

APPENDIX C: 2002 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HISTORY

The Manchester Community Committee

The Manchester Community Plan was initiated to be a model example of grassroots planning in Kitsap County. Generally, community-planning projects consist of 12-15 interested community members selected from a variety of interest groups, ages, ethnicity and gender. This plan took a different approach and welcomed any and all interested community members, resulting in a group of 40. Committee members served as a liaison between the general public, Kitsap County and other stakeholder groups. Final recommendations provided by the Manchester Committee would be directed to the Planning Commission, followed by final approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

The committee met twice a month from January 2000 to March 2001. The first meetings consisted of envisioning the “perfect Manchester” in 20 years and what it would take to accomplish this vision. The committee then worked together to delineate a logical outer boundary for the Manchester Village and develop the Plan’s goals and policies for achieving this vision.

To facilitate decision-making and encourage equal participation from all 40 members, the group evolved into five working groups based on the Plan elements. These working groups, or sub-committees, worked on the specifics of the complex topics listed below:

__ **Commercial Land Use** - reviewed the existing neighborhood commercial boundary, the appropriate commercial uses and what future businesses would be desirable. Revisions to parking requirements and preliminary work on commercial design guidelines were also a focus.

__ **Residential Land Use** - established minimum lot sizes, regulations for nonconforming lots and determined allowable uses within each zone. Recommendations for view protection regulations and impervious surface limitations were also made.

__ **Transportation** - reviewed the existing transportation network to determine existing deficiencies and prioritize areas of improvement. Improvements included strategies for managing vehicle and local fuel truck traffic, as well as techniques for improving the appearance and pedestrian safety of highly traversed corridors.

__ **Public Facilities** - inventoried existing public facilities and infrastructure and developed goals, policies and recommendations for future additions and improvements. The recommendations also included a proposed impervious surface limitation, sewer connection mandates and stormwater monitoring mechanisms.

__ **Natural Systems** - identified critical areas within Manchester that add to the unique character of the area and developed goals, policies and recommendations for preserving and improving the Manchester’s biological resources. Recommendations for existing and potential community park locations were also proposed.

All goals and policies within this Plan reflect the recommendations of the Manchester Community Committee to achieve this vision of the Manchester Village.

Open House Forums

Three open house meetings were held throughout the project in an effort to educate a wide spectrum of the general public on the Committee's ideas and progress. The first, a kick-off meeting took place in November 1999. Its intent was to introduce the community planning process to the residents and stakeholders, and to solicit members for the Manchester Committee.

The second, held in August 2000, updated the community on the plan's progress. Its goal was to gather input on several design options, the proposed outer boundary, the proposed commercial boundary and future development guidelines then being explored by the Manchester Committee.

A final open house was held in June 2001 to present and discuss the components of the Draft Manchester Community Plan.

Manchester Design Charrette

In July 2000, Professor Kasprisin and a team of three graduate students from the University of Washington Design and Urban Planning program were invited to partake in an intense three-day effort to assist Manchester in developing a common vision and offer a number of conceptual design possibilities to portray the community's vision for the future. A community design charrette was selected as the process by which to achieve this goal.

A "charrette" is a planning and/or design tool that takes abstract community ideas and depicts them in documented illustrations. The majority of work is performed on-site allowing team members to have access to both the site conditions and citizens. Its mission is to provide citizens with direct access to an objective design team; and, prepare ideas and recommendations for a continuing citizen dialogue. Interviews, surveys, meetings, public awareness sessions, design visualizations are all a part of an interactive design process which concluded with a community open house to present the recommendations to the community. The Manchester Committee used the recommendations as one set of options for furthering the plan's progress.