Community Input on Draft Downtown Oakland Specific Plan Goals

Social Equity Working Group Meeting

Sustainability, Health, Safety, Open Space and Recreation Working Group

Goals	Changes	Barriers	Solutions	Uncategorizable
Climate Change and Env Justice Impacts				
SHS Goal 2: Align all land use and transportation planning documents and processes to reinforce achievement of GHG reductions.	Make this transparent & explain to EJ community accountability to tangible goals	Where will the teeth be? Or will these be lifeless documents?	All-electric buses	
	Sea level rise should be considered in new infrastructure, transportation and housing projects		Increase tree canopy to 30-40%	
			Expand impact fees that developers and business are responsible for to contribute to city improvements. Funding open space, street trees, affordable housing, reduce air pollution, use [illegible]	
			Land use designs necessitate direct input from local micro-communities	
			Continue to expand bus rapid transit	
			Affordable housing near transportation. Bus and bart	
			Zero emission port	
			Prioritize/incentivize businesses that use renewable energy	
			Install green infrastructure: bioswales, trees	
			Urban agriculture, community gardens, and co-ops	
			Involve community in green infrastructure projects, e.g. bike lanes	

			Investigate county-owned lands and buildings for green infrastructure
SHS Goal 4: Protect the community's most vulnerable residents from being disproportionately affected by adverse environmental impacts	Specific goals? health impacts, disease spread, food shortage, peak oil, drought	Vulnerable populations and land use conflicts - all the infill development near the freeways don't mitigate for our pollution	Get the lead out of our soils and historical paint
	Prioritize critical infrastructure and health services that may be impacted by rising sea levels	Previous meetings say to build housing structures near existing transportation hubs, but those hubs are in areas where sea level will rise.	Enforcing truck idling laws in West Oakland and possibly Chinatown
	Need to include: mitigate existing disproportionate impacts	Vulnerable pops are geographically tied to place	Ask new corporations and businesses to have higher taxes which can fund environmental justice issues - impact fees
		Cost and political will	We need air conditioners in existing residences. Fund for this.
		Poor nutritional access b/c of food desert	More environmental modeling and impacts of SLR on flatlands
			Multi-determinant solutions for EJ communities, not just "environmental health" Screen all kids less than 6 years old for lead Increase affordable housing in areas less likely to be impacted by climate change
EA Goal 1: Preserve and support downtown's cultural, racial, and ethnic diversity, including cultural amenities and businesses that serve Oakland's diverse populations.		This only makes sense if the resident population is diverse	Add quality jobs, local hire, training programs
			Community gardens, food coops, etc. Rotating farmers markets, EBT and sliding scale.

EA Goal 2: Prioritize business, development, services, programming and infrastructure that meet the needs of the full range of Oakland's income levels, age groups and ability levels.		Incentivize food businesses that promote coops and community through food. eg kiva?
		Provide robust cost benefit analysis of urban land uses versus real estate development. This analysis should consider downstream health and mental benefits. Developments should have a resilience checklist. Special taxes (tree tax, school tax); deductions for green investments. Higher % of low to mid income mandated units. Meetings throughout downtown
Uncategorizable	Why aren't there more CC + EJ goals --> additional goals: community choice energy, break down barriers to residential solar power These goals are broad... These goals don't allow you to address food deserts Need all the goals to have explicit racial equity language. It's not enough to have overarching RE goals.	Create more outdoor passive community spaces for congregation vs. vibrant trees

Amenity Access

SHS Goal 3: Ensure downtown is a complete community with access to schools, parks, jobs, recreational facilities, transportation, childcare, libraries, financial services, nutritious food, healthcare and other daily needs.	This is 9 separate goals.	Visibility of services and organizations	Let the city play realtor - match nonprofits to vacant space	[translated from Chinese] Integrate the collective wisdom of the local community to develop the urban infrastructure, improve environmental sanitation in urban areas, and attract non-local visitors for sightseeing.
	Add/plus social fabric	Accessible infrastructure. e.g. maintained sidewalks, working escalators	Subsidized nonprofit rents	
	What is complete community?	Lack of continuity in the plan area (exclusion of Chinatown)	Full communism [hammer and sickle sign]	
	"Ensure OAKLAND residents have access to" ..and workers	Cost and hours	Displacement protections for small, locally-owned businesses that have been in OTown for a long time	
	What is a financial service? Banks? Credit Unions? Educational planning? [illegible] lans?	Space	Create childcare and businesses in new commercial and office buildings	
	Livable, supportive, nurturing, not "complete"	Access does not equal use	Mexico City odd number and even number license plate days	
	What is "complete community"?	Some amenities require base level of education Maintenance?	Later library hours Ensure people are hiring blacks and latinos in restaurants, cafes, bars, businesses. Are the businesses equitable? Do they have a goal in this plan?	
		Language access. Locating services, transportation	Trees [drawing of a tree]	
		Different nutritional needs/disparate malnutrition effects	Development of public wayfinding tablets/boards	
		How to guarantee grocery stores? (nutritious food)	Expand wireless modem program so people can have wireless at home (library svc)	

		Language services: hard to access interpretation services at various public/community amenities	
SHS Goal 5: Provide downtown spaces that feel safe, and comfortable and welcoming for users of all ages, races, income levels and backgrounds.	More police officers in the community to make people feel safe.	Lack of gender neutral bathrooms	We need more trash and recycling bins
	Add immigration status	Different definitions of safe and comfortable	Placement of accessible bathrooms
	"Safe, comfortable, and welcoming" (grammar! delete "and")	Ability of city to maintain basic sanitation and maintenance functions consistently and over long term	Create designated quiet zones
	[Korean]	Lack of public sitting space outside of parks	[Korean] offer more interpretation services at facilities
	[Korean] --> solutions to traffic will also resolve greenhouse gases	Too many trucks, impact air quality [Korean}	More cultural competency training for police
	Users of all forms of ability and mobility	Recognize legitimacy of conflict of use in space, especially when one group takes over a space.	Make them public accessible bathrooms
	Add gender	Spaces cost money to hold events. Need low cost option for people who can't afford regular rate to rent space.	[Korean] CCTV [Korean]
	"Users" feels sterile	[Korean] around 5-8pm, very dangerous b/c rush hour traffic for pedestrians.	Renovate old buildings to bring them to code to prevent another ghostship
		Areas that are sparsely populated at night.	Tables public
		Share use and maintenance operational responsibility for public space. e.g. Laney College BART	Maintain sidewalk and more trash cans
		More lighting in our parks and public spaces	Fund libraries so they can be open later and other meeting space.

[translated from Chinese] Air pollution. Birds defecate at all places. The 13th street - Alice uses a blower to scavenge the waste, making it dusty everywhere.

[translated from Chinese] Excreta and urine of dogs all over the pedestrian ways of the 13th and 14th streets.

[translated from Chinese] Restrooms should be built in Chinatown. In view of the lack of resources, the relevant authorities might consider charged public toilets.

[translated from Chinese] Engage dedicated staff for hygiene inspection in Chinatown to fundamentally solve the street sanitation issues.

[translated from Chinese] The 8th, 9th, and 10th streets in Chinatown are all garbage-littered. The City Government should send staff to clean them daily.

[translated from Chinese] Merchants in Chinatown should implement the 'three guarantees' in front of their entrances for cleanup, tidiness, and unobstructed public passages.

[translated from Chinese] There are many tourists by the Lake Merritt. Police personnel should be sent to patrol there to ensure safety. Because of security concerns, the residents do not dare to go out at night.

[translated from Chinese] Request a certain commitment of manpower in environmental management

[translated from Chinese] Build some benches with cover for relaxation by Lake Merritt. Build a security line, a running track, and a pedestrian way around the lake.

			[translated from Chinese] Urge the government to increase its funding to improve the security facilities. [translated from Chinese] Build more restrooms in the parks. [translated from Chinese] Install some benches on the pakrlands for us to rest, eat, and talk after activities. [translated from Chinese] Public restrooms should be installed in Downtown Oakland [translated from Chinese] Install more CCTV	
OSR Goal 1: Serve residents of all ages and in all downtown neighborhoods with safe, well-maintained, and innovatively programmed places to play, exercise, relax, attend events, and connect with nature.	Programmed by the people, not pre-programmed	Need spaces for youth like arcades	Trash cans! And recycling/compost!	
	Does this mean create leisure spaces Define "innovatively programmed" [Korean}	Zoning laws prevent tall buildings from producing shade on the sidewalks Lack of free/cheap spaces with good hours. Who is responsible for programming and costs?	Expand ambassadors program to pick up trash outside of broadway	
EA Goal 4: Meaningfully engage residents from all walks of life, including youth, low-income residents and hard-to-reach populations, in community planning, implementation and accountability.	Definition of hard to reach?	Language access in meeting spaces	Achieve small, visible, doable wins. Visible inactivity is discouraging.	Is accountability a partnership with residents and city, or owned by residents?
	Specify how one would [illegible]	Not everyone has time to stay late	Have the city come to people in mobile offices [drawing of a van]	
		Who has the time?	Create wayfinding/historical maps that speak to the youth	

		Locations are not always accessible	Have community organizers get feedback from their communities. then have organizers come to these meetings representing their communities.
		Downtown is split into the council districts	More city council members
		People have diverse levels of experience with city planning	A mini city hall in every neighborhood
		People don't feel heard	[arrow pointing up] language services/no big box business policy
		Lack of up to date and centralized info systems.	
		People don't have time or energy to come to things	
Uncategorizable	Confused with conflicting language on powerpoint vision vs. some goals - is this plan focusing on only residents of downtown? Unclear framing, would like to see workers and residents of other neighborhoods.		Make housing more affordable and people will have more dollars to spend and support all these nice things
	Include surrounding neighborhoods in plan boundary. Ex: Chinatown		Work with public employee unions to raise baseline pay, make it easier to hire and also dismiss. Increase staffing, decrease overtime.
Connecting Public Spaces			
OSR Goal 2: Take advantage of public streets and rights-of-way as open spaces for active recreation, community gathering, economic activity, art, cultural activities, and urban greening, extending connections to natural open spaces like Lake Merritt and the Oakland Estuary waterfront into the urban core of the downtown.	Equity with a goal to cover all types of cultural acts	Goal 2 - barrier: what will parking requirements and minimums look like?	UC Berkeley student urban projects?

	Class walks (?) Signals Improve lighting	Open spaces being used as homes	More active community space within open space Gathering spaces like amphitheatre
	Improve streetscene - so much power More urban forest (maybe use instead of urban greening) (aka street trees) Urban greening = carbon sequestration heat island reduction wind mitigation pedestrian comfort beauty Stormwater infiltration and pollutant reduction People places Cultural activities in public spaces has been controversial (ie drumming at the lake or BBQs being targeted by police, resulting in arrest) How can protection be put in place?		Adaptable
OSR Goal 3: Update streets, paths and linear open spaces to better connect downtown's parks and open spaces to one another and to neighborhoods outside the downtown, including connecting the downtown core and East Oakland with Oakland's iconic and historic estuary waterfront.	Not exclusionary	Goal 3 - barrier: what does this look like under 580?	Solutions: please refer the "West Oakland Walk Project", which is part of the WO Specific Plan and connects West Oakland with Downtown and Lake Merritt
	Goal 3 - changes: how to connect downtown core to east oakland?	Communication between government agencies, city staff, public and business	Solutions: extend goal concept "West Oakland Walk" already in West Oakland Specific Plan through Downtown to include Lake Merritt

	Playful	Maintenance: city needs more general fund for parks and trees services division
	Street connectivity to include connections to Chinatown (?) Walking, biking, transit -> circuit Focus on local places, people, parks Need "a main street" that connects the Downtown 14th/19th circuit forming West Oakland with Downtown with Lake Merritt Amenities Art sculpture level parks work for people Fitness Education Health	
OSR Goal 4: Update streets, paths and linear open spaces to generate a network of safe, comfortable and well-connected civic and shared open spaces that are accessible to residents of downtown and the outlying neighborhoods.	Goal 4 - changes: "outlying neighborhood" to "all of oakland's neighborhoods"	Barriers: highways and railroads act as barriers -> need plan to include vision to bridge those
	(this points to the crossed out section "safe, comfortable" of the goal) Seniors Accessibility Disable	Longer signal times (shared the space with the "Changes" column)

As related to homelessness and poverty, right now public spaces are being used as homes for the homeless. How do we address this basic health need as a priority within public spaces?

Need protections for independent food sellers in public spaces, not only permitted food trucks

OSR4->remember to include the disabled (esp the visually impaired), seniors ie: street design

OSR Goal 6: Ensure new development, revitalization and public projects are coordinated with open space and other public projects.		Make new development accountable/responsible for adjacent public realm
		In other words, make ROW improvement a condition of approval and maintenance Take into account seniors - better lighting & improved pedestrian connectivity
EA Goal 5: Break down cultural, socioeconomic and physical barriers between neighborhoods within and outside the downtown.		Preservation of cultural history - KOREAN COMMUNITY
Uncategorizable		Approach running and cycling clubs to collaborate?

I didn't even know downtown had all of these parks!

Wifi hot spots? Electrical outlets for charging phone? Safety esp. for people with cheaper, pay-as-you-go-phones |

Peds more important than cars
Awareness of existing uses - adaptable

No one-way streets
Complete streets
Two-way street conversions

Make prototypes first

Natural Resource Integration

SHS Goal 1: Protect, maintain and enhance the natural resources that surround downtown Oakland, including Lake Merritt, open spaces, parks, plazas and waterfront areas.	1 Connect to other assets around city	1 Barrier - 980 -Distance - Navigation Challenge	Walking streets
	Make the downtown more people and nature oriented (not so much for cars)	-Public works maintenance budget is too little I see lack of maintenance in downtown parks as "planned" - part of gentrification process...motivate existing to sell/move	2 Solution: West Oakland Walk Include in Specific Plan
	Integrate ecosystems into urban fabric		-Create more parks downtown A few city-owned properties are being proposed to sale & create huge buildings. No. Use for parks & low height residential
	Are there any environmental scientists involved in landscaping?		Convert parts of paved streets to open ground for plants and rainwater treatment = "green infrastructure" (shared space with "Solutions" of the next goal)
	How do landscaping choices get made? How will they be maintained? Plants have cultural meaning.		Use trees and public nature to improve people's physical and mental health (shared space with "Solutions" of the next goal) [Invest additional human resources to clean up the lake. Keep the lake clean.

OSR Goal 5: Enhance the estuary waterfront and the Lake Merritt Channel as a regional recreation destination by encouraging complementary dining, living, entertainment, civic and other uses. Connect the waterfront to regional trails, Lake Merritt, and bicycle paths, and increase waterfront access at Howard Terminal.	Protect public space	- SAPs are too big to comprehend - Individual projects prevent residents from seeing larger goals (12th remainder parcel, bike bridge boondoggle)	1 Solution: West Oakland Walk Include in Specific Plan
	How will this interface with the homeless issues		Recognize the public benefits of trees & natural resources - cleaner air, CO2 sequestration - put money towards maintaining them
	Charge for parking cars around Lake Merritt, and use the money to pay for maintenance		Incorporate pocket-parks into new downtown developments
			Ensuring policies that are culturally appropriate (shared space with "Solutions" of the next goal) West Oakland Walk -> part of West Oakland Specific Plan could be part of Downtown Specific Plan (shared space with "Solutions" of the next goal)
EA Goal 3: Balance the need for public investment in the downtown and in underserved outlying neighborhoods, particularly when using resources generated by downtown development.	3 Change: connect to recreational parks to West	How do we better prioritize landscaping/trees?	3 Solution: West Oakland Walk Include in Specific Plan
	Good idea - but how is this tracked? What is the mechanism for ensuring this? "Public Land Policy" use our limited city-owned land for public purpose	3 Barrier: 980 Freeway Divides (?) from West Oakland Adapt and revise parking fees to pay for maintenance and street improvements downtown.	Include surrounding neighborhood (ie Chinatown) in impact analysis Have a commission/committee that holistically looks at the specific plans with community oversight/dialogue

EA Goal 6: Implement plan policies and actions using a system that ensures accountability and coordinates with the implementation of other specific plans.	Will coordination really happen with 3 prior adjacent SAPs	Not all specific plans have been reviewed for racial/equity impacts and disparities	Develop a standard for all future specific plans relating to racial/equity assessment, and measurement of impacts (shared space with "Barriers")
		"Accountability" - limit BIDs. I don't want private business groups or landlords making unilateral decisions on landscaping or maintenance	Report on how successful specific plan are at mitigating harmful racial/inequitable impacts, and promoting equitable impacts
		Having a more systematic way to implement plan -> takes money and resources that Oakland may not have	Revisit all specific plans to do a racial/equity assessment (5yr report, 10yr report, etc. on equity indicators)
		Identify racial equity goals -> but how are those reported?	Retrofit + connecting how measures are successful -> implement into other plans
		Is there any accountability? Capability for organization.	

Uncategorizable