

Comment Cards from July 27, 2015 public meeting on proposed urban renewal areas in Newport

10 forms turned in at the meeting, another sent by e mail from Derrick, 3 more from Wanda on 8/4/15, another received on 8/10/15 from Wanda, another letter submitted 8/17/15.

Compilation as of 8/19/2015

Overall themes of comments:

- Support for work in Agate Beach
- Need for affordable, workforce housing
- Strong feelings about couplet concept both for and against
- General support for infrastructure improvements
- General support for economic improvements
- Need for parking in commercial core areas

What components of the draft urban renewal plans do you like?

- reserving judgment
- we need it all
- facelift for Newport, improved economics, utility undergrounding
- utility undergrounding, Agate Beach Neighborhood Plan
- storefront upgrades and use of all of the empty lots
- intersection alignment: US 101 and 6th, commercial core areas highway/street upgrades (e.g.couplet, widening etc)
- create economic opportunity, neighborhood planning
- investing in the community, citizen input
- support for economic opportunity, removal of urban blight, paved streets in Agate Beach
- Improving the look (beauty)..not removing blight. 101 looks like concrete and metal, we need more trees and grass areas like Walgreens has.
- Communication needs to be more than lip service since Agate Beach is footing part of the bill, it should have some say.
- Improving the “downtown” area
- Do not like any components
- Addressing blight, addressing lack of affordable housing, emphasis on development of affordable housing options in the central core area.

What 3 projects do you feel are most important?

- Agate Beach: Infrastructure repair/replace (existing) first. Sidewalks, storm sewer, paving. Infrastructure new/needed second, transportation to/from north to city center
- pedestrian and bicycle improvements
- signage and streetscape improvements
- utilities - and infrastructure and undergrounding
- parking improvements
- storm drainage
- intersection realignment
- local street right away improvements
- couplet/highway upgrades
- storm drainage improvements
- intersection realignment(e.g. US 101 and 6th Street
- commercial core area highway/street upgrades
- parking improvements
- planning efforts to determine infrastructure upgrades
- housing, identify all city properties that could be used
- remove parking on 101 downtown
- police station on 101 downtown
- buy and create more downtown parking on ninth and behind Pier 101
- Agate Beach neighborhood storm sewers and street repair before all of the spending on public art, benches, storefront facades, etc.
- Descriptions too vague to form an opinion
- None of the projects are important
- Benches to encourage use of public spaces, heavy emphasis on development of public spaces
- Major renovation of most buildings in downtown
- Incorporating ways to beautify the city along Highway 101 (discourage parking lots that face highway, increase multi-use boutique stores on ground floor, affordable housing on upper floors

Are there other projects that should be considered? Responses show in italics

- revitalize the movie theater
 - *This could be eligible for funding through the storefront loan program.*
- pedestrian and bicycle improvements
 - *There could be funding in street improvements project if directed in one of the refinement plans.*
- Ernest Bloch Heritage Center
 - *This could be eligible for funding through the storefront loan program*
- parks and beach improvement
 - *The beach is not in the urban renewal area, so not eligible for funding. There could be funding allocated to small parks if directed in one of the refinement plans.*
- continued improvement in crosswalks
 - *There could be funding in street improvements project if directed in one of the refinement plans.*
- add sidewalk and lighting improvements on 101 between Best Western in Agate Beach
 - *There could be funding in street improvements project if directed in the refinement plan.*
- landscape mitigation in west Agate Beach
 - *There could be funding in street improvements project if directed in the refinement plan.*
- invest in the human capital as much as the economic
- without adequate workforce housing economic responses will be difficult will need more than infrastructure funded
 - *Housing could be one of the redevelopment projects, but no funding is specifically identified for housing.*
- move National Guard Armory off 101 to airport- a dead inactive use
 - *This property could be considered for one of the redevelopment projects.*
- more housing
 - *Housing could be one of the redevelopment projects, but no funding is specifically identified for housing.*
- replace National Guard property with a farmers market multipurpose building or aquatic center
 - *This property could be considered for one of the redevelopment projects.*
- work with hospital district
 - *There will be coordination with the Hospital District*
- police station on 101 downtown
 - *This could be one of the redevelopment projects if a police station were a component of the new project. At this time, the police station relocation is not a specific project in the Plan.*
- clean up the Deco district, make it one way with plantings, storefront requirements of owners, etc.
 - *Portions of the Deco district that are in the urban renewal area would be eligible for improvements under the programs identified in the Plan: storefront improvements, street improvements.*

- the lack of landscaped businesses on US 101 is distressing All you can see is storefronts and concrete
 - *Landscaping itself is not a project in the Plan. However, street improvements are a project, and if identified in one of the refinement plans as a priority, landscaping could be considered in this area.*
- an earthquake resistant fire station would be important
 - *An earthquake resistant fire station is-----*
- making it possible for people to walk and bike safely from north Newport into town for jobs, schools shopping, library etc.
 - *There could be funding in street improvements project if directed in the refinement plan.*
- construct a bypass starting at NE 73rd to enable traffic to Route 20 to bypass Newport.
 - *The commercial core refinement plan will study alternatives to traffic flow in Newport. The Agate Beach Refinement Plan will also address transportation solutions.*
- Create a noise abatement plan to protect people in north Newport from low flying aircraft.
 - *This is not a project in the Plan, you could contact -----*
- **Issue** to be considered: Avoid couplet as solution to traffic in downtown - destroy businesses and hamper pedestrian use
 - *The commercial core refinement plan will study alternatives to traffic flow in Newport.*

Is there any other element of the plans on which you would like to provide input?

- no more cute signs or ugly concrete arches less paving, more trees
- the couplet is an exceedingly terrible idea and is not needed traffic on 101 will be improved by removing parking on 101 downtown spend the money on more parking off 101 and removing dreadful housing that should be condemned turn that into parking.
 - *The commercial core refinement plan will study alternatives to traffic flow in Newport.*
- South Beach urban renewal comments, contact person who submitted questionnaire
 - *Staff followed up.*
- what couplet could be a model for Newport? Put those on the website
 - *The commercial core refinement plan will study alternatives to traffic flow in Newport.*
- not all economic development is sustainable or beneficial what kind of economic development are you seeking? Clean community oriented locally owned
- no couplet of 101
 - *The commercial core refinement plan will study alternatives to traffic flow in Newport.*
- Agate Beach neighborhood plan
- using 7th or 9th Street as couplet for 101 is a bad idea. Dangerous to run a highway through a hospital campus, terrible for church on ninth Street, terrible for shuttling people through the business District - missing one half businesses on Newport by giving up north south traffic
 - *The commercial core refinement plan will study alternatives to traffic flow in Newport.*
- why waste one half million dollars on removing billboards
- keep the public better informed
 - *The committee meetings were open to the public, there is another open house on August 31, the Agency, Planning Commission and city Council meetings are all open to the public with opportunities to comment.*
- plan for affordable housing, don't push housing costs up
 - *Housing could be one of the redevelopment projects, but no funding is specifically identified for housing.*
- how much is being spent on consulting, management, administration etc. these costs are not included
 - *Administration is factored at 4% of the total maximum indebtedness. The consultant contract of _____ was from _____.*
- the three lots at the city is giving to Habitat should be used for the pool or parking or perhaps to move the senior center but not given to Habitat. Other properties away from downtown would serve them better.
 - *This could be considered for one of the redevelopment projects.*

- The movie theater is the only real Deco building in the Deco district. (revitalize it)
 - *This could be considered for one of the redevelopment projects.*
- Any changes to 101 need to be voted on by all of Lincoln County residents
- Would like to see priority stated, i.e. how much tax money will come from Agate Beach versus from the US 101 Corridor
 - *Residential zoning accounts for 35.7% of the parcels. This includes residential areas other than Agate Beach.*
- Need input on any restructuring of traffic flow
 - *The commercial core refinement plan will study alternatives to traffic flow in Newport. This will include public input.*
- The shape of the UR district makes no sense..grouping doesn't make sense, geographically, historically or logically. Businesses should pay for themselves , recycle food waste
- Need more information about the planned development of McLean Point. – Concern about wildlife nesting, wetlands, NWNG holding tank. – concerned about how the plans relate to comp plan goals for Yaquina Bay.
- **Derrick: Response to this**