

**Outreach Team Meeting Agenda and Notes**  
**November 10, 2020 6:00 –7:30 PM**  
**ZOOM Meeting**

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

15 members of the Outreach Team were present

**2. Draft goals/objectives so far – how we’ve gotten here**

Staff gave a brief review of work to date creating Goals and Objectives for the plan. This is the second chunk of work to start having conversations with the community around goals and objectives.

David Bradway shared the link to the app he created to make the Listening and Learning input more easily searchable: <https://david-bradway.shinyapps.io/engagedurham/>. Staff has found this really useful in the work to draft objectives.

**3. Draft goals/objectives so far – OT Break Out Group Discussions**

Group 1 - Themes: Intentional and Equitable Transportation Investment; Healthy, Safe, Dignified and Welcoming Transportation

*Intentional and Equitable Transportation Investment*

- Suggestion to add “low-wealth communities” to add specificity
- Make sure to address concerns and need to work against potential displacement that often correlates with investment. This is a really big concern with so many neighborhoods gentrifying.
- Some concerns with including this quote “where everyone lives in a stable, walkable area and all people have meaningful and real participation.”

*Healthy, Safe, Dignified and Welcoming Transportation*

- Really like this quote: “They've got this "cute" walkable city idea, but no one can walk there. They've created this fake Disneyland.”
- Should we include mention of traffic calming circles here?
- Look for opportunities for exposure of different safe street options/interventions with communities in Durham. Create info graphs to show folks what kinds of things they could have.
- Every intervention in a neighborhood is a workforce development opportunity for residents to have jobs to build these things we’re investing in
- We need to make sure we are asking folks what “safety” means for them.

*Both/Overall*

- We need to be clear in both objectives where we are talking about those without access to a car – some residents do this by choice where others do because of barriers. We need to focus on instances where it's a barrier to folks – creating equal opportunity to get somewhere.
- Should acknowledge the economical forces behind why someone may not have access to a car, ties into jobs and economic development
- Make sure we are asking in our demographic questions whether someone has access to a car
- Need to do a better job of helping residents understand how the Comprehensive Plan, the Transit Plan and the Commuter Rail Transit (CRT) project all overlap or intersect
- Need to understand equity impacts for CRT and make sure that a big investment isn't made in a project that isn't furthering our work towards equity; need to understand impacts on regional job opportunities alongside CRT
- Like the direction of these draft objectives and want to make sure that we're moving towards this commitment and approach in other plans and projects
- Look at including rolling or wheel chairs in themes beyond the "designing for everyone", if folks are not looking at the that one objective, how do we know accessibility matters in others?
- Make sure Transit Plan covers look/design of transit vehicles
- Do we need to more specifically call out public housing communities in these objectives?
- Questions about the status of redeveloping public housing communities and need to acknowledge that it's current form is racist in concept, emphasized the need for inclusive and integrated communities
- Look for opportunities to invest in infrastructure more coordinated – for instance, if tearing up sidewalk, use as opportunity to lay fiber?

Group 2 - Themes: Accessible Transportation: Designing for Everyone; Accessible Transportation: Resources for Thriving Lives; and Connectivity

*Accessible Transportation – Designing for Everyone (ADA)*

- This objective is hitting on what the paratransit experience is
- Put the word "people" between moving and around. Focus on moving people, not vehicles.
- The word "options" regarding paratransit should be more specific – Uber, Lyft, etc.
- Can we specify which areas which need investments and safety considerations – it seems a little general
- Add how it discourages people with disabilities and who rely on paratransit to engage in all aspect of community life in Durham and using paratransit

*Accessible Transportation – Resources for Thriving Lives*

- Due to higher taxes, people are moving South. With our city not being as huge as the city of Atlanta – have we thought of the light rail on a smaller system?
  - CRT

- Issue behind getting to places safely

### *Connectivity*

- Address how transportation improvements will connect to more job opportunities outside of community – outside of Durham like in places the light rail or commuter rail could connect.
- Impose and share more of the burden on developers to add infrastructure like roads, sidewalks, and amenities – make this a condition to the greatest extent possible
- Developers are required to make small streets within their own development and collect roads to get to the street, so they should be able to contribute to the infrastructure network since they are relying on the existing network. Need to tie new development into the existing infrastructure network
- Environmental concerns when people are forced to ride on the road – glare from the sun blinding drivers/bicyclists eyes
- Fayetteville Street example – they seem to take people’s property. Underserved and underprivileged neighborhoods are losing their property
  - 147/Urban renewal is still happening in regards to transportation – bike trails
  - Make it fair – take property from all over. Not just Black and brown neighborhoods.

### Group 3 – Themes: Sustainable, Supported, and Dignified Jobs; Accessible and Innovative Jobs

#### *Sustainable, Supported, and Dignified Jobs*

- The jobs that are paying wages where people wouldn’t have to work more than one job are not for Durham residents. They’re being imported into RTP- contributes to problems with overdevelopment— need more focus on people living in Durham; Training programs are great. Starting programs at the high school stage to help residents get these positions and be able to grow, move forward and get better salaries.
- Something about living wage should be here—there are many people who make less than 9 dollars an hour and it takes me than that to live in Durham
- Wages have got to change to fit the standard of living that is now in Durham.
- EQUITY ACROSS THE BOARD IN THE WORK FORCE
- There needs to a built-in community resource as well as community employment
- Health Care Services, Tech Fields, Childcare, Construction Workers, More Black Home Builders, More Black Business Owners
- Banks need to stop redlining Black people services with the bank, example home loans & business loans
- Back to the basics in training youth in school and the community, life learned skills, brick laying, painting, barber school, beauty schools, etc

- There has to be better investments into Black and brown communities, to gain generational wealth.
- People need to be trained to be in those jobs coming to Durham and not importing people from outside
- Speaks to the investment piece in communities. There's development going around my community but no investment into our community
- Educational programs for adults to increase their skills and level of knowledge that are suited for jobs coming into Durham
- Courses held at local schools to help adults—especially adults who didn't finish high school or had to stop school early—courses around working with computers
- Have these courses in the community so people don't have to travel
- We lost the factory and textile jobs—something in should be in here about losing the big box stores those seem to be in the decline; what can we replace the big box jobs with?
- With COVID a lot more companies are going to want to work from home—don't see us going back to everyone rushing into the office
- Not just more jobs but training and other opportunities
- How do you really address the single parents who have to balance work and child care/school?
- Childcare should be available in the communities- you have to take public transit and get to work on time
  - These need to be community driven programs and centered in each of the communities
  - Helps bring communities together – people of like background and resources

#### *Accessible and Innovative Jobs*

- I like this objective!
- Mixed use in different parts of the county
- People within the community would be able to get a job nearby
- Teenagers involvement in the community too—provides a focus and guidance
- Community should always be involved in what's going on
- City should collaborate with community leaders to know what they need in different areas; only the people who live in those communities know that
- Pop up stores within the community—fresh fruits and vegetables, milk, eggs—all those are gone
- We're in a food desert
- We need to figure out what a community needs on a long term basis
- Have to also look at tax code and see how taxes can benefit the community.
- This pertains to all people including those with disabilities
- Pop up opportunities for farmer's

- for our communities to get fresh food without being policed or fined
- There used to be a store like that in McDougald terrace; he would provide every family a you for food and basic needs

#### 4. Draft goals/objectives so far – OT Full Group Discussion

- Things that stood out:
  - We need to include more of the community groups that are working in the community now
  - Black and brown communities need to be included more
  - Can more details be included or can their be something to supplement the objectives to provide more information like a map
  - Happy to hear that paratransit is being specifically focused on as it is often overlooked
  - Moving people not moving vehicles – the focus is on the importance of moving community members effectively and efficiently
  - Opportunities for putting more specificity into what the objectives are saying
  - Accountability of developers to expand the infrastructure of roads
  - People should not need to work 2,3 or more jobs to survive
    - We need to provide opportunities to our current residents instead of bringing in companies which draw employees from the outside
    - Path out of poverty
  - We should not forget about the people here, especially older people. We need to train and retrain people so they can have opportunities and get their foot in the door
  - Education and exposure to help people learn new skills
  - Bryan Fox mentioned they are working on connecting training and jobs for local residents in his work at the Chamber and invited folks to reach out to him with any questions ([bfox@durhamchamber.org](mailto:bfox@durhamchamber.org) or 919-801-4735)

#### 5. Finishing up

- We'd like to schedule another meeting of this group in about a month to get feedback on another chunk of work – will send Doodle poll by email (looking at the first two weeks of December)
- Sharing a version on google drive for the group to provide comments on
- Please take the Transit Plan survey and share with others
- Engagement Ambassadors' training for the second round will be complete on November 10
- Will be sending out project updates through the ENGAGEDurham email list at the end of the week or early next week - focused on a final push for the Transit Plan survey, an update on the work of Engagement Ambassadors, and letting folks know we've got our digital engagement platform, Social PinPoint, up and ready for input on goals/objectives drafted so far.
- Next meeting of the Joint City-County Planning Committee (JCCPC) is December 2 – staff will send the agenda out to the Outreach Team about 1 week prior.

