

Blueprint Downtown Steering Committee Work Session January 30, 2021

Introduction

The committee completed a review of the draft chapter and the committee comments on the draft. The current draft reflects those discussions and written comments.

What has changed?

- Chapter 1 – minor edits
- Chapter 3 –
 - New language for Tlingit history incorporated;
 - Draft historic time line graphic for review;
 - Avalanches/landslide/flood combined as sub-heading under natural resources.
- Chapter 4 – Reorganization:
 - All focus area vision statements are now at the beginning of the chapter; Capital City moved to the beginning of the chapter; downtown employment and income is next; safe and welcoming downtown is third (recognizing its importance to downtown economic vitality); housing as economic development follows;
 - A new section “A Diversified Economy” now includes the discussion diversified businesses and tourism, working waterfront and incorporates the vision from the 2015 Economic Development Plan, acknowledgement of seasonal nature of Juneau and opportunities for tourism beyond cruise ships;
 - New title for subsection Public Facilities and Infrastructure;
 - Sustainability and Resiliency was expanded to include diversified tourism, outdoor seating and food security.
- Chapter 5 –
 - All focus area vision statements are at the beginning of the chapter;
 - Box added to describe what overlay zoning is;
 - Added “opportunity box” for building code changes related for how many stories can be wood frame;
 - Housing section was moved after discussion of each subdistrict.
- Chapter 6 –
 - All focus area vision statements moved to beginning of chapter;
 - Tourism section updated to reflect work of VITF.
- Chapter 7 –
 - Minor updates to content, organization modified;
 - Marine Park discuss expanded to include what was previously in Chapter 6.
- Chapter 8 – minor modifications

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DOWNTOWN JUNEAU'S AREA PLAN



Plan organization:

As the committee has reviewed draft chapters some discussion has revolved around the organization of the document. Recognizing there are many different ways of organizing a plan, this format was agreed to at the beginning of the steering committee's work. The vision statements from the nine focus areas of the vision report that relate to the topics of the chapters are located at the beginning of each chapter. Discussion/analysis follows, describing existing conditions, identifying issues, and capturing major themes from previous planning efforts. Each chapter closes with recommended actions which are a compilation of actions developed by the steering committee, recommended actions from the vision report, and actions from previous planning efforts. Some chapters have been reorganized with steering committee input as the text has developed.

One of the comments previously received was a suggestion to eliminate Chapter 3, History and Natural Context, recognizing that the topics may fit well within other chapters. This could be accomplished by moving the regional, natural and historic context to Chapter 1, Historic Preservation could move to Chapter 5 Land Use and Natural Resources (landslide/avalanche/flood) to Chapter 7.

Vision Statement:

At the December 16th meeting the committee agreed to put aside the discussion on the vision statement until this longer work session. The committee should vote on whether to reopen discussion on the vision statement. Below are Besty's and Iris' suggested edits:

~~Maintain and strengthen~~ Downtown Juneau is maintained and strengthened as a vibrant, safe and accessible place to live, work, learn, play, create and explore. As home to Alaska's capital ~~the Capitol,~~ Downtown Juneau is a dynamic center of Government and is welcoming and appealing to residents, visitors, innovators and investors. Its unique heritage and history, access to natural beauty, arts and culture, and urban amenities, provide opportunities for investment, creativity and sustainable growth.

Downtown Juneau is a vibrant and welcoming place to live, work, play, invest, and explore. "or Juneau's downtown core is a highly desirable place to live, work, play, raise a family and own a business"

Meeting format:

Following discussion on the overall vision statement, staff proposes that each committee member have a few minutes to share comments on the draft document, including action tables. Specifically, what is your overall impression? Do you feel there are gaps? These comments will be recorded on a virtual "poster paper".

This roundtable is expected to identify areas for discussion. We can then work our way through the topics, chapter by chapter.

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Next steps:

The discussion will guide the next round of revisions to the draft, including action tables. Staff will then be able to complete the draft Chapter 2 for committee review. The goal for Chapter 2 is to synthesize all recommendations in concise format; reference previous plans to show continuity; prioritize, assign, and put a cost to actions; and to provide a 'snapshot' of the document. Developed with the idea that it may be the only thing some people read, the implementation chapter will compile all the recommendations from the chapters into one table, will include a "top ten" list of recommended actions, and may include recommendations for specific steps for some of the actions.

Cost Breakdown	\$ = < \$100,000	\$\$ = \$100,000 – \$500,000	\$\$\$ = > \$500,000
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Action/Recommendation	Chapter(s)	Page(s)	Time Frame	Proposed Implementer	Cost
			Ongoing/short term/ <u>mid term</u> /long term		

Implementation Tools, Mechanisms and Funding

Once the committee has completed review of Chapter 2 the plan will be ready for public review.