

Tabling Events Summary

OVERVIEW

Between December 2023 and August 2024, five community-wide tabling events were held at various locations throughout the city to collect residents' input and feedback. At each event, City and project staff were present to discuss the project, answer questions, and listen to feedback on the proposed concept plans and future priorities. These events were part of the comprehensive plan, but the following summarizes key themes specific to the subarea plans. Community engagement was positive, with conversations involving approximately 250 people.

Conversations were generally positive to neutral about the concept plans for the subareas, but community members appreciated being informed through the tabling events. The events highlighted the community's appreciation for being informed and involved in the planning process, underscoring the importance of continued engagement and communication.



December 2023 Tabling Event

KEY THEMES

Traffic and Infrastructure Concerns

Concerns about increased traffic from new housing developments in Timmens Landing, especially on Timmen Road, were frequently mentioned. Residents suggested that a roundabout at the Timmens Landing intersection should be planned to accommodate industrial and new residential traffic, addressing potential congestion issues.

Support for Pedestrian-Friendly Plans

Overall, there was appreciation for the pedestrian-scale focus of the concept plans. Many community members valued the emphasis on creating walkable, pedestrian-friendly environments, especially in the Downtown Subarea.

Economic Development

Economic development was a significant theme, with strong support for attracting jobs, particularly through new small businesses and retail. Several residents expressed a desire for a grocery store to be included in future plans. Additionally, some residents had inquiries about the future of cardrooms downtown.

Development Preferences

Development preferences varied, with greater support for denser development in Downtown compared to Timmens Landing. Many community members were excited about improvements to the trail network and river access, though there were concerns about traffic impacts from increased businesses and residents in Downtown, particularly around the La Center Road bridge.

Mixed Opinions on Development

Some long-term residents opposed more development, preferring to maintain the small-town feel, while others understood the need for more housing but were reluctant about growth. There was also interest in more retail options downtown.

Specific Preferences and Feedback

Specific preferences and feedback included favorability towards waterfront recreational opportunities and improved trail connectivity. There was a desire for business growth but less support for higher density residential development. Specific business preferences mentioned included a grocery store, brewery, and art studio with office space. Residents were happy to see the Barnhart barn preserved and supported the proposed roundabout at La Center Road/Timmen Road. There was general neutrality towards housing densities in Timmens Landing.