



**Blueprint Downtown Steering Committee Meeting Agenda
CBJ Assembly Chambers**

October 29, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

Steering Committee Members Present:

Karena Perry, Chair
Betsy Brenneman
Kirby Day
Daniel Glidmann

Tahlia Gerger
Michael Heumann
Nathaniel Dye
Patty Ware

Steering Committee Members Absent:

Jill Ramiel, Iris Matthews, Laura Martinson, Ricardo Worl

Staff:

Beth McKibben, Project Manager
Alexandra Pierce, Planning Manager

Assembly Members:

Christine Woll

I. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 P.M.

II. Approval of Minutes

The August 13, 2020 and September 17, 2020 DRAFT minutes, Blueprint Downtown Steering Committee Meeting, were tabled until the next meeting to give the Steering Committee time to review.

III. Public Participation

As a new member of the Assembly, Ms. Woll said that she cannot be a Steering Committee member any longer, but that she wanted to express that it has been a pleasure to be a part of the process. She reported she was able to look at a draft copy on which she was able to comment one last time as a Steering Committee member.

Mr. Day asked if Ms. Woll could still be a liaison to the Committee.

Ms. McKibben said the Assembly does not have an official liaison, but they have had Assembly members attend. Ms. Woll is welcome to continue attending even though she would not be an official liaison.

IV. Steering Committee Updates

None.

V. Draft Plan Chapters 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 – Introduction and Overview

Staff presented the draft version, which was in Word format with very few graphics. Staff reported that they would not have Chapter 2 ready until they complete the recommendation and action tables. There has been some reorganization to eliminate repetition. Later drafts will also incorporate appendices.

Chapter 1: Introduction

Staff reported that Chapter 1 has not changed substantially. Staff intend to include a map of subdistricts. There will also be a graphic about relevant plans and this plan's relationship to them.

Chapter 3: Juneau's History & Natural Context

Chapter 3 was reorganized by moving the history to the beginning of the chapter. The section on mass wasting was changed to Landslides and Avalanches. Language about subdistricts was moved to Chapter 5.

Chapter 4: Economic Vitality

This chapter was previously called Economic Development. Some missing data will be included in a later draft. Some information will not be in text, and instead will be incorporated into a graphic or a more visually appealing medium.

New sections include Working Waterfront and Economic Initiatives. The information on the Main Street program has been incorporated into the latter section, and has been cut down.

The Capital Facility section has been filled out to include information on utilities and how CBJ combines projects to be more efficient. Information on electric vehicle infrastructure is included as well. The section Capital City has also been added to with new data, as well as an acknowledgement of the impact COVID-19 has had on the State of Alaska letting go of leases for their State Office buildings due to moving to remote work – there is potential for this to happen in Juneau as well.

Mr. Glidmann confirmed that it is happening in Juneau.

There is a new subsection, Sustainability and Resiliency. Originally, staff were not planning to have a specific section because sustainability concepts are woven throughout the plan. However, this section explains the concept of sustainability as it relates to the plan and acknowledges the way the pandemic has changed life. Many of the recommendations in this plan, as well as in past plans, will help bolster Juneau's resiliency. Economic diversity, outdoor programming, parklets, and outdoor dining are all becoming more important as we move forward in the pandemic. The workplace is moving into a remote world, which may allow more people to move to Juneau.

Chapter 5: Land Use, Neighborhoods & Housing

Much of the background information has been taken out of this chapter and moved to appendices. Some of the subdistrict history from other chapters has been moved to Chapter 5. All recommendations will be moved into a table at the end of the chapter as opposed to at the end of each subdistrict section. A section about the subdistrict port has been added, along with some information about the AEL&P dock.

Chapter 6: Downtown Activities and Tourism

This chapter has been edited to be more concise. The placemaking background has been cut and moved to an appendix. Staff revised section Carrying Capacity to include the relevant vision statement from the visioning document. The plan talks about the idea of carrying capacity as a misnomer, however, and staff asked for the Steering Committee's opinions regarding that section.

Chapter 7: Parks, Open Space & Recreation

The Parks subsection will contain multiple maps; staff could not fit all the relevant information on a single map without it being crowded. The addition of a paragraph about Gold Creek is the biggest change to this chapter. There will be accompanying recommended actions in the table. This is the only part of the plan document that has a summary section, so they need to decide whether to delete it or incorporate summary sections into the rest of the chapters.

Chapter 8: Transportation, Streetscape & Parking

Staff removed all the background information, edited the section on Motor Vehicle Traffic to make it more simple and concise. Staff added a Level of Service graphic, and asked if it was self-explanatory or if it benefited from the information in the callout box next to it.

Ms. Ware asked if the relevant vision statements have all be included in a consistent format.

Ms. McKibben said that each chapter quotes the relevant vision statements from the visioning report. Most are quoted in the beginning on the chapter, but not all. In some cases, the breadth of the topic means it makes more sense to incorporate them within the chapter.

Ms. Brenneman advocated for more consistency. She also expressed that it was important that all of the facets of the visioning report be included in the plan document.

Staff stated that they intended for the appendices to act as a toolkit. They include, for example, forms and permits for closing streets, and information about stringing lights across streets for placemaking.

Staff asked the Steering Committee to focus their comments on:

- Any missing information; areas that seem incomplete

- The information about the Main Street program
- Moving the placemaking background information to an appendix
- The subsection on sustainability and resiliency
- Moving the subarea information from Chapter 3 to Chapter 1

Ms. Brenneman suggested going chapter by chapter rather than discussing the entire plan document during a single meeting.

Ms. McKibben said staff intend to provide the Steering Committee with the recommended actions tables to go with each chapter for the next meeting.

Ms. Pierce gave the Steering Committee a two-week deadline for comments of Friday, November 13. The deadline is flexible for those doing more intense copy edits.

VI. Future Meetings

Staff reported there are a number of committee members who are interested in a hybrid meeting, both in-person and virtually. Staff were looking into that possibility, but it was set aside once the CBJ moved to Risk Level Three. Ms. Pierce said that Assembly Chambers has a new audio system that makes a hybrid meeting more possible, provided the risk level is lowered.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 19. One of the Committee members now has a conflict on Thursdays, so moving forward the Steering Committee will consider holding meetings on a different day of the week.

VII. Adjournment

Ms. Ware motioned to adjourn. Mr. Glidmann seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 P.M.

Next Meeting Date: November 19, 2020, 6 P.M., Zoom Webinar