Summary of Feedback from April 2013 survey

On April 27, 2013, the City held a “Ribbons of Colour” Street Fair and community Open House to share emerging strategies for implementing the Mount Pleasant Community Plan, and to receive further feedback. About 100 people attended the Street Fair, and about 50 attended the Open House.

A paper questionnaire was available for feedback at the Open House and was also available online. The online survey was accessible between May 2 and May 15, 2013. Twenty-six responses to the survey were submitted. A number of comments were also provided on stickies at the Street Fair and Open House.

This summary is our best attempt to capture the key ideas and messages from the Street Fair, Open House and accompanying survey. 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.

Broadway East Revitalization

- Affordable housing is an issue: retain existing and build more new
- Improve walkability and the pedestrian experience by:
  - Addressing aesthetics (remove graffiti, garbage) and adding beautification
  - Encouraging more cafes and small local-serving businesses
- Provide incentives to new businesses (e.g. tax break, money to improve storefront appearances)
- Tame Broadway traffic
- Acknowledge/reference First Nations history
- Kingsgate Mall is an important anchor in the community
- Fraser and Broadway – potential plaza/park
  - General support for this concept – a safe, inclusive meeting and gathering place that everyone in the community can use
  - Celebrate people, community and social interaction instead of nature; reduce overall open grass space in exchange for more social elements (shared gardens, play areas, bike parking, picnic tables)
  - Need careful consideration of vehicle access and parking around the area
  - Support for community gardens including for food; social/celebratory space; games and teen focused; night garden; children’s playground
  - Consider shadow impacts from surrounding buildings
Broadway East Urban Design Framework

- 56% generally felt that the draft urban design principles and emerging concept drawing reflect the future needs of the community, with refinements
- Concern about “high rises” and “towers”
- Clarify rationale for 6 storeys on north side and 4 storeys on south side
- Retain original (heritage) buildings

Lower Main Urban Design Framework

- 43% generally felt that the draft urban design principles and emerging concept drawing reflect the future needs of the community, with refinements; 26% did not agree and 30% were not sure
- Support for continuing to allow light industrial use
- Concern about “spot rezoning” vs. City-initiated area rezoning
- Concern about building heights greater than 6 storeys at transition blocks, citing views and access to sunlight
- Tame Main Street traffic

Public Realm Plan

- Support for laneway network/enhancement; distinguish role of Watson Street
- Support opportunities for gathering and animation – plazas and parkettes
- Improve bike connections and infrastructure
- Support for St. George Rainway concept
- What about a connection to Olympic Village?

Public Benefits Strategy

- Outdoor swimming pool please!
- Affordable housing integrated with new development
- Heritage
- Child care
- Public Realm