



# Summary of Feedback from June 2013 Open House and Questionnaire

On June 15 and June 20, 2013, the City held two community Open Houses to share the draft strategies for implementing the Mount Pleasant Community Plan, and to receive further feedback. About 450 people attended the open houses.

A paper questionnaire was available for providing feedback at the Open Houses, and attendees also provided comments on post-it stickies. The questionnaire was also available online, accessible between June 15 and June 30. One hundred and two responses to the questionnaire were submitted.

This summary is our best attempt to capture the key ideas and messages from the Open Houses (comments and post-it stickies), and accompanying questionnaire. The majority of ideas highlighted here were chosen on account of the frequency they were heard and some were included to provide a more complete overview of comments on a range of topics. All comments shared were recorded and will be considered, along with this summary, in the Mount Pleasant Community Plan Implementation process.



### WHO WE HEARD FROM

Resnonse

Among those who responded to the questionnaire, approximately 80% lived in Mount Pleasant with 31% of those renting and 49% owning in the area.

To help us understand who we are hearing from, please indicate your connection with Mount Pleasant.

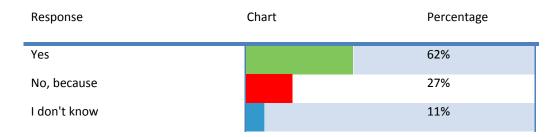
Percentage

Chart

Chart	Fercentage
	31%
	49%
	2%
	6%
	9%
	1%
	4%
	15%

# **BROADWAY EAST REVITALIZATION**

**Question 1:** Generally, do you feel the draft physical (urban design) principles for Broadway East's urban design framework reflect the current and future needs of the community?



Comments:

- Would love to see some plazas put in.
- Building height should not exceed 6 storeys.
- Childcare is important and needs to be addressed.
- Concern that businesses will not be able to withstand the high rent.
- Concern that the development at Fraser and Broadway is too high.

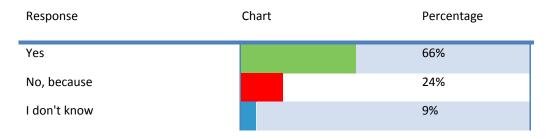
**Question 2:** Overall, what do you think about the draft urban design policies identified in the concept drawing for Broadway East?

Response	Chart	Percentage
Love it		41%
Like it, except		34%
I don't know / no opinion		6%
Don't like it because		19%

- Keep the feel of the neighbourhood: simple and charming e.g. character houses
- Would be great to have some more green space.
- Maintain the existing streetscape and protect views. Keep heights low 4 storeys only.
- Want sun and views when walking.
- Would like to see affordability and the maintenance of older and heritage buildings.
- Concern about spot rezoning that would increase height and density that does not fit with the policy.
- Apprehensive about what will happen at the Kingsgate Mall site.
- Concern about deviation from the Community Plan.
- There should be more height and density with more residential on Broadway.
- Would like to see support for families with childcare/afterschool care and youth activities.
- St. George Street Concept is a great opportunity.
- Maintain free parking on both sides of Broadway.
- If constructing plaza at Broadway and Fraser, then need signal at Broadway and Carolina.

- Would like to see a nursing home at Broadway and Fraser north east corner site.
- Provide recycling bin stations off alleys, for residents to drop-off e.g. bottles.

**Question 3:** Generally, do you feel the draft non-physical principles and recommendations for Broadway East's revitalization reflect the current and future needs of the community?

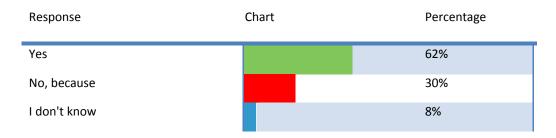


Comments:

- Concern about not having a large supermarket if IGA and Buy-Low are eliminated.
- Concern that future housing needs will not be met along such a busy transit corridor.
- Need to address the needs of seniors, teens and kids.
- If density is increased, we will need more transit, off leash dog areas, and a bigger community centre.
- Need a plan in place to keep business thriving.
- Need more green areas: larger parks that are not pocket parks.
- Concern about destroying the rich, cultural feel of the neighbourhood and the affordable housing stock.
- Encourage/ foster ongoing communication and collaboration where possible among businesses, residents, <u>service providers</u> and the City.

# LOWER MAIN (2<sup>ND</sup> TO 7<sup>TH</sup>) URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK

**Question 4:** Generally, do you feel the draft urban design principles for Lower Main (2nd to 7th) reflect the current and future needs of the community?



- Light industrial/commercial use has been the cornerstone of this area and needs to be preserved.
- Concern that additional height allowances will ruin the hilltop feel and threaten the affordability of the neighbourhood.
- We need more parks, markets, stores and supermarkets.

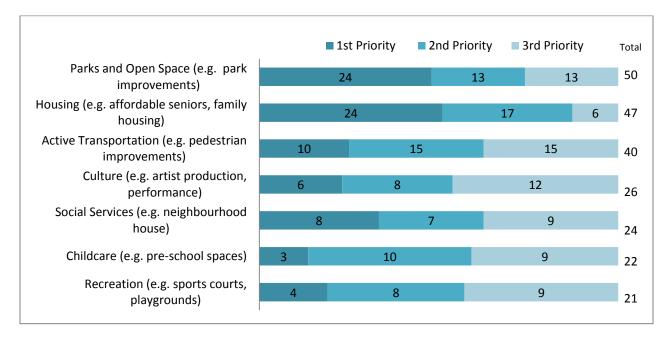
- Concern that more density will put pressure on already limited parking and transit needs.
- This is an area that should have more density and housing.
- Transit, parking and other amenities need to be addressed and increased if density increases.

**Question 5:** Overall, what do you think about the draft urban design policies identified in the concept drawing for Lower Main (2nd to 7th)?

Response	Chart	Percentage
Love it		45%
Like it, except		21%
I don't know / no opinion		10%
Don't like it because		24%

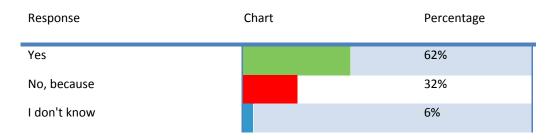
- Would like to see building height kept low, even down the hill (2nd-3rd). Heights should be no more than 4 storeys, 40'.
- Would like to see dedicated bus lanes on Main Street.
- Green space needs to be included and addressed.
- The density is too high and the hilltop community will disappear.
- Allowing for taller buildings will change the character of the area and the capacity for light industrial use.
- Concern about spot rezoning undermining the design work.
- Teen, kids and seniors issues still need to be addressed.
- Heritage and character need to be supported.
- Potential open space and plaza at Main and 7th is a great idea.
- Pool and enclosed dog park on City property 7th and Main.
- Bus bulges please on rest of Main and on Broadway, safer for drivers, traffic and passengers.

# **PUBLIC BENEFITS STRATEGY**



Question 6: What are your priorities for renewal, expansion and/or new facilities in Mount Pleasant?

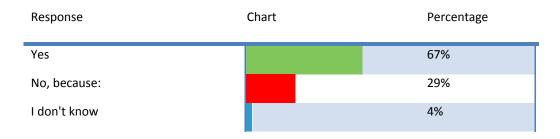
**Question 7:** Generally, do you feel the draft Mount Pleasant Public Benefits Strategy reflects the current and future needs of the community?



- Concern about how to maintain "affordability" yet encourage density.
- Affordable rental housing for low income people.
- There is a great need for off-leash dog parks (fully enclosed).
- We need large parks, not just mini and pocket parks.
- Need playground and tennis court improvements.
- Need to address seniors, childcare and youth needs.
- More bus stops and crosswalks are needed.
- Concern that this ignores the Community Plan in a number of places.
- Would like to see a public pool, a seniors' centre and other amenities.
- Would like to see Kingsgate Mall retained.
- More schools there are many more children in the area.
- Nursing home needed maybe at Fraser and Broadway.

# PUBLIC REALM PLAN

**Question 8:** Generally, do you feel the draft Mount Pleasant public realm plan reflects the current and future needs of the community?



Comments:

Parks and Plazas

- Would like a dedicated large public park to be put in.
- Need dog parks and/or off leash areas.
- Need pocket parks that are for people only, no dogs allowed.
- Guelph Park needs revamping.
- More parks for youth near new Broadway Youth Resource Centre.
- Need more places/ amenities for people with disabilities
- Need a skateboard park!
- Basketball court on street closure at Broadway and Fraser.
- Like the idea of closing the street at Sophia, 11th and Kingsway.
- No right turn at 7th and Kingsway, dangerous corner.
- The whole intersection at 7th/8th, Main and Kingsway is confusing.

#### Enhanced Pedestrian Network

- Would like to make use of laneways and encourage creative public spaces through increased outdoor cafes and patios.
- Pedestrian crossing needed at Great Northern Way and St. George St.
- Steps at foot of Fraser St. and Great Northern Way need to be rebuilt.
- Better connection to the Flats.
- Pedestrian bridge to Great Northern Way campus.
- Need Broadway crossing between Kingsway and Prince Edward.
- Pedestrian crossing at 8th and Kingsway needs better signage.
- Need wider sidewalks as more people have moved here.
- As much as possible, permeable streets please!
- Rain gardens.
- Median along Kingsway south of Broadway needs some nice flowering plants or at least cleaned up.
- Stamped asphalt at crosswalks.
- Add local flavour! Invite youth/ artists to stamp "their" corner.
- Regarding pattern inspiration at Broadway, Main and Kingsway have uniform treatment throughout (e.g. show aboriginal context throughout, nation to nation, do not segregate).
- Coloured crosswalks.
- Celebrate all the historical building (many 100+ years old) possibly as basis of public art project

Love native historic interpretation- creates a sense of place

Public Art, Culture and Rich History

- Expose St. George creek, great opportunity. Extend Rainway idea to St. George across Great Northern Way also.
- Education for St. George Rainway and Brewery Creek!! Tell them.
- Paint sides of buildings bright colours such as at Fraser and 47th, east side. Hot pink exterior walls painted where small pedestrian path cuts through to the lane

### Green Canopy and Cycling Network

- Where possible, use indigenous tree species and perennials: cedar trees, plantain and medicinal plants.
- More bike racks needed.
- Do not allow street trees to impact commercial viability must maintain storefront and signage visibility.

**Question 9:** What are your public realm priorities for implementation? What would you like to see happen first?

- Keep the painted crosswalk x30 votes.
- Off-leash dog parks.
- Bike lanes.
- A plaza and landscaping in the front yard of St. Michael's.
- More community gardens.
- Enhanced boulevards.
- Cleaning up the neighbourhood including more garbage and recycling bins on the sidewalks.
- Pocket parks and active laneways (some parks with no dogs allowed).
- An enhanced pedestrian network.
- Maintaining green canopies and creating more.
- More green space, more trees, and more parks.
- More lighting at Broadway and Fraser Street to Sahalli Park major walking route to community North
- Reallocating street space for public use.
- Creating a plaza for the community at Main and 7<sup>th</sup>.
- More approval for cafes and patios.
- Support for young people who want to open businesses.
- Putting in a swimming pool and a seniors community centre.
- Creating more social housing and social services.
- Rapid transit and a UBC subway.
- Bus lanes on Main Street.

#### OTHER

Question 10: What other comments do you have?

- Would be great to see bus lanes in both directions on Main Street and Broadway.
- The neighbourhood really needs an off leash dog park, more park spaces and greenery.
- Would like to see City sponsorship and encouragement of live music events in the neighbourhood.
- Would like to see some connectivity to Great Northern Way, including pedestrian crossings.
- It is important to honour the cultural and historical heritage of the neighbourhood.
- Would like to see an integration of a local food network.
- Would like social housing put into another location so it's not all within the same two blocks.
- Would be great to give incentives to business owners to update their facades.
- Would be great to see adult daycare in the same place as childcare.
- Security around the VCC skytrain station/bus stop needs to be improved.
- Taller and denser buildings should be built a block or two off of Main Street.
- Would love to see the integration of market/subsidized housing.