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Date: July 24, 2018

RE: Sherwood Vision 2040 – Revised Summary of Outreach

The following information is a summary of the first round of outreach for the Sherwood Comprehensive Plan Vision, conducted between May and July 2018. This includes an online survey that gathered 61 responses between May 23rd and July 16th, as well as 13 community conversations and events conducted with the following organizations:

- Boy Scout Troop 838
- Community Services Fair Booth
- Sherwood High School Leadership Class
- Sherwood Rotary
- Parks Board
- Senior Center Luncheon
- Cruise-In Booth
- Sherwood Main Street
- Library Board
- Employee Meet-Up
- Police Advisory Board
- Cannery Row Apartments
- Music on the Green Booth
- Robin Hood Festival Booth

The summary of outreach is organized into eight topic areas that align with elements of Sherwood's comprehensive plan: housing, economic development, nature parks and trails, community engagement, infrastructure, transportation, governance and growth management, and community health and safety.

Housing

What is Going Well

Many Sherwood community members feel that the city offers a selection of desirable homes and homes very well suited for families. The housing stock is both desirable and affordable for people moving in from out of state, and many survey respondents indicated that they moved to Sherwood because of its affordable housing options, among other factors.

Concerns

Sherwood residents have several concerns regarding the type, availability, and affordability of housing in Sherwood. Many residents express concern about recent development trends including housing on smaller lots, condo and townhome development, infill development, and high-density housing changing the character of Sherwood. Some feel that housing variety is limited, with residents deciding between either expensive 3,000 square foot homes or 3 story apartments with no elevators. The "missing middle" has been



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used to describe limited options, and others feel that there are limited housing opportunities for working class, low-income, diverse background, and older residents who may need assisted or independent living environments.

Future Vision

There were a variety of housing types that interviewees and survey respondents desired to see. Affordable, smaller-scale housing for young families, single parents, multi-generational households, growing children, and seniors were cited as important especially for allowing Sherwood residents to stay in the area as it grows. Additionally, residents expressed a desire to provide a variety of high-quality affordable housing and facilities such as schools to accommodate the growing number of residents. Many residents also suggested that new housing should incorporate significant parks and green space.

Economic Development

What is Going Well

According to interviewees and survey respondents, Sherwood does an excellent job at balancing large commercial development with opportunities for small businesses to flourish. Many community members cited the Old Town redevelopment as a major success, and others applaud the variety of small businesses and restaurants they can visit. Some residents appreciate being able to visit big box stores and chain stores (e.g. Dutch Bros, Target, Wal-Mart) without needing to drive to another city.

Concerns

Many residents are concerned about the scale of growth that is occurring in Sherwood, and some feel that that growth is accompanied by a loss of history and character of the city. There is concern about becoming a "strip mall city" with little to no defining character that makes Sherwood what it is today.

Future Vision

Community members cited the need for additional support resources for smaller businesses to get started in Sherwood, and more mixed-use downtown zoning where these businesses thrive. Others expressed a desire to have increased access to local food options, like a year-round farmer's market or grocery stores such as New Seasons, Trader Joe's, Whole Foods, or WinCo. There were several residents who expressed a desire to see specific chains including an In-N-Out Burger restaurant, Jamba Juice, Fry's Electronics, QDOBA, Chick-fil-A,

Residents had a variety of opinions about the direction of commercial development opportunities. This included increasing tourism growth through the wine industry, restaurants, and boutique hotels, more clean industry opportunities, and partnerships with large companies to create high paying jobs. Some residents also expressed they would like reduced OLCC licensing costs and parameters and minimal billboard advertisements.

Residents had a variety of creative business venture ideas, such as a new aquatic center, roller skating rink, food carts/pods, and a wine train on existing railroad tracks in the surrounding countryside. Many cited the presently unoccupied Albertsons lot as a potential area for redevelopment.



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Nature, Parks, and Trails*What is Going Well*

According to community members, Sherwood offers easily accessible and well-maintained parks and open space with an abundance of trees and urban canopy. The city also offers an extensive trail network and a variety of recreational programs and facilities for users to enjoy. Residents appreciate the city's proximity to both the coast and the countryside, and some residents feel that the city is less "loud" than traditional urban areas such as Portland.

Concerns

Some residents are concerned that as housing densifies, it will be associated with a loss of greenspace.

Future Vision

Residents expressed a desire to have more quality natural resources including trails and bike paths, maps and markers for trails, forested and natural areas, open space, and community spaces and public plazas. Residents specifically expressed a desire for a connection to the Tualatin River and Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge. Additionally, community members had a series of ideas for possible public spaces and improvements including a recreation and sports complex, a sand volleyball court, new basketball courts, a skate park, an indoor tennis court, and a water park, play area, or public pool. Residents were interested in securing a funding strategy for parks and recreation, potentially establishing a special district.

Community Engagement*What is Going Well*

Among interviewees and survey respondents, there was an overwhelming fondness for the character of Sherwood and its community. A large number of respondents cited Sherwood as having a "small town" or rural feel that they enjoy, with many indicating that the area had strong community networks in which people know their neighbors and are friendly and cooperative with each other. There is a strong volunteer network, with a variety of organizations like the YMCA.

Respondents describe event programming as both enjoyable and family/child-friendly, and the revitalization of Old Town has provided good gathering places such as Cannery Square and the Sherwood Center for the Arts. Residents cite a number of events they enjoy attending including the Robin Hood Festival, Music on the Green, and Movies in the Park.

Concerns

Some residents are concerned about the future of community engagement in Sherwood, citing issues such as increased reliance on technology, a lack of community gathering spaces or "hang out spots", and a lack of youth engagement programs. In schools, parents and students are concerned about the prevalence of bullying.

Future Vision

Residents wish to encourage greater community engagement from people of diverse backgrounds and incomes. Many would like to see increased social service coordination, especially those targeted for children and teenagers. Others would like to see more public art and community activities at alternative times such as a night market, as well as increased capacity of existing public meeting spaces. Additionally, various



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residents cited the need to keep certain elements that makes Sherwood unique including its family-friendly atmosphere, friendly neighbors, small-town feel, and general positive attitude of residents.

Transportation

What is Going Well

Sherwood residents enjoy the location because while it retains its small-town feel, it is also easily accessible to urban and employment centers. People feel that elements such as parks, stores, and community centers are easy to access via walking, and Sherwood's extensive sidewalk network makes walking both safe and enjoyable, especially around the downtown area. Residents also note that streets are clean, and parking is easily accessible downtown. Additionally, while some residents were initially skeptical about traffic circles, they now like the benefits they provide in terms of safety and traffic flow.

Concerns

Many people are concerned about existing traffic congestion on roads such as Hwy 99, Roy Rogers Rd, Tualatin-Sherwood Rd, and Main Street, and many feel that this congestion will be exacerbated as the population increases. Some cite speeding and unsafe conditions on roadways. Others note that transit is insufficient to be a reasonable alternative to driving. Sidewalks are facing damage as improper street trees grow and lift the sidewalks over time. Additionally, residents are concerned about potentially disruptive vehicles including trucks, buses in the downtown core, skateboards/bikes on sidewalks, and the prospect of a light rail line.

Future Vision

Residents expressed a variety of improvements they would like to see to Sherwood's existing transportation network. Residents would like to see improvements to streets such as SW Lincoln St and Tualatin-Sherwood Rd to better accommodate travel of bikes, pedestrians, and cars, and some indicated that improved signage on highways and roundabouts would improve traffic flow and safety. Residents had a variety of ideas to route traffic from I-5, typically through a new bypass. Many residents indicated that a pedestrian bridge over 99W would help overcome a significant barrier towards walking.

In general, residents expressed a desire for improved sidewalks, pedestrian-friendly traffic lights, better bicycle infrastructure, center lines with reflectors, improved longevity of streets, wider streets, better connected streets, and better parking downtown and for apartments. However, other residents expressed a desire to limit the expansion of freeways and lanes to accommodate traffic. Some expressed desire for increased transit options and possibly a light rail extension, and others expressed increased public and private transportation options for seniors.



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Infrastructure*What is Going Well*

According to residents, the City of Sherwood has done well in developing plans to maintain infrastructure, and the regional connection with Washington County and Metro are cited as advantageous in this regard. Additionally, residents indicated that the new civic buildings are good additions to the community.

Concerns

Some feel that existing infrastructure is inadequate to accommodate projected growth. For example, schools are becoming increasingly crowded, and there are not enough buildings to meet current or projected demand.

Future Vision

Some community members expressed a desire to see infrastructure in place before growth and more funding for infrastructure in general. One resident expressed a desire to see increased school competitiveness and access to resources. Another resident suggested having a backup plan in the event of water contamination.

Governance and Growth Management*What is Going Well*

Community members overwhelmingly applauded the performance of Sherwood's local school system, with many residents citing it as one of the primary factors in choosing to live in Sherwood. Additionally, residents commended the work of City leadership and staff for acting in the public interest and listening to the desires of residents. People enjoy the services and events provided by the City such as library services, and citizens are aware and involved in governance.

Concerns

Many respondents expressed concern about the scale and speed of growth for the city, with many wanting less or slower development and annexation as the city grows.

Future Vision

Some residents wish to see library services expanded north of Hwy 99. Additionally, residents wish to see strategic planning for smart growth and an expanded tax base to pay for improvements as well as good communication through the development process such as "coming soon" signage on site. Some residents have also indicated the need for a new natural resource position at the city.

Community Health and Safety*What is Going Well*

Many community members expressed feeling safe in Sherwood, with some citing that it is ranked as one of the safest cities in Oregon. Respondents provided different anecdotes about feeling safe, from being able to walk alone at night to leaving their bike unlocked when they visit the YMCA. Additionally, some residents expressed gratitude for the friendly attitude and involvement of local police with the community.

Concerns

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Residents feel that as the population grows, it's becoming increasingly apparent that there is a lack of resources for people struggling with mental health or homelessness. Additionally, some residents feel that public safety concerns and notices are poorly communicated by the city.

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