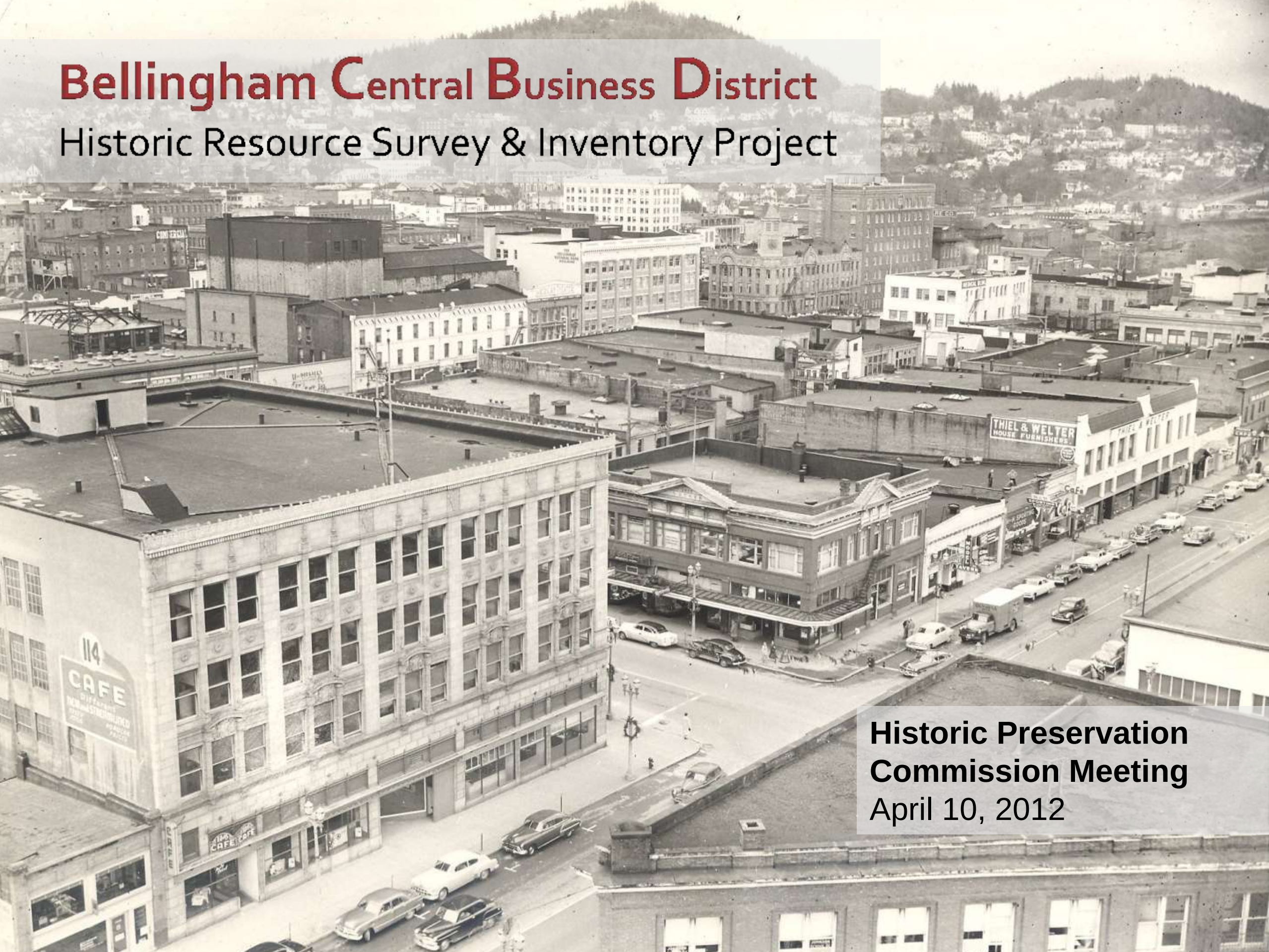
Bellingham Central Business District

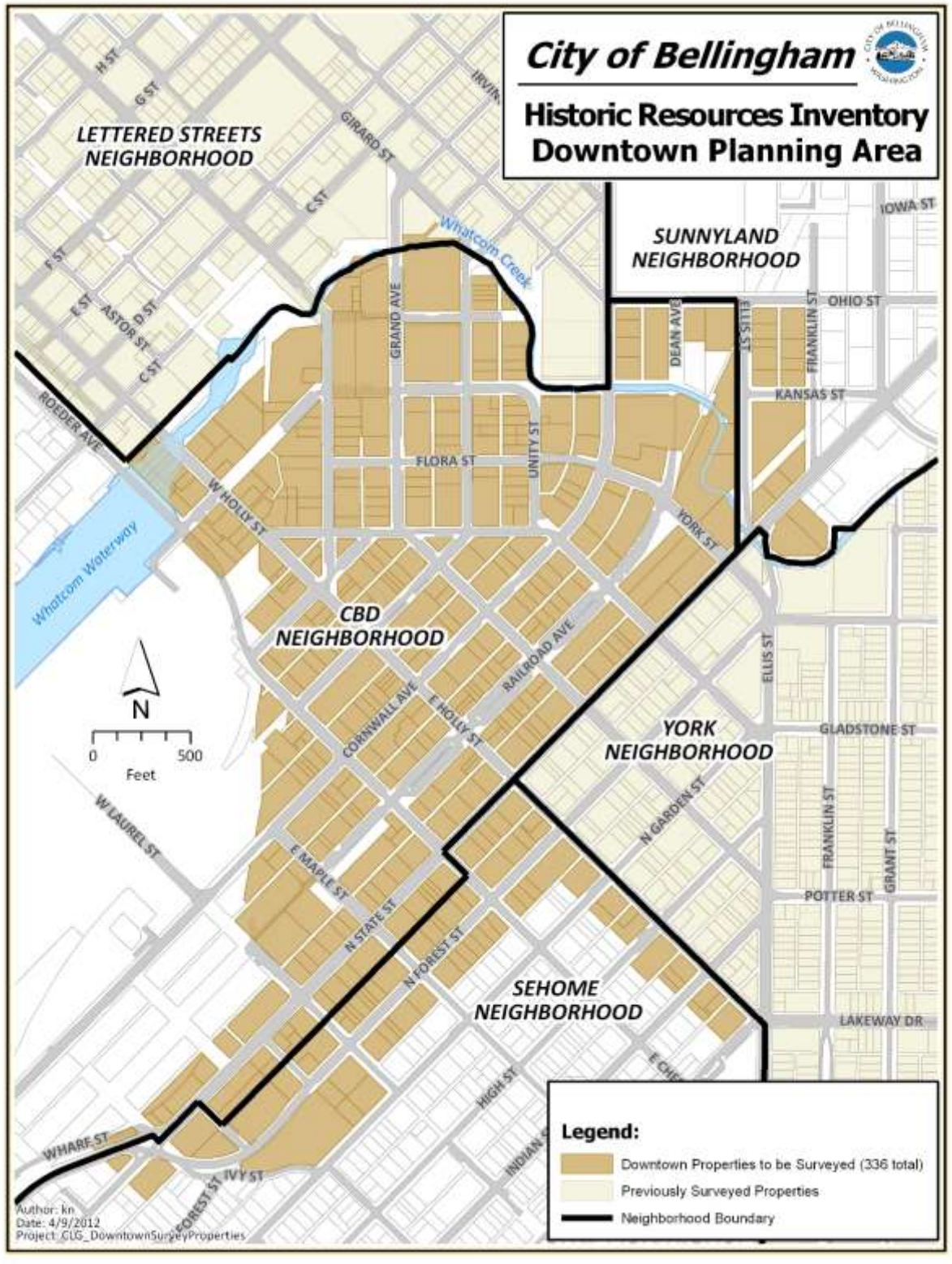
Historic Resource Survey & Inventory Project



Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

April 10, 2012

Project Scope



- CBD Neighborhood & Downtown Planning Area
- Properties built prior to 1962
- All property types

Commercial

Industrial

Residential

Project Overview

Sponsor

- Planning & Community Development

Funding

- $10,000 grant from Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation (DAHP)

Timeline

- October 1st 2011 – August 31st, 2012
- ***Results presented in August / Sept***

Project Consultant

ARTIFACTS
Architectural Consulting

Michael Sullivan, Principal

Katie Chase, Historian

Spencer Howard, Partner

Susan Johnson, Historian

Project Volunteers

Dr. Jim Talbot

Gayle Helgoe

Ruth Baacke

Kolby LaBree

Jeff Jewell, Photo Archivist
Whatcom Museum
Photo Archives

Ruth Steele, Archivist
Center for Pacific NW Studies

Dr. Sarah Campbell
& Students
WWU

Project Purpose

- **City Council Legacy 4:** ***Sense of Place***
  - Support sense of place in neighborhoods
  - Encourage development within existing infrastructure
  - ***Preserve historic & cultural resources***

- **Identify buildings & districts** eligible for National, State, and/or Local Historic Registers

Downtown Planning

- Full update of the 2002 City Center Master Plan
- Public involvement via City website, Facebook

Community Input / Survey Results Presentation

Wednesday, April 18th

5:00 – 6:00 PM

Blue Horse Gallery

301 W. Holly Street

For more information go to:
www.cob.org/mydowntown

Or contact:
Darby Galligan, Development Specialist
dgalligan@cob.org
(360) 778-8389

myDowntown Survey: Strengths and Weaknesses

Strongest Agreement:

"Historic buildings add to the character of downtown"

Related Project:

Address barriers to historic building rehabilitation

- Flexibility in code compliance for historic buildings
- Incentives outreach education and technical training

National, State & Local Historic Registers

National Register of Historic Places

- National Park Service designates
- ***Honorary*** - no protection
- Incentives - property values increase, grant fund eligibility, tax incentives (commercial)

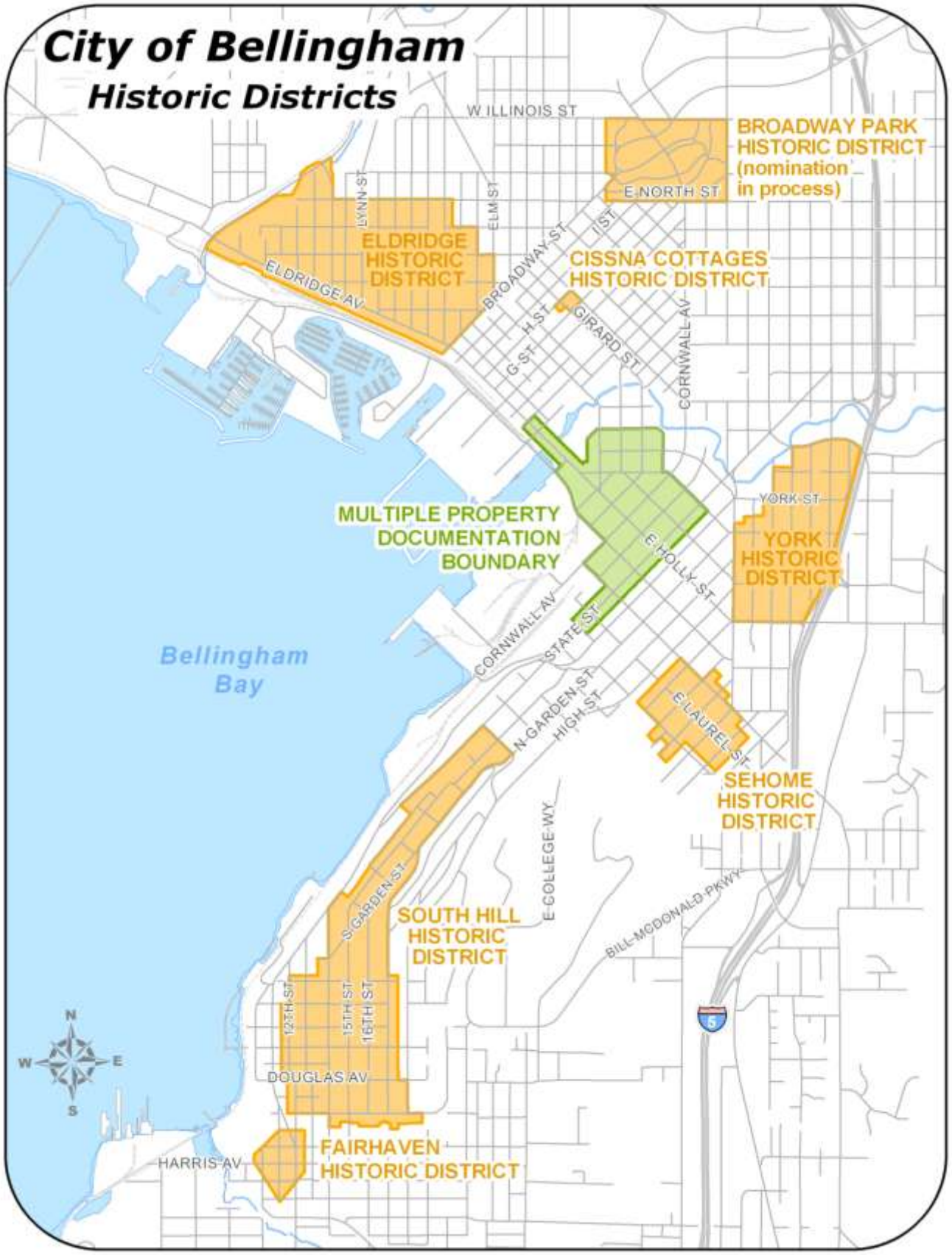
Washington State Heritage Register

- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation designates
- ***Honorary*** - no protection

Bellingham Register of Historic Places

- Bellingham HPC designates
- ***Regulatory*** - design review, protection for perpetuity
- Incentives - Special Valuation, Adaptive Use Permits

Previous Surveys



- York
- Lettered Streets
- South Hill
- Cornwall Park

- Four new National Register Districts

Project Outcomes

INFORMATION

- Historical research
- Current and historic photographs

- On-line access
  - WISSARD
  - City IQ

- Survey Report

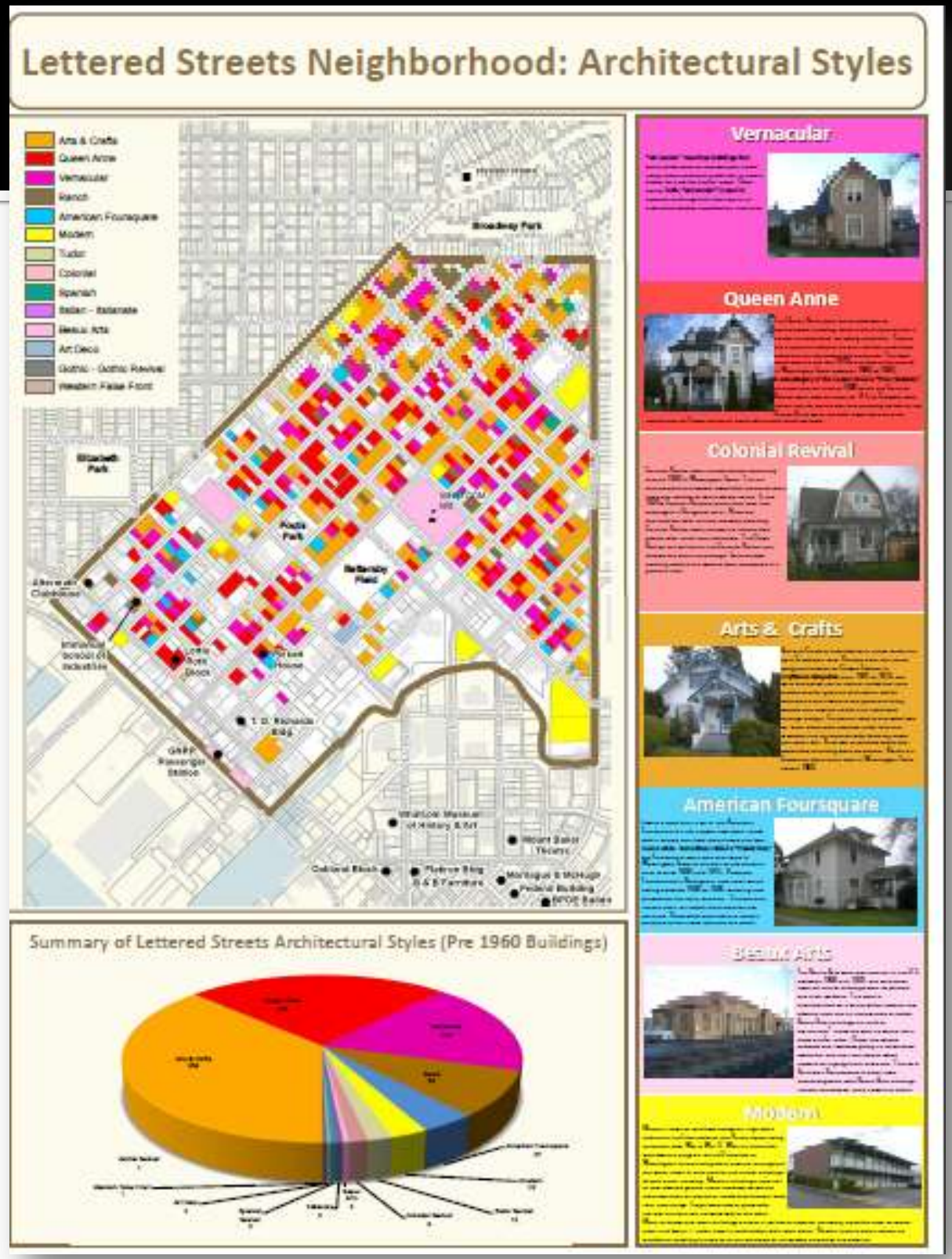
Project Outcomes

ILLUSTRATION

- GIS mapping & planning tool

INCENTIVES

- Helps owners obtain financial and other incentives
- Downtown revitalization & economic development



Next Steps

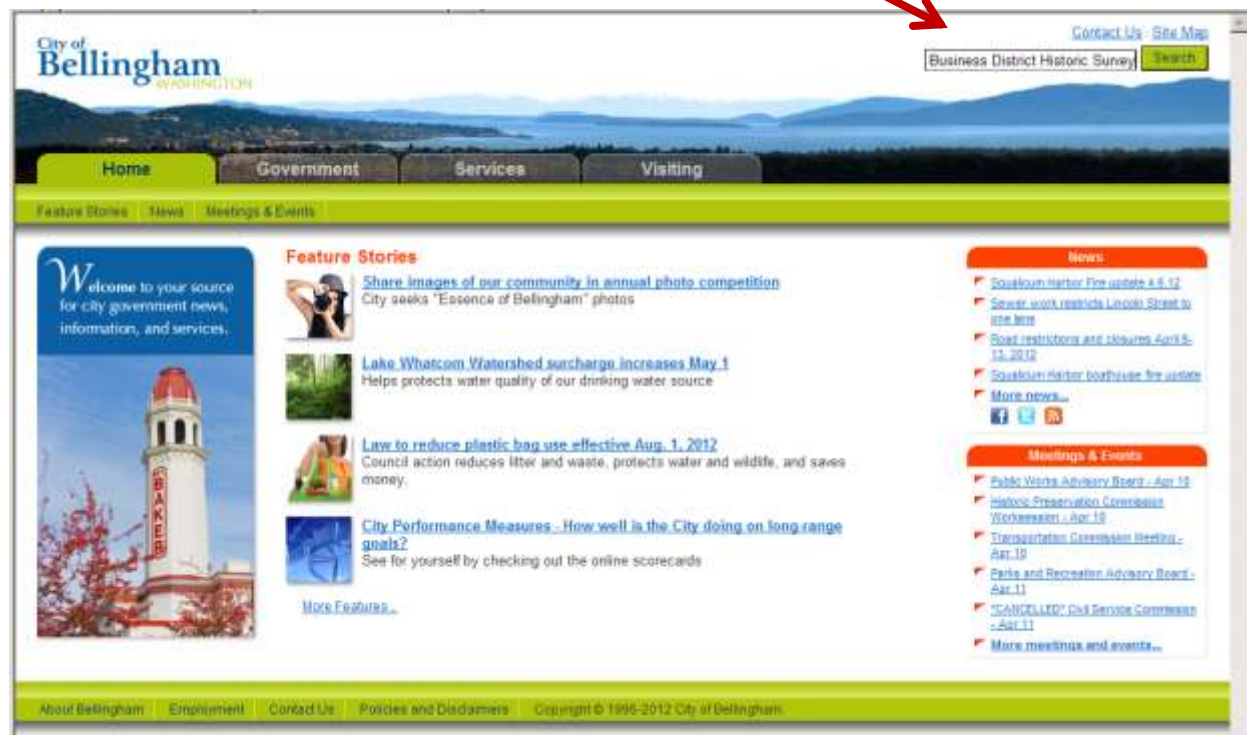
Summer / Fall 2012:

- ***Survey Summary Report*** posted on City website

- ***Public Presentation*** of Survey Findings

Go to www.cob.org, type *"Central Business District Historic Survey" in the search bar*

search bar



For more information contact:
Katie Franks, Development Specialist
kfranks@cob.org
(360) 778-8388