



Wilburton Vision Implementation

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Planning Commission

November 29, 2023

Information

Summary and discussion of
Wilburton Vision Implementation
Phase 2 engagement

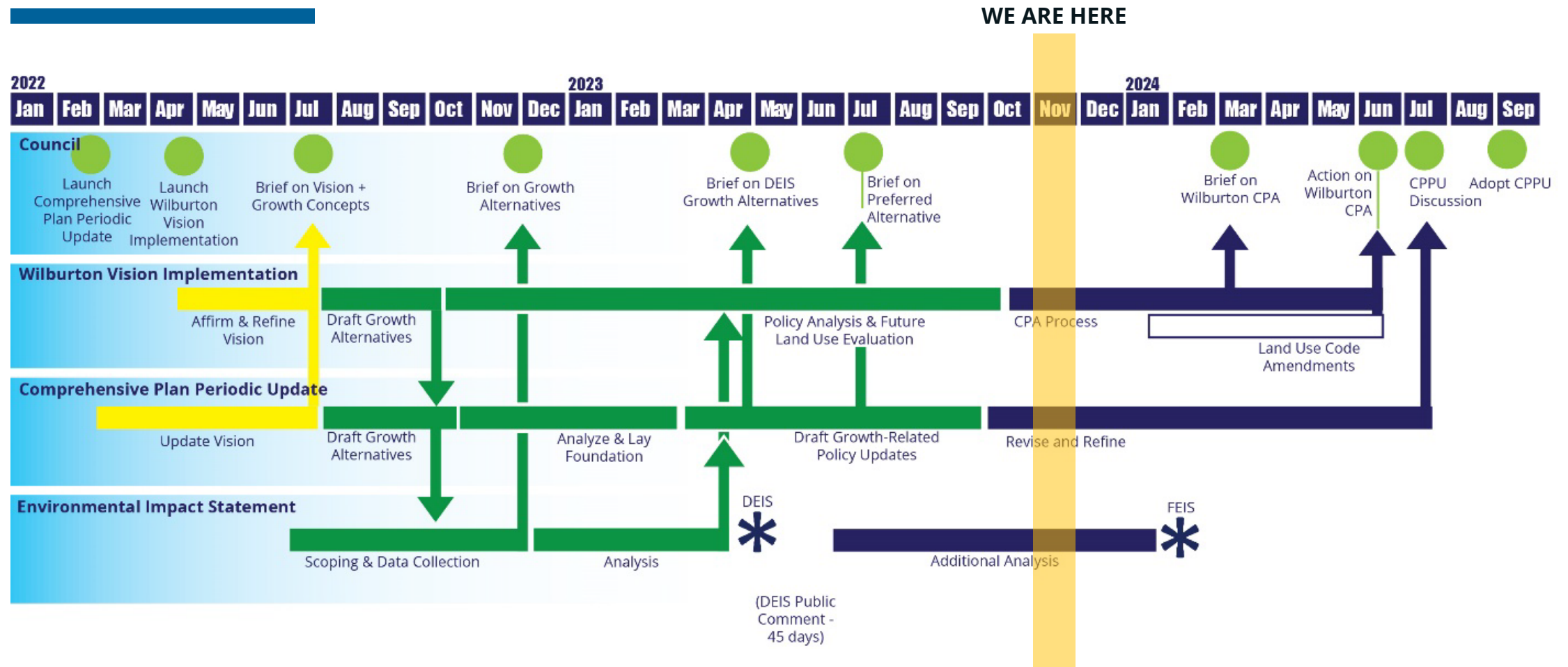


Agenda

1. Recap of Project Milestones
2. Phase 2 Community Engagement
 - a) Goals & Outcomes
 - b) Engagement Highlights
 - c) Summary of Community Open House & Engaging Bellevue
3. Discussion/Reflection
4. Next Steps



Project Timeline



Project Milestones

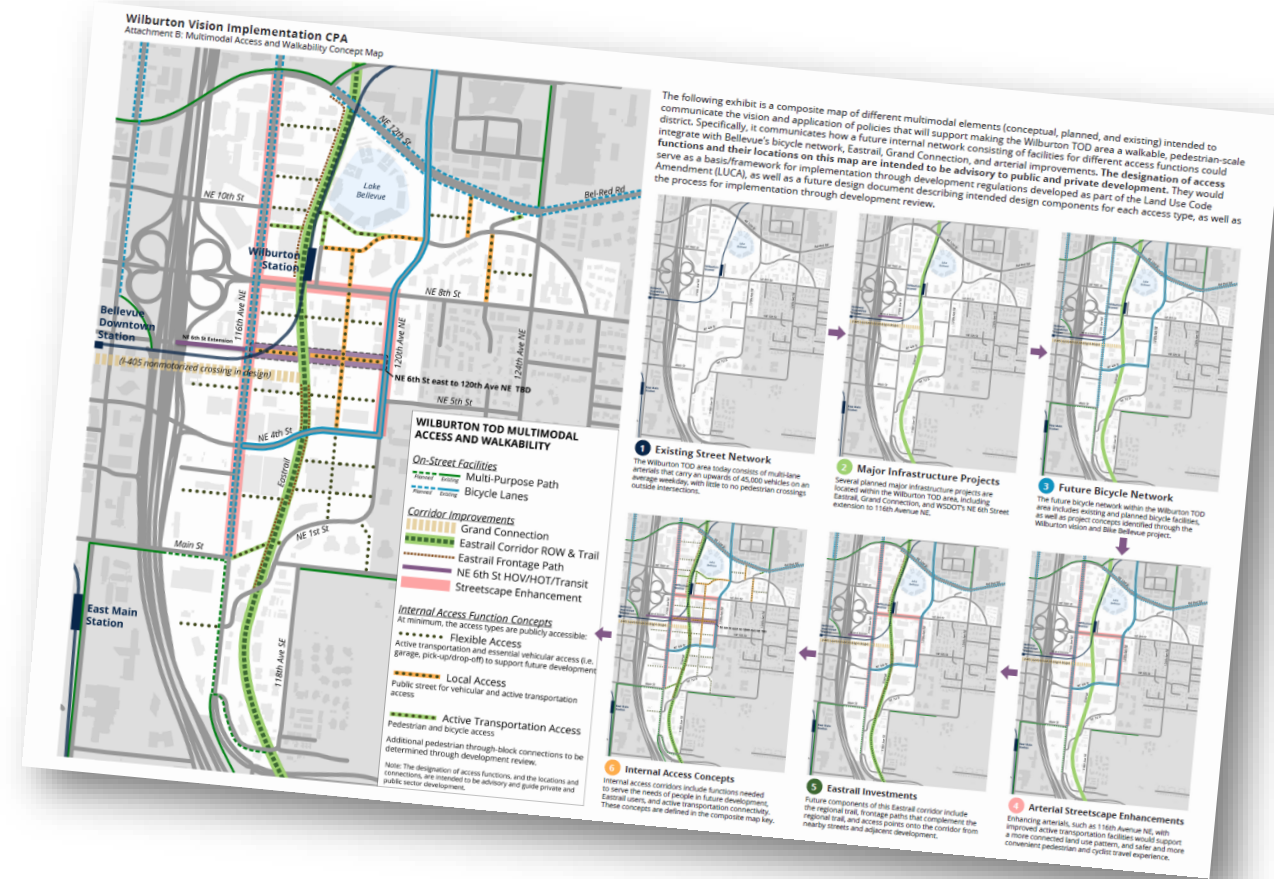
- **March 2023:** Review of draft vision statement, policy topics & goals, policy guidance statements
- **May - July 2023:** Direction on draft policies and key policy moves, early concurrence on subarea boundary adjustment
- **July 2023:** TC recommendation of draft transportation policies



	May 24, 2023	July 12, 2023	July 26, 2023
Policy Focus	Open Space & Natural Systems	Cultural & Community Connections	Future Land Use
Policy Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment • Parks, Recreation, and Open Space • Eastrail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development • Arts & Culture • Transportation • Urban Design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Use • Housing • Implementation

Project Milestones

- **November 9:** Transportation Commission update on:
 - 1) Draft transportation policies
 - 2) Policy evaluation for NE 6th St extension
 - 3) Multimodal access and walkability concepts
- **Updated TC recommendation on draft transportation policies in Q1 2024**





Phase 2 Community Engagement

Goals & Outcomes

- **Describe to the public the role of policies** in informing plans, programs, and regulations
- **Facilitate effective community dialogue and input** around policies
- **Understand what changes community members see** resulting from future policies
- **Hear from more voices within the community,** especially those we have not heard from

For the Wilburton TOD Vision Implementation, updates to policies and the Comprehensive Plan map will inform Land Use Code Amendments (LUCA).

Policy	Code
Informs decision-making	Informs implementation of decisions
General direction and support	Detailed and specific
Leaves room for flexibility and interpretation	Provides clear direction

What outcomes do you think will result from a policy idea?

How might policies be interpreted differently?

Are these outcomes desirable or are there potential negative consequences?



Phase 2 Engagement Activities

- Between January – September 2023
- **Over 350 people** engaged across different engagement activities
- **Over 900 mailers** distributed to residents and businesses within the Wilburton TOD area on opportunities to participate



Changes are coming to the west edge of Wilburton...

Help shape the transformation!

Your stories provide insight into what you value and want considered when future change occurs in the Wilburton Transit-Oriented Development (TOD), such as:

- How to best support livability, healthy living, economic vitality, and the needs of Bellevue's diverse and growing population.
- How the area can create an inviting, pedestrian-focused experience that connects people and fosters community.

Council launched the Wilburton Vision Implementation in April 2022. Now, community feedback is helping the city craft a preferred plan for growth, including policies and regulations to guide successful implementation of the vision.



For more information, please visit:
BellevueWA.gov/Wilburton-Vision
or email: WilburtonVision@bellevuewa.gov

Here are several ways to participate!

Share your story!

The vision is for a diverse mix of housing, office, shopping, and entertainment options across the west edge of Wilburton. Tell us what these changes mean for you on: engagingbellevue.com/Wilburton-vision-implementation

Stay updated on our Environmental Review!

Learn more about the process and how to participate at: bellevuewa.gov/2044-environmental-review

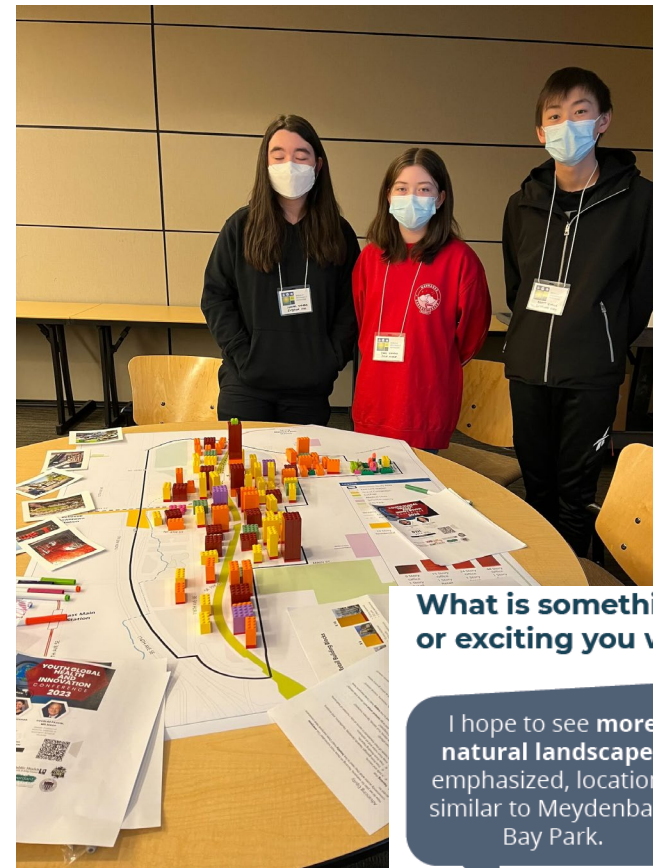
Participate in an information session!

See upcoming dates and register at: wilburtonvision.eventbrite.com

Engagement Highlights

Youth Engagement

- Meetings with Youth Link and Youth Council to share project progress
- Youth and planning staff co-lead Youth Involvement Conference workshop on envisioning Wilburton
- **Youth emphasized opportunities around Wilburton Station and Eastrail, equity, and climate change**



What is something new, innovative, or exciting you wish to see?

I hope to see **more natural landscapes** emphasized, locations similar to Meydenbaur Bay Park.

Complete streets between Downtown, BelRed & Wilburton.

Would like to have planning to consider a **space for marginalized youth**, as well as a **safe space for homeless youth**.

Community art! It would be awesome to see spaces dedicated to youth art.

Engagement Highlights

BDAN and BNOA

- Meetings with BDAN and BNOA to identify considerations around equity and older adult needs
- Additionally sought feedback on key policy moves during Eastside Welcoming Week
- **Considerations around universal design, inclusive family- and senior-friendly gathering spaces, stronger affordable housing tools, more transportation options to neighborhood services**



Community Open House

87 attendees

- Facilitate broad community participation and input-gathering around key policy moves
- Targeted outreach to multifamily properties in the area, affordable housing providers, advocacy organizations
- Feedback collected via worksheets submitted to staff during event



Wilburton Vision Implementation Open House – Policy Moves Worksheet
You are free to move to any board and spend as long as you like at each one. Use this worksheet to capture your thoughts on the key policy moves for each topic. You may also leave comments on post-it notes at each board. Leave this worksheet with staff so staff can collect this information to inform continued work on policies.

Name (optional): _____

What is your relationship to the Wilburton TOD (optional):
(check all that apply)

- I live in the area
- I own or operate a business in the area
- I own property in the area
- I work in the area
- I develop or represent properties in the area
- I visit the area (for shopping, eating, services, etc.)
- Other: _____

ENVIRONMENT
Goal: To lead innovations in environmental sustainability that enhances the area's natural features and contributes toward the city's climate goals.

What changes do you think will result from these policy moves?
Are there other priorities beyond these policy moves that you feel are missing?

PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE
Goal: To provide for a variety of publicly accessible community recreation and gathering spaces.

What changes do you think will result from these policy moves?
Are there other priorities beyond these policy moves that you feel are missing?

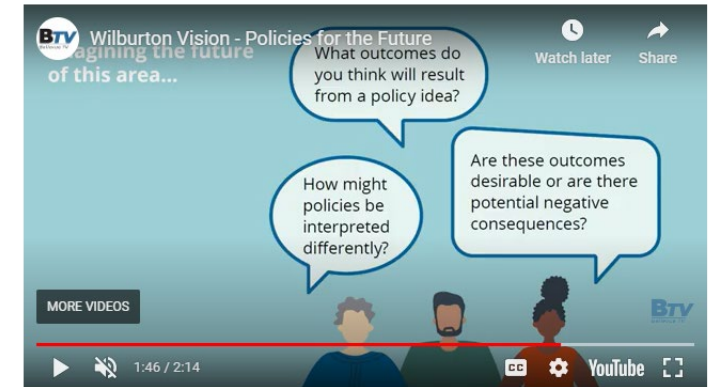
Engaging Bellevue

169 responses

- Live between August 16 through September 18
- Similar content to in-person Open House
- Expanded reach through social media, LinkedIn
- Ability to collect detailed demographic data

Before you begin...

Please take a moment to watch this short video on the different policy topics, and considerations for providing useful feedback on policies.



Share Your Feedback on Key Policy Moves!

Thank you to everyone who participated in this questionnaire. We will be sharing results in an engagement report in the coming weeks.



Policies reflect the community's vision as future changes occur, and can guide decision-making around new programs, facilities, and regulations. Policies are being developed for the Wilburton Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) area to guide the transformation of this area into Bellevue's next trail- and transit-oriented mixed-use community.

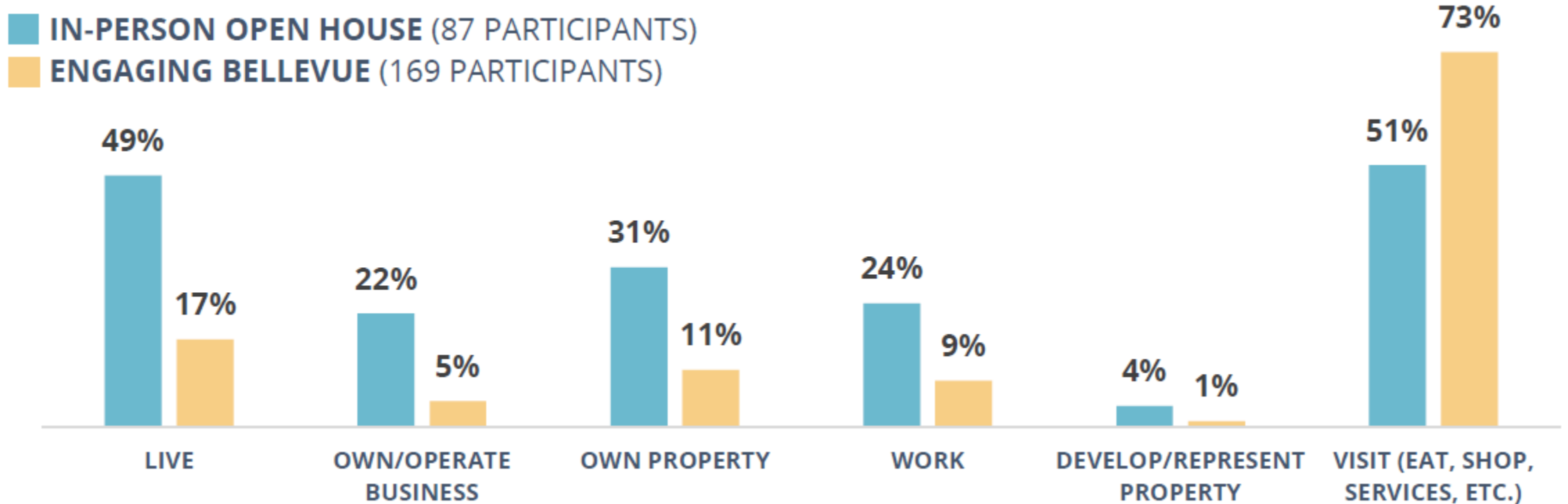
We shared draft policies with boards and commissions over the summer to get their feedback on whether the key moves within these policies provided the right kind of direction to achieve the Wilburton TOD vision.

We now want to hear from you as to how you think these policy moves will shape Wilburton's future, and whether we've captured your priorities for change in this area. Your feedback will help us refine policies that will ultimately be recommended to City Council for adoption as part of this planning process.

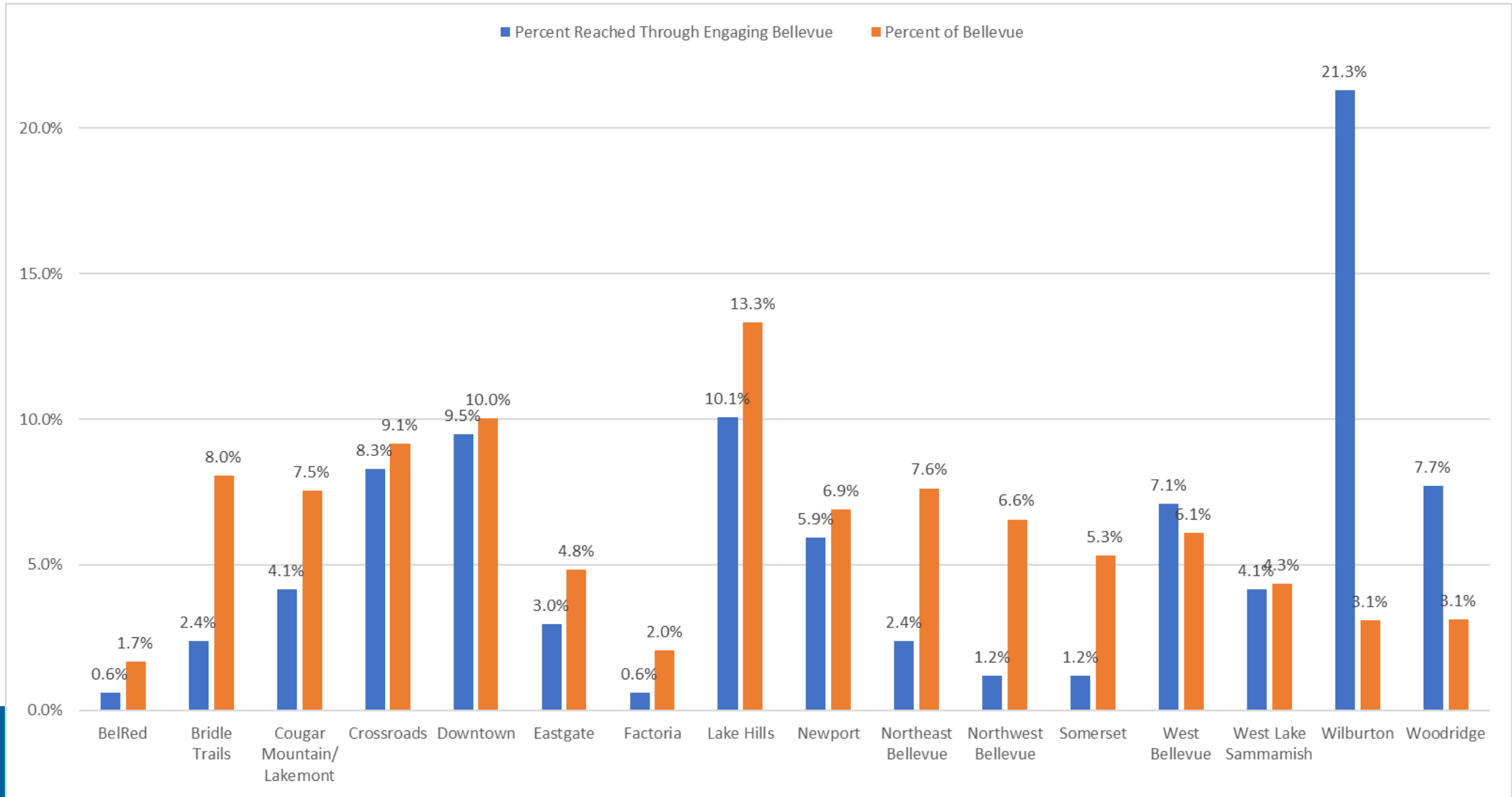
This questionnaire will be available until September 15.

Who Did We Hear From?

Relationship to Wilburton TOD area



Who Did We Hear From? Neighborhood Demographics



Who Did We Hear From? Participant Demographics

- Staff strive for broad representation in feedback received
- People of color, younger people, and renters typically less represented in engagement efforts
- Recognition of voices missing when considering this feedback



RACE/ETHNICITY

61% OF BELLEVUE ARE PEOPLE OF COLOR

20% OF RESPONDENTS WERE PEOPLE OF COLOR



AGE

18 - 24

25 - 34

35 - 44

41%

OF BELLEVUE ARE AGES 18 THROUGH 44

41%

OF RESPONDENTS WERE AGES 18 THROUGH 44



OWNERSHIP STATUS

47% OF BELLEVUE ARE RENTERS

22%

OF RESPONDENTS WERE RENTERS

What Did We Hear?

- Respondents generally viewed policy moves as bringing positive changes
- Expectations for change generally aligned with intended policy outcomes
- Several policy areas where there was diverging opinion amongst respondents



Areas of Divergence: Tree Canopy

- **Positive Change:** More trees planted; and the tree canopy prioritized in future development and green spaces
- **Negative Change:** Future development will result in loss of mature tree canopy and wildlife; too much concrete
- **Priorities:** Increased treecover, native landscaping, preserving mature trees



Areas of Divergence: Small Businesses

- **Positive Change:** Greater variety of local businesses, especially food and beverage
- **Negative Change:** Loss of “mom & pop stores”, small businesses not able to afford retail spaces
- **Priorities:** Programs/incentives to help small businesses thrive; local retail over chains



Areas of Divergence: Public Art

- **Positive Change:** Community-driven public art integrated into future development
- **Negative Change:** Public art to be unattractive, or catered/representative only to specific communities
- **Priorities:** Recognition of cultures, diverse representation, support for local artists and youth



Areas of Divergence: Future Densities/Building Heights

- **Positive Change:** Greater opportunity around transit and Lake Bellevue, affordable housing
- **Negative Change:** Greater traffic congestion, negative aesthetic impacts, infringement on single-family residential areas
- **Priorities:** Transitions in scale, adequate parking, building standards that provide for light, air, and public views

*representative of typical building scale + height



Areas of Divergence: Housing Affordability

- **Positive Change:** Housing affordable to those who work in the area, families, accessibility to transit options and services
- **Negative Change:** New housing will still be unaffordable, new housing not compatible with single-family residential
- **Priorities:** Seniors and families, includes all income levels



Discussion

- Consider the draft policies you provided direction on in the late spring/early summer:
 - Are there any key findings or themes from recent engagement that surprise you?
 - What do you think are causing these areas of divergence?

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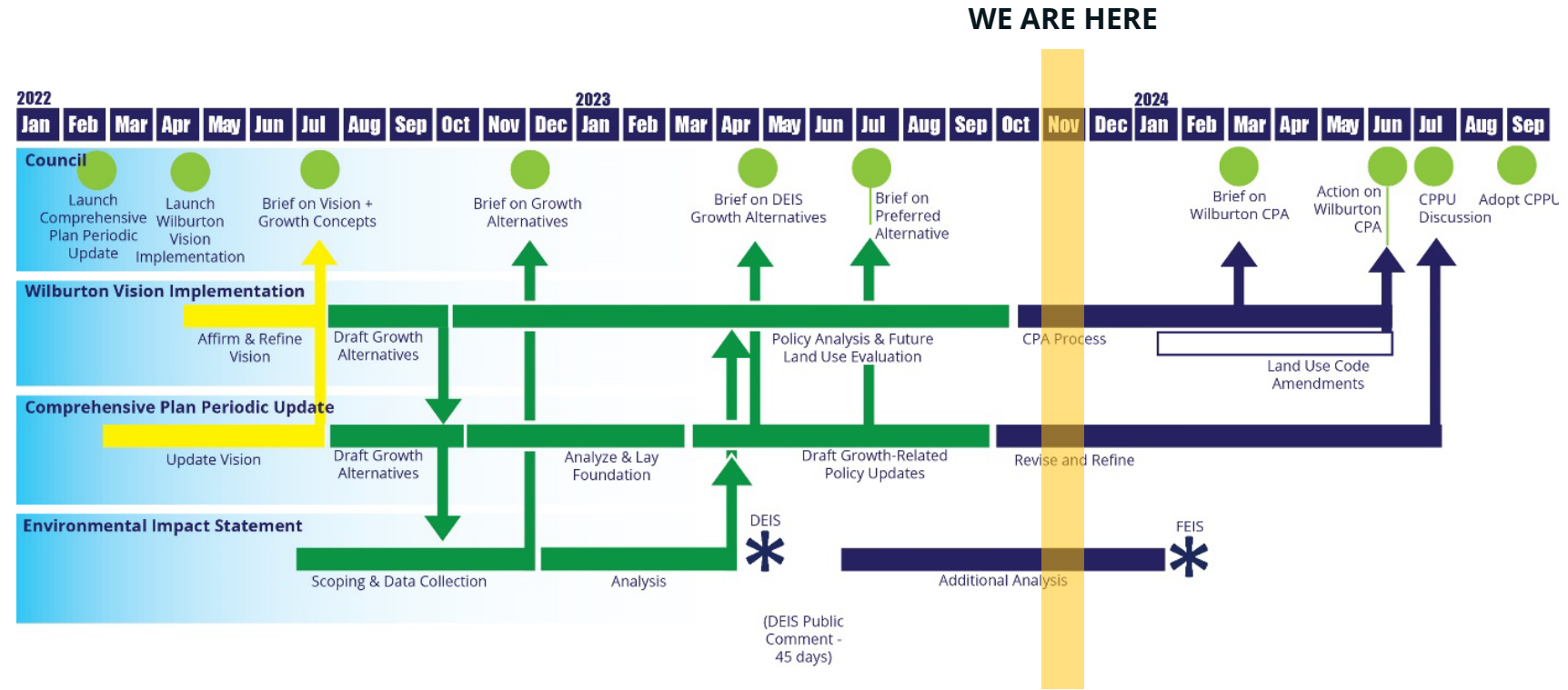
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Upcoming Topics

- **January 2024** – Introduction to Land Use Code Amendment (LUCA) framework and approach (anticipated)
- **February-April 2024** – Study sessions for proposed Wilburton CPA & LUCA (anticipated)



Thank you!

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For more information, please visit:
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