

MLK @ Holly Street (Othello) Neighborhood Plan Update

Themes from March 14 Workshop & Planning Outreach Liaison Meetings

The overall themes are intended to reflect the community's aspirations about the future of their community as expressed in the March 14 workshop and at on-going outreach meetings. They do not replace existing Neighborhood Plan Goals and Policies. They provide update guidance for the plan leading to the development of additional Goals and Policies, and recommended strategies.

Create a Uniquely Identifiable Neighborhood Commercial Center that Offers a Range of Culturally-Relevant Goods and Services.

- Create a vibrant and walkable environment – a “village” commercial area.
- Provide a range of goods and services so the business district is a shopping destination.
- Retain a safe and clean grocery store.
- Attract a more “full-service” store (e.g. Fred Meyer) and drug stores (e.g. Rite-Aid, Walgreens).
- Retain ethnic and immigrant businesses. Preserve affordable commercial space.
- Improve access to job training and jobs -- potentially with a “green” emphasis.
- Provide a “shared space” that brings together various communities.

Strengthen a Community that is Culturally Diverse and Supportive of its Youth.

- Retain businesses and organizations needed to support community.
- Support cultural activities and encourage informal mixing between cultures.
- Provide positive and safe activities for youth (training programs, more computers, park activities).
- Discourage displacement of the current community.

Support a Range of Housing Types and Affordabilities.

- Provide opportunities for a range of types from high densities to lower densities.
- Preserve affordable housing and prevent displacement.
- More housing, especially affordable housing will help businesses serving immigrant communities.
- Support a range of housing options that reflect larger family size.
- Include variety in housing design and aesthetics, respect adjacent single-family areas.

Improve walkability, and transit access to create a multimodal neighborhood.

- Transit connections: improve east/west connections; retain north/south bus connections between light rail stations.
- Improve the walking environment: improve sidewalks and pedestrian crossings of MLK; create a great walking environment in business district; improve pedestrian public safety.
- Retain enough parking to support businesses that serve a larger area or sell larger goods.

Build on the existing parks, community facilities and open spaces by improve and expand programming of existing parks.

- Include more programs and facilities that are culturally relevant (gathering spaces, soccer fields, chess & checkers table, in addition to basketball courts); and that appeal to a wider range of ages.
- Opportunities for community gathering in the “town center” are important.
- Improve safety of parks.

Create a Safe Environment for People and Business.

- Improve public safety, reduce crime
- Create an environment where there are more people walking and using public spaces.