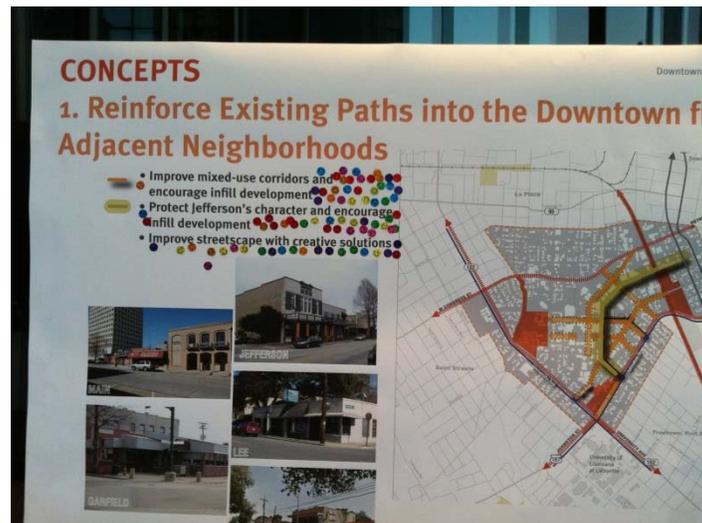


Downtown Summit 2 Results

Overview

The Downtown Summit 2 was held June 5, 2013 at the Acadiana Center for the Arts. Over 100 people attended to review the concepts and action ideas developed for downtown. The consultant team synthesized the results of Summit 1 and presented a framework for review and comment. A follow up online survey provided an additional opportunity for review and comment on the concept ideas and actions.

The Downtown Summit presentation includes a summary of Downtown Summit 1 and the 9 concept maps created at the meeting and the draft downtown vision statement. The consultant team walked participants through a series of slides analyzing how the ideas for downtown's future fit together, existing barriers and issues, a summary of issues, concepts for downtown, and initial actions ideas for how to make the concepts a reality.



An abbreviated version of the Downtown Summit 2 presentation is available online on the plan's website at <http://www.lafayettela.gov/ComprehensivePlan/DowntownStrategicFramework.asp> and as an appendix to this Downtown Summit 2 results memo.

Downtown Summit 2 Results

Part 1: Downtown Concepts

Participants used stickers to "vote" for the concepts that liked or agreed with the most. The total number of votes from the summit, the survey, and the combined results are illustrated below. Each concept's strategies are prioritized in order of their total votes by concept and those who scored higher than average (average score was 97) are highlighted and bolded.

Table 1. Concepts for Downtown - Sorted in order of total votes
Average Concept Score = 97 votes, anything above 97 highlighted

Concept	Summit 2 Average Rank	Online Survey Average Rank ¹	Combined
Concept 1 - Reinforce existing paths into the downtown from adjacent neighborhoods			
Improve mixed use corridors and encourage infill development	30	78	108
Protect Jefferson’s character and encourage infill development	26	77	103
Improve streetscape with creative solutions	22	77	99
Concept 2 - Focus redevelopment efforts on the core			
Capitalize on the existing federal courthouse site as a means of introducing multi-family residential into downtown	37	75	112
Capitalize on office workers’ demand for more convenience goods within the core	26	77	103
Provide a variety of housing choices	21	76	97
Start from the center (around the extended mixed-use corridors)	11	75	86
Better parking options	11	69	80
Concept 3 – Increase the variety of open space			
Activate existing parks	40	79	119
Create new parks	5	64	69
Concept 4 – Enhance mobility with new paths and better entrances			
Pedestrian paths	31	78	109
Bicycle paths	31	77	108
Better entrances	22	77	99
Transit Loop	7	67	74
Concept 5 - Improve connections to UL			
Connect McKinley to Jefferson and Vermilion	39	66	105
Extend retail character and uses on Jefferson and Johnston	25	76	101
Widen sidewalks on east side of Johnston	20	77	97
Redevelop properties fronting intersection including the Domino’s site	21	72	93
Reconfigure Johnston and University	24	64	88

¹ Note the online survey results for those agreeing or strongly agreeing are included.

Part 2: Action Ideas

As part of the review of ideas, participants could prioritize the action ideas related to each of the concepts using stickers marked 1 through 4. The online survey allowed the same prioritization to occur after the Summit concluded. Table 2 illustrates the results of the prioritization exercise with 1 being the highest and 4 the lowest priority.

Table 2. Prioritization of Action Ideas

Actions Sorted in order of Preference (**1 is highest, 4 is lowest**)

Action	Summit 2 Average Rank	Online Survey Average Rank	Combined
Establish a zoning hierarchy of streets to include mixed-use corridors and new connections to UL and Freetown	1.46	1.92	1.69
Establish bicycle and pedestrian paths	1.85	1.66	1.755
Create incentives to promote development within the core with a focus on mixed use residential	1.86	1.7	1.78
Develop new sidewalks, pedestrian amenities, and street furniture	2.09	1.58	1.835
Evaluate solutions for improving pedestrian connections across Johnston and University to the downtown including property development	2.69	1.85	2.27
Create a strategy to develop the Federal Courthouse site	2.48	2.18	2.33
Establish Zoning Districts	2.47	2.2	2.335
Create a zoning overlay to protect Jefferson and Vermilion	2.6	1.87	2.235
Establish criteria for building design	2.75	1.97	2.36
Develop strategies to improve downtown entrances	2.77	2.28	2.525
Identify parks and recreation needs in the downtown	2.81	2.12	2.465
Develop a parking strategy	3.13	2.37	2.75
Develop a Transit Study to connect UL to the Downtown	3.5	2.55	3.025