

On June 14th 2021, the City of Kirkland conducted a virtual Moss Bay Neighborhood Plan update Workshop for participants to identify their future vision, key issues, concerns, challenges, for the future of the neighborhood. Approximately 50 people attended. Comments from the workshop together with responses from an online survey will be used to develop a new vision statement and revise policies in the existing Moss Bay Neighborhood plan due to be completed by the end of 2021.

Planning and Building Department staff gave a presentation describing the planning context in Washington State, the components of the Kirkland Comprehensive Plan, that Neighborhood Plans must be consistent with the citywide Comprehensive Plan policies, and the process for updating the neighborhood plan. A large group visioning and “wordle” exercise was conducted.

Participants were divided into 5 breakout rooms where they were asked four questions and comments were recorded. After the breakout room sessions, participants returned as a large group and scribes reported out the key comments heard in the breakout rooms. At the conclusion of the meeting, the visioning wordle was shared, next steps described, encouraging all to participate in the survey and to stay involved in the process. The wordle below was created by responses to the following question in the large group visioning exercise.

On the following pages are the visioning wordle created by the attendees and a summary of the exercises, questions, and responses received at the workshop.

Breakout Room Exercises (Four questions) and summaries and answers:

- 1. Visioning Priorities Exercise** (purpose is to gain more detail by topic area to get a sense of priorities, values to update or create new vision statement and policies) For your neighborhood, in the next 20 years what are your top 3 priorities? (choose three letters).

7	a. Restoring natural areas such as shorelines, aquatic systems, habitat
11	b. Inviting new services and more diverse businesses
5	c. Allowing other businesses types in addition to retail on ground floors of buildings
10	d. Building new community amenities, such as public plazas, art, playgrounds
9	e. Creating new parks or refreshing existing ones
5	f. Pursue an Aquatic Center/Recreational Center
	g. Building bicycle connections
1	h. Creating and maintaining trails
10	i. More mobility options (pedestrians/bikes) to get around the city and to transit centers
6	j. Targeting new green, energy efficient developments or retrofitting of existing buildings
8	k. Increasing affordable housing and a variety of housing choices that promote equity and inclusion in the neighborhood
4	l. Equitable and inclusive community (provide definitions for group)...
7	m. Other priorities not listed?

- 2. Uniqueness Exercise-** Name 1 thing that describes what makes your neighborhood unique from other neighborhoods? **Summary –Central Biz District, Walkable, Livability and Walkability, Close to services and biz, Easy access to diverse services and small safe downtown, Lakefront Access and great parks (Marina, Heritage)**

- We’re fortunate that our business area is near the waterfront. We have two distinct business districts in downtown that have two great parks. Our forefathers did a beautiful job on the parks (Peter Kirk Park and Marina Park). Moss Bay has a great and storied history.
- Moss Bay includes downtown, and is the character and vibrancy of Kirkland. Great connectivity to other neighborhoods. It’s a center zone.
- Combination of water, density, restaurants, and walkability. The CKC trail is also a great feature of the neighborhood. The trail is great for cycling and running and provides great access to other neighborhoods (e.g. Totem Lake).

- Walk to waterfront and grocery stores. It's a beautiful neighborhood with a lot to see.
- Livability and Walkability
- Livability: shops, restaurants
- Livability, walkability and the lake
- On the shoreline, can dine, retail and live within the stones throw of the lake
- Walkable and accessible neighborhood. Very convenient
- Proximity to CKC
- Proximity to stores and services
- Diversity (both in open space options as well as shops/restaurants)
- Walkability to library and store
- Gentle, old Kirkland, old fashion (2nd and 3rd St S between 7th and 10th)
- Marina Park
- Lakefront access
- Proximity to lake, access and maintaining it
- Waterfront, access to lakes and boat
- Very friendly people
- Lake Washington and parks, Marina Park and Heritage Park
- Marina, accessibility to the water is great.
- Connection to water/walkable/pedestrian friendly
- Varieties of amenities
- Self-sufficient neighborhood, walkable to all services
- Small-town feeling, safe, attractive, diversity in services
- Excellent small downtown

3. Challenges Exercise- Name 2 challenges in your neighborhood that need to be addressed?

Summary - Green Buildings an Solar and Green Roof should be incentivized, More Mobility/Connectivity and Less Traffic/congestion, Connecting Biz to Government, Traffic, lack of Parking, Too much Density, poorly maintained sidewalks, lack of gathering space, Commercial and Residential noise, high commercial rent, lack of gyms for seniors

- We need to make sure we preserve our green canopy as development continues in the neighborhood. Our sidewalks are also smaller than they should be in the downtown. Bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure should also be improved in the downtown. Need to slow traffic down in the downtown. Thinks Park Lane should be traffic free. Need to evaluate how we get people from downtown up to 85th. Maybe a gondola? We could be a leader in innovative transportation options. We may want to put up more signage on Lake Street to warn parked vehicles about the bike lane

- Walkable connectivity needs to be improved. East of 6th into downtown, there are no sidewalks, or it's cut and paste. Up to 85th also needs connectivity improvements. Need to provide more incentives for green building. Also, need more affordable housing.
- Would be great if Kirkland would incentivize more green building. It's hard to convince fellow condo owners to invest in a green roof. Streets should be more balanced, including the big corridors.
- As a cyclist, doesn't feel safe on big corridors (e.g. Lake Street and 85th) and even some small streets. Create protected bike lanes on 85th
- Can we make all of downtown car-free in 20 years?
- Would like to incentivize green roofs and solar collectors or light-colored roofs. We have an entire town with dark roofs that require more energy to cool homes. Need to evaluate how to get folks from downtown to the BRT on 85th.
- Connecting business owners with leadership both through communication – that will translate out to the public as businesses open
- Downtown ambassadors to welcome people back, bring back the woo hoo
- Safety – property and personal
- Parking – wants to see more of a focus on cars as a transportation mode, maybe a shuttle system
- Business diversity – people come to Kirkland for the lake, not for the businesses or restaurant, maybe add specialty stores, more marketing
- Noise downtown – motorcycles, cars, it feels like Alki Beach
- Dogs off leash
- Bicycle safety (family-friendly routes in/out of downtown)
- Traffic through the neighborhood; getting in/out and parking in neighborhood
- High-density implications and infrastructure being able to handle
- Density implications on open space (small parks ability to handle increased usage)
- Through traffic on State and Lake
- Density and its concentrations
- Through traffic
- Utilities undergrounding
- Through traffic on Lake St
- Geographic limitations that prohibit re-design of infrastructure Improve flow by easing hindrances (parking, improving connections of dead-end bike lanes, limiting challenge of shared lane areas)
- Larger transpo network planning that improve access and flow on/off 405
- Parking and sidewalk condition (tree roots...),
- Sidewalks need to be maintained,
- More medium retail shops to be able to buy multiple things needed (like Bartells),
- Commercial noise concerns (too late in the evening: construction, cleaners...) should be more residential friendly,
- Should be more limits to building height, street-side trees and greenery
- Senior center needs a gym for seniors,
- Commercial rent is high so difficult to have a thriving diverse mom and pop shop type of business,
- We have beautiful parks and area that attracts businesses, but parking is an issue; Look to bring more people into downtown.
- Congestion and Traffic
- Lack of outdoor public space, outdoor seating, sidewalks, parks.

- More accessible by transit and bicycles
- Sidewalks maintenance, more and safe pathways, good circulation (park in one place and access other places downtown)
- Less cars downtown, (increase parking opportunities outside of downtown)
- Missed public gathering opportunities with Marina Park and Central & Central parking lots.

4. Opportunities Exercise- Name 2 opportunities in your neighborhood for creative changes you would like to see for the future?- **Summary - Connecting downtown via NE 85th Street, Gondola and bike and other connections to BRT station, Mobility (Buses, micro mobility, EV Charging), More Gyms, Focusing growth and increasing capacity to move people, Lots of Transportation and mobility opportunities that can lead to a carless neighborhood, Greater utilization of existing parking, and underground parking in new facilities such as marina parking lot redevelopment and Lee Johnson field/Regional aquatic center, along with specialized senior citizen’s gym, diversity in race, age and income, affordable housing, peak shuttle services to BRT and downtown and to underutilized parking, reduce evening noise in downtown**

- Lee Johnson Field (Peter Kirk Park) is a huge opportunity for investment.
- Marina Park and the adjacent parking lot could also be redeveloped. Could redesign parking lot with more park space and remove road.
- If they’re redesigning the 85th corridor, they should make sure the connection to the downtown has great bike and pedestrian connectivity/infrastructure.
- Bike lanes and a gondola connecting downtown to NE 85th BRT stations would be great. Take parking off Lake Street.
- Likes the new pilot program for off-leash dog parks – this would be great for the Moss Bay neighborhood, perhaps a swim beach for dogs
- Green buildings, EV charging stations and priority parking for EV, bike and scooter rentals (e.g Lime, Bird, etc.)
- Free Ride Everywhere Downtown (San Diego program)
- Amplify the pedestrian friendly neighborhood with more bike friendly city, including closing off roads on certain days
- Need to vocally support police and fire, we aren’t a defund police city
- Supporting the existing events, concerts in the park, etc.
- Not enough gyms and rain friendly recreation space in the neighborhood
- Increasing capacity for pedestrian travel
- Focusing development near the freeway to locate density near station area
- Aquatic center
- Marina Park for recreational improvements
- Lake and Central parking lot redesign for more productive use (i.e., commercial)
- Increase farmers market vendors
- Provide/encourage working near the home to minimize in/out commute
- Focus growth near BRT with connections to downtown

- Improving intersection design standards for pedestrian facilities/safety
- *Idea:* Lake and State as one-way streets?
- Street car from Lake to east (bus station)
- Redmond data re one-way street conversions improving traffic?
- Limit heights to maintain village feel
- Maintain existing character and scale of downtown
- Needs to be more opportunities for affordable housing for middle class people,
- Commercial noise level back to 6:00 PM and outlaw leaf blowers (use brooms and rakes);
- Marina park parking turned into downtown parking and upper level amphitheater and a turf field and Peter Kirk Park (mentioned 3 times)
- Helpful to have a shuttle service from a parking area to downtown during peak times,
- Look to bring more people into downtown, post sign for traffic noise (60 decibel limit) to reduce noise by motorcycles,
- Shuttle service downtown that's more community driven,
- Become less dependent on sales tax,
- Diversity in race, age and income,
- Regional aquatic center, along with senior citizen's gym,
- Remote parking structure/area with a shuttle (two)
- Parking, outdoor seating (U-village like options), underground parking, with green space above.
- Plan for a to a carless community.
- Shuttle services to and from other areas outside downtown like the new BRT station
- Water taxi. Use the Lake for transit.
- Need to look forward to what new technologies will shape downtown mobility.
- Repurpose Marina and Central & Lake Parking lots (covered parking with public open space on top)
- More Parks and open spaces for public gathering and activation.
- Fix the sidewalks
- Business funding for public improvements and its maintenance
- Utilize CKC for bringing people into downtown and add to public open space opportunities
- Look for public/private partnerships to increase the amenities downtown.
- Finding more opportunities for multi-modal access Everest neighborhood.
- Make a future for everyone
- Maintain existing affordable housing
- No boxy building forms
- Public viewing spots on commercial buildings.