

EDINA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MID-TERM CHECK-IN WORK SESSION SUMMARY

Date/time/location

- Thursday May 3, 6:30 to 9:00 PM
- Public Works Building

Purpose

- Edina City Council Member Michael Fischer and Planning Commission Chair Jo Ann Olsen co-hosted a Comprehensive Plan "Mid-Term check-in" workshop on Thursday, May 3 from 6-9pm at the Public Works large meeting room. This workshop was a working meeting for the advisory groups who have been assigned to work on the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Update.
- The goal of the Mid-Term check-in work session was to share all the great comprehensive plan work being completed by our City of Edina advisory groups. The check-in allowed each group the opportunity to present and included time to discuss and make connections between their ideas and recommendations. Each group had an opportunity to present their 3-5 top recommendations to be included in the 2018 Comprehensive Plan. These are ideas the groups believe will have the greatest influence on the future of the Edina community.
- The top recommendations were charted out on paper and posted on the wall for review. Participants discussed the recommendations and made physical connections by using yarn to "tie" ideas together between and among the posted ideas. The groups then demonstrated the impact of those top initiatives on the "Big Picture" map used in the "Big Ideas" workshop that kicked off the comprehensive planning process on April 22, 2017. The big map was once again rolled out and connections from the group's recommendations were placed on the map and were reflected back as a combination of connected ideas made throughout the city to be forwarded into the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Update.

Recommendations

A summary of the Advisory Group's top recommendations shared at the workshop are as follows:

Energy and Environment Commission

- All City Decisions should consider: Environmental sustainability and stewardship framed in practical outcomes.
- City staff should consider the impact of climate and climate change on making decisions on staffing.
- City operations should be a leader with regard to environmental sustainability and resilience.

Arts and Culture Commission

- Use the new Edina Art Center to kick-start an Edina "Renaissance".
- Create a culture of public art that enhances Edina as a place to live, work and visit.

- Double the reach of the Edina Arts program from 2% - 5%.
- Every City Department, Commission, work group, developer seeking approval from the city cares about art and budgets for it.
- Use the Parks to extend art programs.

Transportation Commission

- Improve mobility for residents, visitors and businesses by creating a balanced system of transportation alternatives.
- Implement Living Streets.
- Develop and promote a TDM program through a coordinated program of regulations, incentives, marketing and provision of alternative travel options.
- Increase node-to-node connections to include non-motorized transportation.
- Develop transit service and connections linking Edina to SW light rail.

Community Health

- Incorporate a “Health in all policies” approach to city decision making.
- Invest in city specific health data.
- Recognize and work to address disparities and social determinants of health.
- Proactively support mental health and social connectedness.
- Identify and address the health and wellness concerns of an aging populations.

Parks Open Space

- How do we define “park space” for Edina by 2025? Is it green space, hardscape, connectivity?
- Master Plan for all larger parks with a focus on natural resources.
- Connectivity via the grand rounds per the Ped and Bike Master Plan.
- Assess excellence via external benchmarking.
- How to pay for our plans and our growth/alternative funding sources?

Heritage Preservation

- Reinforce long-standing commitment to principles of Heritage Preservation Planning.
- Fill in gaps of Heritage resources inventory in Edina.

- Promote cultural and economic benefits of heritage preservation. Invest in public education of Heritage Landmarks aimed at residents and visitors.
- Improve integration of the Preservation Plan with other city planning.

Human Rights and Relations

- City should restate its commitment as a human rights city as a separate chapter in the 2018 Comp Plan.
- Consider social capital/social well-being indicators when making policy decisions.
- Establish meaningful goals for increasing affordable housing to include prompt and transparent use of buy-out funds.
- Improve access to parks and open spaces for all.

Water Resources

- Clean water, fire protection, resilience.
- Sanitary sewer: resilient, I/I reduction.
- Storm Water: Sustainable, layered approach, resilient.
- Flood protection, drainage, water quality and clean water.

Economic Competitiveness

- Ensure vibrant business parks and office districts.
- Understand the impact of retail transformation and the city's participation in the evolution of key economic zones.
- Promote development of nodes beyond traditional residential areas.

44th and France Small Area Plan

- Define clear “give-to-get”.
- Centralized district parking.
- Traffic and safety.

70th and Cahill Small Area Plan

- Rebrand to “Cahill Village”.
- Node with modes: connections – people, bikes, cars – rail?
- Housing/zoning update.

- Key bike and pedestrian destination.
- Possible future study of adjacent industrial areas and rail transit.

50th and France Small Area Plan

Group is just forming at this time.

Southdale District

- A pattern of 200 foot blocks with incremental change and the creation of great street and pedestrian experiences.
- Extend parks and public spaces through the district.
- Redesign France and York Ave. balancing all nodes and modes.
- Provide strong connections and appropriate transitions between residential areas.
- Make greater Southdale District the model for healthy urban living.
- Expect/demand high quality design oriented around the public realm.
- Economic feasibility for the future.
- Use water as an amenity not just to be captured on site.







