

Fountain District Urban Village Public Input Workshops

Meeting #1

Introduction, Character & Boundaries

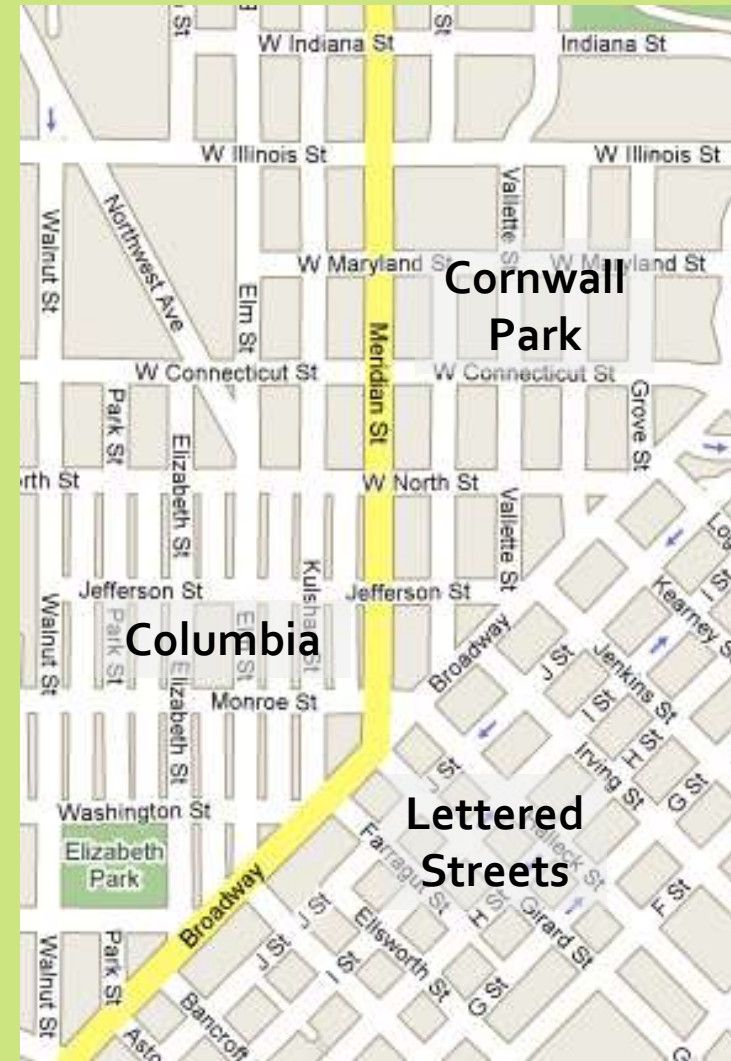
April 1st, 2009

City of Bellingham, Washington

Stakeholders

Who is the “Village”?

- Property Owners, Business Owners
- Residents, Neighborhood Associations
- Business Organizations
- City Departments
- Whatcom Transit Authority
- Bellingham School District
- Nonprofit organizations
- Affordable Housing Advocates
- Architects, Engineers and Landscape Architects
- Developers, Real Estate Agents, Financing Companies
- *Others???*



Why Here? Why Now?

Tim Stewart, Director
Planning & Community Development

- Comprehensive Plan goals
- Commercial area potential
- Neighborhoods' involvement



Three Neighborhoods – One Village

- As we work together to shape the character, commerce and quality of life in the Fountain District “Village,” consider the master plan overlay as its own entity



4 Public Meetings

- April 1 Introduction, Character & Boundary Study Areas
- April 15 Public Realm:
Streets, Public Spaces & Neighborhood Connections
- April 22 Development Character:
Permitted Uses, Design, Scale, Transitions
- May 6 Input Summary
Discussion of Alternatives

Objectives of Public Meetings

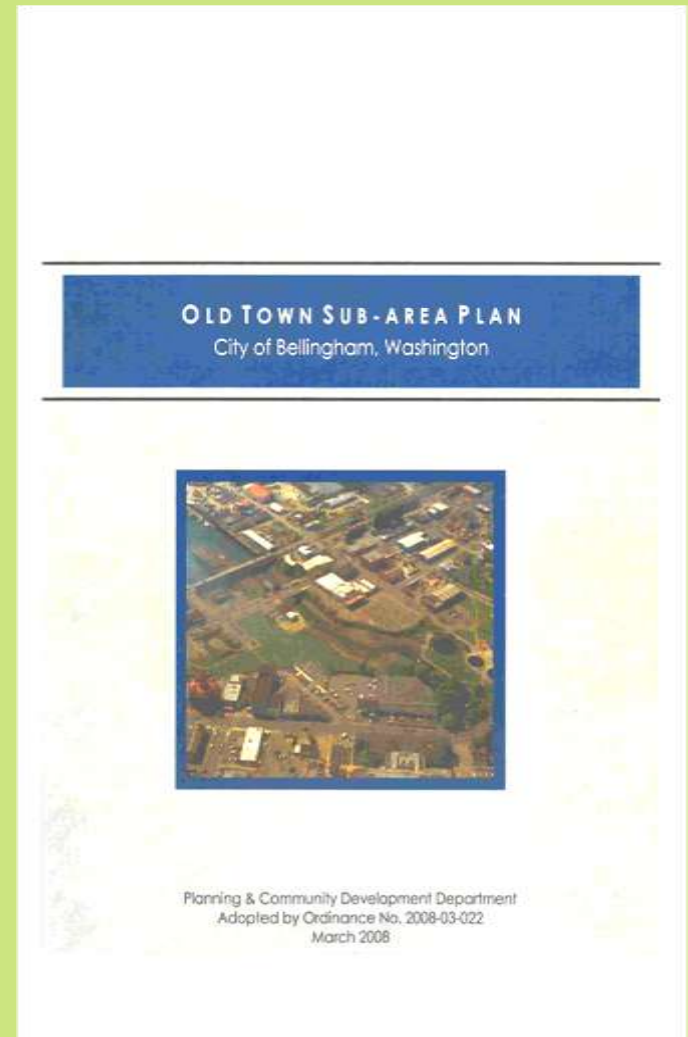
- Share perspectives, desires and needs
- Understand process
- Develop two-way communication

Input gathered from meetings will be used to create:

- Master Plan = “the Vision”
- Development Regulations = “the Rules”

Master Plan = the VISION

- Development Character
- Circulation/Streetscape
- Capital Facilities Plan
- Parks and Plazas
- Sets Policy & Implementation Strategies



Development Regulations = the RULES

- “On the ground” laws that implement the Master Plan
- Includes zoning, permitted uses, setbacks, height, parking requirements, design requirements, signage, etc.
- Feasibility Studies

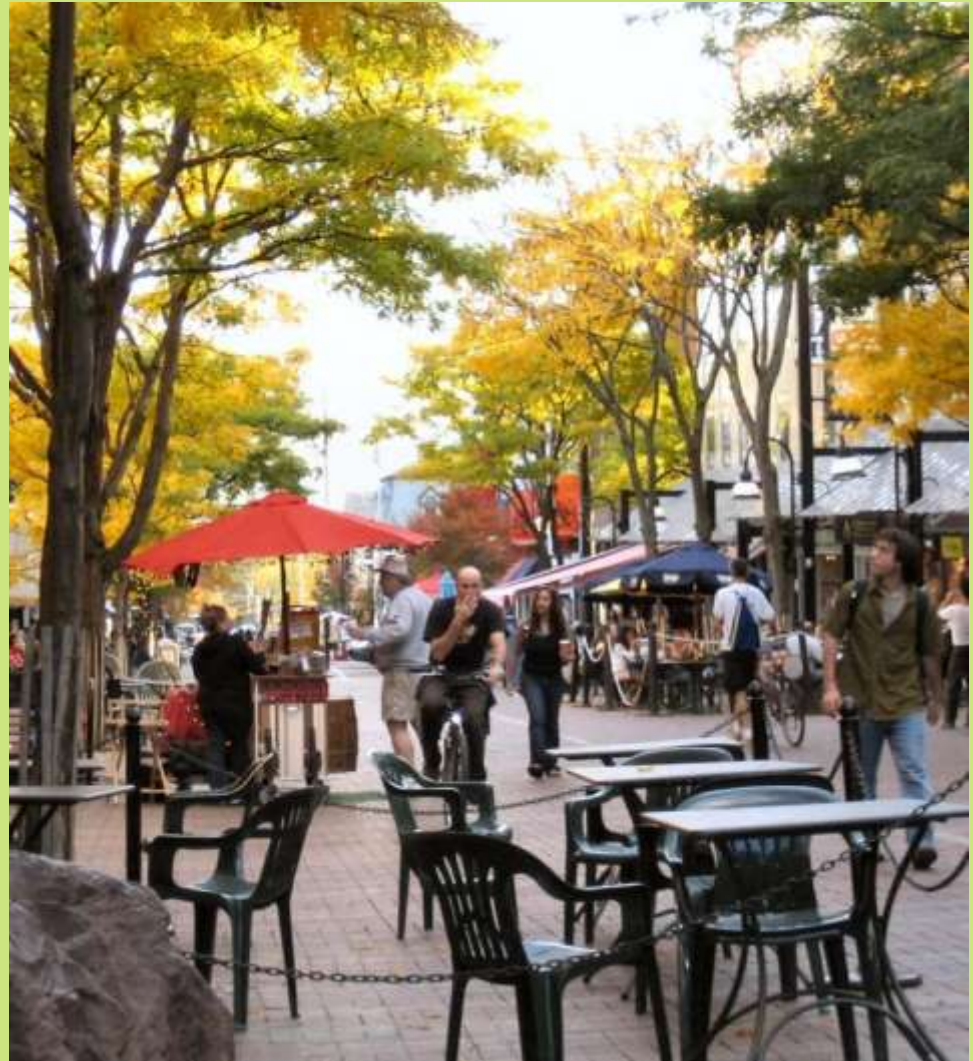


Meeting #1: Overview

- Part 1: Presentation
 - Process Overview
 - Character & Study Areas
 - What is an Urban Village?
- Part 2: Exercises
 - Identify Strengths and Weaknesses
 - Identify Potential “village” Study Areas

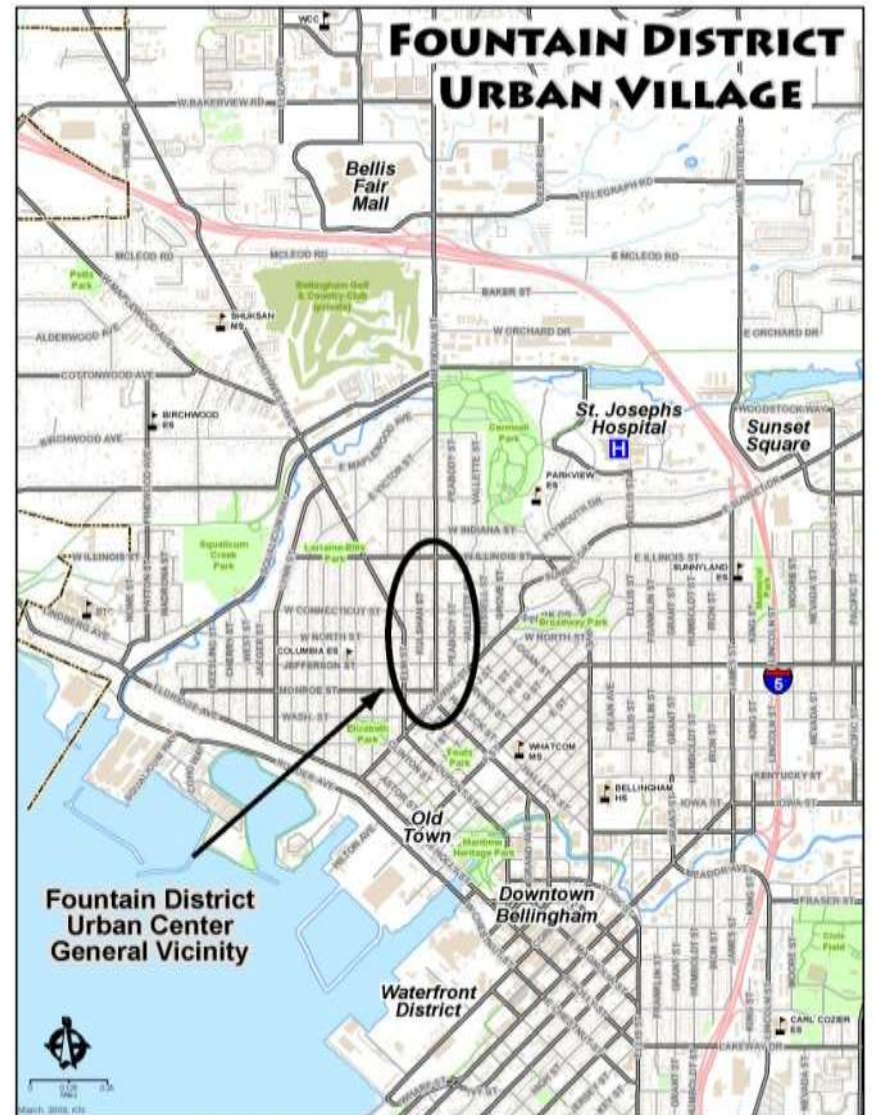
What is an Urban Village?

- Mix of uses: commercial, residential, office, recreational, services, etc.
- Amenities and necessities within walking distance
- Designed for pedestrians, bikes, and transit – not just the car
- Facilitates strong community connections and interaction



Where is the “Village”?

- The Fountain District “village” will be considered in its context, and in relationship to:
 - Central and Northern Neighborhoods
 - Parks and Open Space
 - Central Business District (Downtown)
 - Waterfront
 - City Emergency Services



Existing Zoning & Current Uses



Road Map

Fountain District Urban Village Project Timeline

Task	2009												2010			
	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar				
Public Workshops	*															
Study Alternatives																
Review Findings and Draft Concepts					*											
SEPA Review						*										
Release Draft Plan and Regulations							*									
Planning Commission									*							
City Council													*			

* Opportunity for public comment

Note: Exact dates to be posted as they are scheduled

We are HERE