

Comprehensive Plan Update- Vision

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Purpose



Comprehensive Plan

Adopted November 1, 2004
Ordinance 5099 & 5100



- **Set the tone for the Comprehensive Plan**
- **Provide an overview of major policies in the Comprehensive Plan**
- **Capture community aspirations**

Current Vision

Two parts to the current Vision:

- **Summary of the *Renton Business Plan***
- **Community vision covering aspirations for:**
 - Handling growth
 - Maintaining diverse housing stock
 - Improving neighborhoods
 - Restoring and enhancing the environment
 - Providing high levels of service
 - Supporting redevelopment opportunities
 - Securing a strong employment base

Business Plan

- The *Business Plan* is an important and unique document for the City
- The *Business Plan* is a six-year document that is amended annually should be integrated with the Comprehensive Plan
- The *Business Plan* should specify the short term priorities of the Council that implement the Comprehensive Plan

Community Vision

Community vision covers several topics, which can be consolidated into four categories:

- Growth
- Transportation
- Environment
- Quality of Life



Vision Workshop and Survey

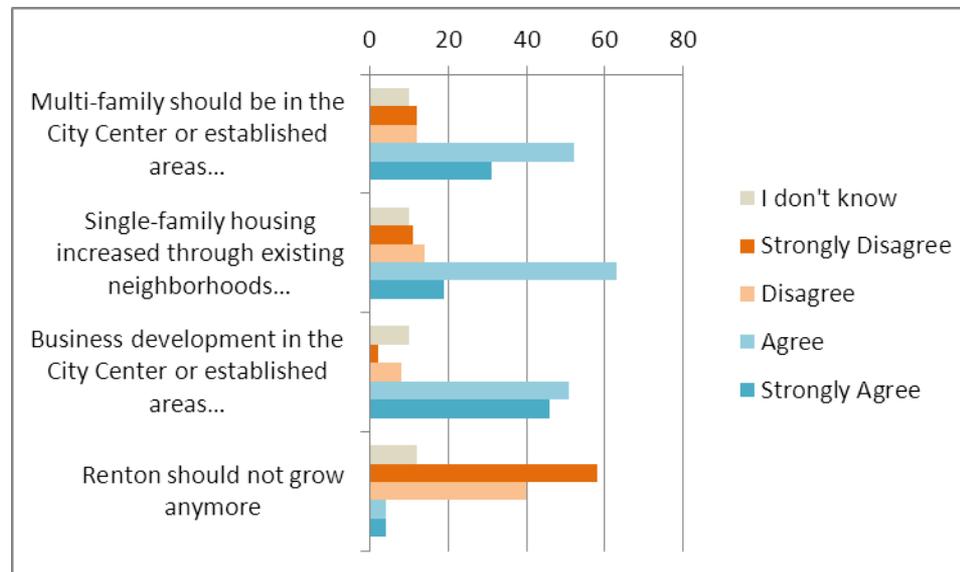
- Much of the current vision still seemed applicable, so staff developed a survey and workshop to test this
- Survey received 118 responses
- About 70 people participated in the workshop
- People were also asked if anything needed to be added to the Vision
- Participants supported the existing Vision in every category



Vision - Growth

In the next 20 years Renton's population will grow, increasing the need for housing, jobs, and goods and services. Where should growth go?

	I don't know	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses	Average Response
Multi-family housing (such as apartments and condos) should be in the City Center and other established areas outside of downtown.	10	12	12	52	31	117	Agree
Single-family housing should be increased by adding homes to existing neighborhoods when possible.	10	11	14	63	19	117	Agree
Business development should be in the City Center and other established areas outside of downtown.	10	2	8	51	46	117	Agree
Renton should not grow anymore.	12	58	40	4	4	118	Disagree



Vision – Growth Comments



- Growth needs to be supported with infrastructure, recreation, parks, quality services and schools
- Affordable housing should be available in all areas of the city
- Annexation should take in areas that have something to offer the City and should not take in areas that do not identify with Renton
- Mix businesses and housing at higher intensities and densities in the City Center to support transit and walk-ability

Vision – Growth Comments

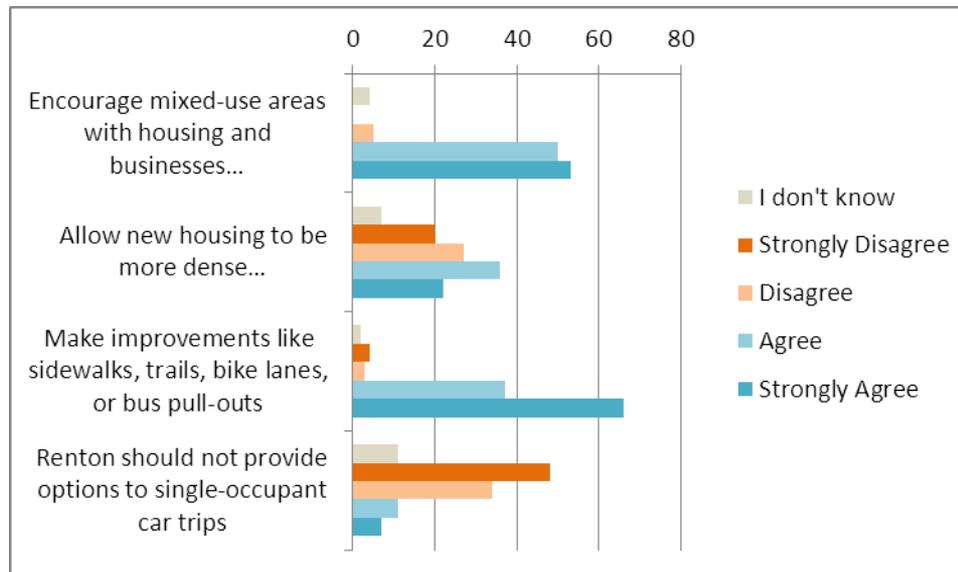


- Support and attract businesses that are creative, smaller industries, locally owned, and start-ups
- Attract retailers like Trader Joes to our City Center
- Ensure that daily goods and services are within walking distance, even in suburban areas
- Suburban lot sizes should not be further reduced

Vision - Transportation

How we get from place to place has a big effect on our community. How should we provide options to single-occupant car trips?

	I don't know	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses	Average Response
Encourage mixed-use areas with housing and businesses so some people can do errands without a car.	4	0	5	50	53	112	Agree
Allow new housing to be more dense (more houses on an acre) to support better bus service.	7	20	27	36	22	112	(Slightly) Agree
Make improvements like sidewalks, trails, bike lanes, or bus pull-outs.	2	4	3	37	66	112	Agree
Renton should not provide options to single-occupant car trips.	11	48	34	11	7	111	Disagree



Vision – Transportation Comments



- **Improve, replace, and enhance current network of sidewalks, trails, pathways, and planting strips for pedestrians and bikes**
- **Work with other levels of government to improve transit service and options**
- **Connect business areas, major employers, and civic centers with residential areas and each other to move people, not just cars**
- **Density must be done right with adequate open space, parking, and transportation alternatives**

Vision – Transportation Comments

This section had the most conflicting comments

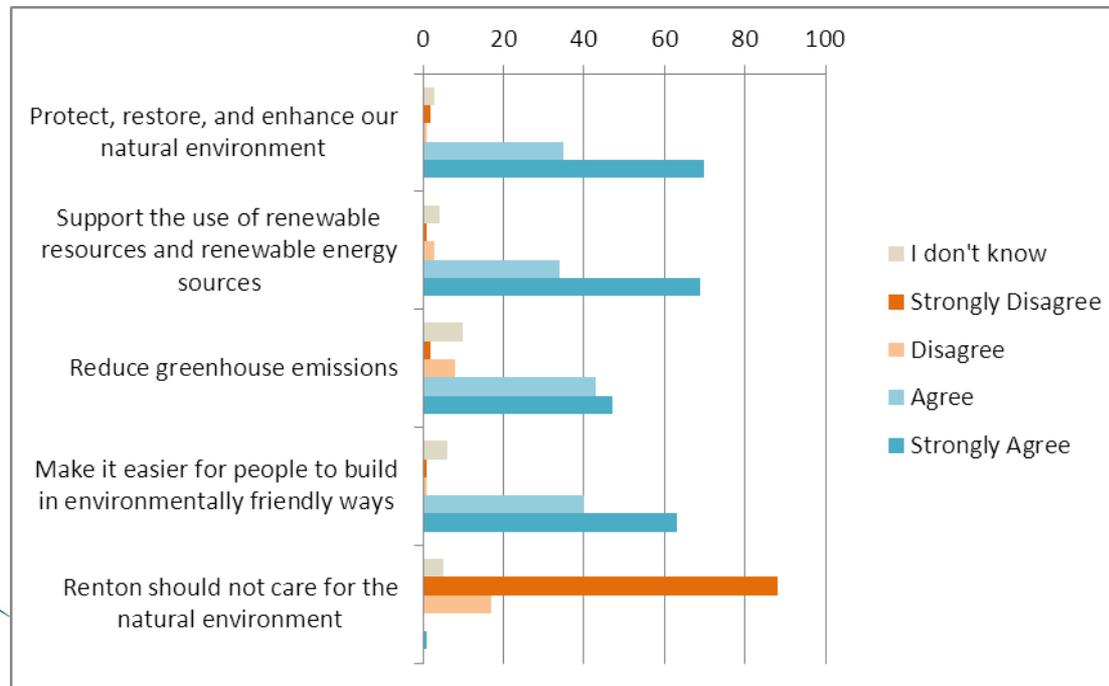
- **Some comments favored density, others disliked additional density**
- **Some comments favored additional bike lanes, others wanted them limited**
- **Some comments favored a focus on additional transit, others wanted to focus on other modes**



Vision - Environment

Renton has many natural features that shape our community. How should we care for the natural environment?

	I don't know	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses	Average Response
Protect, restore, and enhance our natural environment.	3	2	1	35	70	111	Strongly Agree
Support the use of renewable resources and renewable energy sources.	4	1	3	34	69	111	Strongly Agree
Reduce greenhouse emissions.	10	2	8	43	47	110	Agree
Make it easier for people to build in environmentally friendly ways.	6	1	1	40	63	111	Strongly Agree
Renton should not care for the natural environment.	5	88	17	0	1	111	Strongly Disagree



Vision – Environment Comments

- Support the Parks Plan- maintain and enhance existing parks and recreation
- Parks should include more natural areas and artwork and less lawn
- Ensuring the use of natural spaces will ensure preservation, add trails, pocket parks, community farms, other complimentary uses
- Use the natural methods to collect water before it goes into streams



Vision – Environment Comments

- Act in a community minded way, environmental rhetoric shouldn't be use coercively or as a substitute for good design
- The City should lead by example: solar panels, recharging stations, green building, maintenance for parks and grounds
- Increase trees and restrict them from being cut, plant the right species and spacing to prevent future problems

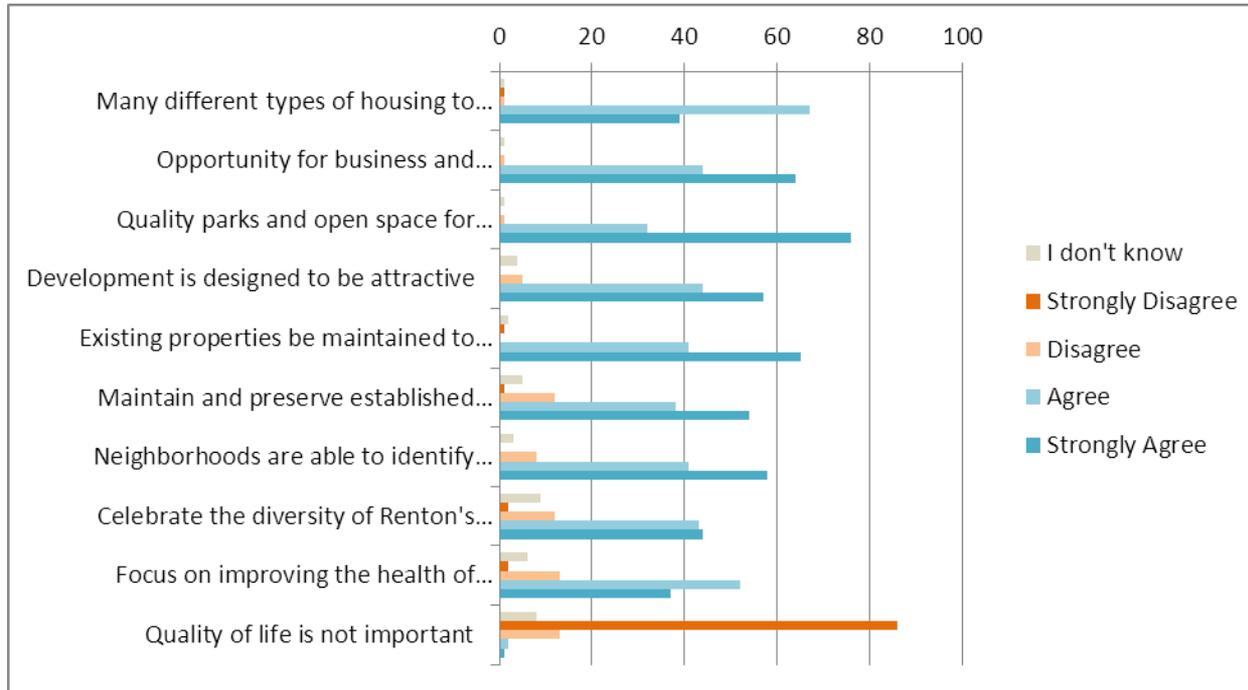


Vision - Quality of Life

The quality of life in Renton depends on many things. How important is each statement to you?

	I don't know	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses	Average Response
It is important that Renton have many different types of housing to provide for people in all stages of life.	1	1	1	67	39	109	Agree
It is important that there is opportunity for business and employment growth.	1	0	1	44	64	110	Strongly Agree
It is important that there are quality parks and open space for recreation.	1	0	1	32	76	110	Strongly Agree
It is important that development is designed to be attractive.	4	0	5	44	57	110	Agree
It is important that existing properties be maintained to look attractive.	2	1	0	41	65	109	Strongly Agree
It is important to maintain and preserve established neighborhoods.	5	1	12	38	54	110	Agree
It is important that different neighborhoods are able to identify improvements important to their community.	3	0	8	41	58	110	Agree
It is important that Renton celebrate the diversity of its residents.	9	2	12	43	44	110	Agree
It is important to focus on improving the health of Renton residents.	6	2	13	52	37	110	Agree
Quality of life is not important.	8	86	13	2	1	110	Strongly Disagree

Vision - Quality of Life



Vision – Quality of Life



- **Support and expand opportunities for waterfront recreation**
- **Trails are important for health and connecting the city together**
- **Neighborhood attractiveness should be enhanced by: tree planting program, parks and recreation within walking distance, opening local recreation buildings, clean-up programs, code enforcement, and adding local businesses**

Vision – Quality of Life

- City should provide the basics and not worry about health, happiness, and attractiveness
- Support local business growth, stimulate and diversify employment
- Clean up litter in downtown and along major streets
- Enhance arts and culture
- Provide services and programs for youth
- Ensure diversity and affordability of housing





Vision – What Else?

Many of the ideas from the other comments were included, plus the following:

- **Police and fire services should be in the vision**
- **Create an energetic and livable downtown**
- **Coordinate with neighbor cities**
- **Support local food, expand the farmer's market, and a food co-op**

Next Steps

- **Discuss tonight what should be included in the Vision**
- **Next meeting will review a new draft of the Vision**
- **Public Hearing tentatively scheduled for September**