





# Steering Committee Meeting #1

City of Bridgeport
Plan of Conservation and Development





#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Introductions of Committee
- 2. What is a Plan of Conservation and Development?
- 3. Introduction to the Team
- 4. Role of Committee
- 5. Review of Schedule
- 6. POCD Development
- 7. Engaging the Community
- 8. Discussion Identifying Priorities
- 9. Wrap up and Next steps

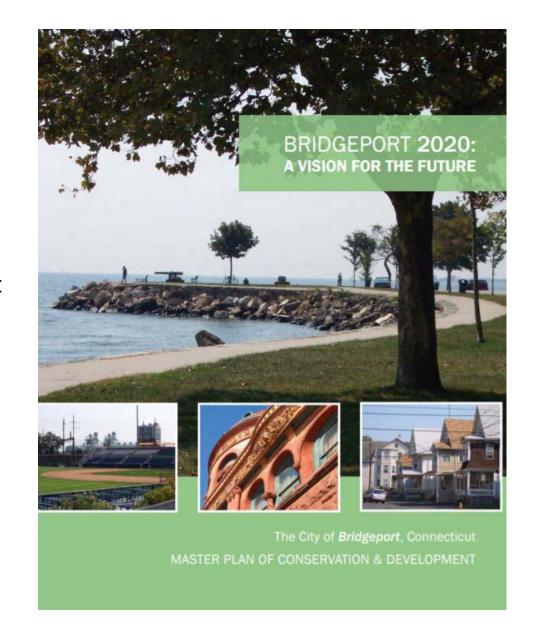




#### What is a POCD?

#### Plan Of Conservation and Development

- Guiding document for a community's growth
- Establishes a vision statement and strategies to achieve that vision
- Comprehensive document
- Most successful with community buy-in
- Needs to represent a wide range of stakeholders
- Required by law to be updated every ten years

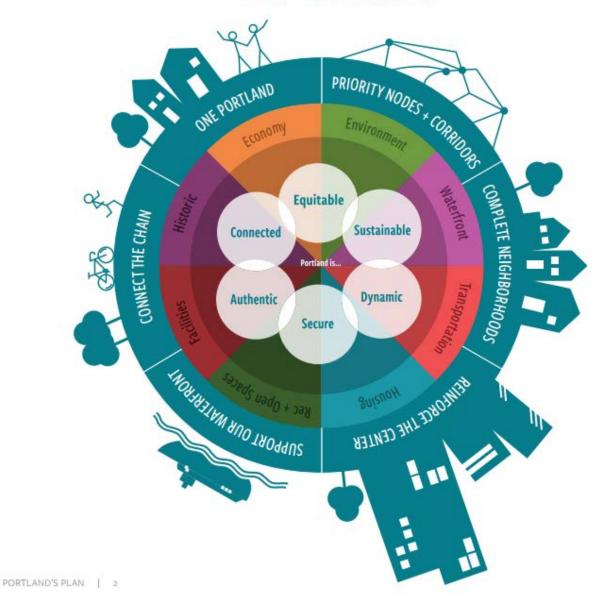


#### Plan Of Conservation and Development

#### Focuses on many topics, most typically:

- Open Space and the Environment
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Transportation
- Facilities and Infrastructure
- Sustainability

#### Plan Structure





#### THE FHITEAM

- **FHI** has a staff of over 30 certified planners, engineers and scientists in offices in Hartford and New York City. One quarter of our staff is multilingual and we place strong emphasis on community engagement in our work.
- Horsley Witten has multiple offices across New England with staff who have diverse expertise in planning, engineering, and environmental science.
- AMS is a Bridgeport based firm, with considerable expertise in housing and economic development









#### THE FHI TEAM

- Ken Livingston, AICP Senior Advisor
- Francisco Gomes, AICP Project Manager
- Rory Fitzgerald, AICP Project Support
- Carla Tillery Transportation Specialist
- Zainab Kazmi Public Involvement (bilingual)
- Jessica Ortiz Public Involvement (bilingual)
- Michael Coulom Public Involvement (bilingual)
- Nate Kelly Resiliency and Coastal Planning



















# Steering Committee Role & Responsibilities

- Provide support, guidance, and oversight of progress
- Provide perspective on local issues, priorities and public sentiment
- Provide input and review throughout the development of the Plan
- Be an ambassador for the Plan by being committed to and actively involved in outreach events
- Be a conduit for information to constituencies









#### Plan Of Conservation and Development

- Quick timeframe
- Most outreach will take place over the summer months

- Steering Committee Meeting
- O SC Web Meeting/Conf. Call
- Pop-Up Events
- Neighborhood Meetings
- Focus Group Meetings
- Thematic Meeting
- School Events

| Task                                  | May | June                  | July | August | September | October | November |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------|------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|
| Task 1: Project Coordination          | • 0 | • 0                   | • •  | • •    | • •       | • 0     |          |
| Task 2: Guiding Principles            |     |                       |      |        |           |         |          |
| Task 3: Community Engagement          | •   | <b>•</b> 0 <b>•</b> • | 0000 | 0 000  | •00•      |         |          |
| Task 4: Existing Conditions           |     |                       |      |        |           |         |          |
| Task 5: Community Vision              |     |                       |      |        |           |         |          |
| Task 6: Implementation Plan           |     |                       |      |        |           |         |          |
| Task 7: POCD Document (Print Version) |     |                       |      |        |           |         |          |
| Task 7: POCD Interactive Document     |     |                       |      |        |           |         |          |





#### **POCD GOALS**

- The POCD should be the definitive statement of how Bridgeport wishes to see itself evolve over time and how it will get there
- The POCD should connect community vision to the on-the-ground conditions through a process of in-depth exploration of its unique assets, challenges, needs, and wants
- It will lay out a realistic **program of strategies and achievable actions** to guide Bridgeport towards realizing its goals
- Bridgeport's POCD will document the community vision and strategic direction for the next ten years with a road map to meeting the community's shared objectives





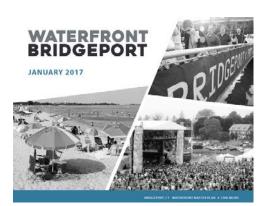


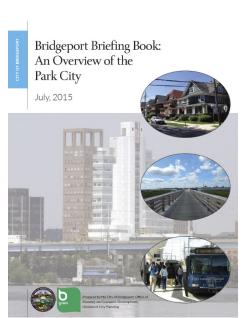


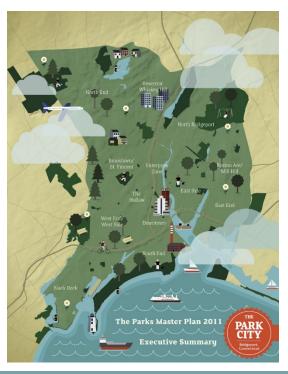
## **Build On Existing Resources**

The planning process should build upon the massive City and community investments that have been made over the past decade in projects such as:

- Bridgeport 2020
- The Parks Master Plan
- Waterfront Master Plan
- NRZ Plans
- Bridgeport Briefing Book
- Resiliency Planning









## A Different Approach





#### **POCD GUIDING THEMES**

Livable Built Environment Interwoven Equality

Harmony with Nature Healthy Community

Resilient Economy Responsible Regionalism





#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- Outreach strategy that prioritizes planning with the community, not for the community
- Public outreach that is inclusive, informative, and engaging
- Strategically customized outreach efforts that meet community needs
- Taking public outreach to the people through community events
- Multi-lingual outreach materials specific to local demographics
- ADA accessible, family friendly events that welcome all participants
- Innovative tools and technology solutions to maximize
   participation, especially from under-represented populations









#### **POP-UP EVENTS**

**COMMUNITY MEETINGS** 

**SCHOOL EVENTS** 

**THEMATIC MEETINGS** 

INTERVIEWS & FOCUS MEETINGS

VIRTUAL PUBLIC WORKSHOPS





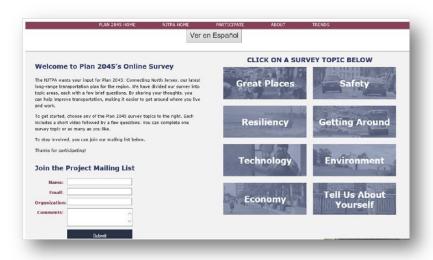




#### FOSTERING IMPACTFUL DIALOGUE

Encourage thoughtful communication feedback through:

- Dot exercises "Dotmocracy"
- Post-it notes
- Tablet surveys
- Prioritization exercises
- Paper surveys input and demographics



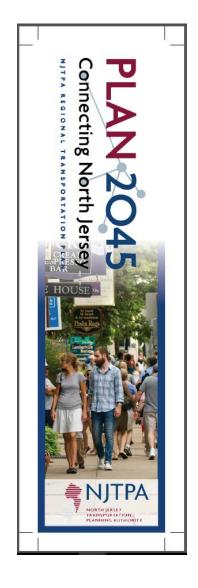




#### INFORMATIONAL TAKE-AWAYS

- Call to Action
  - Answer surveys
  - Leave comments
  - Vote
- Key Project Information
- "Contact Us"



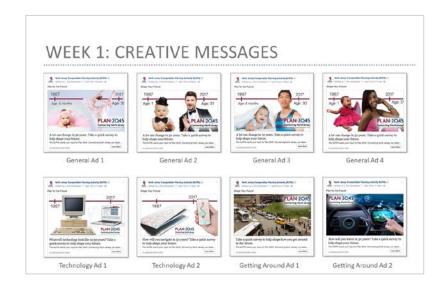


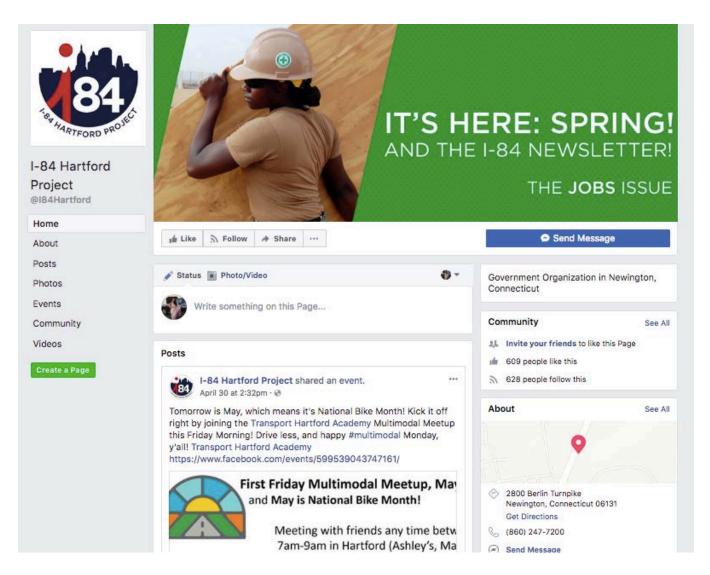




#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

- Facebook Page
- Social Media Packages
- Promoted Content
  - Facebook Ads









A City's Plan of Conservation and Development is the guiding document which lays out a roadmap for growth and change and as such, the document is most effective with the support of stakeholders throughout the community.

Our goal for this process is to gather input from a wide range of community members on numerous different occasions.



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PROJECT APPROACH

PROJECT SCHEDULE

GET INVOLVED

Learn More →

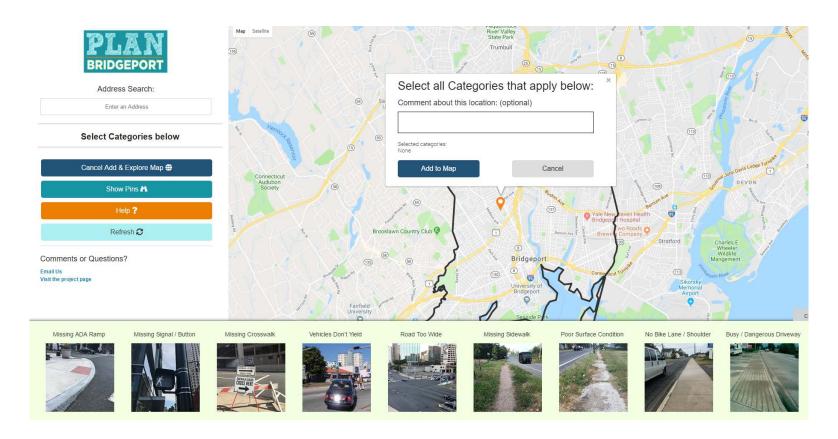
Learn More →

Find Out How →

#### **COLLECTING KEY INFORMATION**

#### **Interactive Mapping Tool**

Allows a person to provide specific, geo-tagged comments, pictures, and video that link to the location of the comment or issue



#### REPORTING OUR FINDINGS

- Video blogs and oral testimonials
- "Humans of Bridgeport"
- Interactive Results



"Having twins made me a more relaxed parent. When you watch two kids grow up at the same time, it makes you less concerned about benchmarks. Each of them had different talents and struggles. He could do all the physical stuff first. We had to put a net on the crib because he was always climbing out. He could swim first. He learned to ride a bike several years earlier than her. But she was potty trained first. She was reading by the age of three. And she was much better at drawing nictures.



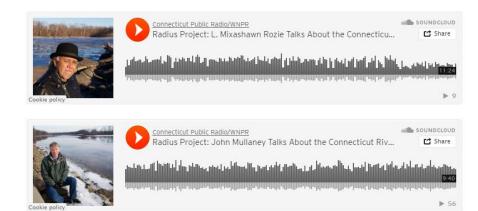
"I want to make sure I don't miss a second of connectedness to the brands I'm representing. In the digital world, there's always this feeling that if you don't respond back—it's a lost opportunity. If someone is talking to you, you have to answer or they might think you don't care. If a client asks my opinion, and I don't reply I' agree with that'—he might ask someone else. My paycheck depends on always being connected. So there's always a screen in front of me. I'm always responding to 'pings' and 'dings.' But it has a lot of consequences. Especially on my

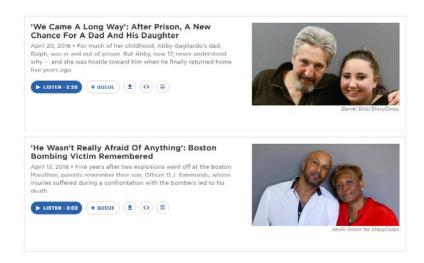


"I was raised with that Jewish intellectual worship of knowledge. But all my professors in college were small-minded nasty little bitches getting off on their own power, wanting me to parrot them while telling me they didn't. So I decided I was a nihilist and that I was going to do as many drugs as possible. If the goal is to spend your whole life trying to get rewards to trigger chemicals in your brain, why not go straight for the chemicals? But that didn't work out very well. It quickly became less of a philosophy, and more of a massive drug addiction."



"I'm doing a review of last year. I'm looking at all the goals I set and whether I managed to achieve them. A big one for me was that I finally managed to get my driver's license. It's a little embarrassing because I'm well past that age, but I've always been terrified of driving. So I signed up for some lessons. I studied hard. I took extremely meticulous notes. Then I went to the testing center with my driving instructor. They assigned me a real hard faced guy from Eastern Europe. My instructor told me: 'This guy falls everyone.' So I started off pretty nervous. I messed up





Strategically customized outreach

Maximize participation

Steering Committee & Public Involvement Subcommittee Input

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Event notices to social media, website and community groups

Taking outreach to the people

**POP-UP EVENTS** 

**SCHOOL EVENTS** 

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Multi-lingual materials and accessible events

# Bridgeport Plan of Conservation and Development

Analyze results and effectiveness of outreach event

Foster dialogue and collect feedback

Comprehensive feedback

Inclusive, informative and engaging outreach

#### **BRANDING**



PLAN
BRIDGEPORT





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#### LIVABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

- What's the biggest hindrance to getting around in Bridgeport? Do you feel that Bridgeport's streets and walkways accommodate a variety of users, i.e. cars, bikes, pedestrians?
- How accessible are parks, and public spaces and facilities, from different neighborhoods?
- How "green" is Bridgeport? Are there any areas in particular that would benefit from green building design and energy conservation policies?







#### HARMONY WITH NATURE

- What's the biggest environmental issue in Bridgeport today?
- Do you feel that natural resources are currently protected and in harmony with the City?
- How would you rate Bridgeport's storm readiness and sustainability?
- What are the goals for improving the environment over the next ten years and beyond?





#### RESILIENT ECONOMY

- What are the key economic challenges facing your community today?
- Do you feel that there are accessible and diverse transit options to get to work? Are there key job centers that have inadequate transit options?
- Is infrastructure healthy? How well does it support economic growth in Bridgeport by providing connections throughout the City and beyond?
- How would you rate Bridgeport's ability to recover from a disaster (fiscal, natural or other)?







#### INTERWOVEN EQUALITY

- Which groups are relatively disadvantaged as measured by access to jobs, housing, public services, facilities, and healthcare?
- What are the current conditions for housing and renting availability and costs in Bridgeport?
- Is there diversity in housing and renting options? Are there barriers to buying property?
- Are there any neighborhoods or areas at higher risk of impact in case of a natural disaster? Is there a lack of or reduced access to emergency services?







#### **HEALTHY COMMUNITY**

- Is there equitable access to health care providers, schools, parks, public safety facilities, and arts and cultural facilities? Is there a healthy diversity of choice?
- Is there access to healthy, locally grown foods for all neighborhoods?
- Do you feel safe from crime in Bridgeport? Are there any areas where you do not feel safe?
- Are there any policies or infrastructure improvements that would encourage physical activity and promote healthy lifestyles?









#### RESPONSIBLE REGIONALISM

- Where do you see opportunities to improve connections between neighborhoods and between city and region?
- Do you feel that Bridgeport's growth aligns with that of the region and the State?
- How well does Bridgeport's transportation system link to connections to the region and beyond?





Sasaki





#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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