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# Central City 2035: West Quadrant Plan

## Planning and Sustainability Commission Briefing August 12, 2014





## Agenda

- 1. Central City 2035 Introduction
- 2. Proposed West Quadrant Plan Overview
- 3. A few issues you'll likely hear about at the hearing
- 4. Next steps
- 5. Commission Questions and Discussion











## CC2035 Purpose: Update the 1988 Central City Plan











## CC2035: Plan Area

### Central City Today:

- ~ 3,000 acres (3.2% of city)
- ~ 130,000 jobs (35% of city)
- ~ 24,000 households (10% of city)
- ~ 33,000 residents (5% of city)

### 2035 Projections:

+ 49,000 jobs (35% of city growth) + 30,000 households (25% of city growth)









TIMELINE		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
2010-2011	Issues and Goals						
2011-2012	Concept Plan						
2010-2014	Quadrant Plans						
2014-2015	Final Central City 2035 Plan						



CC2035 Concept Plan **Strategic Direction** 

**A Center of Innovation** and Exchange

"Position Portland's Central City as a globally recognized center of equity, innovation and exchange."

**CENTRAL CITY 2035** CONCEPT PLAN

ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL | OCTOBER 24, 2012 **RESOLUTION NO. 36970** 

**CENTRAL CITY 2035** N/NE QUADRANT PLAN

DOPTED BY CITY COUN



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## West Quadrant Districts



Reflects some changes from previous Central City Plan subdistricts.







## **Planning Process**



### **17 Months**

### **Meetings and Events**

- **16 SAC** meetings
- 5 **TAC Meetings**
- 2 Open Houses
- 4 Charrettes/Workshops
- 2 Online Surveys

>100 Other community & stakeholder meetings





## West Quadrant Plan Organization

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** 

**CHAPTER 1: Introduction** 

**CHAPTER 2: Background** 

**CHAPTER 3: Developing the West Quadrant Plan** 

**CHAPTER 4: Central City-wide Recommendations** 

CHAPTER 5: WQ District Goals, Policies and Actions

### **APPENDICES**

- A. Implementation action details
- **B.** Height maps
- C. Existing conditions
- D. Public involvement summary
- E. "Green Loop"
- F. Central Reach Urban Design Concept







## Chapter 1: Big Ideas

- 21st Century Willamette Riverfront
- The "Green Loop"
- A Mixed-Use West Quadrant
- Freeway Capping
- Portland's "Times Square"







## **21st Century Riverfront**





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#### WILLAMETTE RIVER: CENTRAL REACH Urban Design Concept **REACH-WIDE** Celebrate the river! DRAFT 01/21/14 · Increased human access to river that is compatible with fish and wildlife habitat Art, culture and historic attractions, displays and activities · Infrastructure to support riverfront uses and visitors River commerce increased CENTENNIAL MILLS Shallow water habitat maintained · Mixed-use, open space and Strategic bank enhancement and connecriver access opportunities tions to upland habitat · NW 10th and Pettygrove green streets provide human access ROSE QUARTER/ and upland habitat connection CONVENTION CENTER · Fish habitat sustained and · Commercial and entertainenhanced ment opportunity area at a multi-modal hub McCORMICK PIER · Mixed-use opportunity at · Touch the river Thunderbird site · Greenway trail reconfiguration and New amenities spur boating improved bank habitat activity TOM McCALL WATERFRONT PARK · Commercial activity such as small retail kiosks at nodes · Downtown retail core connected to the waterfront · Bicycle and pedestrian conflicts to and within park addressed EASTBANK CRESCENT · More year-round and evening activities and events · Riverbank reconfigured for · More human access to the river public use and habitat · A variety of new unique gathering spaces, recre-New light watercraft ameniation and play areas ties · Seasonal swimming co-exists HAWTHORNE BOWL with fish migration · Seasonal swimming co-exists with fish migration · Public uses and events promoted OMSI · Shallow water fish habitat sustained and Commercial, cultural and enhanced employment opportunities · New amenities and activities include reat a multi-modal hub strooms and café · Greenway trail changes reduce conflicts, improve RIVERPLACE MARINA access and provide quiet · New commercial boat and light watercraft amenities spaces New amenities spur boating New narrower dock to reduce impacts or activity fish · Views of Ross Island and · Montgomery green street provides human Holgate Channel highlighted access and upland habitat connections SOUTH WATERFRONT · Urban neighborhood with supportive commerce and recreational opportunities · Riverbank habitat maintained Mixed-use opportunity at Zidell LEGEND Riverfront Attractions with commercial uses Potential new riverfront open space Human access to water/ swimming In-water habitat enhancement and maintenance Riverbank restoration, e.g. lay back, soften, plant native vegetation and maintain

- Add native vegetation where possible Potential redevelopment
- Potential regional cruise ship docking
- Potential water transit stops with retail activity
- "Green fingers" to the river
- Resolve difficult connection to the river
- Major riverfront activity hub
- Opportunities to provide upper floor access to Eastside bridges
- Enhance Naito Parkway to ease east-west movement toward the river
- Distinct areas/neighborhoods along Central Reach
- Willamette River Central Reach boundary

## **Green Loop**





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## **Mixed-Use Quadrant**





## Burnside and Broadway: Portland's "Times Square"?







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## Chapter 2: Background

- History of the West Quadrant
- Previous Planning







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## Chapter 3: Developing the WQ Plan











- Issue & Idea Generation
- District and Quadrant-wide Forums/Workshops/Charrettes
- Concept Development
- Major Products: Urban Design Principles & Concept Layer Maps





## **Chapter 3: Urban Design Principles**







## Chapter 3: Quadrant-wide Concept Maps







## **Chapter 4: Central City-wide Recommendations**

- 1. Central City 2035 Concept Plan Policies
- 2. Proposed additional Central City-wide polices and action items identified by West Quadrant Process



## Policies

- Regional Center: Economy & Innovation
- Housing and Neighborhoods
- Transportation
- Willamette River
- Urban Design
- Environment
- Implementation Actions
- Performance Targets

## THIS IS A WORK-IN-PROGRESS





## Chapter 5: District Goals, Policies and Actions

#### **Goose Hollow**

### South Downtown

West End

### Old Town/Chinatown

### **Pearl District**

### South Waterfront

#### Downtown

- District Goal
- District Character and Concept Diagrams
- Policies
  - Regional Center: Economy
  - & Innovation
  - Housing and Neighborhoods
  - Transportation
  - Willamette River
  - Urban Design
  - Environment
- Implementation Actions
- Performance Targets





## Downtown

The economic and symbolic heart of the region ... office employment, retailing, tourism, arts and culture, entertainment, government, urban living, and ceremonial activities ... center of the region's multimodal transportation system ... anchored by the Willamette River and signature public spaces ... it is the most intensely urban and identifiable district in Portland's Central City







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## West End

A thriving, mixed-use urban residential neighborhood with a diverse and distinctive architectural character, a range of building ages and scales and a wealth of historical, cultural, institutional and open space assets ... with excellent multimodal access ... a mixture of urban, attractive, family-friendly residential uses with a range of scales, types and ... a broad mix of commercial uses, where residents live in harmony with successful retail, cultural and office development.





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## **Goose Hollow**

A family-friendly urban community with thriving neighborhood businesses and excellent access ... the district's major attractions ... exist in harmony with surrounding mixed-use development, and attract visitors from all over the region to dine, shop, and play ... the district is known for its natural beauty and unique views.







## **Pearl District**

A highly livable and multimodal urban neighborhood ... culturally and ethnically diverse, familyfriendly complete community, with excellent access ... a twenty-first century model of social, environmental, and economic sustainability. The district's industrial past and historical assets, high quality mixed-use development, exciting urban riverfront, shops, art galleries and restaurants attract visitors from all over the world, creating an ideal setting for its numerous creative-sector businesses









## Old Town/Chinatown

a vibrant, resilient, 24-hour neighborhood rooted in a rich historical past ... two thriving historic districts, numerous multi-cultural attractions and higher education institutions ... a balanced mix of market rate, student and affordable housing ... social service agencies continue to play a critical public health role ... a mix of restored historic buildings and contextually sensitive infill ... safe and respectful environment ... active engagement of its businesses, institutions, property owners and residents





### South Waterfront

A dense, vibrant, walkable, distinctly urban mixed-use community with excellent access to transit, parks and the Willamette River and greenway ... a model for sustainable development ... cornerstone of Portland's Innovation Quadrant ... home to large research and educational institutions, corporate headquarters, startup firms and other knowledge-, health- and science-based industries









## South Downtown/University

The livable, accessible home to Portland State University, the South Auditorium District, and RiverPlace ... each of these three microcosms maintains its distinct character, in combination they provide the setting for a growing international, multi-cultural center of learning, information exchange and innovation ... key role in accommodating and incubating the region's growing cluster of knowledge-based research-oriented enterprises while remaining an attractive, vibrant and livable home for residents



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	Jobs		Households		
	2010	2035	2010	2035	
WEST QUAD TOTAL	87,800	+ 31,000	20,700	+ 23,000	



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## **Appendices**

A. Implementation action details B. Height maps C. Existing conditions D. Public involvement summary

- E. "Green Loop"
- F. Central Reach Draft Urban Design Concept





## **Issues and Likely Testimony**

## + Building heights generally...

**1. The future of Old Town/Chinatown** 

- 2. Surface parking
- 3. Hawthorne and Morrison bridgehead heights.
- 4. Environmental stewardship
- 5. West End building heights



## **Building Heights in Context**

From November 7, 2013 Staff Memo to West Quadrant SAC regarding building heights...

The basic pattern dates from late 1970s, with incremental refinements since.

### **BROAD OBJECTIVES:**

- 1. To accommodate higher levels of development appropriate and desired by city and regional policy in the region's urban core and transit hub.
- 2. To preserve light, air and visual access to parks, open spaces, and the river.
- 3. To be compatible with designated historic districts or other special design areas.
- 4. To protect identified public views.
- 5. To create respectful transitions to adjacent less-intense neighborhoods and districts.
- 6. To help create a memorable and attractive skyline and enrich the city's urban form and image.







## The Future of Old Town/Chinatown: Height

**RC4** <u>Study</u> preservation transfer incentives to allow additional height on noncontributing sites in exchange for preservation/rehabilitation of historic resources.





Base FAR

Bonus FAR

Chinatown Existing Max Heights Block 33: 100'









Base FAR Bonus FAR

Chinatown Proposed Max Heights Block 33: 140'








Base FAR Bonus FAR

Chinatown Proposed Max Heights Block 33: 175'









Looking North on 4th Ave.





## Old Town/Chinatown: Surface Parking

**RC2** Develop and implement a parking strategy for OT/CT that encourages redevelopment of surface parking lots and shared parking and maintains sufficient parking to meet present and future needs.

#### Potential Approaches

- Allow sharing of stalls between multiple buildings and uses
- Develop a publicly-owned parking structure
- Public support of additional parking in new development to serve existing buildings
- Allow use of parking outside the district by buildings in the district

#### SAC did not support

- Requirements to phase-out surface parking as an allowed use over a period of time
- Tax on surface parking operations







Base FAR

Bonus FAR

m

Morrison Bridgehead FAR 4:1 [7:1]/Proposed Max Height [250']





## Environmental Stewardship

#### Chapter 4: Central City Wide Policies and Actions

- Regional Center: Climate change adaptation
- River: Habitat & Water Quality
- Health & Environment:
  - Green Infrastructure
  - Bird-friendly Development
  - Climate Change Preparation (flooding, heat island, wildlife)
  - Low-carbon Development (building retrofits, green building, highperformance areas, solar energy, district energy, low-carbon transportation, carbon sequestration)
  - Recommendations to develop targets for tree canopy, vegetated cover, energy use reduction
- Various actions

#### **Chapter 5: District Policies and Actions**

• District specific actions (specific projects)

#### Appendix A: Additional Detail

• Added new entry on Willamette Greenway Plan update context and work tasks (page 143)





## West End: Building Heights



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### West End: Historic Preservation

**Policy:** Encourage the preservation, renovation and rehabilitation of existing and historic buildings

**UD2** Develop historic preservation transfer tools to encourage FAR and height transfers from historic resources

**UD3** Prepare an updated inventory of historic resources for the district

**UD4** Revise the two National Register downtown development MPD forms to encompass a broader range of historic resources in the West End

**HN1** Add flexibility for more commercial uses in existing structures within the RX zone





#### West End: District Character and Livability

**Policy:** Encourage infill development that respects the district's diverse urban character

**UD10** Develop zoning tools such as setbacks, step-backs and lower podiums that create varied urban forms, an inviting public realm and integration of infill development with existing district character.



## The West Quadrant Plan Next Steps

• Planning and Sustainability Commission Hearing September 9, 2014 - 12:30 p.m.

• City Council Hearing October, TBD

 Integration with CC2035 Concept Plan, N/NE Quadrant and SE Quadrant Plan into Central City 2035 Plan and Zoning Code work 2014-2015





## The West Quadrant Plan Next Steps

Integration with CC2035 Concept Plan and other Quadrant Plans into Central City 2035 Plan and Zoning Code work

2011

2010

2012

2013

2014

2015

FAR + Height Bonus and Transfer Study

Scenic Resources Inventory Update/ESEE

> Zoning Code Development

Willamette Greenway Code Development

N/NE Quadrant Plan<br/>(2012)CC2035 Concept<br/>Plan (2012)Final CC2035 Plan<br/>(2015/16)W Quadrant Plan<br/>(2014)SE Quadrant Plan<br/>(2015)IntegrateFinal CC2035 Plan<br/>(2015/16)



TIMELINE

2010-2011

2011-2012

2010-2014

2014-2015

**Issues and Goals** 

**Concept Plan** 

**Ouadrant Plans** 

**Final Central City 2035 Plan** 



# **Additional Slides**





# West Quadrant Provisional Targets

	Jobs		Households	
District	2010	2035	2010	2035
Downtown	47,700	+ 7,000	1,900	+ 2,500
West End	6,900	+ 2,000	3,400	+ 3,000
Goose Hollow	4,800	+ 2,000	3,500	+ 3,000
Pearl District	10,600	+ 4,000	5,300	+ 5,000
Old Town/Chinatown	5,700	+ 3,000	2,200	+ 2,000
South Waterfront	1,600	+ 10,000	1,300	+ 4,500
South Downtown/ University	10,500	+ 3,000	3,100	+ 3,000
WEST QUAD TOTAL	87,800	+ 31,000	20,700	+ 23,000



# West Quadrant Provisional Targets

Commute*		TARGET
Transportation	Non-SOV Mode Split 2010	Non-SOV Mode Split 2035
West Quad Districts		
Downtown	72%	85%
Goose Hollow	47%	75%
Old Town/Chinatown	<b>69</b> %	<b>8</b> 5%
Pearl	65%	75%
South Downtown	68%	80%
South Waterfront	34%	75%
West End	73%	80%





# West Quadrant



1938

2009





### Chapter 3: Quadrant-wide Concept Maps











### Chapter 3: Quadrant-wide Concept Maps







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### Chapter 3: Quadrant-wide Concept Maps



