

**Arts District & Flora Street  
Making Places for People Project**

**Placemaking Field Survey – Results Report**

**Number of Interviews Completed: 50**

**Why are you here today?**

Category	Number Responding
Work downtown / business owner.	16
Shopping / errands only.	9
Live downtown / visiting someone that lives downtown.	7
Restaurant only.	4
Looking for work / Manpower / Worksource.	4
Site seeing – on vacation.	3
Radio Museum.	1
Viewing mural on Crown Plaza.	1
School .	1
Library.	1
Putting up posters for a show.	1
Jury Duty.	1
On a walk / live at edge of town.	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

**How often do you come here?**

Category	Number Responding
Everyday	15
5 times / week	9
2 – 3 times / week	11
Once a week	7
1 – 2 times / month	4
Once a year	1
First time in Bellingham	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

**What do you like best about this part of downtown?**

- Street trees, planters.
- Bike lanes.
- Whatcom Creek.
- Natural & Urban feel.
- Businesses on sidewalk (cafes & shops).
- Variety of stores, something for everyone. everything is here, accessible.
- Cafes, restaurants.
- Historical feel, historic buildings.

Pedestrian activity, pedestrian friendly.  
Character of neighborhood.  
Lots to do, people and activity on the streets.  
Close to waterfront.  
Open areas / public spaces.  
Library and lawn area.  
Mid-block crosswalks.  
Close to music venues.  
Tattoo parlors.  
Places to play pool.  
WTA bus system is easy.  
City feel – feels safe.  
Friendly environment.  
Feels like its coming back, lots of new stores.  
Views, Mt Baker and industrial.  
Whatcom Museum, other museums, “learning center”.  
Access to courthouse.  
Wouldn't live anywhere else in Bellingham.  
Privately owned businesses.  
Away from center of town.  
Things change a lot.  
Activities for kids - Mindport.  
Favorite bar is here.  
Close to post office.  
Mount Baker Theatre.  
Black Drop café.

### **What ideas do you have that could improve this place?**

Make safer for pedestrians.  
Add more lighting, streetlights.  
No parking meters for residents.  
New sidewalks – make bigger.  
Fix sidewalks.  
More art on the streets – not so abstract. Should be more colors, interesting, no more silver ones.  
More public bathrooms, OK to pay.  
More parking.  
Need a fountain downtown.  
Park with some shade.  
Maintain existing landscaping / plants better.  
More trashcans.  
Planters on sidewalks / streets.  
“Green up” the area.  
Pedestrian signs to waterfront, other areas.  
More underage concerts – would bring on more kids, activity.  
More gallery walks.  
More homeless services – social and housing.  
Patch streets – looks ratty.  
Need a grocery store.  
Brick on sidewalks.  
Add roundabouts.  
Clean the streets more often.

Keep the area clean.  
More late night activities.  
Cleanup illegal activity.  
Tax breaks for businesses locating downtown.  
Make some areas pedestrian only.  
More places to sit.  
Add recycling bins next to garbage cans.  
More bike lanes on streets – have to ride on sidewalk.  
More police presence, too many “street people”.  
More places for people to hang out – like Barkley Village feel.  
More cigarette butt stations – lots of litter from butts.  
Improvements to encourage bike parking / safety.  
Make the waterfront like Grandville Island.  
Close Cornwall more often, like for La Bella Strada event.  
Expand the library – needs a bigger collection, more computers. Don’t move the library.

**Other comments:**

Faster police response.  
Glad to be a business owner downtown.  
City should encourage businesses downtown.  
Its doing great now.  
Sustainable Connections has done a good job.  
Would like to see taller buildings. Keep and fix up the older buildings.  
Add more water access.  
Excited about changes to waterfront.  
Outside tables get in the way of walkers.  
Was safer before, not safe for moms and kids anymore.  
Parking permits for employees of downtown businesses – would pay but don’t want to feed meters.  
Add parking validation by shops for parking garages.  
Meters and tickets need to be cheaper.  
More police on railroad – won’t go over here anymore.  
Need bigger parking spaces.  
Bring back the parking stations.  
Lower the parking rates.  
Help rent out the empty stores. – Why building more of there are empty stores?  
Would come more if Depot Market was open more days and had more variety. Keep open all the time – that event brings the most people.