

ALL COMMENTS LIST

**Gifford Neighborhood Plan Update Kick-off Meeting
July 22, 2013 (6pm – 8pm)
Comments Obtained During Meeting Discussion & By Comment Cards**

LAND USE/ZONING/DEVELOPMENT/ILLEGAL AND NONCONFORMING USES/ COMMUNICATION

- **Discussion Comments**

1. Expand plan boundaries east to river/river access at end of Gifford Dock Road
2. Development of industrial zoned properties north of 41st Street: concern about impacts on residential north of industrial sites
3. Land use comparison of vacant/developed sites since last plan – remaining development potential by use category
4. Mr. Scrap looks good: voluntarily replaced fence with wall
5. Gifford dock improvements needed to encourage public use and spur good development: it's an amenity for Gifford; allow local vendors in park
6. Reserve enough future residential area for Gifford to grow with good residential development
7. Gifford forever – long term residential growth (quality) to attract/retain professionals who grew up/will grow up in Gifford
8. Rezoning or converting residential property to industrial resulting in decrease in overall residential area
9. Compatibility: concern about development of industrial properties west of 43rd Avenue that are surrounded by residential
10. Timing of West Gifford Industrial regulation changes: when is WGIC (West Gifford Industrial/Commerce District) initiative going to go forward?
11. Concerns about potential concrete plant in West Gifford industrial area
12. Allow mixed use development (residential and commercial) along 45th Street

- **Comment Card Comments**

13. Need more information on developing Neighborhood Associations and Neighborhood Development
14. Need to be informed when heavy commercial development is proposed along 41st Street east of 28th Avenue to the railroad

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Kick-off Meeting Comments (Cont'd)

15. Can acreage used for government facilities (eg along 43rd Avenue/41st Street) be replaced with same (industrial) zoning elsewhere if plan area boundaries are increased?

INFRASTRUCTURE/TRANSPORTATION/DRAINAGE/RECREATION

- **Discussion Comments**

16. Guard rails needed to protect motorists and pedestrians from certain canal drop-offs, including along 45th Street between 43rd Avenue and 31st Avenue
17. 28th Avenue to 42nd Avenue: provide better drainage
18. 40th Avenue (Pineview): drainage problems
19. 45th Street east between Smith's grocery store and Gifford Middle School: sidewalk not level – needs repairs
20. 35th Avenue south of 45th Street: bad condition, how did it rate in yearly road condition analysis? Also has drainage problems
21. Lights needed for the Gifford Park ball field and access drive to the ball field; upgrade condition of the ball field
22. Streetlights needed along 49th Street from 43rd Avenue east, including High Ridge mobile home park
23. 33rd Avenue, 45th Street to 49th Street: drainage problems; poorly draining swales in back yards
24. Sidewalks and streetlights needed along 49th Street from 43rd Avenue to US1
25. 33rd Street and 34th Avenue – too narrow – need to widen streets
26. 43rd Street (west of railroad tracks) condition and safety concerns for pedestrians and motorists especially where street angles/turns
27. 43rd Street – needs sidewalks and bus shelter to serve pedestrians and people without cars
28. Provide brighter street lights along 45th Street and 49th Street
29. Need improvements at Hosie Schumann park, especially for children (including swings)
30. Sand and run-off washing on to roads creating hazardous conditions along 41st Street and 45th Street, between 28th Avenue and 38th Avenue

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Kick-off Meeting Comments (Cont'd)

31. Need funding for 45th Street infrastructure improvements (drainage, sidewalks) as well as aesthetic improvements
32. 25th Avenue – 28th Avenue (Hillcrest and Spruce Park) different elevations between older homes (lower) and newer homes (higher) creating drainage issues

- **Comment Card Comments**

33. Need a sidewalk on 45th Street from 43rd Avenue to 58th Avenue
34. Re-establish recreation committee
35. Need a sidewalk from 43rd Avenue west to 58th Avenue
36. Recreation move to Gifford like basketball, football, and soccer. Let Gifford people use all fields without fees
37. Drainage on 43rd Court: road floods during heavy rains, limiting access to the street
38. More sidewalks down 45th Street toward 58th Avenue and 43rd Avenue
39. Beautify 45th Street: looks a mess, roads are bad between 50th Avenue and 58th Avenue
40. 52nd Avenue: needs road work or needs a new road that is stable, the road floods and gets deep holes continually as it rains
41. Guard rails on 45th Street from 31st Avenue to 43rd Avenue
42. Drainage ditch behind my house needs cleaning: 4151 32nd Avenue
43. Gifford park walking trail should be around the play area so that mothers do not have to leave their children unattended to exercise
44. Curb enhancements to prevent cars from going into the ditch
45. How will the county improve flooding for ditches that were not built by the county
46. The canals need to be cleaned along 49th Street and 45th Street
47. The bus routes were recently changed and no longer go to the probation offices on Dixie Highway which has created a hardship for some
48. Drainage problems in Pineview Park: need fixing

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Kick-off Meeting Comments (Cont'd)

49. Basketball and tennis courts need upgrading: tennis court upgrade to tournament grade
50. Why is it that Gifford improvements need a “grant”?

CODE ENFORCEMENT/SAFETY/CRIME PREVENTION/LAW ENFORCEMENT

- **Discussion Comments**

51. Tree preservation – good efforts have been made, trees preserved
52. Nuisance trees (Brazilian peppers) growing over onto a resident’s property from a neighboring property
53. Overgrown lots in residential areas creating nuisances: harboring vermin, unsightly
54. Since hurricanes, more recovery help and less code enforcement/demolition action should have been directed toward owner-occupied properties and less help/more enforcement against rental income properties
55. 41st Street/32nd Avenue east of St. Helens (Samaritan Center at 3650 41st Street); problem with maintenance of property/overgrowth of vegetation
56. Need to determine degree of property owner responsibility for illegal activity occurring on his/her property; more responsibility should fall on property owner
57. Statistics on crime and driving violation fines need to be presented; need to compare all crime statistics shown in relation to Gifford’s population proportion (6%)
58. Sheriff meets monthly with Gifford people: very positive
59. Code enforcement should meet monthly or periodically with Gifford people (relates to COPE meetings already conducted regularly?)
60. 38th Ave/43rd Street – abandoned buildings pose safety and nuisance concerns
61. 31st Avenue – example of demolished building and lack of property maintenance after demolition. Demolishing building solves one issue and then post –demolition overgrowth and weeds pose a second nuisance problem

- **Comment Card Comments**

62. North side of my home at 4876 34th Avenue and on east side lot overgrown: house burned down

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Kick-off Meeting Comments (Cont'd)

63. Neighbor's trees growing up into the property at 3986 46th Street
64. Please remove population of stray cats and dogs from the community
65. 4423 26th Avenue back yard grass very high with tall trees. Burglars use this house and house at 4411 26th Avenue to hide out with crime, drugs, prostitution. Crimes are within 1,000 feet of the Gifford Middle School

HOUSING/PROPERTY MAINTENANCE/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/ EMPLOYMENT/ EDUCATION/VOCATIONAL TRAINING

- **Discussion Comments**

66. Need to emphasize hiring local people and Gifford residents for county projects
67. SHIP (State Housing Initiative Partnership) program concerns: availability of information about where funds go to, program requirements, buying re-sold homes, how to apply/participate
68. Vocational training for alternative learning center students: re-establish work program opportunities (eg School Board/Piper program was good but now discontinued)
69. Need more employment opportunities in Gifford
70. Contact with Sheriff has been good: budget for Gifford (comparison of spending in Gifford and revenue from Gifford)
71. Gifford residents need county (commissioner) contact information
72. Existing drainage problems and drainage requirements applied to individual development sites constrain (economic) development
73. Chamber of Commerce – no minority owned business has been recognized (eg business of the year)
74. No minority representation in upper management of County Government
75. How will plan address issues identified? What are next steps? Need answers to develop a plan; need bench marks and implementation accountability
76. Need more emphasis on economic development and vocational training: higher priority than zoning and land use items

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Kick-off Meeting Comments (Cont'd)

77. Need more comprehensive approach to education and social services issues not under BCC's purview: participation of education and social services providers needed
 - Look at high school drop-out rate, vocational placement, college preparation, enrichment programs for children
78. Need continued involvement of Progressive Civic League in the plan update process and implementation
79. Funds for Gifford; need easy availability of accounting information: where are funds spent? Compare to Wabasso
80. Need affordable housing, especially for graduating students returning to Gifford
81. Plan needs to reflect Gifford's level and intensity of need (eg Community Disadvantage Index) as well as program money spent in Gifford
82. Concerns about Habitat for Humanity program: information and dialogue needed
83. Need job opportunities and incentives for returning students/former residents to Gifford
84. Program to get training/education/transition skills for those incarcerated and then returned to the community
- **Comment Card Comments**
85. Need more vocational training to assist our youth in being productive citizens
86. Need a rehab facility to support prisoners and drug addicts to reform then to get back into society and be productive
87. Ensure Gifford name will not change to North Vero, etc.
88. Increase Gifford high school graduation rate: if rate improves, then that alone plays an important role in the development and advancement of Gifford
89. Have someone from education be a part of this panel
90. Add my name to pre-application and corridor requirement notices
91. We need more robust involvement with School Board, Chamber of Commerce, SBA, and Habitat for Humanity to create economic prosperity: these are not technically under the county

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Kick-off Meeting Comments (Cont'd)

92. The education of students in the Gifford community is at an all time low. They need help. Economic development cannot improve if they continue at the bottom of the pile
93. PAL system: county helping local businesses to expand

OTHER

- **Discussion Comments**

94. What is the high school drop out rate? How many are in vocational programs? How many are prepared for college? What training and enrichment programs are available for the children?
95. Where did the money that was allocated to Gifford go to?

- **Comment Card Comments**

96. Can Gifford become a Township? If yes, what's the tax base for Gifford and estimated receipts for the year?
97. What is the budget or dollar amount for Gifford community
98. Who is the contact person for people of Gifford?
99. Can we affirm the action we want to work in the community and help make it look good and function good, help us do that please
100. African American county employees, city employees