

Updates to the Town Center LCI and 2040 Comprehensive Plan

Steering Committee Meeting #1
March 7, 2023



Agenda

6:30 Welcome and Introductions

6:40 Project Overview

7:00 Public Engagement Approach

7:30 Community Priorities Discussion

8:20 Next Steps



PROJECT OVERVIEW



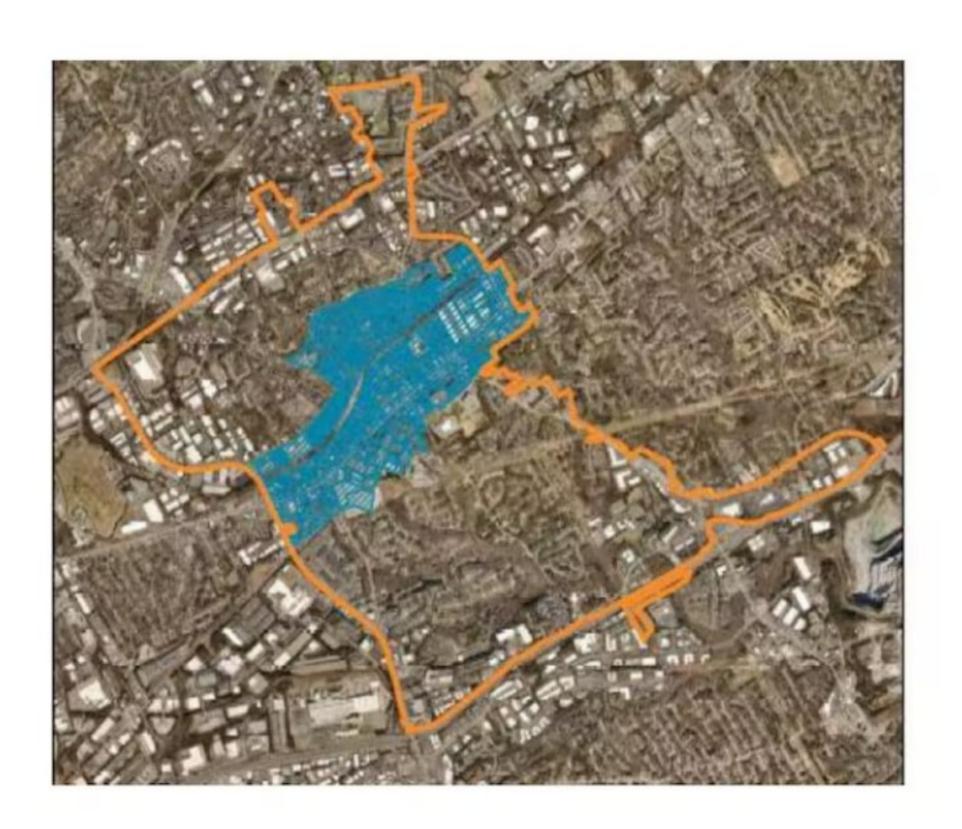
Scope and purpose of the plans being updated

Comprehensive Plan

- Defines the long-term vision for the entire City
- Policy guide for future actions based on a shared vision
- Required by state law in order to receive certain funding

Town Center Livable Centers Initiative (LCI)

- Encourages the co-location of diverse housing, employment, recreational and cultural amenities in the Town Center
- Supports and plans for access to a range of travel modes
- Fosters public-private partnerships and sustained community support, including those who are historically under-served and under-represented





Project Goals

Combined goals between updating the Comprehensive Plan and the LCI

Comp Plan

Validate the community's vision for the future

Review and incorporate recent plans and policies

Explore the ways and means to implement the vision

LCI

Study traffic operations within the Study Area, particularly at the railroad and Buford Hwy crossings

Evaluate how to better support the transition to Electric Vehicles

Develop implementation strategies for improvement



Integrated Approach focused on Implementation

Comp

Public Engagement

Validation and incorporation of other studies

LCI Study

- Traffic Operations Analysis
- EV Implementation Analysis



Components of the Comprehensive Plan





TWO-PART VISION

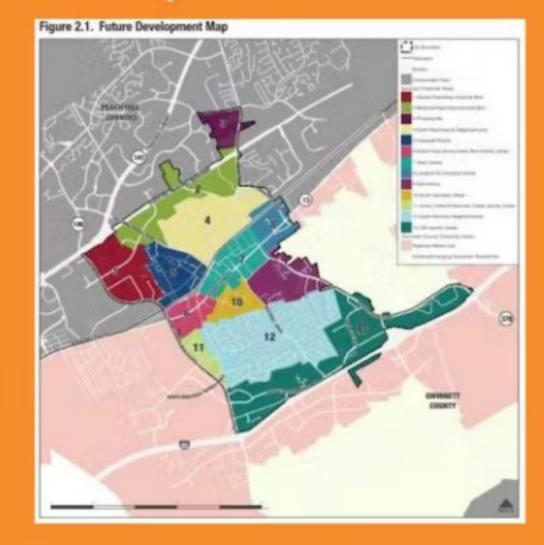
STATEMENT

(CITYWIDE)

Norcross will be a dynamic and welcoming community in which generations of diverse citizens can engage, create, contribute, and flourish.

CHARACTER AREAS

(LOCATION-SPECIFIC)



MAP

NARRATIVE

Traffic Operations Analysis



Targeted Evaluation of Alternatives that Meet Identified Goals



Recommended Transportation Improvements

- Steering Committee Vision
- Past Studies and Reports
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Pedestrian Safety Assessment
- Future Growth Trends
- Existing Conditions Assessment

Examples:

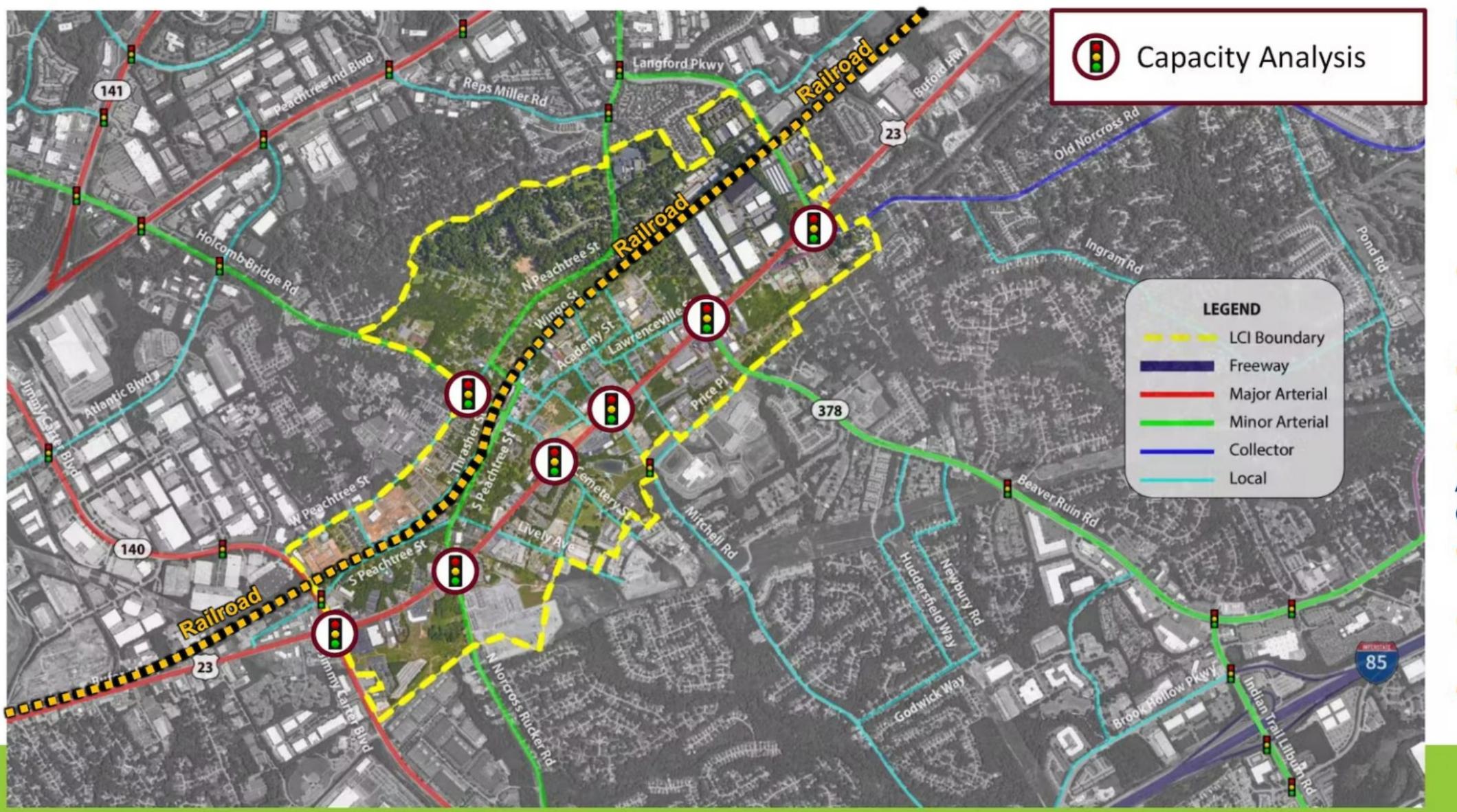
- Buford Highway Congestion
- Railroad Crossings
- Mobility Connections across Buford Hwy
- Pedestrian Safety

Examples:

- Enhanced Intersection Crossings
- Alternative Intersection Solutions
- Streetscape Upgrades
- Lane Reconfigurations



Focus on Intersection Improvements



Buford Hwy Intersections:

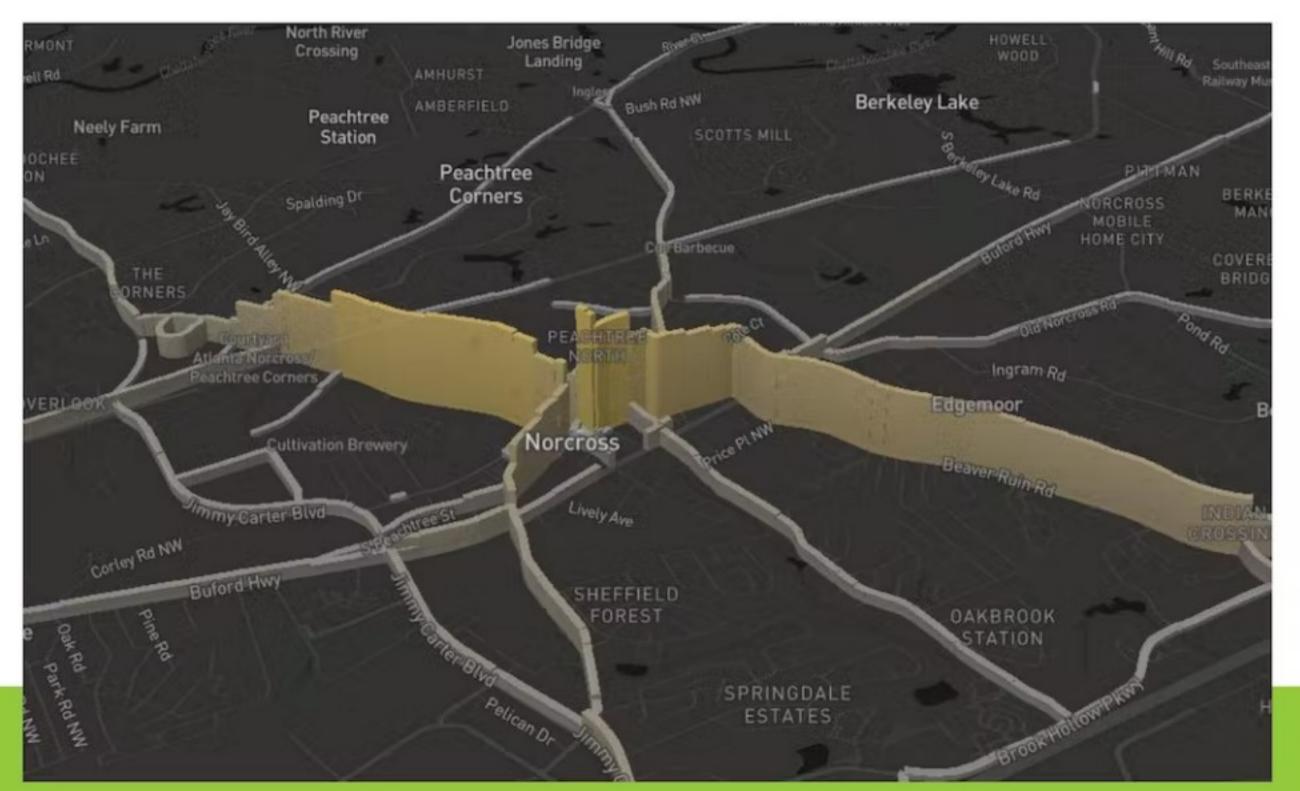
- Jimmy Carter Blvd
- S Peachtree Rd / N Norcross Tucker Rd
- Holcomb Bridge Rd/ S Cemetery St
- Mitchell Road
- Beaver Ruin Rd
- Old Norcross Rd At grade Railroad crossings:
- Holcomb Bridge
 Rd
- Jones St/ParkDr
- Lanford Pkwy



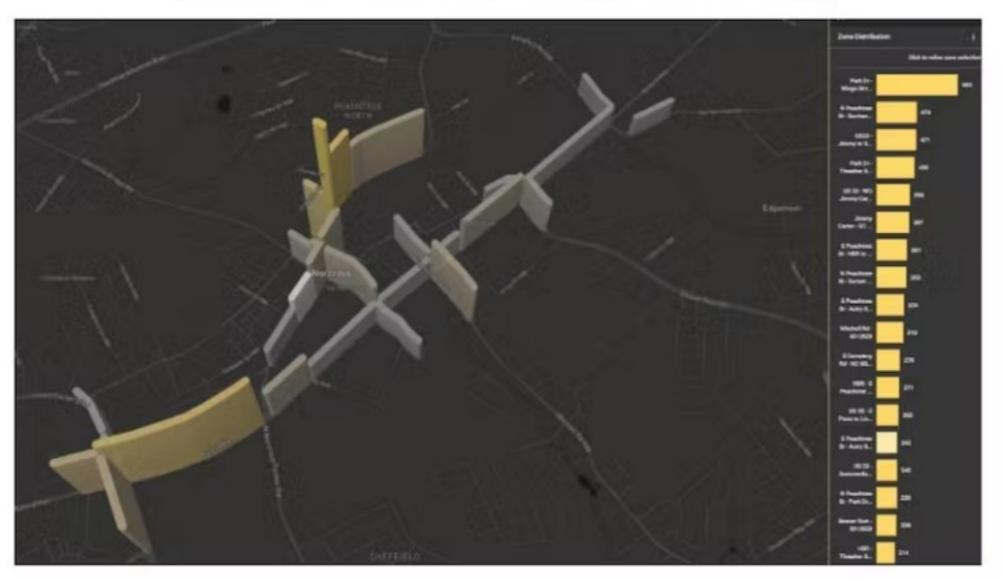
StreetLight Data

StreetLight data will be used in place of traditional data collection measures, improving accuracy over one-day counting methods and offering additional insights like routing and multimodal results.

Top Routes for Vehicles to S Peachtree St



Pedestrian Activity along Buford Hwy



2021 AADT along Buford Hwy



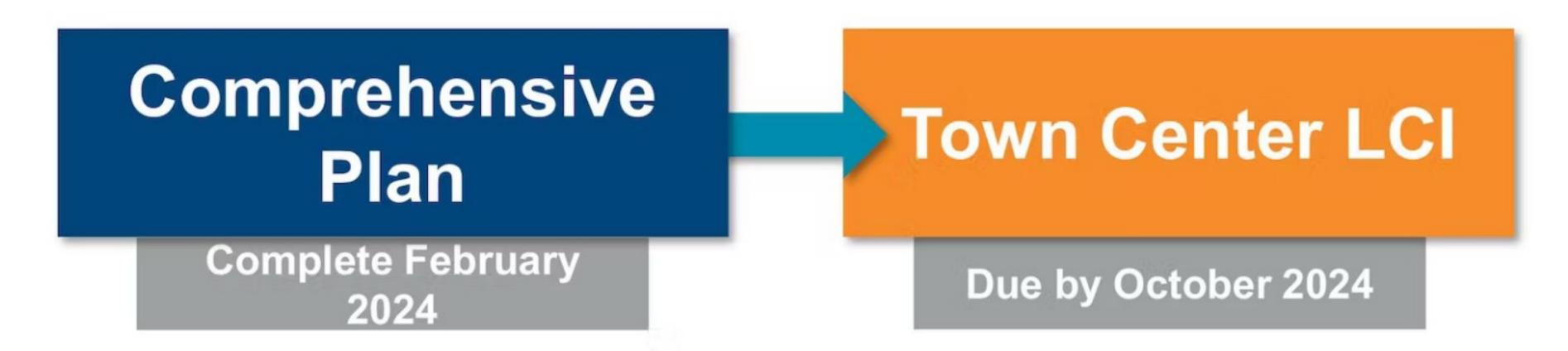
Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Planning Approach

- Coordinate with ARC on Regional EV Plan
- Research latest changes in EV technology
- Use of StreetLight Data to create EV activity Heatmaps to Support Town Center EV Planning
- Select recommended sites for EV charging
- Help to identify funding opportunities





Schedule



- Public engagement will be taking place over the Spring, Summer, and Fall
- Steering Committee established:
 - Membership appointed by City Council
 - Will meet 5 times over the coming year, first meeting on March 7
- Mayor and City Council will be updated regularly throughout the process

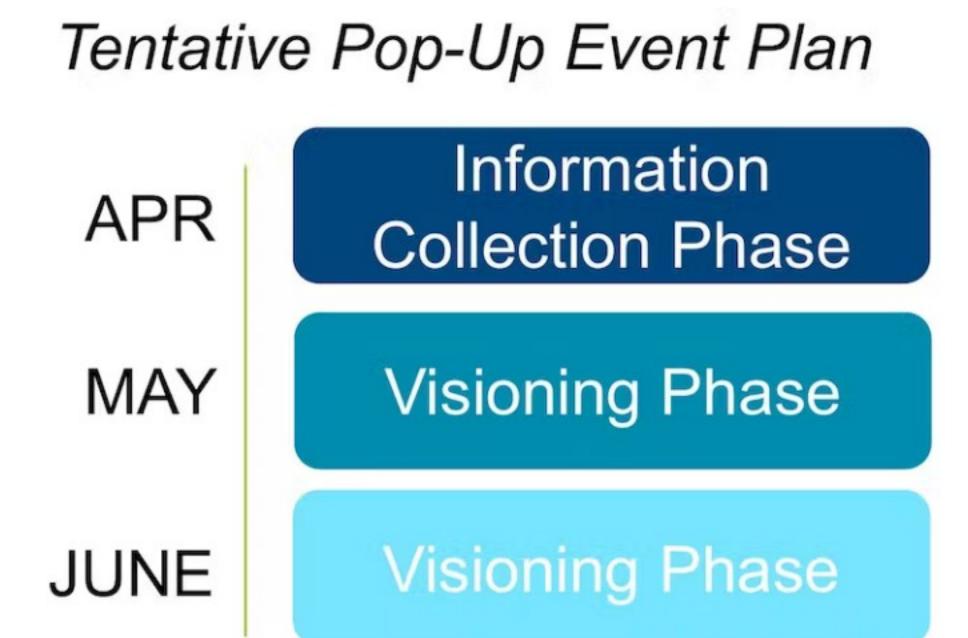


PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT APPROACH



Engagement Overview

- Interactive website www.imagineourfuture.org
- Public hearings
- Awareness building campaign
- Project outreach list
- 3 pop-up events
- 2 online surveys
- 1 public open house



Stakeholders Role: Interviews (up to 15), Steering Committee (meets 5 times), Presentation to Planning & Zoning Board (1), City Council Meetings (3)



Pop-Up Event Options



Pop-Up 1: April 8

Easter Egg Hunt, Rossie Brundage
 Park

Pop-Ups 2 and 3: Help us decide!

- Viva Mexico
- Juneteenth
- Summer Concert Series
- Community Center Movie Monday
- Others?



Which events/locations do you think we should prioritize for pop-up booths? (Check all that apply)



Easter Egg Hunt/Special Needs Easter Egg Hunt, 4/8



Community Center Monday





Georgia Cities Week at City Hall









Do you have additional ideas about locations for pop-up events? 14 Answers



Norcross community market	4th of July	Irishfest
Pedal Norcross (October)	Fall arts festival , brewery's, 3rd if July	Events at Pinnacle Park
Jazz in the Alley	German and British Car Shows. Norcross Farmers Market	Any of the festivals



Do you have additional ideas about locations for pop-up events?



Children's day events and activities

PDC meeting

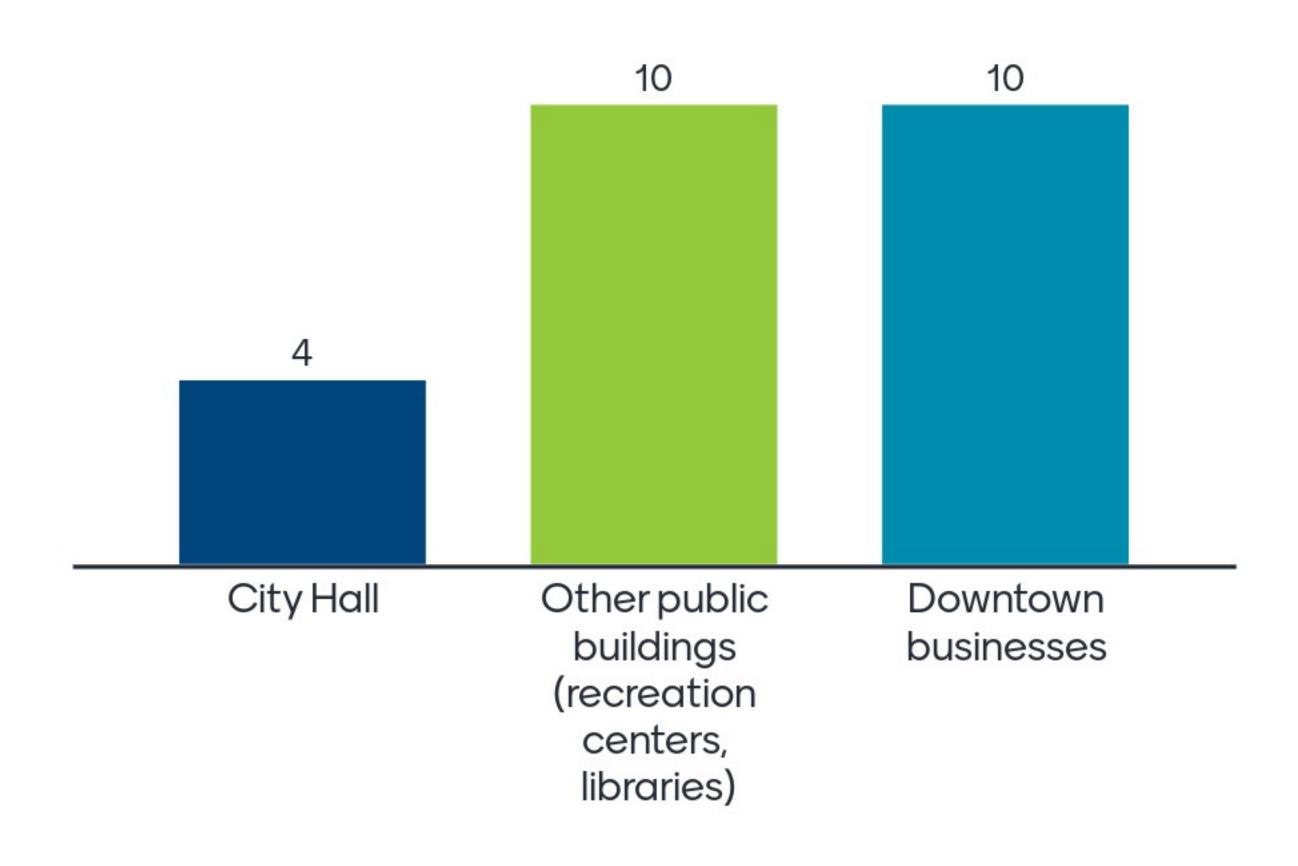
Car shows, council cookouts, jazz in alley,

Concert audiences aren't representing most of Norcross as there are few Spanish language groups.

Coffee With Council



When not being used at pop-ups, where should project banners be placed to raise awareness?





Do you have additional ideas for locations to place banners? (14) Answers



Buford hwy near liberty	Top of Lillian Webb Park	Norcross library branch
Over the streets entering Norcross	Lillian Webb - Thrasher Parks	Mitchell Road at Price Place
Sign near Thrasher park	All along Buford Hwy	On the city sign by the tracks



Do you have additional ideas for locations to place banners?



Latino markets, holcomb bridge at w peachtree

Sunset at N Peachtree

Digital sign at Ptree Ind & Holcomb

Lawrenceville st near McDonalds & senior citizen home

Lawrenceville st near McDonalds and senior citizen home



Do you have suggestions for high-visibility locations throughout the city to place yard signs promoting engagement opportunities?



Parks

Holcomb bridge, city events, schools

N Peachtree St

Mitchell Road, Norcross Tucker, Beaver Ruin

Holcomb Bridge

Near traffic lights along Buford Hwy

Library

Beaver ruin Methodist church

Sunset at N Peachtree



Do you have suggestions for high-visibility locations throughout the city to place yard signs promoting engagement opportunities?



Lawrenceville st and Jones st intersection stop sign

Lawrenceville st near McDonald's & senior citizen home

Churches

PDC

PDC, Rotary Clubs, and SGCC

Southwest Chamber of Commerce



Steering Committee & Community Partners

Help us extend our reach!

Champion the project in your community, and help us connect with cultural or interest groups in Norcross

- Center for Pan Asian
 Community Services
- Latin American Association
- Young Norcross
- Others?





Do you have recommendations for organizations we can work with to get the word out to different segments of the Norcross population?



PDC

Norcross Co-op

Library

PDC, Rotary Clubs, and SGCC

Churches

Alliance for Norcross Peachtree
Corners

Office of Code Enforcement, they are in touch with HOA's

Southwest Chamber of Commerce

Regions Norcross branch on Buford High is heavily utilized by the Hispanic population



Do you have recommendations for organizations we can work with to get the word out to different segments of the Norcross population?



Norcross Garden Club

Churchs, PTA groups,

Apartment complex management

Local Schools (public and private)

HOA presidents and board members of communities

LatinX and Galeo



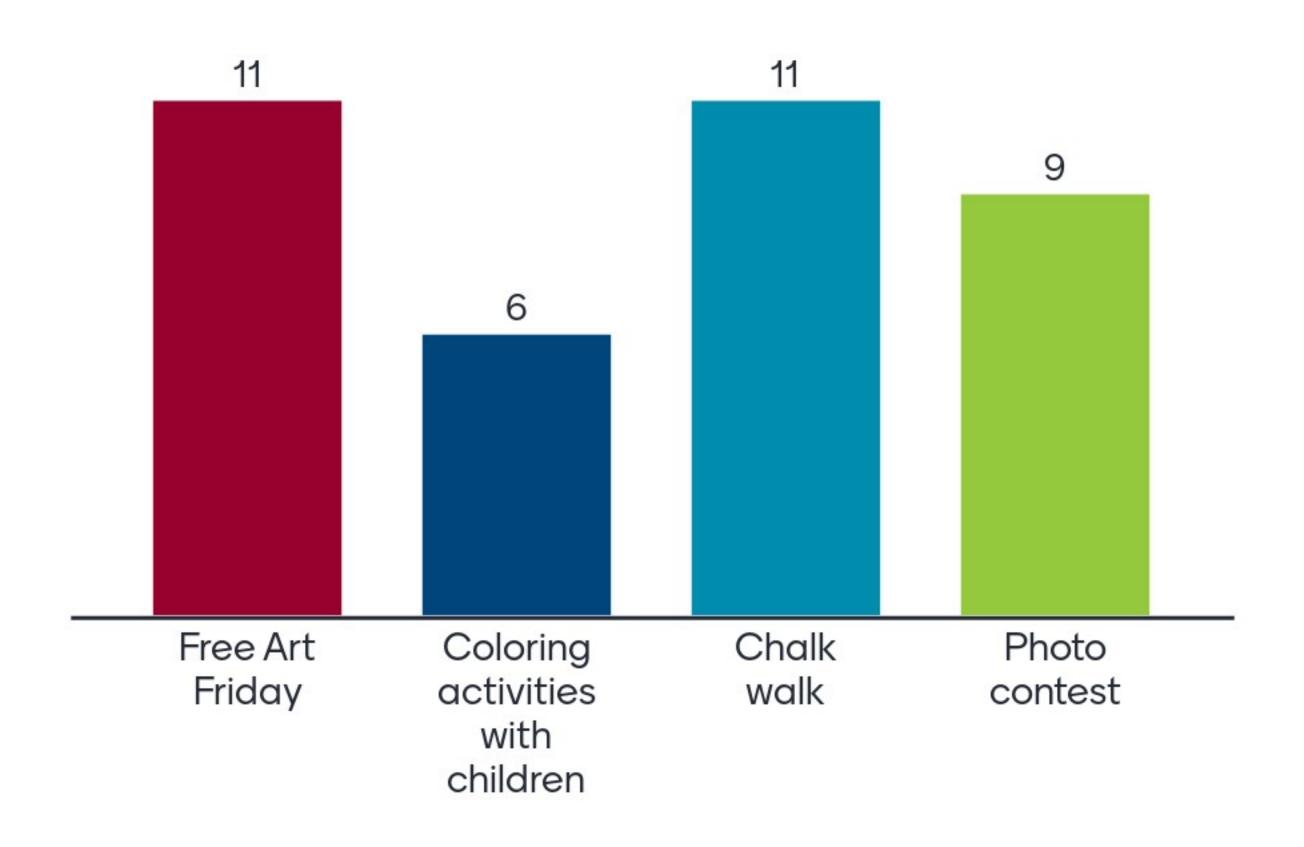
Imagine the Future through Art Ideas



- Free art scavenger hunts, with local artist support
- Photo or other art media contest
- Creative visioning input activities
- Artist interpretation of community vision
- Kids activities (chalk, coloring pages, etc.)
- Other ideas



Which forms of arts-based engagement do you support? (Check all that apply)





Do you have additional ideas about how to carry out arts-based engagement?

"Imagine our Future" wildflower seed packets

Artist partnerships with local art galleries / museums (eg Hudgens)

A color run/5k

Ask Bobbie Adamczyk at NES for ideas

Art from Senior Center, Adult Living Communities

Mental mapping exercize

Children's art museum that rotates their works

Kids paint a city parks maintenance vehicle.

Partner with Norcross Library



Do you have additional ideas about how to carry out arts-based engagement?



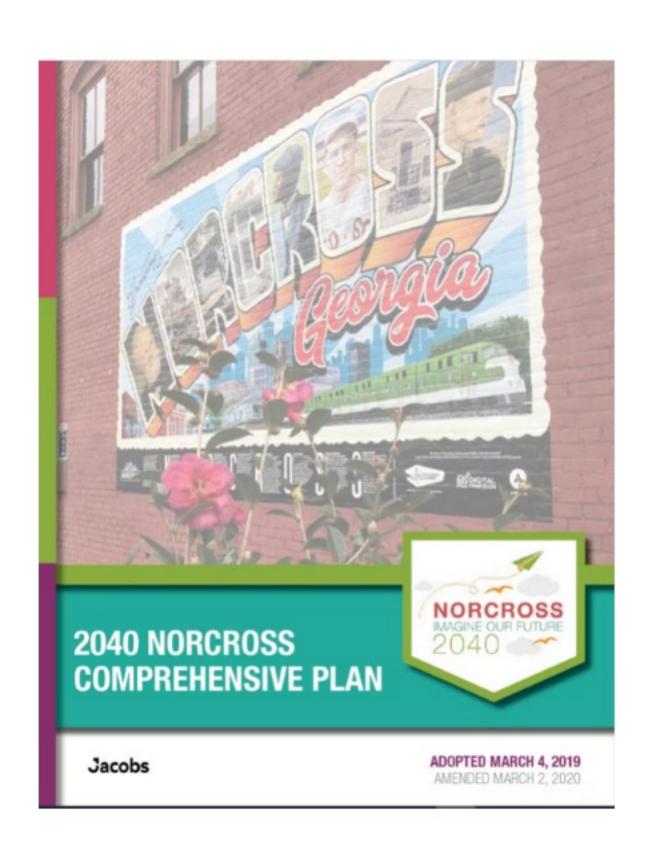
Board at the library where people can add their art and vision

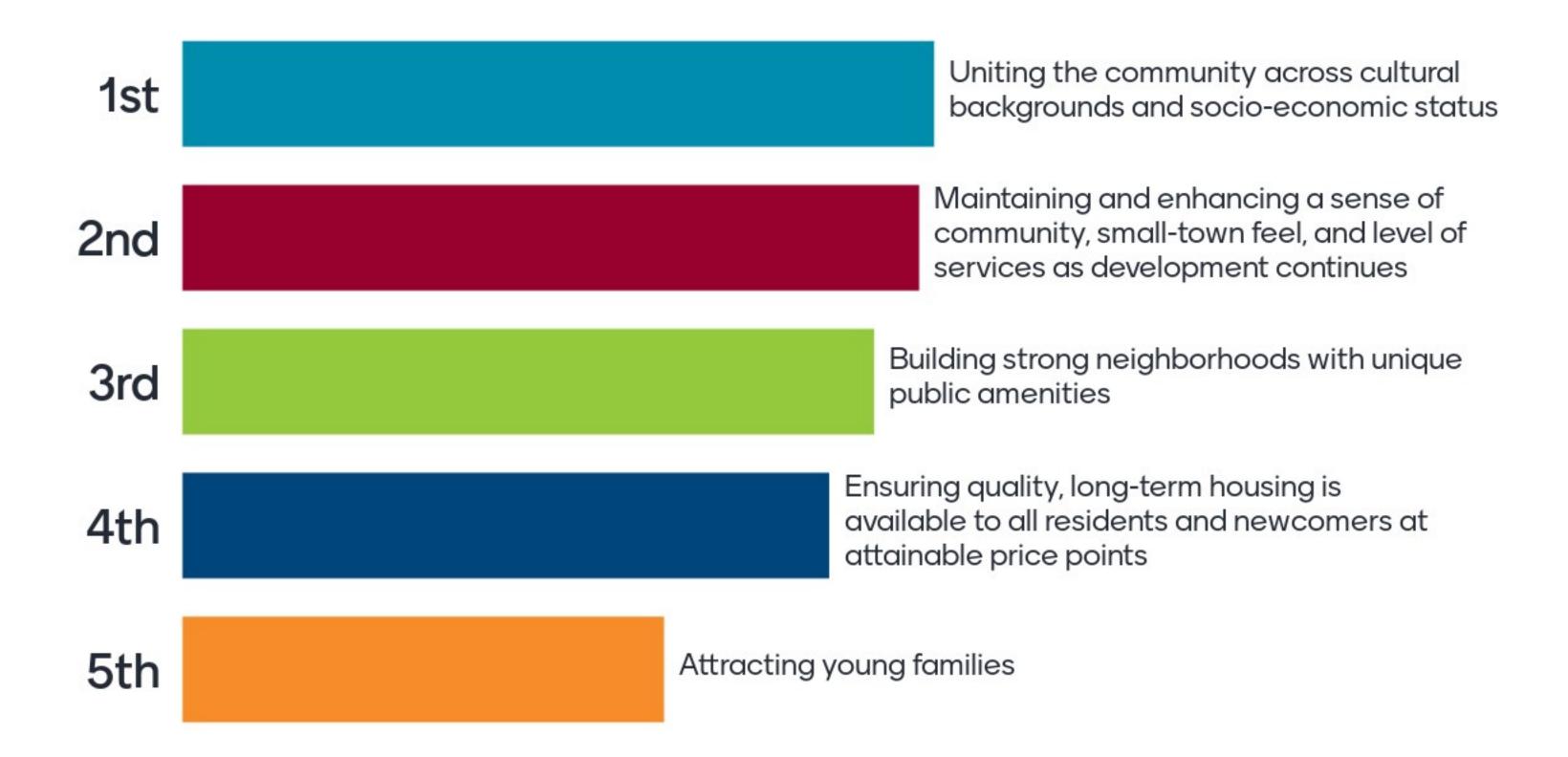


COMMUNITY PRIORITIES DISCUSSION

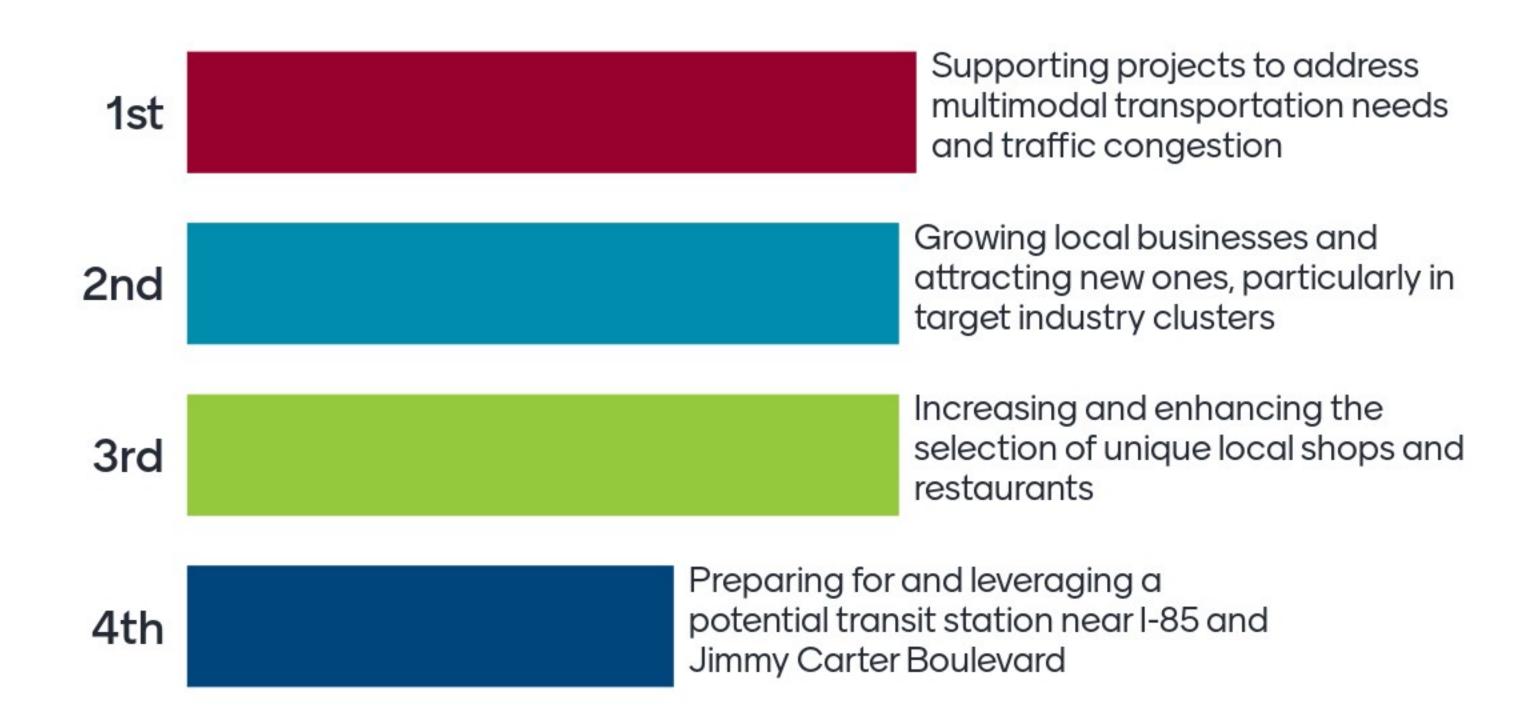


Please rank the quality of life priorities from the 2019 plan update by current importance.



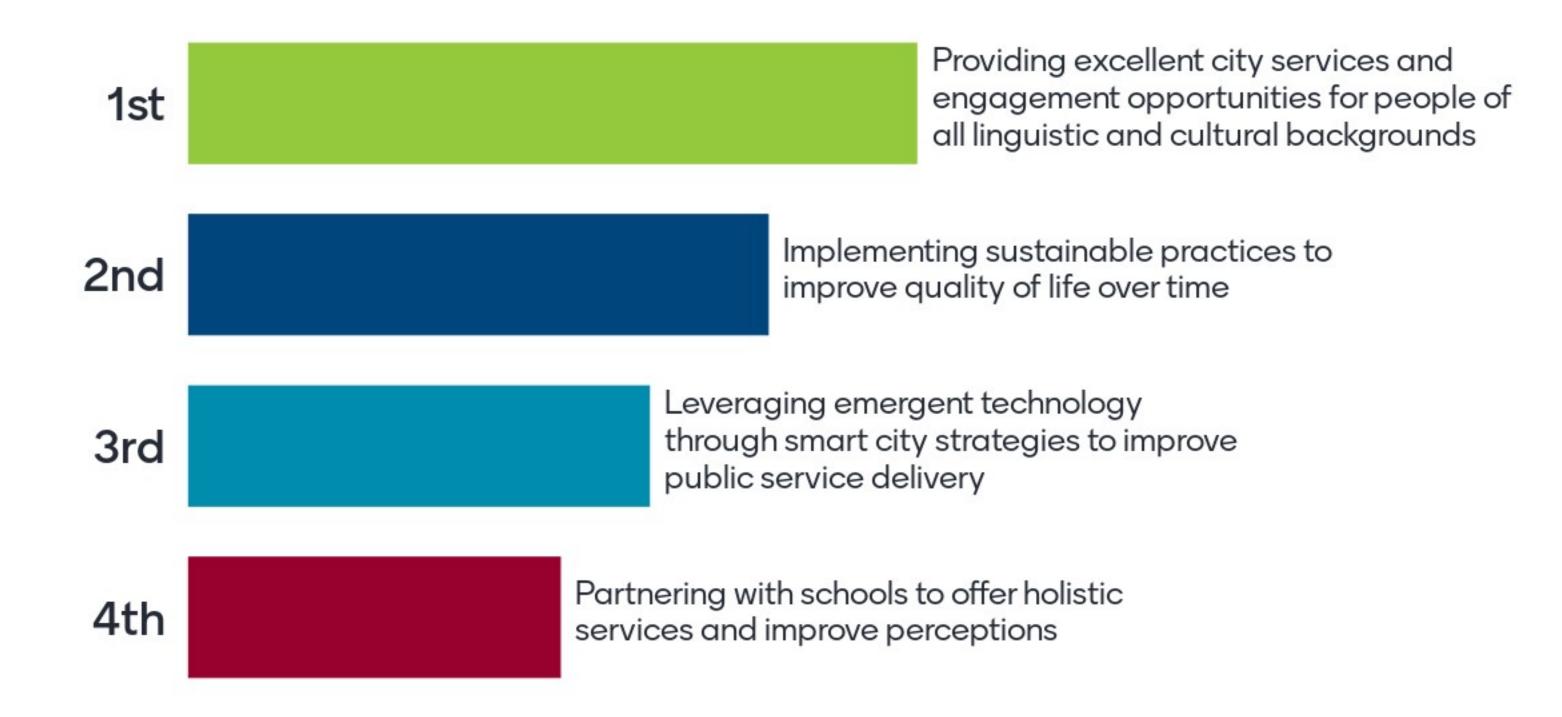


Please rank the economic and infrastructure priorities from the 2019 plan update by current importance.



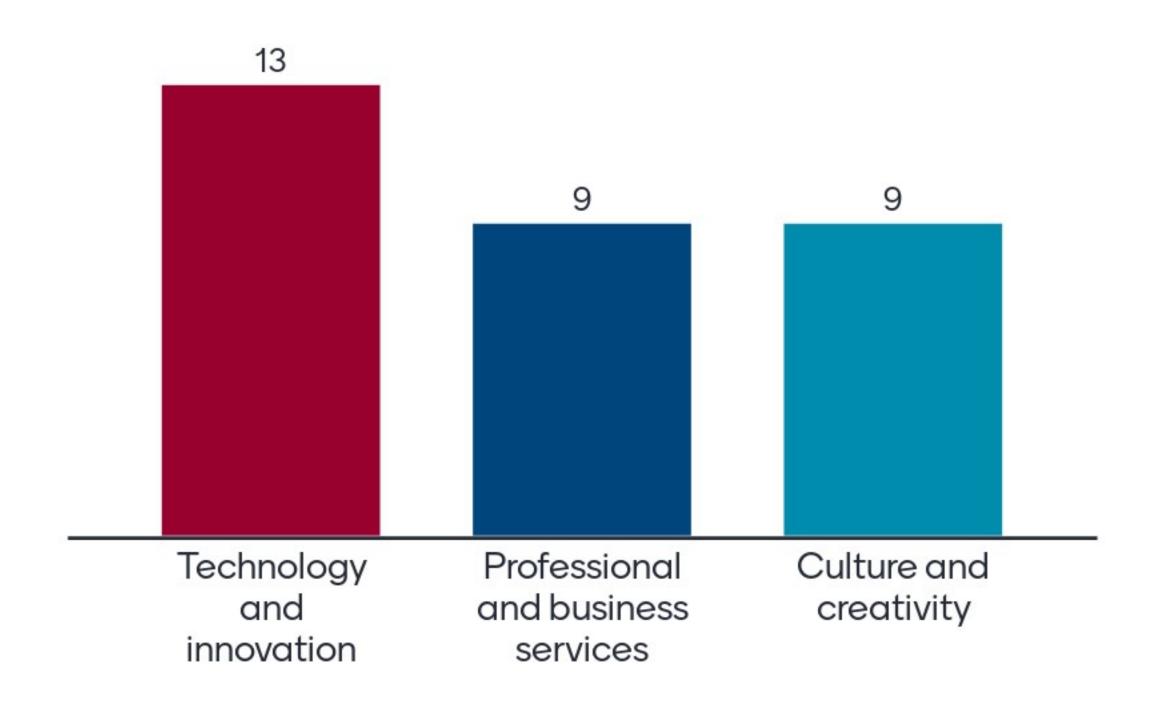


Please rank the public service priorities from the 2019 plan update by current importance.





Which of the previously identified target industry clusters do you want to see more of in Norcross? (Check all that apply)





Are the other industries you would like to see in Norcross? 11 Answers



Manufacturing	Medical	Ones that will bring in overnight guest
Manufacturing	Technical college campus	Airport
One-stop resource centers	Bed and breakfasts	Manufacturing



Are the other industries you would like to see in Norcross?

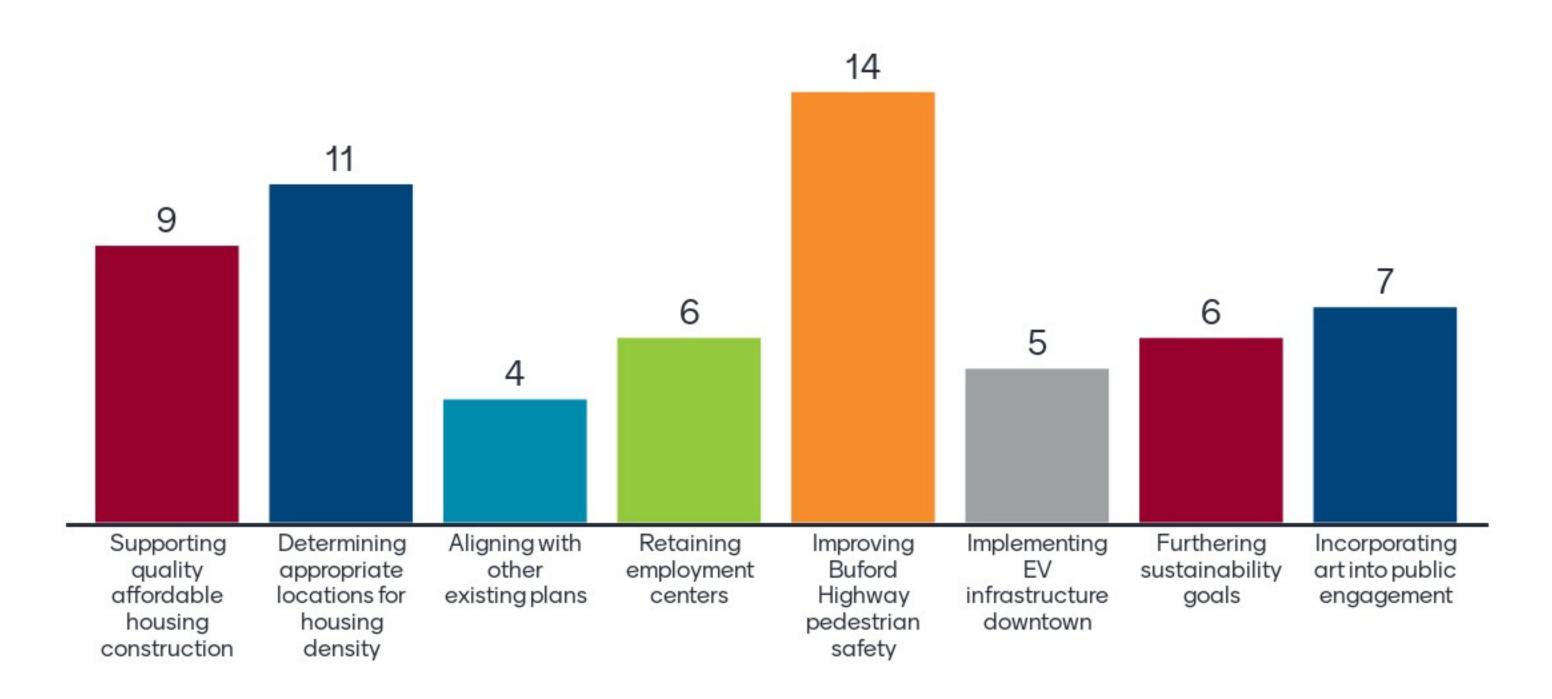


Educational programs that support Technology and Innovation

Data



Which of the following do you see as essential outcomes of this comprehensive plan update? (Check all that apply)







Do you have additional thoughts on issues you would like the plan update to address?



Walkability	Live work play balance	Parking
Parking	Bicycle infrastructure	Bike lanes
Cycling and walkability	Sidewalks and bike lanes	Incorporating demographic insights from 2020 census



Do you have additional thoughts on issues you would like the plan update to address?



Micro mobility (scooters, bicycles)

Entrepreneur incubation

Cycling - including bike racks (and charging), rentals

Is there discussion on changing the train crossings? I believe there are options that don't require trains to horn as much

Greenspace

Quality housing throughout Norcross, particularly investor owned properties

Public art

Road diets to allow for biking

Cultural Arts Center



Do you have additional thoughts on issues you would like the plan update to address?



Public safety signage

Long term viability of business nodes

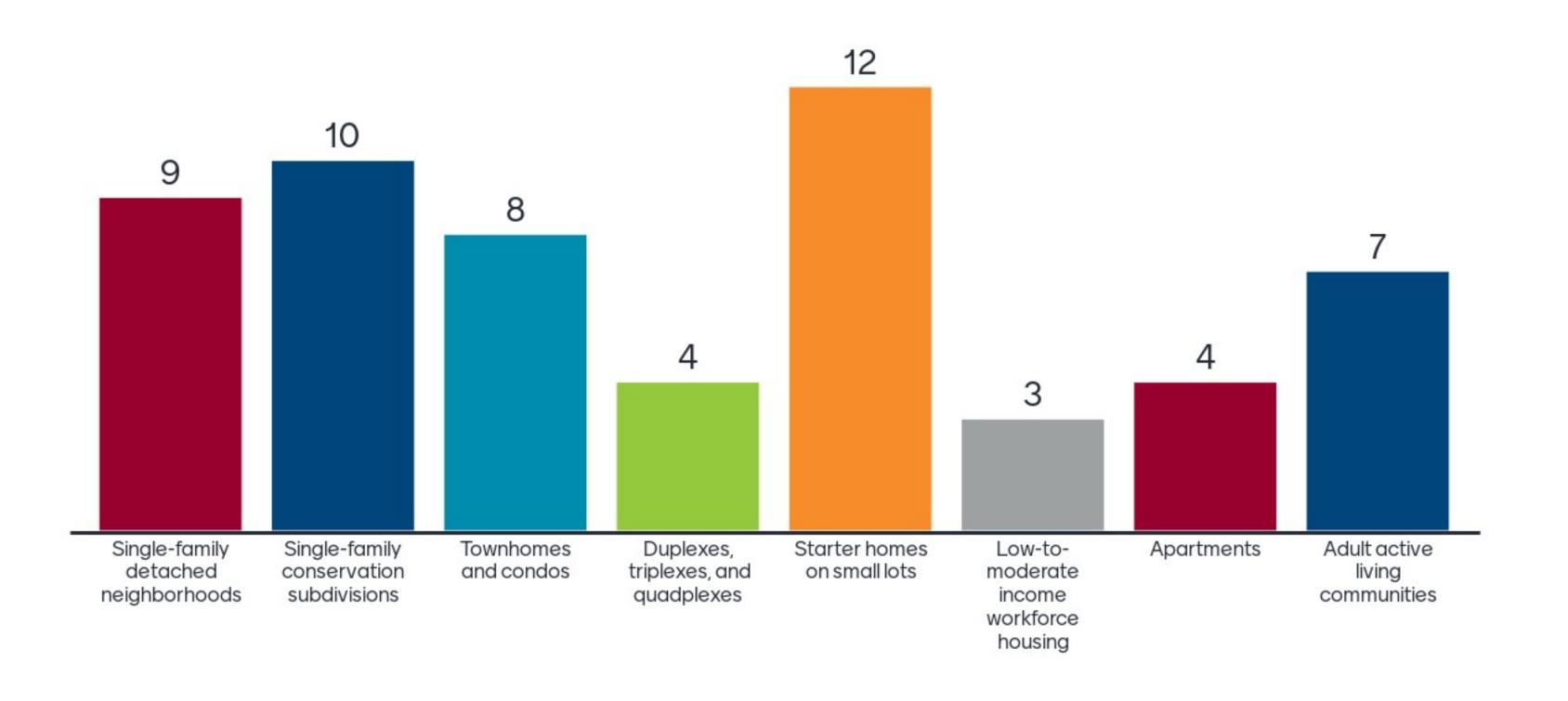
Golf cart useage

Support for small businesses

Focused commercial growth in the downtown that centers on retail and restaurants versus office space



Which housing types would you like to see more of in the future? (Check all that apply)



NEXT STEPS



What will we cover?

Meeting #2 Existing Conditions

May 2023

Meeting #3 Implementation Options

August 2023

Meeting #4 Draft community work program

October 2023

Meeting #5 Next Steps and Implementation January 2024



Meeting Dates

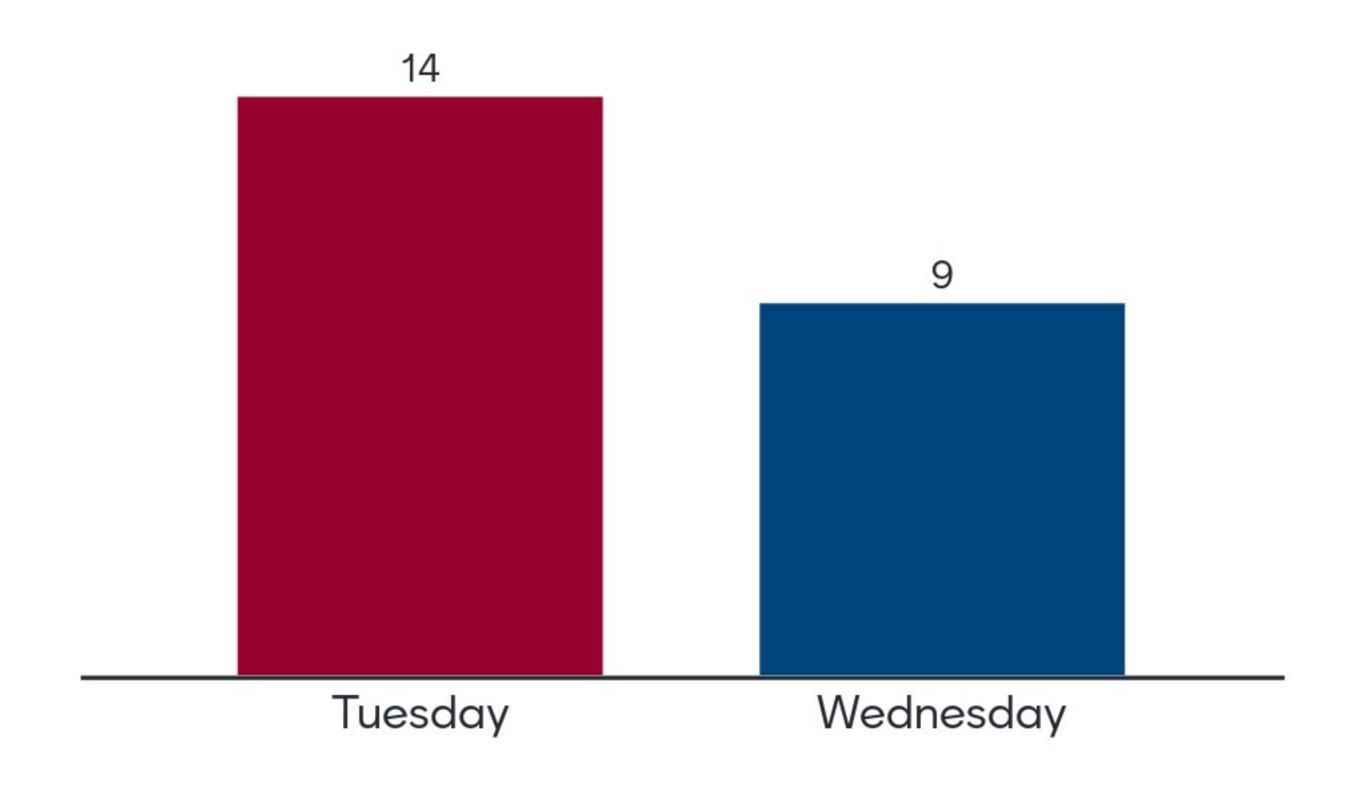
Tuesdays or Wednesdays?

Tentative Calendar based on Wednesdays

- Meeting #2 May 10, 2023
- Meeting #3 August 9, 2023
- Meeting #4 October 11, 2023
- Meeting #5 January 10, 2024

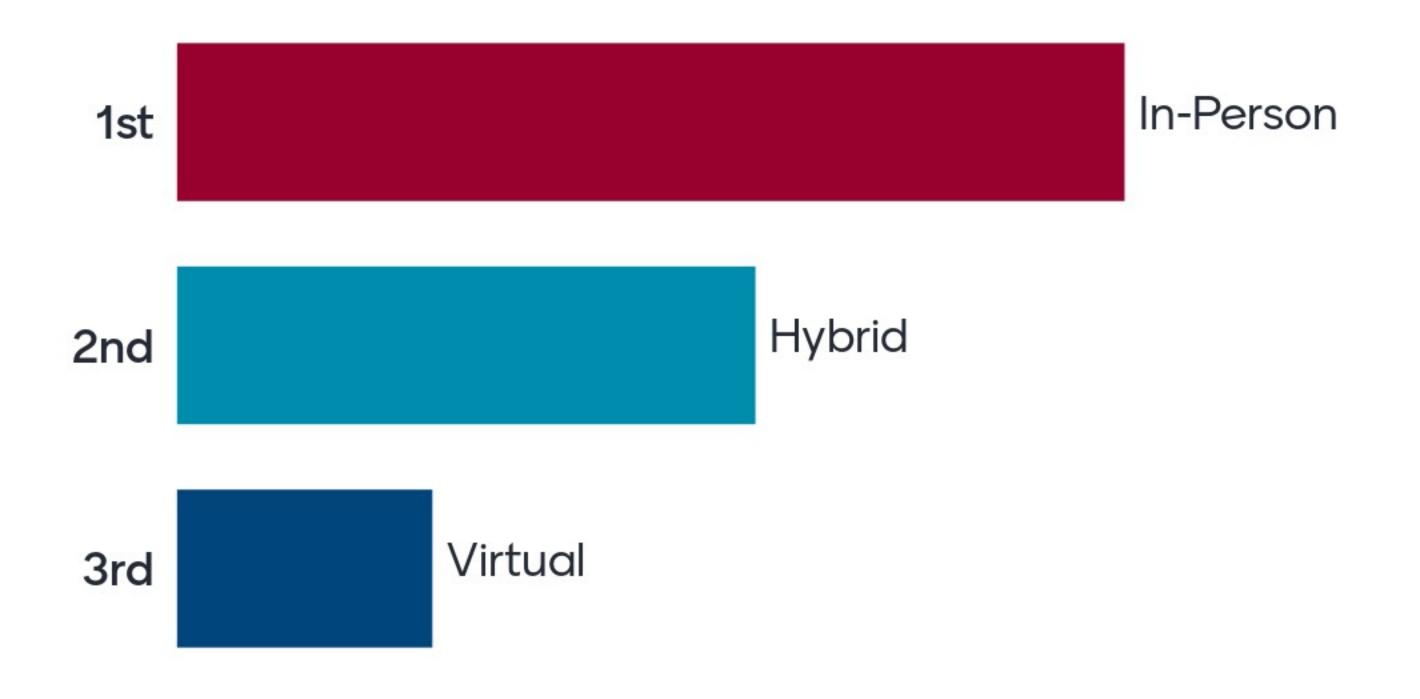


Which nights of the week are you available for future Steering Committee meetings? (Check all that apply)





Do you prefer in-person, virtual, or hybrid meetings for future committee meetings?





Questions? Comments!

Contact Information: Jim Summerbell, AICP

Project Manager, Jacobs Jim.summerbell@jacobs.com o. (404) 978-7579

Amanda Hatton, AICP

Senior Community Planner, Blue Cypress Consulting, LLC amanda.hatton@bluecypress-consulting.com o. (470) 322-5100 ext.10

