

## **Imagine Olympia**

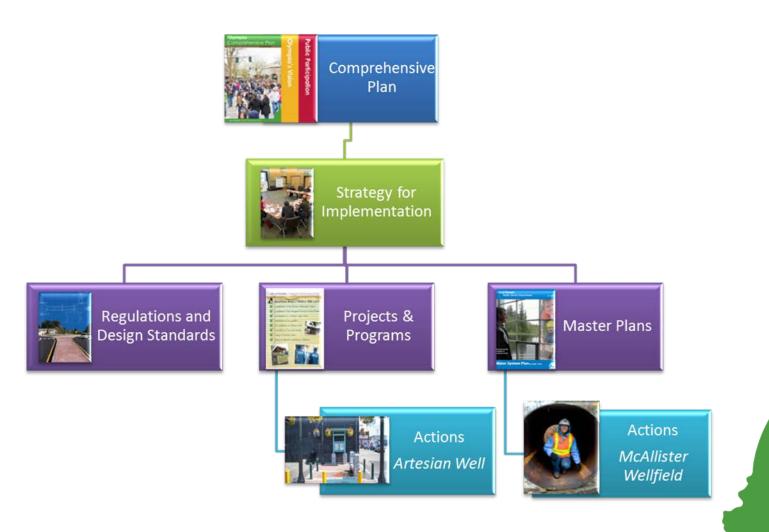
# Comprehensive Plan Update Eastside Neighborhood Meeting May 14, 2014

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## Role of the Comprehensive Plan

- 20-Year Vision for Community's Future
- Guides City Programs, Regulations and Actions
- Required by Growth Management Act
  - Update Every 8 Years
  - Carries Out County-Wide Planning Policies
  - Internally Consistent
  - Development Regulations must be consistent

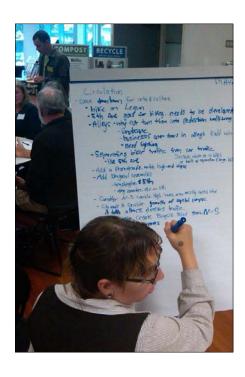
## Relationship to City Programs and Regulations



## **Update Process**

#### Where we've been...

- Phase I: Visioning and Scoping (2009-2010)
- Phase II: Community Focus Meetings (2010-2012)
  - Staff releases July 2012 Draft
- Phase III: Planning Commission Review (2012-2013)
  - Original Planning Commission Recommendation (March 2013)
  - Final Planning Commission
     Recommendation (December 2013)



## Phase IV: Council Review

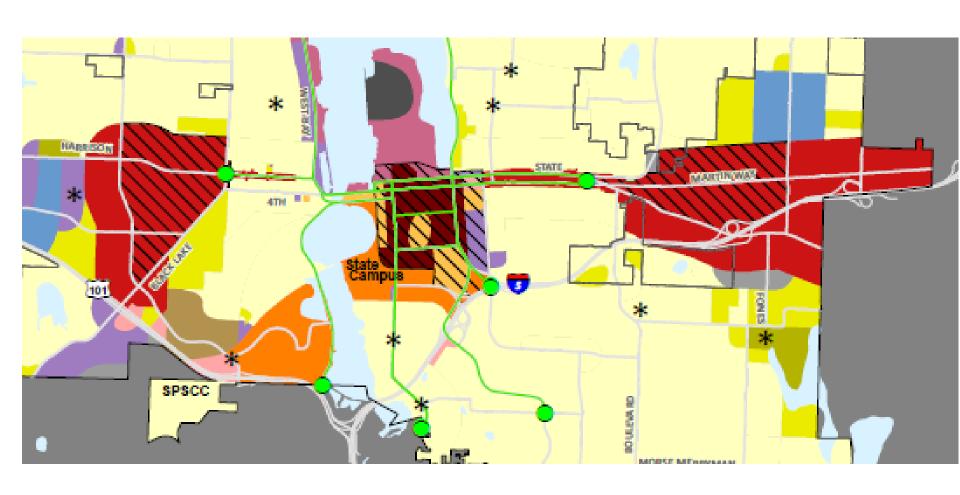
- October/November 2013 Information forums
- January May 2014 Council work sessions
- TENTATIVE: July 22 Council Public Hearing
- July August 2014 Plan adoption



## Key Challenges

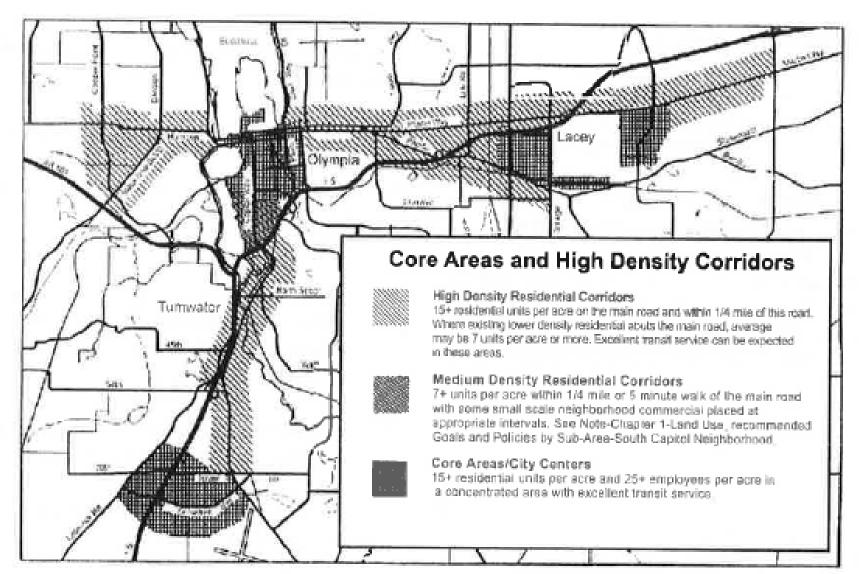
- Become a more sustainable city
- Accommodate growth
- Integrate with Shoreline Master Program
- Revitalize downtown
- Conserve and protect our limited natural resources
- Address climate change & sea level rise
- Fund the long-term vision
- Strengthen public process

## Focus Growth in "Nodes" with Narrow Connecting Corridors



## **Current Policy**

High Density Corridors - Urban Corridors



#### **Regional Transportation Planning Principles**

- Transportation is multi-modal
  - Cars and trucks, buses and bikes, and feet
- Land use and transportation are interdependent
  - It's only walkable if destinations are within walking distance
- We can't build our way out of congestion
  - Restrict street widening focus on access and efficiency
- Transit is the backbone of the urban transportation system
  - Transit connects the places people want to be
- People want viable travel choices
  - Corridors and centers offer more choices than other places

### Policies of Interest

- Urban Corridors
- Low-, Medium- & High-Density Neighborhoods
- Neighborhood Centers
- Subarea Plans, including Downtown
- Encourage urban agriculture
- More urban greenspace in neighborhoods
- Scenic View Protection

## Policies of Interest

- Sustainable, Low Impact Development (LID)
- Preservation of existing topography on new development sites
- Climate change and greenhouse gases
- Sea level rise
- Street Connectivity
- Expand design review to all commercial and mixed-use development
- Underground and co-locating utilities

#### What is an Action Plan?

- The Action Plan is a road map for how to carry out the Comprehensive Plan goals and policies and report our progress
  - Get to Work on the Comprehensive Plan

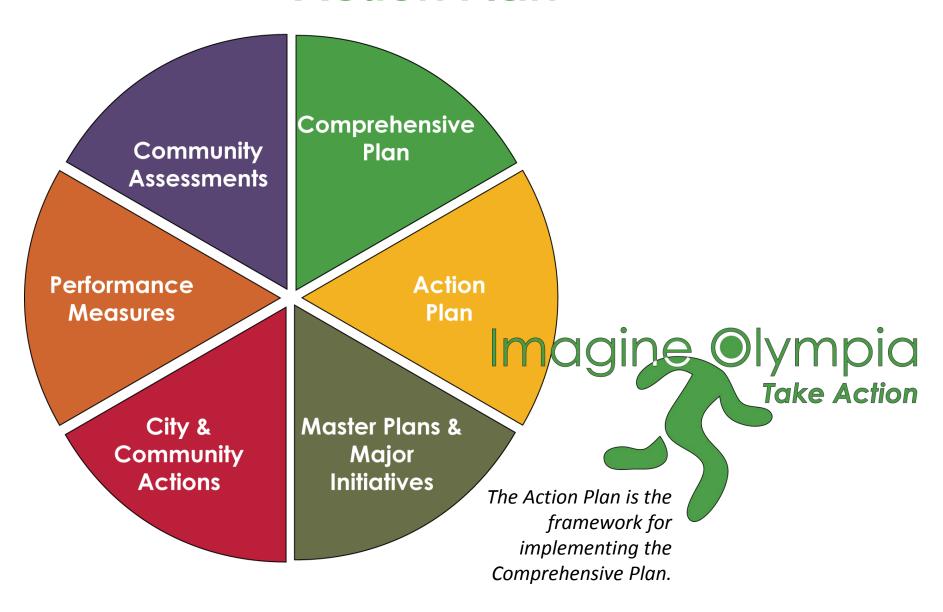
#### Examples:

- Sub-Area Planning
- Update Development Regulations
- Projects "on the ground"





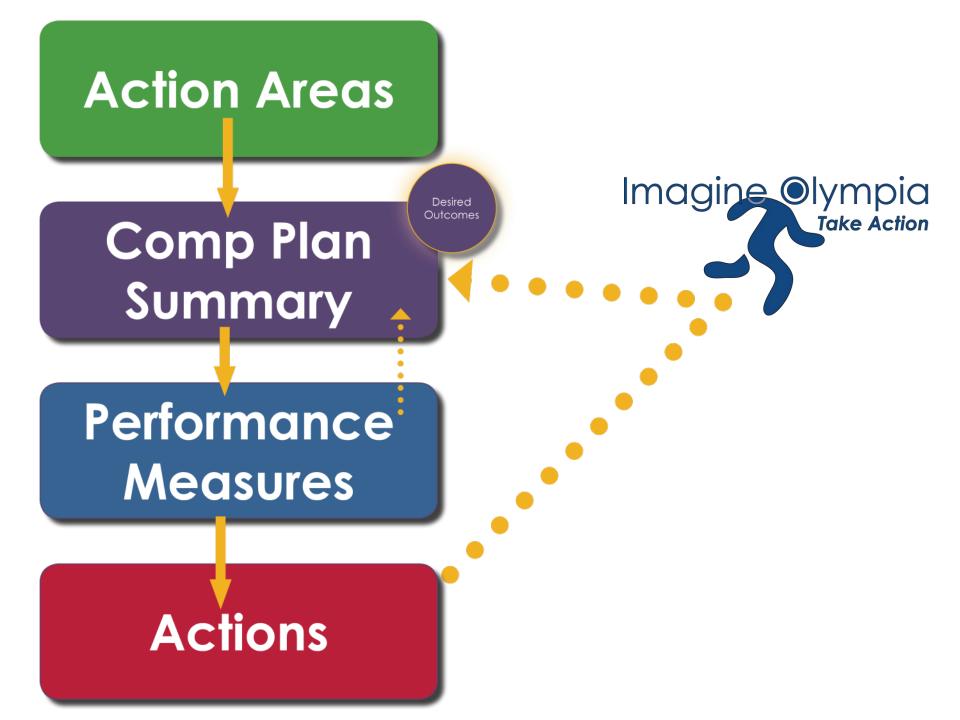
#### **Action Plan**



## Why Have an Action Plan?

- Comprehensive Plan is a 'living' Document
- Sends a Message
- Attracts Partners & Involvement
- Measures and Reports on Success or Highlights Areas for Change
- Encourages Commitment
- Aligns City Planning Efforts | Work Programs
  - Continuity, Efficient Use of Resources (staff, money, volunteers, energy, etc.)





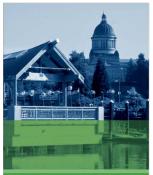
#### Five Action Areas

Imagine Olympia | Take Action



A) Summaries of the language and concepts in the Comprehensive Plan that characterize the Action Area; and B) Summaries of goals and policies for each Action Area, which may also serve as desired outcomes.

The summaries below 'set the stage' for determining action items and performance measures.

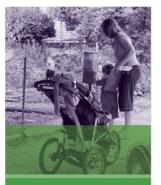


Olympia









#### Community

Our community is vibrant, healthy and welcoming. Everyone can rely on predictable and reliable police, fire and other City provided services. Community members have their basic needs met, and so can pursue a fulfilling and high quality life with opportunities to learn, play, and be involved in City programs and decision-making.

- \*Community members engage in respectful and productive discussions on city issues; they feel that their opinions and ideas are heard, valued, and have impact on the City's decision-making processes.
- \*Olympia's health, safety and public welfare are protected by predictable and reliable police, fire, and other vital services.
- \*Residents have access to what they need to meet their basic needs, including a quality education, healthy food, a safe place to live, and clean water.
- \*Olympia's neighborhoods and community programs offer opportunities for community members to choose healthy ways in which to live

#### **Downtown**

Downtown is safe and clean, and a desirable place to work, live, and visit. Public and private investments support a thriving mix of businesses and a variety of welcoming, attractive public spaces.

- \*More people live, work, and shop downtown.
- \*Downtown is a regional destination.
- \*Downtown is safe and welcoming for all.
- ★Downtown's unique character, historic buildings, and waterfront are protected and enhanced.

#### **Economy**

Olympia has a stable economy that provides meaningful work resulting in a strong revenue base. The community fosters an economic environment that encourages and promotes entrepreneurship, and that strongly supports local businesses and businesses that are invested in the Olympia community.

- Olympia strives for a balance of diverse businesses, investments that support family-wage jobs, and opportunities for entreoreneurship.
- Olympia has a stable economy with a strong revenue base that funds city services, healthy schools, social services, and other community goals.
- The Olympia community produces and invests in the production of local food, goods, arts, and entertainment.
- Olympia is a place that people choose to visit, and spend time and money.

#### **Environment**

The natural environment is integral to our daily lives. Everyone can experience and benefit from tree-lined streets, natural trails, healthy wetlands, and parks and open spaces. As our community continues to grow and develop, we strive to reduce our impact on the natural environment by planning for growth, protecting sensitive areas, making sustainable choices, and participating in long-term stewardship.

- Everyone has the opportunity to experience the natural environment, and to participate and invest in its long-term stewardship.
- As a community and as individuals, we make choices that lessen our impacts to the natural environment and reduce our carbon footprint.
- \*We protect and restore natural areas to protect wildlife habitat, maintain or restore natural hydrologic processes, and preserve
- \*Olympia plans for and accepts population growth and denser development, preserving larger expanses of natural areas, such as forest wetlands, and prairie in the rural area.

#### **Neighborhoods**

Neighborhoods have their own unique sense of character and community. Neighbors have opportunities to meet and spend time with one another, and are invested in how their neighborhood grows and develops. Community members can walk or ride bikes to nearby places to shop, visit, and play.

- ★The City plans collaboratively with neighborhoods, involving a broad spectrum of community members through a variety of outreach and public engagement methods.
- \*Neighborhoods are recognizable places with unique identities; people feel safe and have a sense of pride in their neighborhood.
- \*Neighborhoods have retail and community services within ten minutes, nearby places to spend time and gather together, and many different options for how to get around.
- ★Development is focused in areas that enhance the community, have the space and infrastructure needed to support it, and that contribute to Olympia's goals for growth and



## **Public Participation**

#### **Public Participation Plan:**

- Schedule August, September, and October
- Tools/Techniques wide variety of old and new methods to reach a wide audience
- Key Objectives make sure the Draft Action Plan reflects community feedback and priorities
- Target Audiences community, staff, partners, investors, and City Council
- Key Messages a strategic, 6-year plan that is a community road map for making the Comprehensive Plan a reality

Imagine Olympia
Take Action

#### 2014 Action Plan Timeline

Performance Measures (April & May)

DRAFT Actions (June & July)

Community Engagement (August, September & October)

Refine & Adopt the Action Plan (November)

Annual Performance Measurement (Ongoing)