

*Met Council Continuing the Comprehensive Plan Conversation Series*

## ***Planit Workshop***

# Community Working Committees

*Creating relationships through engagement*



***Community  
Collaboration***

# Community Working Committees

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*“Coming together is a beginning.*





*Keeping together is progress.*



*Working together is success.”*

Henry Ford



# Community Working Committees

*Creating relationships through engagement*

**Todd Streeter**

Community Collaboration

**Lynda Woulfe**

City Administrator, City of Cambridge

**Beth Thompson**

Community Development Director, City of New Richmond

**Doug Menikheim**

City Council, City of Stillwater

**Jane Stevenson, President**

St. Croix Valley Foundation

# Welcome

## Community Working Committees

*Creating relationships through engagement*



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# Community Engagement

Traditional Engagement Approach



## Traditional Engagement Approach

### Traditional Method

- Top down (City/Firm driven)
- Committee discussion
- Minimal meetings
- Open houses with community
- City/contractor does the work

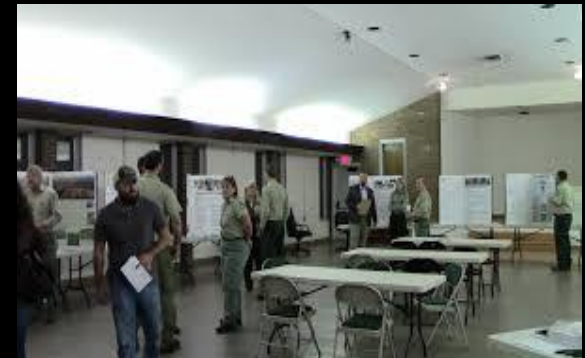




## Traditional Engagement Approach

### Deficiencies – Doesn't ...

- Allow community to drive process
- Create “working” committee
- Develop mutual understanding and respect
- Build collaborative relationships
- Generate a Common vision
- Establish buy-in and ownership







## New Community Working Committee Approach

### Bottom-up Method

- Community driven  
(City encourages participation)
- Formation of  
“working” committee





## New Community Working Committee Approach

### Bottom-up Method

Structured process focuses on:

- Expanding understanding, acceptance and respect
- Solutions through research and success examples





## New Community Working Committee Approach

### Bottom-up Method

Structured process focuses on:

- Building collaborative relationships
- Establishing a common vision
- Creating collective ownership





## New Community Working Committee Approach

### Method Outcomes

- Establishes “We’re in this together”
- Focuses on the future
- Solution-focused outcomes
- Establishes implementation buy-in
- Establishes ownership and continued support





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Introduction

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# Four Components of Relationship Building







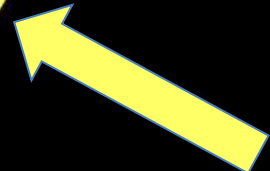
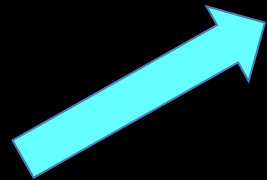
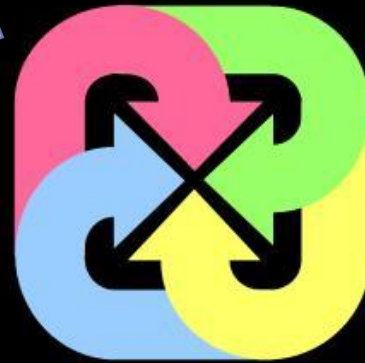
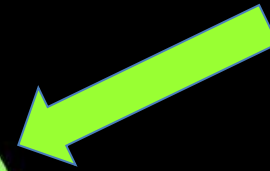
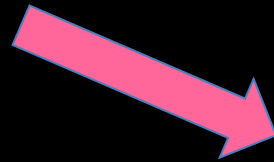
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# Introduction

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1. Working Committee

2. Civic Support



3. Community Funding

4. Ongoing Structure



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The Beginning

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## Approach Genesis

# Stillwater

*Downtown Revitalization Committee*





## Downtown Revitalization Committee

- 40-member committee:
  - City, County, State officials; downtown business and property owners; organization and community leaders
- Formed property owners coalition to advance opportunities
- Submitted grant proposals





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# The Beginning

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## Downtown Revitalization Committee

### Outcomes

- Achieved approximately \$100,000 in grants, contributions and architectural pro-bono services
- Transformed divergent business community into a collective forward focused group with expanded common vision





## Downtown Revitalization Committee

### Outcomes

- Final committee opportunities incorporated into downtown Comp Plan RFP and subsequent formal City Comp Plan activities





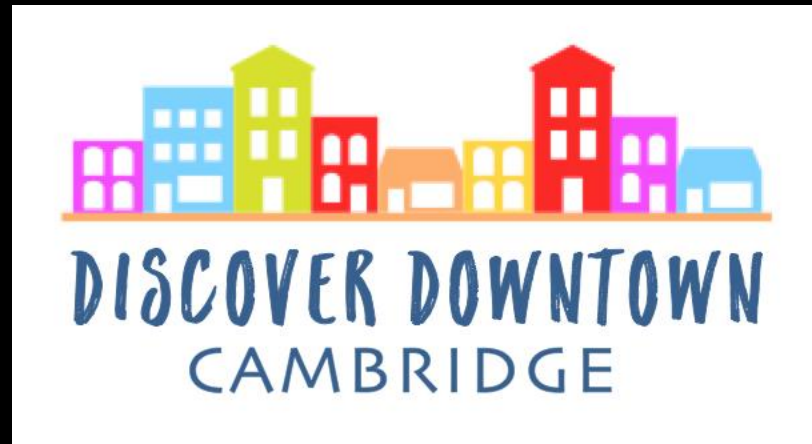


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Process Outcomes

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What is Cambridge doing now?





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Applying The Process

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# **New Richmond**

## *Comp Plan Working Committees*





## **New Comp Plan Approach**

- Change Plan to a “Community Action Plan” (CAP)
- Goals are to:
  - Let community drive the process
  - Establish greater understanding of community
  - Create a “living plan” by restructuring the process and final document/supporting materials
  - Make the outcomes marketable



## New Comp Plan Approach

Change primary elements:

- Internal to external process
- Design for public consumption
- Community friendly terminology
- Promote ongoing activities
- CAP recommendations
- Committee Project Portfolios
- Establish community outreach





## New CAP Terminology

### Planning Terms

Land Use & Planning  
Transportation/ Infrastructure  
Parks, Trails and Recreation  
Public Facilities & Services  
Economic Development  
Housing & Neighborhoods  
Downtown  
Government Committee

### Community Assimilation

Creating Community  
Community Connectivity  
Quality of Life  
Community Pride  
Economic Prosperity  
Diversified Living  
Downtown Resurgence  
Civic Engagement



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# Applying The Process

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## New Comp Plan Approach

Change meeting locations





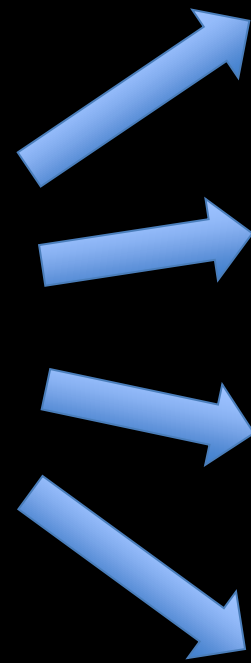
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# Applying The Process

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## CAP Outcomes

Working  
Committees



CAP Plan

Project  
Portfolios

Vision  
Brochure

Executive  
Committee





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## Applying The Process

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*“Vision without execution is just hallucination.”*

Henry Ford



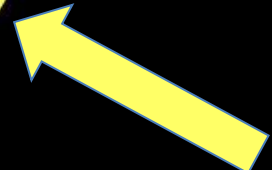
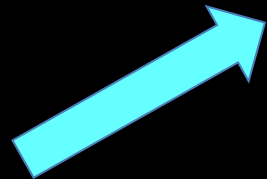
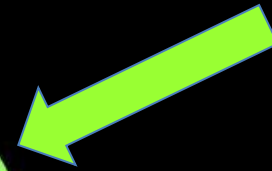
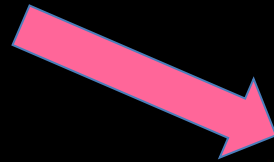
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## Summary

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1. Working Committee

2. Civic Support



3. Community Funding

4. Ongoing Structure



Cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody.

— *Jane Jacobs* —



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## Panel Q&A

Lynda Woulfe

City Administrator, City of Cambridge

Beth Thompson

Community Development Director, City of New Richmond

Doug Menikheim

City Council, City of Stillwater

Jane Stevenson, President

St. Croix Valley Foundation