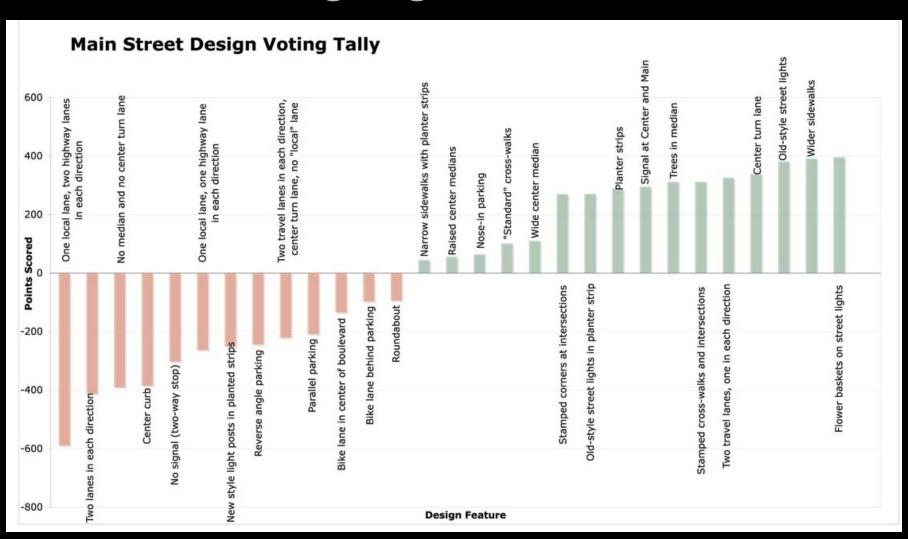
Comments (optional):

Comments (optional

Family friendly: 1 2 3 4 5 Small town feel: 1 2 3 4 5 Connection to nature: 1 2 3 4 5

Sustainability: 1 2 3 4 5 Cultural history: 1 2 3 4 5

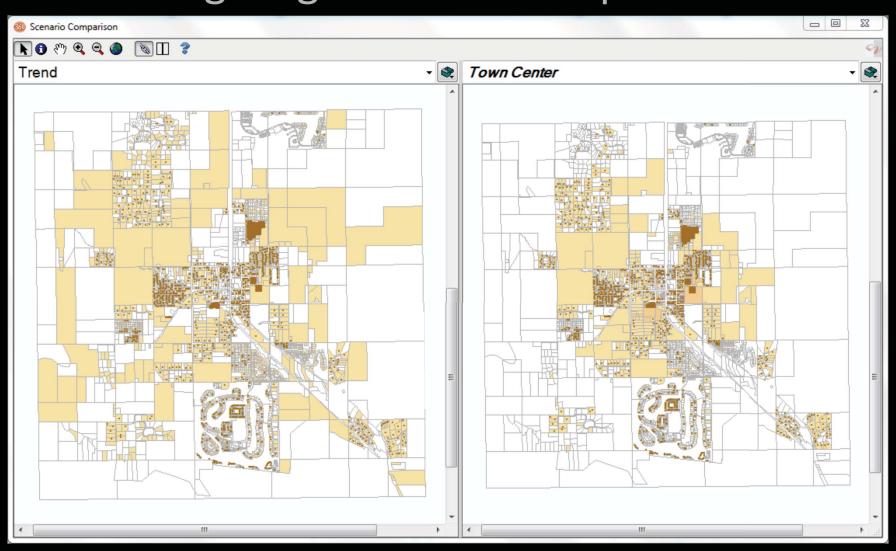


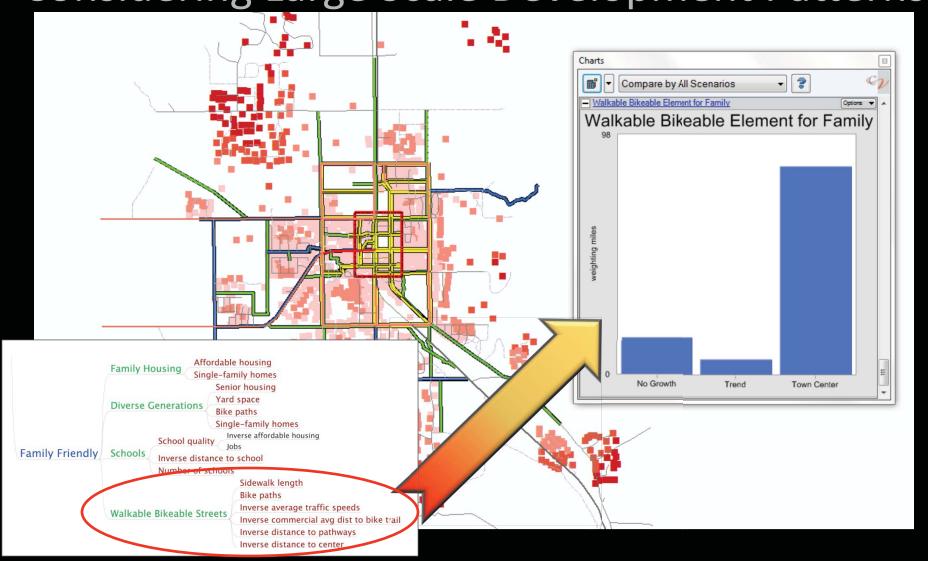


- ✓ Designing Main Street
- Considering Large
 Scale Development
 Patterns

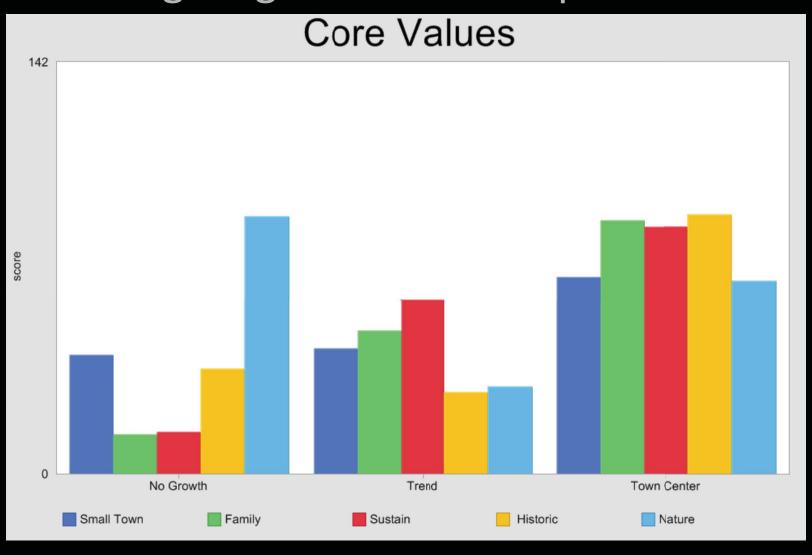












Victor. What's it to you?

www.envisionvictor.com

Project Coordinator, Dahvi Wilson

envisionvictor@gmail.com

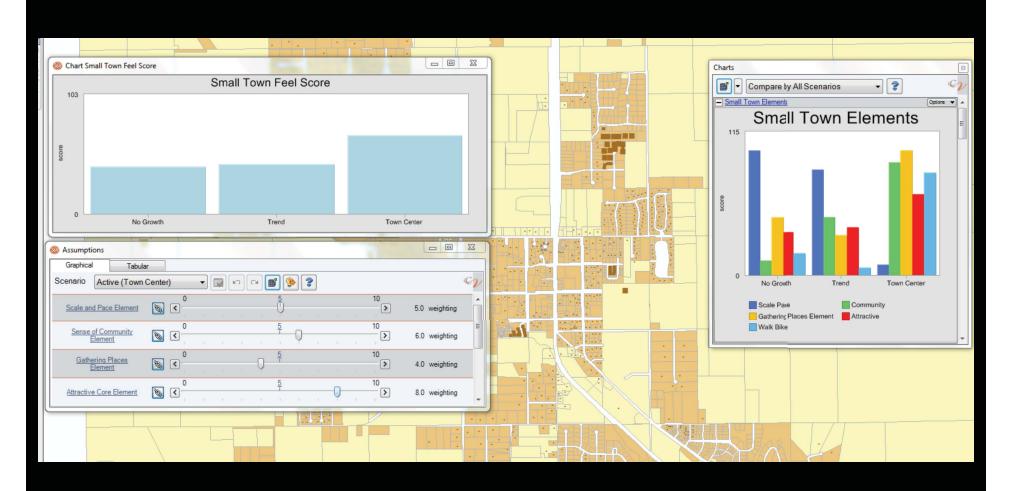




Extra Slides



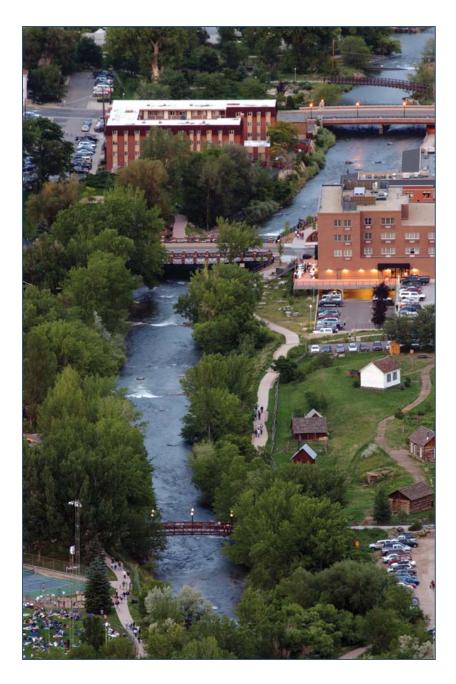
Making the Link Considering Large Scale Development Patterns











"Golden, Colorado is our town.

Its' future is our future.

And we the community are assuming responsibility for this future."



Guiding Principles

Responsive Government

- Transparency and openness
- Respect for others
- Fiscal responsibility
- Fairness and ethical treatment

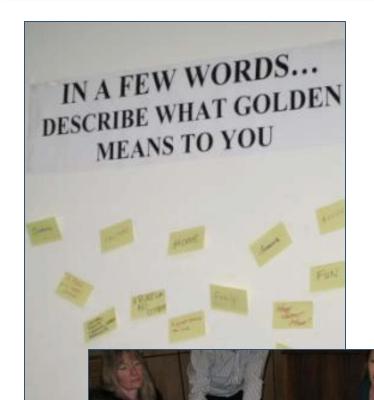




Controlled and Directed Change

- Reflects and enhances character
- Diverse housing options provide opportunity
- Community ownership and responsibility

Community Values



Heart & Soul Values

- Consistently important to most citizens
- Created by citizens

Plan Your Neighborhood

Substantial consideration in all community decisions

Why Values-Based?

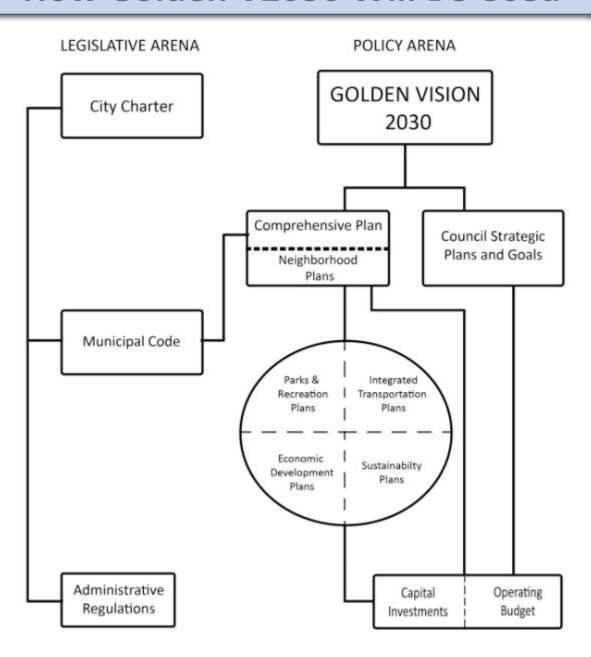




- Enduring
- Guide many types of decisions and efforts



How Golden V2030 Will Be Used



Ongoing Community Expectations



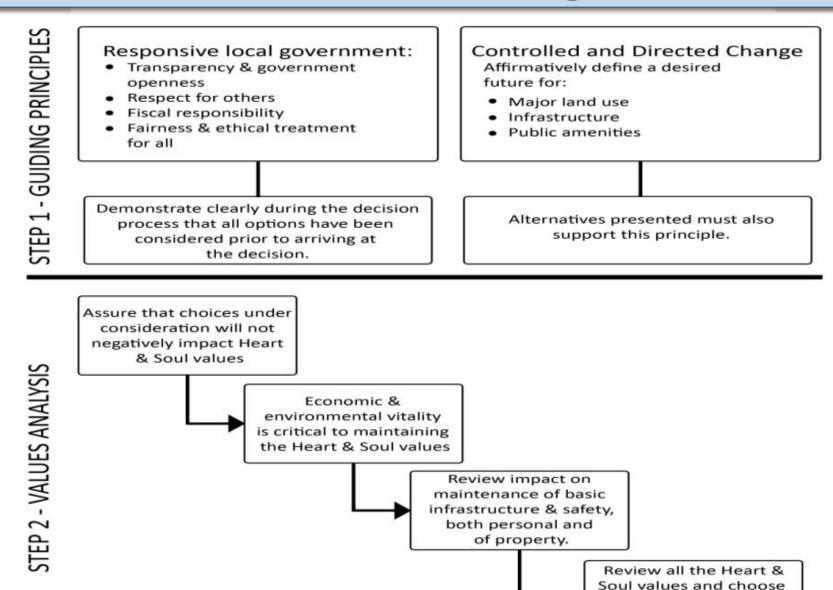


Maintain intense levels of engagement in all decisions



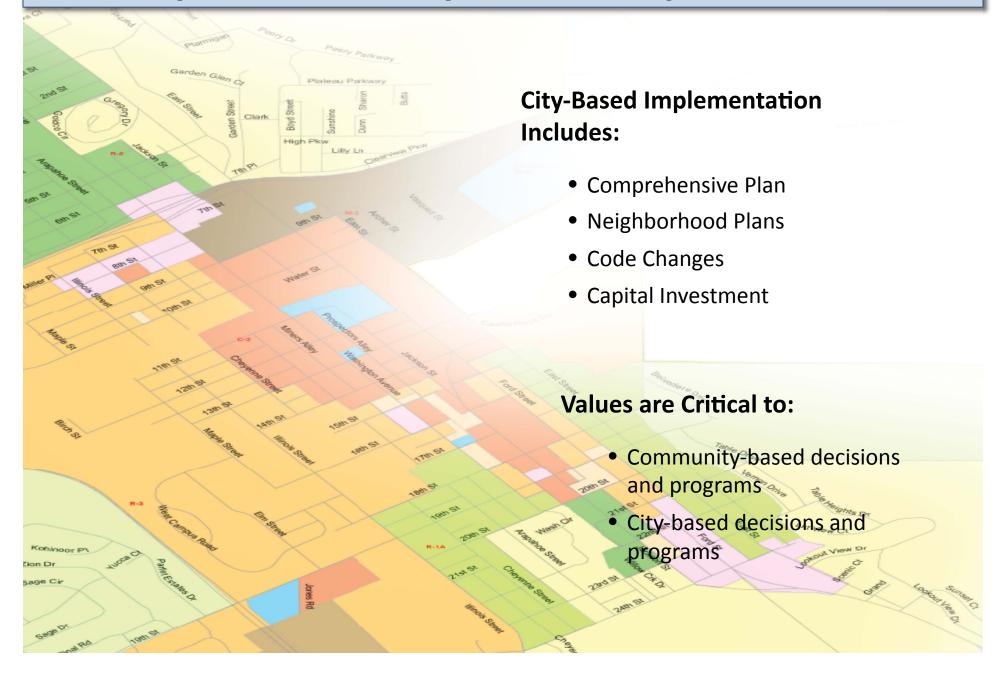
Create structures and systems that assure decisions follow and are true to values

Values-Based Decision-Making Guidelines



the final action that most supports and enhances them.

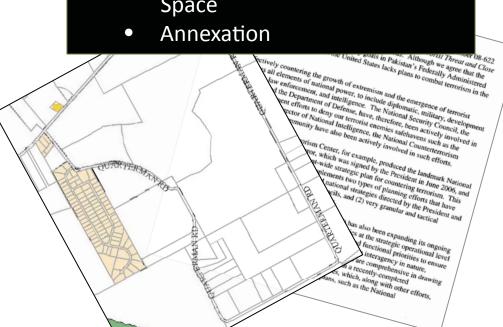
City- vs. Community-Directed Impementation



Restructuring the Comprehensive Plan

Traditional Comprehensive Plan

- Participation and Involvement
- Community Character
- Economic Vitality
- Land Use Development
- Transportation
- Public Services
- Environmental Resources
- Park and Recreation Facilities
- Trails, Greenways and Open Space





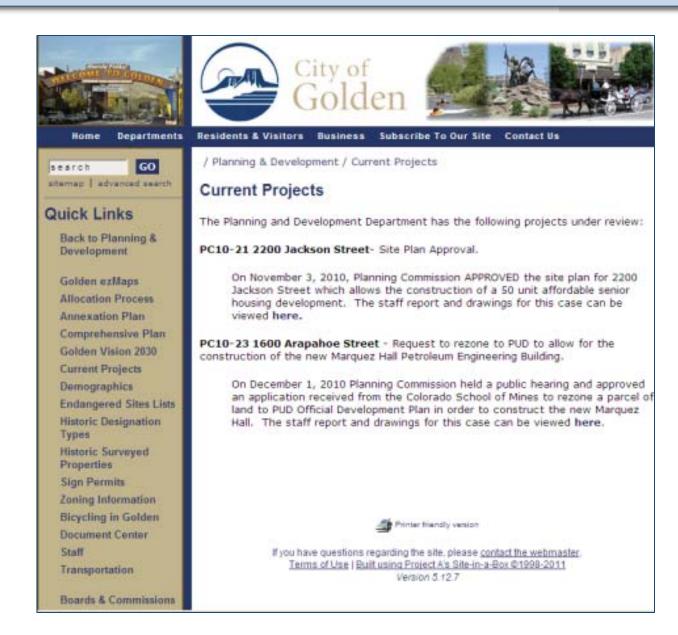
Values-Based Comprehensive Plan

- Accessible and Walkable
- Active Outdoors/Environment
- Safe, Clean, Quiet Neighborhoods
- Local Businesses and Downtown
- Convenience/Amenities
- History/Education
- Family and Kid Friendly
- Sense of Community
- Belonging/Volunteerism

Improving the Land Use Approval Process

Changes Include:

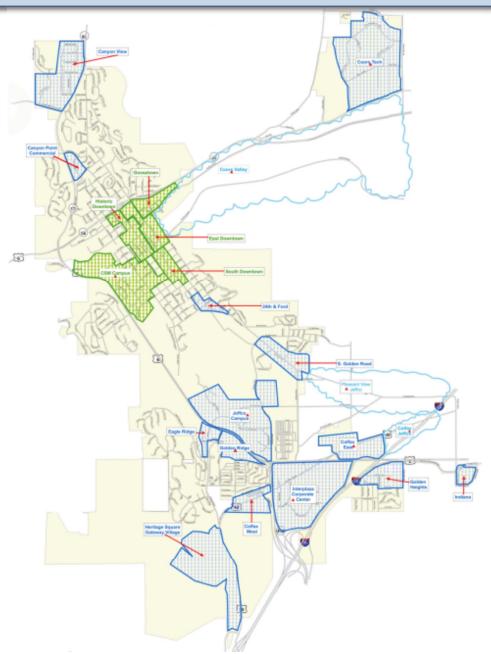
- Links between applications and values
- Info for residents early in process
- Constructive discussion on design proposals
- Less adversarial politics

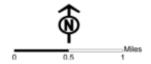


Early Indications of Change



Areas of Stability and Change







Thank You!



Steve Glueck, Project Coordinator & Planning Director

sglueck@cityofgolden.net http://ci.golden.co.us



Our Town, Our Future



Jane Lafleur, Heart & Soul Damariscotta www.friendsmidcoast.org

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aotero@orton.org www.orton.org









