

# VISION FOR BURRIEN



Our Future. Our Choices.

## Minutes - Steering Committee Meeting (#3)

April 5, 2011, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Burien City Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> floor meeting room

### Steering Committee Members:

Name:	Primary Affiliation:	Present?
Angelica Alvarez	Highline School Board Vice-President	✓
Kristine Brecht, MD	Family Practice Physician	✓
Rose Clark	Councilmember	✓
Jim Clingan	Burien Planning Commissioner	✓
Virgil Domaoan	White Center Community Development Association	
Mike Fosberg	Principal, Highline School District	
Michael Goldsmith	General Manager, Elliott Bay Brewery; BEDP Advisory Board	✓
Genesis Guardado	Youth representative	
Kathy Hand	Former school board member	
Pam Harper	Community activist, and historian	
Butch Henderson	Boulevard Park Resident	✓
Maureen Hoffmann	Former Burien Arts Commission member	✓
Rachel Levine	White Center Library Guild President	✓
Scot Rastelli	Graduate Student UW Evans School of Public Affairs	✓
Rod Robbins	Burien business owner	✓
Jerry Robison	Councilmember	
Gordon Shaw	Councilmember	
Jean Spohn	Parks Board member	✓
Margarita Suarez	Translator and counselor	

### City Staff & Consultants:

Jenn Ramirez Robson	City of Burien, Management Analyst	✓
Mike Martin	City of Burien, City Manager	✓
Craig Knutson	City of Burien, City Attorney	
Larry Blanchard	City of Burien, Public Works Director	✓
Michael Lafreniere	City of Burien, Parks and Recreation Director	✓
Kim Krause	City of Burien, Finance Director	✓
Dick Loman	City of Burien, Economic Development Manager	
Scott Greenburg	City of Burien, Community Development Director	✓
Angie Chaufy	City of Burien, Human Resources Manager	✓
David Johansen	City of Burien, Senior Planner	✓
Dori Babcock	City of Burien, Management Analyst	✓
Brian Scott	BDS - Planning & Urban Design	✓
Dwyn Armstrong	BDS - Planning & Urban Design	✓
Margarett Harrison	Susan E. Millan Consulting	✓

**AGENDA**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>
Welcome & Introductions --	Information
Process Update & Upcoming Events --	Information
Community Forum Plans --	Information & Discussion
Community Input to Date (web survey & affinity groups) --	Information
Core Values (draft for Community Forums) --	Discussion
Challenges & Opportunities (draft for Community Forums)	Discussion
Wrap-up & Next Steps	Information
Adjourn	

**Welcome & Introductions -- Information**

Mike Martin welcomed the Steering Committee. Brian Scott outlined the meeting agenda and asked members to briefly introduce themselves. One of the objectives of this Steering Committee meeting is to figure out the questions we want to ask at the upcoming Community Meetings to better understand what Burien values and wants the city's future to look like. This will help the Steering Committee make recommendations to the City Council in June.

**Process Update & Upcoming Events -- Information**

Brian Scott reviewed visioning process diagram in the meeting packet including the schedule, and upcoming events.

Upcoming meetings for your calendars

- **3 Community Meetings** to continue to gather input from the community:
  - Saturday, **April 16**, 10 am, at Seahurst Elementary;
  - Tuesday, **April 26**, 5:30 pm at Hazel Valley Elementary; and
  - Saturday, **May 7**, 10 a.m., at Southern Heights Elementary
- **Next Steering Committee Meeting - May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011** - This will be a joint meeting with the City Council to determine key issues based on input to-date and the results of the Community Meetings.





## Community Forum Plans -- Information & Discussion

Brian described the how the Community Meetings will go. There are two parts to the meeting:

1<sup>st</sup> part of meeting will be a one hour Open House designed to encourage residents/participants to Think Big. It will include 6 stations where participants can to find out about the visioning process and City and give *individual* input. It is an opportunity to interact at their own pace. See the Community Forum description from the packet for more details.

Steering Committee members are welcome to and encouraged to come to the Community Meetings to help and listen at the stations!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> hour will be a guided program, with everyone in a large group, involving an issues discussion and ranking. He'll describe issues from tonight meeting and encourage dialog among community. Community members will have an opportunity to vote electronically at the meeting on the issues. This is a chance for direct input and doesn't require participants to stand in front of a room full of people.

Spanish language interpreters will be present and other languages can be accommodated if we get advance notice.

Rachel Levine suggested keeping straight the feedback from the different meetings, so we know what feedback came from which meeting.

Scot Rastelli asked how the events are being advertised. Jenn Ramirez Robson gave a list of ways including: the City's newsletter, reader boards, Facebook page, reaching out to community groups to include it in their publications (e.g. church bulletins), community radio 540 am, elementary schools weekly packet and middle and high schools (method tbd). Rachel said she announced them at the Library Guild Meeting. Butch offered to put poster up at the Boulevard Park Thriftway. It was suggested that the Community Centers get the word out with personal interactions too.

There was discussion of improving the outreach to Spanish speakers. Maureen Hoffman commented that the Spanish translation link on the web site is too small and doesn't stand out. She suggested translating the visioning page to Spanish also. Jenn Ramirez Robson noted that the Spanish info line has information about the Community Meetings and visioning process on it. City is also depending on word of mouth in the Latino community via Latinos For Transformation and New futures. Brian Scott noted that the Latino Affinity Group was the best-attended group and Genesis interpreted for her mother. Several others attendees interpreted too.



The group asked for a copy for 1995 Vision and examples of things accomplished as a result. There was some discussion about the broadness and vagueness of the 1995 Vision. Our goal is to have more specific goals/statements of community values and guidance come out of this process.

Banners or other very large means of promoting were suggested by the Steering Committee to get some more visibility for the Visioning and meetings.

Rod Robbins asked about affinity groups. Brian Scott said participation was beyond expectations. More on specifics below.

There was a question about greeters at the event. They will welcome community members and help them through the process. Again, Steering Committee members are welcome to come help with this!

### Community Input to Date (web survey & affinity groups) -- Information

Brian gave a presentation on input to date.

The first phase of the web survey is done and the Affinity Groups are complete. The meeting packet also included a summary of the input. The survey does not give a scientific sample of the community; respondents were self-selected.

- The distribution of the web survey responses pretty closely matched the distribution of Affinity groups.
- Map with distribution of responses shows that people more areas of the City responded to the web survey. Very little white on map.
- There was more participation form in older parts of the City
- There was discussion about the lack of participation from the southern part of the city. The lack of participation is consistent with historic response to other efforts too.

The Word Cloud, again not a scientific sample, in the packet shows what folks had to say. The big words are those were used most often.



Here are the Top Values and Fears (grouped by topic)

Value	Responses	Fear	Responses
Physical	166	Growth/Change	88
Diversity	120	Physical Issues	82
Community/Family	111	Crime	67
Small Town	61	Diversity	65
Crime	20	City Government	57
City Government	20	Community/Family	37
Growth/Change	17	Condos/Town Square	35
Schools/Education	9	Economy/Business	31
Celebrate Burien	8	Schools/Education	22
		Annexation	19
		Celebrate Burien	14
		Small Town Feel	6

The top Values were fairly concentrated in a few topics and the Fears were more spread out across the topics. Diversity covers ethnic, business, and economic commercial. The Town Square concerns included comments about the vacancies there to concern about national stores coming in and doing damage to Main Street businesses. These are also reflective of the concern about change. Annexation comments were on both sides of it: for& against.

The wall charts from all of the Affinity Groups are on the City’s web site. Here are some highlights presented at the Steering Committee meeting:

- Arts group discussed facilities, resources and a passion for diversity and the independent nature of Burien.



- Business group wanted to see more economic development from City going forward
- Education group had a lot of interest in how city can help kids be ready to learn after/before school. Mike Martin noted there was only one male present as opposed to the other groups which were more gender balanced.
- Health and wellness group found that Burien could be capitalizing on the cluster of facilities/services that have chosen to locate here.
- Recreation group gave up a sunny weekend morning to attend discussion was not the most dynamic. They want more of what Burien has.
- Seniors group showed passion for community, concern for fellow citizens. In relation to crime, they were concerned that others might be fearful and had questions about how to interact with changing diversity - how do you make community with that. Rachel pointed out that the group is aware that to age in place and they need to deal with / talk with neighbors.
- Shoreline group had a lot to say. Some concern expressed that more emphasis might be placed on other groups input. There was discussion about whether more public access to the shoreline would facilitate protecting it or cause more harm.
- 20 Somethings met at a pub in the evening and were passionate about community - a lot of energy while having a hard time articulating what they'd like to see.
- Transportation group was well attended by proponents of alternate forms of transportation, lots of cyclists. They were concerned with raising community awareness and acceptance of alternative transportation.

Rose Clark, who attended quite a few of the Affinity Groups reported that she was impressed with positive comments. Maureen Hoffman asked how participants were chosen. The City cast wide net, and did not hand pick. Some people showed up that we didn't expect and that was fine. Mostly the effort was to build to the community meetings.

### Challenges & Opportunities (draft for Community Forums)

Brian Scott reviewed and the group discussed the "Input Synthesis/ Emerging Themes/ Key Questions DRAFT" in the packet. Comments are recorded in the wall chart transcription.

The Steering Committee worked to help identify "What's the question?" for each theme that has emerged from the input so far.

The goal for the new vision for Burien is to have statements specific is enough that



you could get your mind around then and that the community/City could implement. Questions discussed during the Steering Committee meeting include:

- Growth & change - where would you like to see growth? Ambaum corridor, single family homes, mixed use development?
- What is responsibility of the City vs individual? What would that look like to you?
- There was a discussion about permanency. Are we attracting people who have lived here a long time or from other parts of King County to live here. Diversity sometimes equals less permanency. If we can focus on permanency we'll have a stronger future. What can we do to encourage people to stay?
- What is the role of the city government in education?
- What is the role of city in helping people who want to build environmentally consciously?
- How will the community be sustained over time?

The question of how to encourage Latino community to come to the community meetings was discussed. It can be frustrating when there are communication barriers. We need to let people know they are welcome and interpreters will be available.

The group noticed that many of the things they'd like to see are luxuries when there aren't jobs and the economy hasn't fully recovered. Discussion shifted to economic concerns and ways to promote jobs.

- The highest portion of B&O revenue comes from car dealerships. Is that what we want to be known for?
- What sectors do we want to develop?
- Do we want to encourage small business & restaurants or lure big box stores?
- What about basics instead of high end shops?

Crime was also discussed. About 50% of the City's budget goes to fighting crime. To some, police seem to be on top of crime - handling it well, responding promptly. The connection between poverty and higher crime was acknowledged.

- Can we educate people about how to prevent crime?
- What is job rate for kids of color?
- Can we get a few officers walking the beat?

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

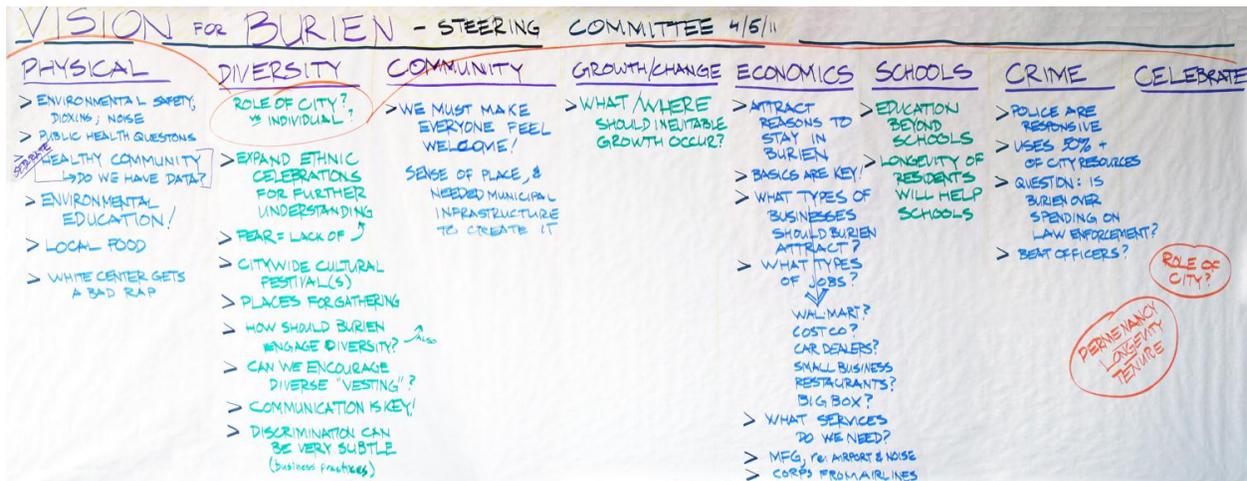
Home work for the Steering Committee:

- Try to come to Community Meetings; that's where you'll get input to put vision together!



- Read notes from Affinity Groups
- Get friends to come to meetings; help get flyers out!
- You'll get an email when next survey is up - ask folks to respond!
- You are encouraged to staff tables at the Community Meeting Open House! - An email is coming to ask you to sign up to be there and help at tables.





## Steering Committee Meeting Wallgraphic transcript

Meeting Date: April 5, 2011  
Facilitator: Brian Douglas Scott

### Global comments

- Role of City? vs Individual
- Permanency / longevity / tenure

### Physical

- Environmental Safety; dioxins; noise
- Public health questions
- Healthy Community
- Do we have data?
- Environmental Education!
- Local Food

### Diversity

- Expand ethnic celebrations for further understanding
- Fear = lack of understanding
- Citywide cultural festival(s)
- Places for gathering
- How should Burien engage diversity and community?
- Can we encourage diverse "vesting"?
- Communication is key



- Discrimination can be very subtle (e.g. business practices)

## Community

- We must make everyone feel welcome!
- Sense of place, and needed municipal infrastructure to create it
- How should Burien engage diversity and community?

## Growth/Change

- What / where should inevitable growth occur?

## Economics

- Attract reasons to stay in Burien
- Basics are key!
- What types of businesses should Burien attract?
- What types of jobs should Burien attract?
  - Wal-Mart?
  - Costco?
  - Car dealers?
  - Small business?
  - Restaurants?
  - Big box?
- What services do we need?
- MFG, re: airport & noise
- Corporations related to airlines

## Schools

- Education beyond schools
- Longevity of residents will help schools

## Crime

- Police Are responsive
- Uses of 50% of City Resources
- Question: Is Burien over-spending on law enforcement?
- Beat Officers?
- White Center gets a bad rap

## Celebrate

