

2 PURPOSE

The primary purpose of the workshop was to identify areas of consensus and/or disagreement regarding:

1. Transportation and land use issues to be addressed in short term and longer term Flats planning;
2. Terms and conditions for moving proposals ahead simultaneously with Phase 2 Vision Planning; and
3. Process principles to be employed during the development of the Terms of Reference and implementation of Phase 2 of the Work Program (e.g., information exchange, participation in ongoing planning, representation of interested parties)

3 PARTICIPANTS

Workshop participants were selected to ensure representation across various interested parties including: neighbouring communities of Grandview Woodlands, Mt. Pleasant/SEFC, Strathcona and the Downtown East Side; business, transportation and landowner interests in the Flats and surround; rail companies; the Port Authority; and other groups interested in sustainability, transportation and land use issues of Flats planning. In particular, those who participated in earlier, community-based, interest-based group meetings and other one-to-one meetings held by the City of Vancouver were invited to attend. Forty-two people (including staff) confirmed agreement to participate; thirty-six actually participated. A full list of invitees and participants/organizations is included in Appendix A.

4 THE WORKSHOP

The workshop was designed to meet the following objectives:

- a. Explore theme-based and cross-theme issues and ideas for attention in current future Flats planning;
- b. Identify key goals (short term, mid term, long term) and related information/resource needs; and
- c. Obtain recommendations for information exchange, consultation and participation in the ongoing planning process.

4.1 The Process

Participants were provided with the *Phase 1.2: Community Based Meetings Summary Report* in advance of the workshop. Themes drawn from the information gained from various pre-workshop meetings (as per report) were used for focus during the workshop. Upon arrival at the workshop participants were provided with a Workshop agenda; short sheets describing themes and progress guides; and a sample discussion recording sheet (see Appendix B).

At the outset, participants were informed that the City is embarking on a long term planning process and that two phases had thus far been articulated: Phase 1, a scoping stage, to be followed by a Phase 2 Visioning process in the fall. It was emphasized that the current workshop, as step 3 in the Phase 1 scoping process, should be seen as a pre-planning element of the overall planning process.

Although almost all participants had attended pre-workshop meetings, ‘the Story’ of the Flats had evolved somewhat and was again told. Staff provided background information on zoning, land uses, opportunities for change, movement today, and plans for movement tomorrow. A brief overview of land use ideas that have been presented or tentatively explored with the City was also provided (e.g., Providence Health Centre, Whitecaps Stadium, Casino, film studios) though the status and/or likelihood of receiving formal proposals for any of these remains a question. Topic specific maps were used to facilitate understanding (see Appendix C).

Following this general orientation, small groups were assigned tasks to be undertaken for the bulk of the day. Tasks included identifying key issues and ideas; goals and objectives; and information or other resource needs. Each group was formulated to ensure representation of various stakeholders. While all groups were directed to attend to all theme areas, to ensure sufficient coverage, each group was assigned one area for particular focus. The resultant theme-based groups were as follows:

1. Rail
2. Business/Industry
3. Movement/Mobility
4. Green Design
5. Sense of Place/Linkages & Relationships

Report outs of small group discussions focussed on discussion highlights and overall key messages. Each participant also provided one key word representing their most important idea or ideal for the Flats. (Refer Appendix D) A brief full group discussion of process needs (information exchange, ongoing consultation/participation in Flats planning) concluded the workshop. Workshop outcomes are discussed in the section following.

5 OUTCOMES

Participants discussed a range of issues, ideas and ideals for the Flats. Each small group attended to theme areas in varying degrees. This outcomes summary is based on full group report outs, notes recorded on group flip charts, and notes taken by staff group monitors and other participants (refer Appendices D and E). The salience, dominance or importance of an issue has been determined by the frequency and/or degree of discussion given to an issue/idea across groups (refer Appendix F). It should be noted, however, that not all groups covered topics in the same degree of detail; further, not all discussion may have been fully captured by written documentation. Notwithstanding, the discussion records serve as an indication of the saliency of various issues/ideas.