

Fountain District Urban Village Public Input Workshops

Meeting #3

Development Character Permitted Uses, Design, Scale & Transitions

April 22nd, 2009

City of Bellingham, Washington

4 Public Meetings

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

Objectives of Public Meetings

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

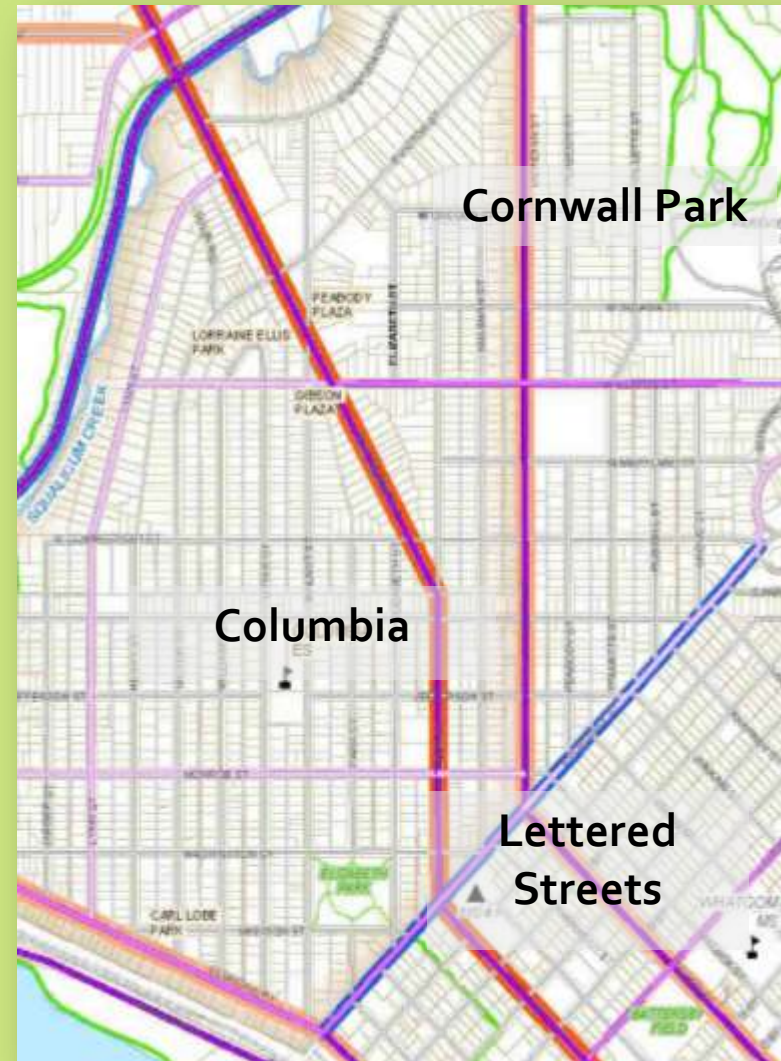
Input gathered from meetings will be used to create:

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

Stakeholders

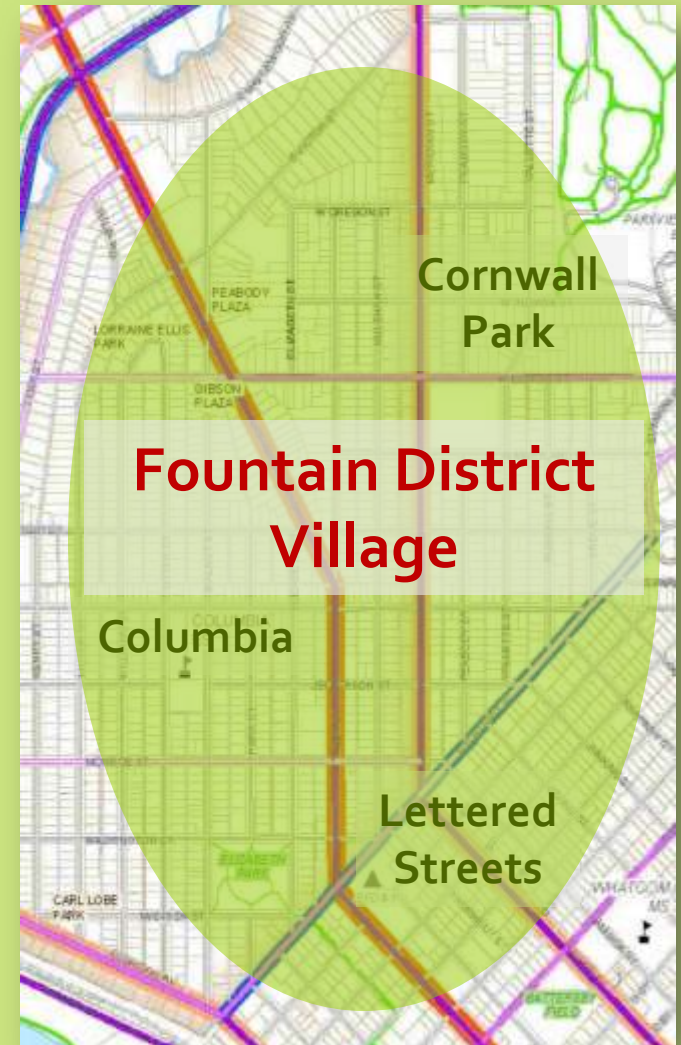
Who is the “Village”?

- 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???*



Three Neighborhoods = *One Village*

- As we work together to shape the character, commerce and quality of life in the Fountain District, think of the “village” *as its own entity*



Project Overview and 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

Tonight's AGENDA

6:00 – 7:00 Presentations

Development Character

- Commercial Core and Transition Zones
- Residential Transition Zones
 - Scale, building forms, permitted uses

7:00 – 8:00 Exercise

Form and Function

Meeting #2: What we heard from you

Public Realm

Strengths

- Good bike / pedestrian use
- Alley shared use
- Elm Street bike route
- Access to nearby parks
- On-street parking

- **Plaza Park** – tree, 3 neighborhoods converge, history, existing water feature opportunity, good location

Weaknesses

- Need more street trees
- Meridian difficult to cross for pedestrians and bikes (and cars)
- Need more parking

- **Plaza Park** – needs TLC, not used much, fountain not working, bisected by Monroe Street

Public Realm:

Elements Affecting Street Character



Sidewalks



Lighting & Signage



Water & Art



Safety



Trees & Plants



Furniture



Parking

Cleanliness

Public Realm:

Elements Affecting Street Character

Buildings

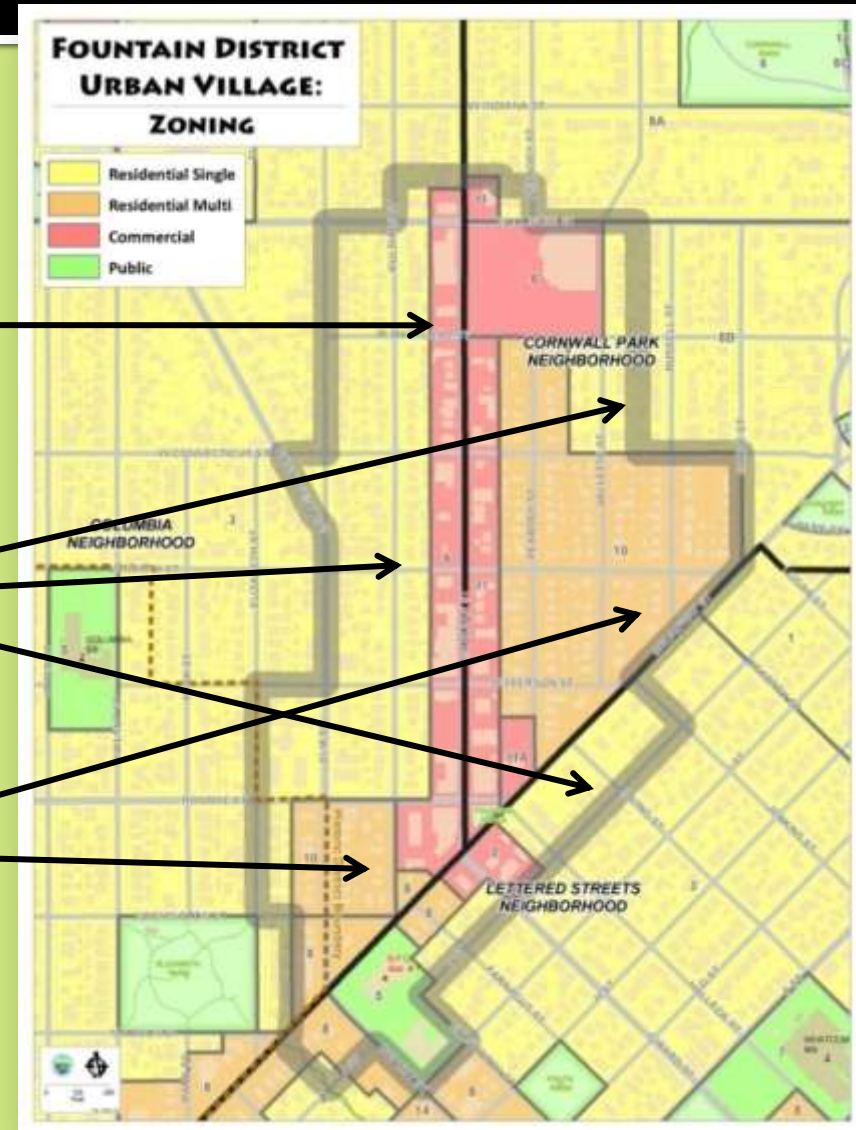
- Scale and Height
- Form and Mass
- Use
- Pedestrian-oriented Design



Existing Rules (Zoning)

Height and Form

- **Commercial** (red)
 - 35' – 1 and 2-story buildings and home conversions
- **Single Family** (yellow)
 - 35' - SF & Conditional Use
- **Multi-family** (orange)
 - 35' – Duplex & Office



Fountain District Today

