

CAG Meeting #1  
Group Discussion Summary  
December 8, 2011

1) Thinking ahead 20 years, what three words would you use to describe the Pontiac that you'd like to see?

|    |                     |                     |                             |
|----|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1  | energetic           | safe                | cool                        |
| 2  | vibrant             | safe                | active                      |
| 3  | healthy             | culture             | entertainment               |
| 4  | tolerant            | creative            | sustainable                 |
| 5  | dynamic             | cosmopolitan        | synergistic                 |
| 6  | vibrant             | diverse             | destination                 |
| 7  | vibrant             | welcoming           | solvent                     |
| 8  | pedestrian friendly | filled street       | more home owners            |
| 9  | safe                | active              | historic                    |
| 10 | vibrant             | destination         | working                     |
| 11 | diverse economy     | prosperous          | <i>No response</i>          |
| 12 | vibrant             | shopping            | safe                        |
| 13 | vibrant             | City of Inspiration | ethnically rich and diverse |
| 14 | thriving            | walkable/bikeable   | successful                  |
| 15 | destination         | entertaining        | safe                        |
| 16 | vibrant             | clean               | safe                        |
| 17 | safe                | clean               | desirable                   |
| 18 | livability          | safety              | culture                     |

| Ratio | Summary of Question 1)                          |
|-------|---|
| 12/18 | 67% mentioned energetic/vibrant/active/thriving |
| 7/18  | 39% mentioned safety                            |
| 5/18  | 28% mentioned destination/desirable/welcoming   |

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2) What one thing would you like to improve for the following:

2a - Downtown

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | Eliminate or change "The Loop" so that traffic is directed downtown.                               |
| 2  | Increased commercial activity such as dining, shopping, entertainment is needed.                   |
| 3  | More concerts/arts   |
| 4  | Open the Strand Theater.   |
| 5  | Re-open commercial destinations such as the Strand Theater and the Phoenix Amphitheater            |
| 6  | Diversity of businesses is needed (i.e. entertainment, food, residential).                         |
| 7  | Downtown needs more vehicular and pedestrian traffic.  |
| 8  | Free parking in all lots and use of Phoenix Plaza entertainment venue should be implemented.       |
| 9  | Infill development and increased density are needed.   |
| 10 | The increased perception of safety will occur with more people on the street.                      |
| 11 | There should be a theme for all businesses.  |
| 12 | There should be a diversity of businesses and a connection of roads and neighborhoods to downtown. |
| 13 | Full occupancy and preservation and physical reinvigoration of Downtown are needed.                |
| 14 | Decrease blight.   |
| 15 | There should be a variety of businesses downtown.  |
| 16 | More business and resident owners are needed.  |
| 17 | More people should be downtown during the work day. Density is an issue.                           |
| 18 | Create a Rails to Trails with the downtown loop and create a cultural district.                    |

| Ratio | Summary of Question 2a   |
|-------|--|
| 5/18  | 28% mentioned the need for a diversity and density of businesses downtown                          |
| 5/18  | 28% mentioned the need for more pedestrian density/accommodations/Clinton River Trail connectivity |
| 3/18  | 17% mentioned the need for the opening of entertainment and arts venues downtown                   |

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2b - Neighborhoods

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 1  | Connect neighborhoods with downtown.  |
| 2  | Clean up vacant lots and increase home ownership.   |
| 3  | Control vacant land.  |
| 4  | Increased code enforcement and blight removal are necessary.  |
| 5  | 761 Huron, land behind the post office is an area that needs attention because of its visibility              |
| 6  | Increase home ownership and decrease blight.  |
| 7  | Increase safety and aesthetics.   |
| 8  | Increase safety by reducing blight. - demolish blighted buildings   |
| 9  | <i>No response</i>  |
| 10 | Pontiac needs better City oversight of housing units regarding health/safety issues.                          |
| 11 | <i>No response</i>  |
| 12 | Connect neighborhoods and roads with Downtown.  |
| 13 | Intentional, strategic effort to involve the longtime citizens as investors, stakeholders in the master plan. |
| 14 | Improve safety and remove blight.   |
| 15 | Remove blight and improve pedestrian/transit access to downtown.  |
| 16 | Improve home ownership and do a better job of conserving neighborhoods and downtown.                          |
| 17 | <i>No response</i>  |
| 18 | Implement home selling tours in historic districts.   |

| Ratio | Summary of Question 2b   |
|-------|--|
| 7/15  | 47% mentioned vacant land/blight/safety  |
| 4/15  | 27% mentioned need for increased homeownership                                       |
| 3/15  | 20% mentioned the need for increased connectivity between neighborhoods and downtown |

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2c - Transportation options and access

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | Saginaw Street should be connected back to Woodward.   |
| 2  | <i>No response</i>   |
| 3  | Saginaw Street should be connected back to Woodward.   |
| 4  | Bike path signage and access to downtown, including Saginaw Street, should be improved. The speed limit on Woodward should be lowered to 25 mph. |
| 5  | High-speed rail needs to include Pontiac as part of its "to/from" access.  |
| 6  | Easy access to cross Woodward loop is needed.  |
| 7  | Pontiac needs a multimodal transportation system that include vehicles, buses, light rail, bicycle and pedestrian accommodations.                |
| 8  | Use signage to bring people downtown.  |
| 9  | Make sure there is safe bike/pedestrian infrastructure and way finding to connect to key land uses.  |
| 10 | <i>No response</i>   |
| 11 | There should be free parking close to retail shopping/downtown area.   |
| 12 | Amtrak and Greyhound should be advertised as amenities of Pontiac.   |
| 13 | The connectivity of the Clinton River Trail should be improved.  |
| 14 | There should be improved pedestrian and transit access to Downtown.  |
| 15 | Make the Loop a boulevard and connect to the Rail to Trails better Downtown.   |
| 16 | <i>No response</i>   |
| 17 | <i>No response</i>   |
| 18 | A trolley system should be explored for Pontiac.   |

| Ratio | Summary of Question 2c   |
|-------|--|
| 5/14  | 36% mentioned Clinton River Trail/concern for bike and pedestrian accommodations |
| 3/14  | 21% mentioned Saginaw St/Loop connectivity                                       |