Proctor District Neighborhood Planning

Steering Group Meeting #11

October 12, 2023



AGENDA

- Welcome
- Program Updates
- Plan Actions
- Group Break-out & Discussion
- Booster Project
- Next Steps



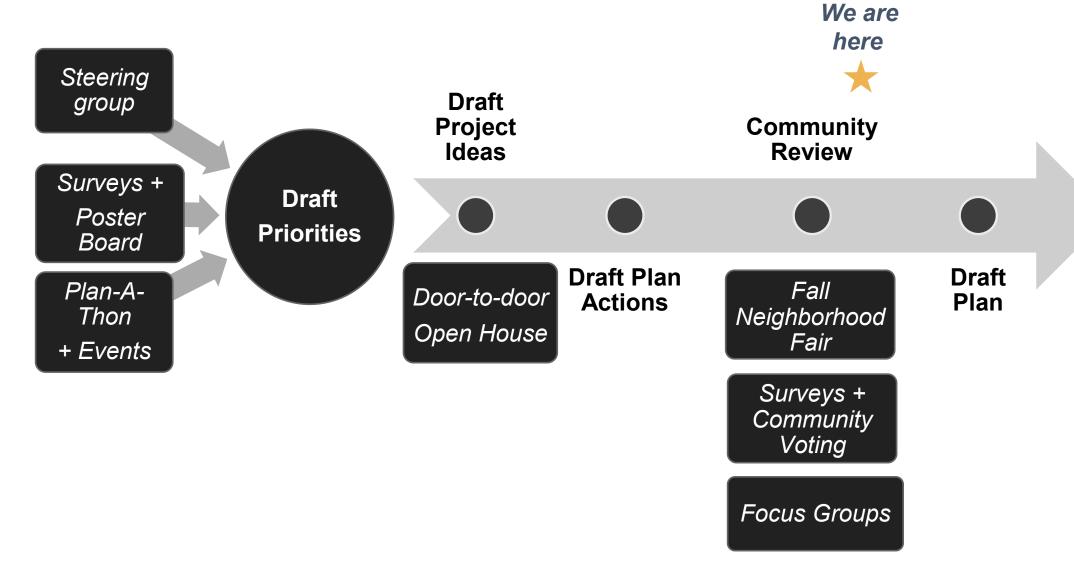
GOALS

Meeting Goals:

- Finalize draft actions and booster project list
- Prepare for next phase of engagement
- THANK YOU!



PROCTOR SUMMARY



Draft Plan Actions: Engagement Recap

- Mailer (late July)
- Social Pinpoint (open July 28-Sept 24)
 - 279 responses: Online survey of draft actions
 - 700 responses: Community booster project voting
- Focus Groups
 - Business district
 - Tenant groups
- Attended 4 in-person
 - Proctor Arts Fest, August 5th
 - Farmers Market, August 12th & 19th
 - Cushman Street Fair, September
 23rd

Depave Update



- Phase 1 Green Tacoma Day 10/14
 - 9am-12pm Planting 14 street trees and pollinator shrubs
 - **2pm** Tree Walk
- Phase 2 Business District Planting
- Still recruiting business owners along N
 26th St

Survey Results Overview

Survey Overview:

- Responses:
 - 279 responses
 - 85% of respondents are homeowners
- Themes/Top responses
 - Pedestrian crossings and traffic calming
 - Design review
 - Space for outdoor seating
 - Trees
 - Support for residential and commercial affordability



Survey Results Overview

- Areas of divergence (strong feelings in both directions):
 - Pedestrianizing Proctor
 - Temporary closures / Permanent closure of street in Proctor
 - Growth
 - Accommodating more residents / not wanting increased height
 - Concern about character change
 - Parking
 - Not enough parking / too much parking
 - Bike facilities

Plan Overview & Updates

Plan Overview

Introduction
Neighborhood Plan Approach
How to Use this Plan
Proctor Major Characteristics
Policy Framework
Community Engagement Summary

- What's Not in the Plan
 - Divergent Viewpoints
 - Cushman & Adams Substations

Major Ideas Summary

Proctor

Neighborhood Plan

City of Tacoma







Neighborh Planning Program



Plan Overview (cont.)

Recommendations

- Pedestrian Safety and Comfort
- Human-Scale Design
- Community Space
- Sustainability and Climate Adaptation
- Commercial and Residential Affordability

Implementation Strategy

- Phasing
- Actions Table

Plan Overview (cont.)

Appendices

- A. Zoning and Land Use
- B. Historic Resources
- C. Community Event Summaries
- D. Survey and Interactive Map Results
- E. Cushman and Adams Substations Memo
- F. Mobility and Festival Street Evaluation

Priority Areas

Priority Areas, developed based on community and Steering Group feedback:

- Human-Scale Design
- Commercial and Residential Affordability
- Pedestrian Safety and Comfort
- Outdoor Community Space
- Neighborhood Sustainability and Climate Adaptation





Survey Results – Pedestrian Safety and Comfort

1. Develop school arrival and dismissal plans to promote walking and biking and reduce congestion around schools	
2. Implement intersection improvements at N 26th and N Proctor to improve pedestrian safety (via short-and long-term infrastructure upgrades)	Important
3. Work with the Proctor District Association to develop a parking management strategy, including increasing enforcement, expansion of time-limited parking, implementing flexible parking options, and possible future paid parking	
4. Calm traffic for all modes by improving bike infrastructure in key locations (such as along N 26th and N Proctor in the business district)	Important
5. Identify locations for painted street murals in intersections around schools	
6. Enhance pedestrian crossings in key locations (via crosswalks, bulb-outs, flashing beacons, etc.), as determined based on crash data and community use, such as schools, library, between grocery stores, and Farmers' Market	TOP PRIORITY
7. Make improvements to the Mason walking path and street crossings	
8. Add traffic calming such as speed humps, diverters, and signage on key residential streets , such as bike boulevards and streets adjacent to schools (e.g., N 27th St; N 24th St)	Important
9. Work with a local organization to regularly close streets within the business district for events and general community gathering (e.g., every Friday evening and/or Saturday)	

Survey Results – Pedestrian Safety and Comfort

Highest-ranked "Most important"

- Enhance pedestrian crossings in key locations based on crash data and community use
- Implement intersection improvements at N 26th St and N Proctor St

Key quotes:

"Lives and safety are more important than travel times. Prioritize safety over car traffic flow."

"A market study should be conducted to see how much of the retail and other business in the district is due to people driving cars to Proctor. We should not have the businesses suffer by making it harder for their customers to get to them."

"Anything you can do to improve bike lanes and pedestrian safety and slow traffic will improve the safety and usability of the space."

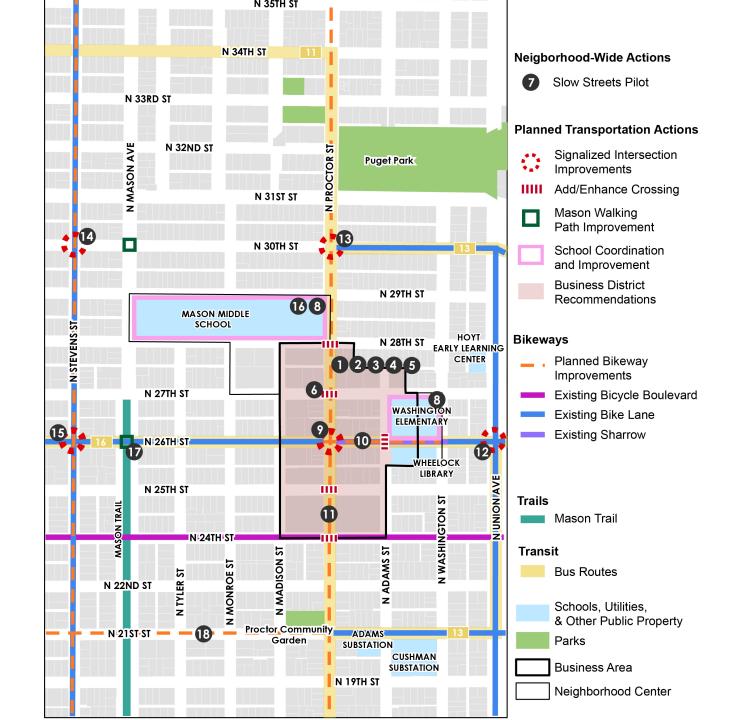
Transportation Actions

Evaluation criteria:

- High impact (improves safety, aligns with values)
- Low cost

Quick wins:

- School arrival/dismissal plans
- Parking management strategy
- Red curb painting
- Street murals on residential intersections
- Open streets pilot



Survey Results – Human-Scale Design

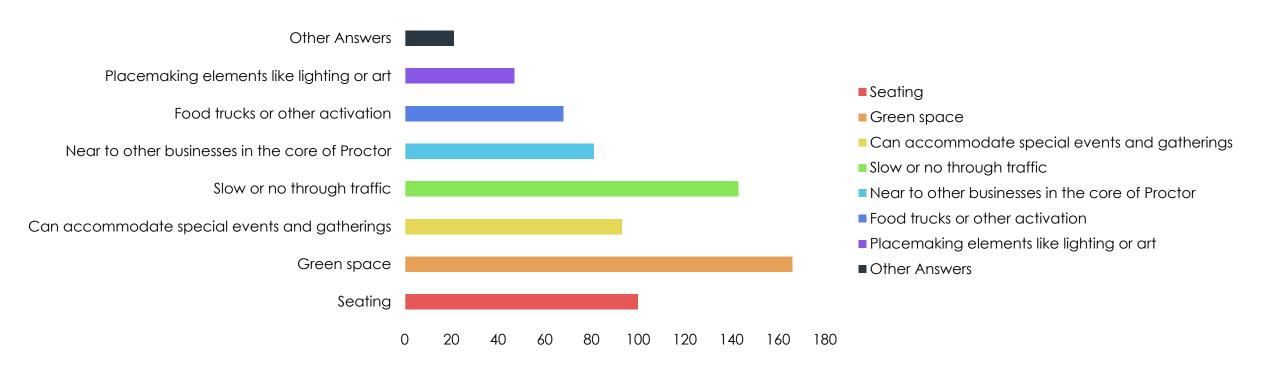
1. Develop a nomination to the Tacoma Register of Historic Places to add a handful of historically significant buildings within the business district to preserve the historic character and prevent demolition/significant changes of these buildings	Important
2. Support City efforts to encourage adaptive reuse of historic buildings , including for housing and other community-serving uses, through incentives or by identifying opportunity sites	Important
3. Support City efforts to create design standards to ensure large-scale new development complements existing buildings and supports pedestrian orientation in Neighborhood Centers like Proctor, in coordination with the City of Tacoma's new Design Review program	TOP PRIORITY
4. Develop interpretive signage, especially historical, that reflects the history and presence of the Puyallup Tribe and cultural histories of other historically underrepresented groups and their connections to Proctor	
5. Create new wall murals	

Survey Results – Community Space

woo	ssess location and design changes for a festival street, pedestrian plaza, or onerf (a multi-modal shared street) within the business district to slow traffic and vide gathering space on a block in Proctor	Important
con	entify locations for gathering and/or shared public outdoor seating, e.g. nmunity plaza at Wheelock; promoting street cafés; designated outdoor eating a; pocket parks for green space	TOP PRIORITY
	ursue accessibility trail upgrades, restrooms, interpretive signage, more covered as, and/or playground updates at Puget Park	Important
4. St	upport program to provide doggie bag stations with trash cans	
prop	udy the creation of a Business Improvement Area (e.g. a self-funding district for perty owners) to provide capacity support for the business district association to tinue landscaping, parking, event planning, and other district needs	
6. In	crease covered areas at bus stops for rain and sun protection	
	ursue opportunities to create community space for indoor activities, events, and enities, including childcare and youth/teen programs	Important

Survey Results - Community Space

Actions 1 and 2 promote community gathering through a festival street (Action 1) and seating or other outdoor space (Action 2). What are your top 3 priorities for community gathering space?



Survey Results - Community Space

Festival/open street:

- "Would like to see more of a slow community ambiance where families can stroll about and enjoy outdoor covered food and shopping. Consider closing a block ...on weekends (Sept-April) and then 24/7 seasonally May - early Sept."
- "We already close 27th once weekly for the market. I support occasional street closures for events, but not more than once weekly to be rotated amongst various streets so all businesses are impacted and supported equally."

Other community space comments:

- o "As there are already 2 schools in the neighborhood, what's lacking is community space for adults and the elderly and/or that brings young and old together. Cushman and Adams substation properties have so much potential!"
- "Would love for Proctor to have more green walk/trail/bike paths connecting Proctor gardens to proctor business area down to Puget Park"
- "We need to be careful not to damage the business district through a misguided effort to turn it into a park!"

Community Space Actions

Evaluation criteria:

- Impact to transit
- Proximity to businesses
- Space for seating/gathering

Quick wins:

- Open streets pilot
- Business Improvement district

Questions:

- Drop any test locations?
- Test locations and/or designs?

Community Space & Activation



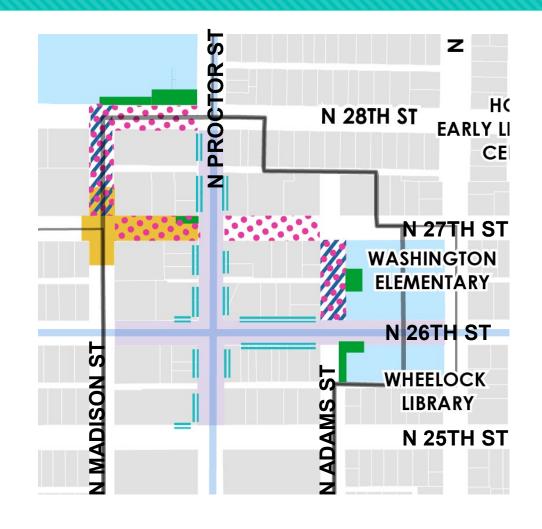
Open Street Pilot



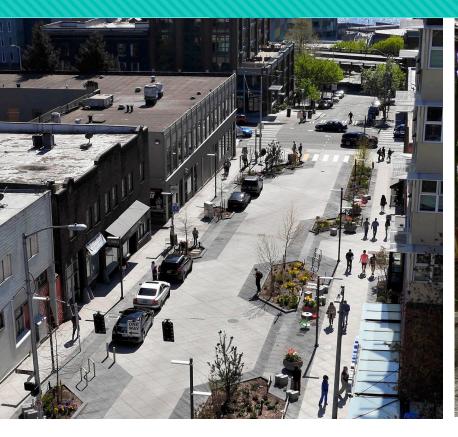


Open Street Pilot

- Test locations for regular, temporary closures with activation (e.g., Friday evenings, with stage, food trucks, and seating). Location selected include these features:
 - Close to active streets
 - No impact on transit
 - Space for seating
 - Makes use of schools' public space



Woonerf



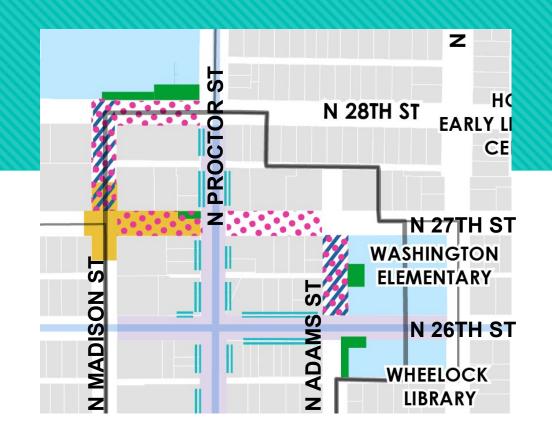


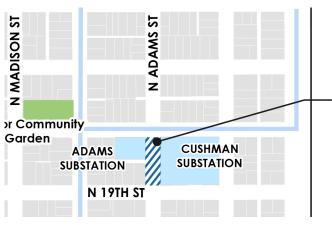


Woonerf

- **Woonerf opportunities.** Locations selected include these features:
 - Low traffic volumes
 - Slow traffic
 - Safe routes to school
 - Farmers Market or Arts Fest extension
 - Potential for integration with Methodist Church and Cushman/Adam Substation redevelopment

Woonerf designs could be tested with temporary materials. Should this be a part of the booster pilot project?





Note: Opportunity only - site not evaluated for possible woonerf, as the Cushman and Adams substation sites are being addressed through a separate process

Public Space

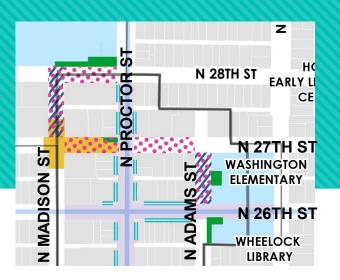
Public seating area



Mason Middle School



Washington Elementary School

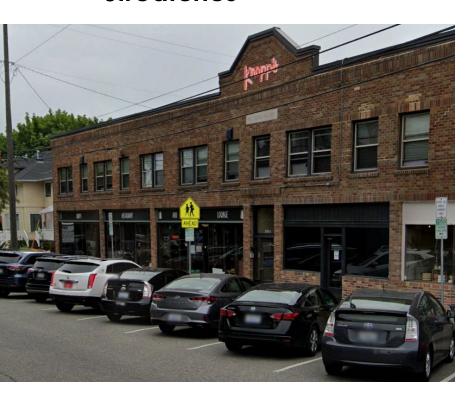




Tacoma Public Library – Wheelock Branch

Streateries

Streateries









Knapp's Restaurant

Survey Results – Sustainability and Climate Adaptation

1. Remove paving in select areas of the business district and replace diseased trees. Integrate green elements into future changes in the business district (e.g., rain gardens, permeable paving, planter boxes)	TOP PRIORITY
2. Support residential tree planting and care through outreach partnerships for Grit City Tree program and community education	TOP PRIORITY
3. Provide public recycling bins and solar trash compactor cans; identify locations for future glass drop-off	Important
4. Support installation of new electric vehicle charging stations in the business district; select locations and limit charging/parking time to ensure parking access supports businesses	
5. Work with businesses to install bike parking in the business district	
6. Advocate for improved transit service to Proctor as housing and employment increases	Important

Survey Results – Sustainability and Climate Adaptation

- "Plant and care for larger trees around the school, library and grocery store.

 Leave the little exiting trees along the small businesses. It seems wasteful to plan for and plant trees that are not taken care of."
- "Amend the code to require the planting on trees in yards with major remodels"
- "As a community how do we help all members of our community shift from car dependency?"
- "Don't lose the pedestrian character of Proctor in the name of green infrastructure. Sidewalks should be widened."

Survey Results – Commercial and Residential Affordability

1. Ensure new housing is attainable for diverse incomes and needs, including	
families and seniors (e.g., mandatory affordability in new buildings; identify	
opportunity sites for affordable housing)	
2. Preserve existing attainable housing, especially multifamily, to prevent	Important
displacement; seek opportunities to collaborate with a community land trust	for
long-term affordability	
3. Support for Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU, or a second unit on a single-fam	nily lot)
construction (e.g., pre-approved plans, permit support)	
4. Identify tools to support legacy, small, and/or BIPOC-owned businesses to	-
attract and retain affordable commercial space, including incubator and/or	r
micro-retail space, tenant improvement grants/loans, and business technical	
support	

Survey Results – Commercial and Residential Affordability

- "Support more housing in Proctor! This shouldn't be a neighborhood just for the affluent."
- "Increase the minimum percentages of mandatory affordable housing in new buildings."
- "Reduce allowed heights in the Proctor MUC especially where the MUC boundary abuts low-scale residential."
- "Develop a program that provides for affordable, deed restricted ADU development"
- "Part of Proctor's charm is its array of small, locally owned businesses, not large corporate chains. The city should work with these businesses to make sure they are not priced out of their locations."

Group Break-out and Discussion

Actions to discuss and implementation strategy

Small Group Discussion Questions

Identify your top 3 actions for discussion

- Confusing
- Doesn't reflect community values and feedback heard
- New/changing information impacts the proposals

Implementation strategy

- Which action(s) are most impactful/transformative?
- What relationship/phasing between actions should be highlighted in the implementation chapter?

Community Booster Project

BOOSTER PROJECT

- \$50,000 for implementation of community priorities
 - SG decided to put top priorities to community vote
- Community 'participatory budgeting' process:
 - Online and in-person voting
 - Each person gets 3 votes
- Participation:
 - More than 2,000 votes cast by 700 people!



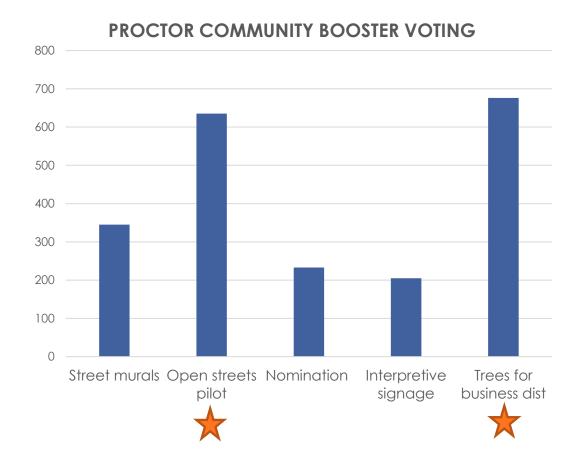
BOOSTER PROJECT

Winning projects:

- Tree replacement support for the business district
- Support for community events and/or periodic "open streets" closures

Implementation:

- Tree Planting: work with Proctor District
 Association to develop a plan and fund
 tree replacement
- Open Streets: identify local partner(s) to implement open streets project next summer at different locations in the district
- Ongoing support from Proctor Steering Group will be important – discussion for future meeting





Next Steps

NEXT STEPS

Next Steps

- October:
 - Finish integrating community feedback on Plan Actions
 - Finalize Plan Actions
- November January
 - Complete full draft of Plan
 - Share with SG
 - Bring Draft Plan to Planning Commission and Council Committees
- Winter 2024:
 - Finalize plan for Council adoption
 - Begin quick win implementation

Thank you!

We look forward to working together.

Lauren Hoogkamer, Principal Planner <u>Ihoogkamer@cityoftacoma.org</u>

Anneka Olson, Senior Planner aolson@cityoftacoma.org

Sign Up & Learn More
Cityoftacoma.org/NeighborhoodPlanning



