

# SOUTH DOUGLAS AND WEST JUNEAU AREA PLAN

## FOCUS GROUP #3 – TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

*December 3, 2020*

### COMMUNITY VISIONING EXERCISE

#### 1. THE NEIGHBORHOOD EXPERIENCE

*The group was tasked with coming up with one to two words each that describe what they want to experience in South Douglas & West Juneau that relates to transportation and infrastructure.*

- Scenic views
- Smooth
- Quiet (minimal traffic noise)
- Fuel Efficient
- Easy (2)
- Litter free
- Convenient
- Natural (Vegetative Cover)
- Safe
- Pedestrian Friendly
- Family Friendly
- Beautiful
- Affordable
- Inviting
- Cultural Sensitivity / Embracing
- Frequent (public transit)
- Accessible
- Amenities (benches, trash cans, etc.)
- Carbon Minimal
- Dry (covered amenities for pedestrians and transit riders)
- Sufficient Parking

- Beach Access
- Bright (well lit)
- Environmentally sound
- Snow Free (covered amenities)
- Steady Flow (minimal congestion)

---

## 2: ACTIVITIES & SERVICES

*The group was tasked with listing all of the activities, programs, and services that they believe are necessary for effective transportation and infrastructure for the South Douglas and West Juneau neighborhood. The group was asked to think outside of the box and to list anything that came up!*

- Rest points and benches
- Sidewalk plowing
- Landscaping and pedestrian amenities along the harbor
- Real time bus info
- Traffic Calming (more than signage)
- Edible landscaping
- Wide walkways, COVID separation
- Science Center
- More trash cans along the sidewalk
- Beach access
- Safety with lights, pedestrian lighting
- Community gardens
- Native culture focused (Cultural Center)
- EV charging stations
- Community activity opportunities
- Beach access at Homestead Park and install kayak storage locker
- Bike lanes on bridge
- Limiting tourists buses
- More bus shelters along the bus routes
- Pedestrian walkways across the highway and all major routes
- Maintain Capital Transit services
- Flashing light crosswalks (similar to Egan and Gold Creek)
- Youth Center
- Bike lanes, protected and visible
- Alternative parallel route to the highway
- Maintain school buildings
- Continued improvements to the trail system
- Second ice sheet at Treadwell
- Mt. Jumbo opened for kids at preschool age
- Channel view at Homestead Park
- David Street and Douglas Highway intersection needs to be improved
- Road access point to the beach that can accommodate a barge if there is a bridge problem
- Ensure that Douglas Depo boat refueling continues to work well

- Repairing and maintaining the stairways
- Add stairway at C Street between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>
- Second electrical line to the Island
- Micro grid capacity (generate electricity to share with others)
- EV stations for electrical boats
- Bike park, Jump track

These activities and services were grouped by common themes. The meeting attendees were then asked to choose one of the themes to focus on.

- Transportation Safety – 10 votes
- Park Projects – 5 votes
- EV / Energy Efficiency – 4 votes
- Maintain / Improve existing infrastructure – 5 votes
- New Amenities – 2 votes
- Pedestrian Improvements – 2 votes

---

### EXERCISE 3: ACTIVITIES & SERVICES II

*The group was tasked with choosing the top priority from activity #3 and required to ask the 4 Why's.*

#### TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

---

THIS ACTIVITY IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE:

1. Human life matters.
2. It will make people more comfortable visiting and living in Douglas.
3. Maintenance safety issues (winter sidewalks).
4. Inclusive to all who use the highway (drivers, cyclists, pedestrians).
5. Maximizes enjoyment of amenities.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

People want to feel safe walking, biking and driving down the street.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

No one wants to worry about their child/neighbor/friend getting hit by a car.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Well-functioning and safe transportation adds to the sense of community life.

---

## EXERCISE 5: FUTURE HEADLINE

*The group was tasked with developing a future headline for South Douglas and West Juneau for March 3, 2035.*

- AFTER 15 YEARS A STOP SIGN WAS FINALLY PUT IN AT ST. ANN'S AND 3<sup>RD</sup> STREET
- WALK, BIKE AND PLAY IN JUNEAU'S MODEL RENEWABLE ENERGY NEIGHBORHOOD
- DOUGLAS ICE (INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE) FREE
- DOUGLAS ISLAND SUCEDES FROM US AND CLAIMS ALL SOVERN RIGHTS
- DOUGLAS ACHIEVES 100% SAFE TRANSPORTATION AND IS CARBON FREE
- EVERYONE WALKS IN DOUGLAS
- DOUGLAS ISLAND RECLAIMS HISTORIC PLACE AS WORLD LEADER IN BRINGING CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY TO ITS RESIDENTS

### NO MATTER WHAT, DON'T CHANGE...

- Lack of cruise ship docking
- Capital Transit access to the rest of Juneau
- Round-a-bout (presence at the bridge)
- Small town Main Street feel for 3<sup>rd</sup> St. / St. Ann's from school down to harbor
- Speed limits on Douglas Highway
- Fire station/library/businesses anchoring community
- Quiet, slow, friendly, pedestrian-friendly lifestyle
- Car free forest near Treadwell
- Dogs allowed off leash at Sandy Beach
- Sage, wide, sidewalks and bike lanes all the way from Sandy Beach over the bridge to downtown
- Walkable community
- Bike lanes

### NO MATTER WHAT, CHANGE...

- Need access to beach from Gastineau Channel
- Sidewalk plowing
- Sidewalks on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street
- Put a stop sign on St. Ann's where it needs to be
- Gas powered cars
- David Street / Douglas Highway intersection
- Mini sidewalk along harbor waterfront
- Capital Transit offered on holidays for people needing to get places
- Speed limit to 30 mph from Douglas to Juneau side of Lawson Creek Bridge. Pedestrians not crossing at crosswalks
- Replace the bathrooms at the bus stop at Savikko Park
- Only one route in or out
- Make the harbor look more appealing
- Add lighted crosswalk at bottom of Cordova Street at Douglas Highway
- Ensure prohibition of cruise ship docking at Douglas Harbor

- Add landscaping to the moon-scape at Douglas Harbor parking lot area
- Add light crosswalks.

GREAT IDEA?? WHO CAN MAKE THIS HAPPEN? (Name any potential partners needed to make your idea successful)

- Community Farm on Savikko Park Field 4
- Household solar wind power for hyper local energy security
- Zoning/tax incentives to encourage creation of Douglas downtown shops, coffee house, etc.
- Wind turbines
- Allen Marine Day Boat from Downtown Douglas to Downtown Juneau (needs an economic base to do this)
- Reparations Douglas Indian Village burning. Work with DIA and Taku Kwaan on appropriate action (maybe cultural center?)
- Increase number of small businesses in Douglas downtown to encourage walk around social life
- Alternate route in and out of Douglas for bikes and pedestrians and buses only
- Hot chocolate/Beer Garden near ice rink
- Adopt edible landscaping as common practice
- Flea Market once a month at Sandy Beach