

## Transcribed Comments

"Vision Workshop"

April 5, 2007, Sandpoint Community Hall, 6:00-8:00 pm



Sandpoint  
Comprehensive  
Plan

The following are transcribed comments by participants in the group discussion phase of the Vision Workshop event held April 5, 2007. Attendees gathered around 15 numbered tables to discuss and record their long-range ideas for Sandpoint's draft vision statement. Six topic areas were represented on the tables as reflected below, but due to time constraints, each group was limited to reviewing two of the six topics. During the evening's final segment, all groups were asked to condense their comments into a "vision circle" portion of the worksheet and report those findings to the larger audience.

### Topic 1: Parks & Open Space

#### Issues

- *"Ice skating rink for general public."*
- *"Ice hockey and indoor soccer facility."*
- *"Multi-purpose city beach."*
- *"Shoreline trails."*
- *"Cooperation between city and county parkland."*
- *"Park fees for city parks for county residents!"*
- *"Parking."*
- *"Shoreline trails...dog friendly."*
- *"Neighborhood parks are great but the cost should be spread amongst all taxpayers, not by the builders or developers that have to pass the costs on to buyers – ultimately raising the bar of affordability."*
- *"More public boat slips in Sand Creek – lots of them please, but visually pleasing..."*
- *"Concert venue area at Sand Creek or city beach."*
- *"All waterfront (should be accessible to the) public."*
- *"Cooperative integration of city and county recreation programs and facilities."*
- *"Dog parks within dog-walking distance, with plastic bags."*
- *"Acquire land for parks."*
- *"Taxpayers pay for new land instead of developer."*
- *"Dog park – dogs on leash okay in parks."*
- *"Neighborhood parks."*
- *"Parks relation to: kids, elder, handicap, adults. Cooperate with LPO District."*
- *"Respite areas."*
- *"Increase park acreage per 1,000. More space."*
- *"Private development is taking 'open space.'"*
- *"Putting greens."*
- *"Open space."*
- *"Municipal golf – affordable."*
- *"New areas of recreation."*

- *"Sand Creek canoe, water trails."*
- *"Picnic shelters."*
- *"Bike paths that connect to parks and places of interest (schools, grocery stores)."*
- *"Crosswalks."*
- *"Theater-in-round like Whitefish (small, 200 people or under)."*
- *"Inventory of all natural resources."*
- *"Skate rink (ice/roller)."*
- *"Sports complex, community recreation center."*
- *"Track – indoor."*
- *"Swim pool."*
- *"BMX."*
- *"Public swimming pool."*
- *"Waterfront development...Sand Creek, Marinas, Camping (tents/RV)."*
- *"Ice rink."*
- *"Develop 'street' ends into small waterfront parks."*
- *"Hardball wall – outside."*
- *"Tennis hitting wall."*
- *"Community recreation center."*
- *"Community divided into zones with each 'zone' having appropriate free space, play toys, basketball, open ground, picnic shelters, place to sit and think."*
- *"In-line skate 'pad' also to be used for street hockey."*
- *"Funding."*
- *"Expanded affordable marinas in city limits, (a) revenue source."*
- *"Community garden."*
- *"Some intimate spaces in larger parks. Example - smaller picnic areas for small families so they don't feel like they shouldn't be there because they're not a big enough group."*
- *"Parking for parks."*
- *"Public art budgeted into new park developments."*
- *"Downtown walking-only areas (on) 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets."*
- *"Facility use fees generate city revenue, rent our facilities for large events, example: wedding receptions."*
- *"Green spaces for wildlife – ponds, trees, bushes – for birds and small animals."*
- *"Indoor sports at fairgrounds."*
- *"Programs for active 'baby boomers.'"*
- *"More public beaches."*
- *"Small and local dog parks in different sections of town."*
- *"Community gardens and composting and recycling and materials (wood, appliances, old tools, etc.) exchange."*
- *"Balance of paved trails, etc. for disabled access vs. natural trails for 'natural' access."*
- *"City beach access is too restricted with only one road in/out (4<sup>th</sup> of July, e.g.)."*
- *"Adequate parking access – cars, bikes, etc. – and availability to public areas."*

- *"Recreational opportunities for youth."*
- *"Lack of indoor recreational facilities for children."*
- *"More bike/hike trails."*
- *"Indoor field house and public swimming pool – no cost to users."*
- *"Sand Creek byway – ecology and public use at risk. Can be put to much better use. Threat to public lands and open space use."*
- *"Trail system – Sandpoint has a start, but it needs to be integrated so we can be truly a 'walking town' and connected."*
- *"Lack of information about what facilities exist."*
- *"Decreasing public access to open spaces (e.g. Bum Jungle, Ravenwood trails, Dog Beach)."*
- *"Vistas/views being blocked (Mt. West Bank, Seasons) without regard to public loss of visual open space."*
- *"Neighborhood park."*
- *"Developer bonus-density for offering park space."*
- *"Sand Creek trail system."*
- *"Greater Sandpoint urban area."*
- *"Regional park system."*
- *"Humbird Historical Park."*
- *"Urge developers to provide public parks within plan, but not at total expense to developer. Density tradeout."*
- *"Create trail systems within Sandpoint City and adjoining communities."*
- *"Possible regional park system."*
- *"Don't want to see Sand Creek destroyed by Byway."*
- *"Better access to lakefront."*
- *"Loss of access to Bum Jungle."*
- *"Need 40-50' easement on waterfront construction."*
- *"Need ice skating rink."*
- *"More downtown greenspace."*
- *"Inventory."*
- *"Regional indoor facilities."*
- *"Accessibility."*
- *"Regional."*
- *"Parks are not dog-friendly."*
- *"Sidewalks are in bad shape and non-existent in places – need better walking system."*
- *"Awareness of parks."*

### **Opportunities**

- *"City golf course or putt-putt."*
- *"Connect parks with bike trails!"*
- *"Boat slips for general public along Sand Creek."*
- *"Corridor parks that wanders along bike paths."*
- *"Sports practice facilities."*

- *"Picnic shelters."*
- *"Become like White Fish, like Kalona, B.C."*
- *"Municipal golf."*
- *"Bike path connect Ponderay – to long bridge and connect trail to Dover."*
- *"Better facilities."*
- *"More opportunities for our kids."*
- *"Picnic shelters."*
- *"Golf."*
- *"Fish pond."*
- *"Ice skating."*
- *"Develop waterways (chuck slough)."*
- *"Will increase park use!"*
- *"Healthier population."*
- *"More public beaches."*
- *"Cross Country skiing trails."*
- *"Mountain bike trails/x-country ski trails."*
- *"Community ski chair-lift."*
- *"Nordic trails."*
- *"Shoreline bike trails."*
- *"BMX track."*
- *"Bigger skate park (cover for winter use)."*
- *"Winter recreation opportunities at city beach."*
- *"Tub hill (sleds)."*
- *"Community/public garden space."*
- *"Sailing lessons."*
- *"More zoning density to free additional land for parks."*
- *"B & B tax."*
- *"Sense of community."*
- *"Public fish pond, fish pier."*
- *"Water park, fountain feature for small children."*
- *"Purchase larger 'chunks' of land in area of impact for future growth."*
- *"Identify corridors of future growth and buy land now."*
- *"Nordic trail system, similar to Leavenworth – in town."*
- *"Small 'hidden' places where people can go and relax...even downtown and business district."*
- *"Sporting events and concerts venue."*
- *"Need for a dog park."*
- *"Dam Sand Creek for ice skating at mouth of creek."*
- *"Camp area within City Limits. Trailer/tent 'short term.'"*
- *"Large reception hall (convention center) for business conferences (brings in dollars), wedding receptions, parties, events. 300+ people."*

- *“Replicate models of Breckenridge and Silverthorne, Colorado, where vast public recreation centers have been created to serve entire population and visitors.”*
- *“Balance impact of byway necessity with nature impact, view areas, trails, etc.”*
- *“Encourage neighborhood gardens.”*
- *“Park systems within walking distance.”*
- *“Pocket parks.”*
- *“Free park.”*
- *“Purchase or long-term lease existing private spaces that are functionally public (dog beach) to ‘formalize’ and ‘secure’ the public-access Sand Creek trail system.”*
- *“Provide personal amenities – water fountains, etc.”*
- *“Regionalization – park systems.”*
- *“Use the beach accesses we have available.”*
- *“Secure public access in conjunction with development.”*
- *“Able to walk to nearby park/pocket parks.”*
- *“Use all available beach access.”*
- *“Continue to provide organized recreational opportunities.”*
- *“Boating, skiing, hiking, biking, tree city.”*
- *“Need public neighborhood parks. Quality of life issues.”*
- *“More trails connection parks and neighborhoods and shopping.”*
- *“Regional park system.”*
- *“Need parking for trails.”*
- *“Free!”*
- *“Develop more beach access.”*
- *“Be a walking/biking town. Need sidewalks, trails.”*
- *“Post ‘public access’ at the lesser known lake access locations.”*
- *“Create an inventory of public access to lake or public trails so the community knows where they can go.”*
- *“Create a map of local trails for walking/biking.”*
- *“Indoor recreation facility for children/teens for winter activities (pool, running tracks, ice rink).”*
- *“More interconnected bike paths.”*
- *“Sand Creek is huge opportunity if it was turned into a park on both sides (and no byway).”*
- *“City purchase of private waterfront to prevent loss of views and loss of access.”*

### **Vision Circle**

- *“Parking areas at bike paths outside of town to bike in, due to traffic/parking problems.”*
- *“Variety of safe ways to transition to community areas by foot, car, bike, etc.”*
- *“Utilizing railway easements for recreational uses.”*
- *“County-city collaboration and cooperation for recreational facilities and services and county funding.”*
- *“Scattered parks around town.”*
- *“Zone for parks and space, but buy park land.”*
- *“Increasing multipurpose open space and parkland and recreational facilities.”*

- *"Recognize importance of Lake Pend Oreille and provide more opportunities for access."*
- *"Promote recreational opportunity."*
- *"Combination of regional and city parks and recreation...regional to include indoor recreation facility."*
- *"Neighborhood/pocket parks within walking distance of each home."*
- *"Identify and publicize existing facilities and utilize."*
- *"Serve people of all ages, abilities, incomes and interests."*
- *"Identify Sandpoint as a recreation-oriented community. Encourage development to support public recreation incentives."*

## **Topic 2: Streets and Transportation**

### **Issues**

- *"Too many realtors."*
- *"Too much publicity to encourage investment instead of homes and community."*
- *"Too many part-time people."*
- *"Public transportation with connections."*
- *"Safety concerns with crosswalks."*
- *"Village/neighborhood 'connectivity.'"*
- *"Land traffic on 1st Avenue/Cedar."*
- *"Connecting cities through pathways."*
- *"Biking through town and 'walkability'!"*
- *"Beautification with road development."*
- *"Quaint town, not cluttered."*
- *"Promote ethnic diversity. Please!"*
- *"Bypass is too much concrete. Need assurances that green spaces and extraordinary plantings are done. Keep trucks out of downtown."*
- *"Too many one-ways."*
- *"Too many semis."*
- *"Too many realtors! Too many downtown! Get them out of downtown."*
- *"City owned bikes to share."*
- *"Horse trails!"*
- *"Hospital care, medical care, and dialysis for elderly. They need a place here for help or public help for transportation to Spokane or Coeur d'Alene."*
- *"Mentoring by businesses to offer training and employment."*
- *"Continuity in design."*
- *"Promote train travel in daytime to Sandpoint and surrounding area for tourism and commuting. Why are all the trains in the middle of the night?"*
- *"Ski tours by train? Sight seers?"*
- *"Carpools?"*
- *"Excessive signage on 1st Avenue."*

- *"Should costs prohibit what is best for the community in the long run?"*
- *"Public transportation? Especially Sandpoint to Schweitzer."*
- *"Downtown sidewalks need repair."*
- *"Roundabouts."*
- *"Does the proposed byway actually justify the expenditure, especially when the next traffic issue to be addressed becomes east/west traffic?" (Comment written in next to this: "Yes, it does!")*
- *"Can we adopt a 'green vision' when talking about traffic flow (i.e., don't totally stop at a stop light if no traffic conflict exists – Pine and 5<sup>th</sup>)?"*
- *"Idaho Transportation Department reluctance to actually let us have some input in road issues (i.e., funnel under RR trestle going north to 95/Bonnars' turnoff)."*
- *"Bike paths to neighboring cities!"*
- *"Byway – separation of town to waterfront."*
- *"Byway – doesn't solve the current traffic issues for today."*
- *"Toughest issues for traffic flow: inconsistent pedestrian traffic (crossing) on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, gridlock getting in/out of town."*
- *"Too many signs – inconsistent look/feel to current signage."*
- *"Need big trucks out of town."*
- *"Two-way streets downtown."*
- *"Parking."*
- *"Byway or not, access to the lake from a variety of locations."*
- *"Dogs: where are they acceptable?"*
- *"Streets are controlled by State rather than local government."*
- *"Downtown lacks consistent feel."*
- *"Are we really a walking town anymore?"*
- *"Hard for several parks to be discovered. More green is good!"*
- *"Trains, trains, trains. Need under/over passes all over."*
- *"Traffic flow at peak times – major arterials."*
- *"Traffic flow at off times – side streets."*
- *"How will our future growth handle this?"*
- *"We need a byway!"*
- *"Does the byway plan (as it is) handle the future growth for our area? Area = Coeur d'Alene to Bonnars Ferry, and traffic flows to and from, etc..."*
- *"What about increased 'tourist' traffic?"*
- *"Streets - quality needs to be addressed! Consistency in sidewalks, bike paths, pedestrian crossings."*
- *"No one-way signs on many streets."*
- *"Traffic congestion in town because of interstate traffic."*
- *"More parking (public) in town center. Maybe parking garages."*
- *"Boyer only street west of 95 running north/south. Maybe build Great Northern to carry traffic and connect it to southern cut of 95."*
- *"City streets, inner and outer, to be redone/built to new code."*
- *"Change inner town, streets and flow."*

- *"More walk and bike paths."*
- *"Connect Boyer to 95 through the new university campus."*
- *"Build the bypass! Get the semis out of downtown."*
- *"Lack of parking."*
- *"Maintenance."*
- *"Density annexing new streets and expenses."*
- *"Street width."*
- *"Traffic flow."*
- *"Trucks out of town."*
- *"Pedestrian safety."*
- *"Provide access to three types of transportation: pedestrian, bicycle, vehicle."*
- *"Services/access: fire deliveries, garbage, etc."*
- *"Parking."*
- *"Safe railway crossings."*
- *"Airport noise abatement."*
- *"Two-way/one-way circulation."*
- *"Train noise and safety."*
- *"West side bridge."*
- *"Sidewalks."*
- *"Bike paths, south, north end of town."*
- *"Public transit."*
- *"Lighting of travel-way."*
- *"Create incentives and opportunities to keep core areas open to facilitate safety – less congestion and less pollution and to promote an inviting business environment."*
- *"Town trolley to connect town quadrants to downtown."*
- *"Medians down 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>."*
- *"Bus system."*
- *"Service to Spokane airport."*
- *"Golf course in town."*
- *"Connecting bike paths that reach from parks to downtown points of interest (example: City Beach)."*
- *"Emphasis on more pedestrian/bicycle-friendly access rather than building more parking and wider roads (too much concrete)."*
- *"Educate population on bike rules of the road/make bike lanes to get bikes off sidewalks – educate drivers to not run over bikers on the streets."*
- *"City Council (needs to) resolve that Sandpoint is a walking and biking town. Make the claim a priority."*
- *"Reintroduce the horse drawn trolley and make 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> a walking only area. Or electric trolley/tracks downtown to move people around without everyone bringing a car."*
- *"LP site (or a portion of it) as a park-and-walk, or bus station to take folks to town - mass transit."*
- *"More streets ending in pocket parks like 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave on south side of town."*
- *"Safely connect bikes and pedestrians from residential to business core: west to east."*

- *"Need bike path thru town – Church St. from 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> on north side of street."*
- *"Educate on (concept of) 'walking town.'"*
- *"Incentives for businesses to offer their employees for carpooling or biking to work."*
- *"From a contractor's point of view that travels our roads constantly throughout the day, we need better flows of traffic on our main arterials to facilitate less commute time. Many contractors spend so much time in traffic that we will have to start to bill out our time from when we depart, which raises costs to consumers."*
- *"Bypass is okay if it blends well, but I would prefer and alternate route between Sandpoint and Dover, ultimately onto the highway."*
- *"The planned neighborhoods flow well and look good."*
- *"Peoples' driving habits are becoming less and less friendly – we might need more traffic control for entering the main arterials."*
- *"It is getting harder to walk safely through town as people are becoming ruder and in more of a hurry."*
- *"How about a relocation of the railroad tracks (yes, it's a stretch) to allow for better traffic flow areas?"*

### **Opportunities**

- *"Getting in rush hour traffic at the high school – a.m. or p.m."*
- *"More bicycle and walking attitudes as exhibited by covered walkways/cops on bikes, police walking a beat, incentives for business owners and employees to walk."*
- *"Pedestrian walkways at crucial overpass points."*
- *"Increase trees, banners, hanging baskets, lanterns. Make town quaint."*
- *"Bike paths to connect cities."*
- *"Become self-contained."*
- *"Promote solar, wind, environmental power in town, with home and businesses."*
- *"Uniform lighting (lanterns) in all public places."*
- *"Complimentary design."*
- *"Parking for disabled – we do have (enough money)."*
- *"Improve access to lake – reserve lake front land for public use."*
- *"Lanterns, lighting extend to other streets."*
- *"Median down 1<sup>st</sup> with green space and trees."*
- *"More interconnecting bike paths."*
- *"No passing on bridge."*
- *"Protect and promote Sandpoint airport."*
- *"Designate area around airport for light industry/commercial enterprise."*
- *"No residential encroachment of airport."*
- *"Traffic flow opportunities – promote bike/walk opportunities."*
- *"Pedestrian safety – There are a lot of opportunities, like in the Westlake area of Seattle, lighted (green and red) intersections for pedestrian crossing. This would also help with traffic flow on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue."*
- *"Coordinated pedestrian crossings."*
- *"Green spaces for wildlife."*

- *"Need byway bad. Byway to move interstate traffic out of town."*
- *"Ticket cars that do not yield to pedestrians consistently."*
- *"Pave more roads, easier to maintain."*
- *"Build bypass now. Eliminating semis and making it easier for locals to get from one place to another."*
- *"Capitalize on 'walking town.'"*
- *"Better partnership with ITD!"*
- *"Put in park –and-rides on outskirts of town in all directions. Have bicycle lockers there. This way, people who live outside of Sandpoint can drive vehicles to the area, then ride their bikes into town. (Put one on north Sagle, on the south side of the Long Bridge.)"*
- *"Reduce jaywalking."*
- *"Traffic lights for pedestrian safety."*
- *"Enforce speed limits/yield to pedestrians."*
- *"More density to reduce new land demand and roads."*
- *"More sidewalks and bike paths."*
- *"Education for pedestrian safety."*
- *"Parking facilities at new parks and complexes."*
- *"Two-way traffic limit trucks on 5<sup>th</sup> and Pine."*
- *"West side transportation."*
- *"Put sidewalks where there are none – then replace existing sidewalks."*
- *"Bike/pedestrian safety connecting to downtown."*
- *"Connectivity: residential to downtown."*
- *"Put on Council and city government to officially be a walking town – code."*
- *"Introduce (a) trolley."*
- *"1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> walking area."*
- *"Public transportation – small bus system for elder transportation."*
- *"Small area of median for center crossing."*
- *"Boyer to Lake bike path."*
- *"Small, passive park at boat ramp on end of Boyer!"*
- *"Boat trailer parking away from launch site and a way to get back to the launch site quickly."*
- *"Parking area for bank. How will they cross 5<sup>th</sup> to new bank?"*
- *"Pedestrians/bikes get equal consideration to vehicles re: safety, connectivity, and convenience."*
- *"Schools pedestrian/bike crossing safety! And pathways/sidewalks to schools."*
- *"Public parking for visiting boat trailers."*
- *"Lighted bike paths and walking paths."*
- *"Utilize roundabouts."*
- *"Establish lots for 'park and ride.' Cool if there were lockers to store your own bike in if you had to drive into town."*
- *"Outlaw cell phone use while driving."*
- *"Reduce carbon dioxide."*
- *"Bike striping."*
- *"Signage needed for 'walking town.'"*

- *“Rail-trails.”*
- *“Sandpoint airport is a huge economic asset to the community. Quest Aircraft will be Sandpoint’s #1 most valuable business.”*

### **Vision Circle**

- *“Bike paths to flow through and within Sandpoint and connecting neighboring cities.”*
- *“Public transportation connecting neighboring cities and medical facilities.”*
- *“Create east/west corridor to improve traffic flow.”*
- *“Transportation traffic flows need to improve to meet increased traffic, inconsistent traffic flows and changing neighborhood design.”*
- *“Preserving open space, parks, wildlife and public access to the lake.”*
- *“Preserve character of community by encouraging median green space, uniform light, complimentary design.”*
- *“Improve parking.”*
- *“Build bypass with green space and promised bike paths and livable space.”*
- *“Improve traffic congestion: more street lights, get rid of semis, encourage walking areas through town and bikeways.”*
- *“Need ways to get across 95 for pedestrians and bikes.”*
- *“Roundabouts and speed bumps in all neighborhoods and around schools, to slow down traffic.”*
- *“Promote walking and bikes to everywhere!”*
- *“Better signs to show traffic that this is a walking town. Tickets to slow them down.”*
- *“Equal consideration of safety, connectivity, convenience regarding bikes and cars.”*
- *“Create a method to make Sandpoint a walking town officially (city code).”*
- *“Create incentives and opportunities to keep core areas open to facilitate safety – less congestion and less pollution and to promote an inviting business environment.”*

### **Topic 3: Housing and Neighborhoods**

#### **Issues**

- *“Wages insufficient to afford housing – living wage jobs and ordinance.”*
- *“Need more housing variety: row houses, apartments, smaller lot options, mixed economic neighborhoods.”*
- *“Affordability in housing.”*
- *“Limit large franchise type stores/restaurants.”*
- *“Minimize neighborhood lights.”*
- *“Limit areas of development for small acreage in the outskirts – erosion.”*
- *“People like where they live.”*
- *“Smaller lots create building on a good portion of lot with garage and parking in driveways have cars on sidewalks.”*
- *“Taxes too high – people can’t afford to keep their home.”*
- *“Large trees, parks, preserving open spaces.”*

- *"Bike trails, getting to businesses in and near area – some bike overpasses needed to keep trails off of roads. Connect Sandpoint to other towns with trails."*
- *"Great education – university – high academics."*
- *"Mixed housing – don't go beyond a certain percentage of rentals or part time residents in each neighborhood."*
- *"Dark sky – preserve – rules on keeping neighborhood lighting from being too bright. (Comments in response to this: "Have now." and "Then how come new construction in my neighborhood has lighting all around it that looks like a football field?")"*
- *"Volume of train horns – softer safety of cargo through town. One location?"*
- *"Recreation hall, skating."*
- *"Don't build houses on the hills."*
- *"Train lower incomes or anyone interested to get better jobs. Mentoring by companies."*
- *"What is the 'best neighborhood' in Sandpoint? The one we live in (owners) at the moment. Northeast neighborhood will eventually go commercial. BGH should expand west, not north."*
- *"Working class unable to afford housing."*
- *"Train horns are too loud at night."*
- *"Protect your own neighborhood."*
- *"No ultra small lots!"*
- *"Renters feel trapped, but many homeowners think they are getting rich."*
- *"'A sense of place', Wallace Stegner."*
- *"Fewer full-time residents."*
- *"'Unaffordable recreation' for locals has increased housing for 'rich' and lowered affordability."*
- *"Make it a requirement that you have to be at least an Idaho resident to buy property."*
- *"Don't allow out-of-state buyers to buy property site unseen, clear cut the property to make (money) and re-sell for twice the price."*
- *"Singles, young couples, are limited to small apartments or three-plus roommates."*
- *"Middle class can't live in town."*
- *"Against gated neighborhoods – not at all democratic and helpful to all citizens – a 'mine, mine, mine' attitude."*
- *"Neighborhoods should be able to have block parties, share equipment, skills, and a 'city repair' from Portland model where projects are done by consensus."*
- *"Need places within the neighborhood to buy groceries, drug store, laundry, etc. Not just big box stores – (they) increase their problems."*
- *"Full-time residents are being forced out and replaced by a renter's ghetto for vacationers or housing kept by absentee landlords."*
- *"Loss of waterfront access to extremely wealthy people that exclude the 'riff-raff.'"*
- *"I like neighborhoods not homogenous in class, types of people, age groups. Need to keep diversity intact."*
- *"Affordable housing – becoming scarce and what is being built is not appealing. Does affordable housing have to be ugly and industrial looking? Does the city have architectural standards?"*
- *"Infrastructure (stores and facilities for low income people in Sandpoint) is at risk."*
- *"Increasing number of 2nd homes that are empty most of the time shreds neighborhood integrity."*

- *“Owners of those homes, when they are in Sandpoint, alter the city character for the worse because they are inconsiderate of neighbors – (they) use Sandpoint as a playground.”*
- *“Newcomers from big cities bring kids with big city problems (drugs, gangs, etc.).”*
- *“Big box stores in Ponderay have killed owner-operated businesses in Sandpoint.”*
- *“As small houses are torn down and replaced with big houses, trees and bird habitat disappear.”*
- *“Proposed bypass will destroy Sand Creek and cottonwoods (eagle nesting sites).”*
- *“Wealthy retirees from big cities don’t want to support our schools.”*
- *“Working people are being priced out of Sandpoint as others replace them.”*
- *“Fewer and fewer stores in Sandpoint useful to residents.”*
- *“Theme of ‘eco-tourism’ can actually devolve into a Disney theme-park feel with expensive ‘shopping entertainment.’ Make ecology a truly green approach to budgeting/cutting any future costs of providing city services.”*
- *“Homeowners and renters do feel trapped by rising costs.”*
- *“Create more affordable apartments downtown – mixed-use downtown creates a more thriving community. There is plenty of opportunity for this within current build restrictions (three stories maximum). City should create incentives for adding housing in mixed-use buildings.”*
- *“South Sandpoint: convenient to downtown, close to water, nice but small homes, architecture with character.”*
- *“Northshore: family friendly, used to be affordable, mix of housing styles and prices.”*
- *“My favorite neighborhood is South Sandpoint, for the following reasons that I’d like to preserve: neighbors know one another, (they) interact, trade house-sitting, etc.; residents walk and bike to and from town (weather permitting); (for the most part) houses are modestly sized and architecturally unique; residents take care of homes and yards; are safe and secure.”*
- *“I dislike: gated communities (especially those that limit public access to waterfront, lakeside paths); tearing down smaller houses and building monstrosities; larger lots subdivided – loss of home-scale orchards and gardens; empty second homes; and ‘cookie cutter’ home designs (homogenous houseplans).”*
- *“More trees! Incentives to reduce waste!”*
- *“Identify neighborhood borders and name them all within the city.”*
- *“Neighborhoods should be within a five-minute walking area.”*
- *“There should be no heavily-traveled streets within neighborhoods.”*
- *“There should be a neighborhood business/park center, greenways (linear parks) connecting neighborhood centers, adequate parking within neighborhoods, affordable housing within neighborhoods.”*
- *“Each neighborhood should have a character.”*
- *“There should be safe crossings over busy streets when leaving neighborhoods.”*
- *“Every neighborhood should be clean, green, natural, sustainable, and eco-friendly.”*
- *“Each neighborhood should have its own solar aquatic sewage treatment with organic gardens adjoining the greenways (for walking and biking) throughout.”*
- *“Neighborhoods should be safe with adequate police and fire protection.”*
- *“We are pricing ourselves out of being an economically diverse community.”*
- *“The same water/sewer fees apply to a giant house with five bathrooms and a studio apartment with one resident.”*

- *"The train noise is ridiculous with the increase in activity."*
- *"We are losing housing and community services that many working class, older and poorer people need to live from day-to-day. Good neighborhoods are places where people of all classes can come together, share and have the opportunity to know and care about each other."*
- *"City's long-term commitment to its short-term agreements (renewing on park agreements)."*
- *"'Nice' neighborhoods becoming low-rent 'not-so-nice' neighborhoods."*
- *"Must retain historic neighborhoods."*
- *"Design Review board needed."*
- *"Sand Creek byway a 'must.'"*
- *"Need some small parks and quiet places."*
- *"Traffic/speed/noise control is needed."*
- *"Noise pollution/dogs/music/cars: big problem!"*
- *"Make contact with city hall/police – more user friendly."*
- *"Best neighborhood – South Sandpoint: close to downtown; near water; modest, well-maintained, diverse incomes; high percentage of year-round residents."*
- *"Neighbors' views being blocked by huge, ugly homes."*
- *"More downtown housing."*

### **Opportunities**

- *"Green spaces for wildlife."*
- *"Neighborhood shopping services – haircut at a neighborhood."*
- *"Lots of little parks."*
- *"Bike lanes."*
- *"Move trains all to best route."*
- *"Change zoning laws to allow diverse housing, change setbacks, allow multi-use – quick!"*
- *"Affordable for middle class."*
- *"Downtown housing."*
- *"Ivano's as good thing for mixed-use."*
- *"Diversified housing."*
- *"Mix full-time in 'vacation and rentals.'"*
- *"Community garden."*
- *"Bike paths to more areas."*
- *"Improved school funding – extra hands-on classes to aide community."*
- *"Community composting and firewood drop off."*
- *"Residential/business use."*
- *"Neighborhood shopping."*
- *"No more cookie-cutter row houses!" (Comment in response to this comment:) "I agree."*
- *"Better planning for mixed-use neighborhoods."*
- *"Continue to encourage walking in town, and emphasis on safety."*
- *"Can trains decrease volume of horns at night?"*

- *“Best neighborhood: South Sandpoint because of character (old houses and trees), location (access to business center, parks, lake), integrated (old, new, small, large, expensive, affordable houses in the same neighborhood.”*
- *“Create guidelines for architectural integrity – every new building should be an investment in Sandpoint.”*
- *“The farmers’ market is a community treasure (as is the Panida Theatre). Protect and enhance these! This is the type of organization that makes Sandpoint wonderful!”*
- *“Find grant programs to provide low-cost loans to low-income people to maintain/repair the older homes (e.g. roof repair, foundations), so A) the housing doesn’t deteriorate beyond salvation and B) people can afford to stay in their older homes.”*
- *“Comp plan review could produce restrictions on enlarging existing homes (especially in South Sandpoint) or building in such a way that lot coverage compromises character and neighborhood integrity. Provide reduced city fees for smaller (cheaper) rental and for-sale housing.”*
- *“Establish a ‘horn-free’ zone through the Sandpoint area (requires controlled crossings).”*
- *“Lobby for property tax reform.”*
- *“Sandpoint’s neighborhoods could become tourist destinations, but we need to be on the cutting edge of eco-development.”*
- *“More housing units like Lockwoods. More homes with front porches.”*
- *“Southside is best because of unique mix of old and new.”*
- *“Neighborhood parks must be part of ‘livability.’”*
- *“Encourage downtown living with upper apartment construction encouraged or allowed through ‘incentives’ to build.”*

### **Vision Circle**

- *“Lots of parks.”*
- *“Sense of place.”*
- *“Neighborhood shopping.”*
- *“Restore the corridors: 5<sup>th</sup> and Dover Highway.”*
- *“The best neighborhood is the one we live in!”*
- *“Variety of lot sizes, both smaller and larger.”*
- *“Sandpoint should have a completed trail system with pedestrian access so that you don’t have to drive to access the trails.”*
- *“Sandpoint should have well-planned mixed use in neighborhoods – corner stores and business that truly enhance the community and offer a service.”*
- *“Retain a small town feel: friendly, opportunities for common assemblage, shops/businesses are owner-operated, community has access to the recreation/activities they love, the town has character and is diverse and unique.”*
- *“Sandpoint in 2027 will be/have: a community where the people who work here can afford housing here; the people who work here can retire here; a town with historical character – not a face version of what it once was; a community with housing downtown (more mixed use); mixed density neighborhoods with green spaces (no cookie-cutter neighborhoods); a community recreation center; good pedestrian access within and between neighborhoods.”*
- *“South Sandpoint has not been destroyed.”*

## Topic 4: Jobs and Regional Economy

### Issues

- *"Regional recycling program."*
- *"Work with other communities."*
- *"Resort community – service-sector jobs."*
- *"Decentralization of commercial. Reestablish corridor to Highway 2 (5<sup>th</sup> to Larch). Everything economic doesn't have to be downtown."*
- *"Recognize and implement more green zones (trees, shrubs, grass, etc.) when commercial development happens."*
- *"Limit large development/residential subdivisions, to avoid sprawl like Coeur d'Alene, not visually attractive."*
- *"Require businesses to have easy car, pedestrian, bike access. Roads we can cross, not buildings always facing the highway."*
- *"Develop historical and cultural component as an economic development tool."*
- *"Maintain historical character of buildings – encourage businesses through codes or incentives."*
- *"Establish more recreational opportunities that do not require a large income, to keep an economic balance."*
- *"Address impact of byway on community feel, 'exit ramp community.'"*
- *"Keep local businesses, rather than allowing chain stores to take over."*
- *"Encourage entrepreneurship spirit and community development of U of I."*
- *"Jobs – reduce carbon dioxide."*
- *"Address cultural activity and nightlife to stimulate economic activity."*
- *"Encourage cultural events and celebrations that bring in major economic activity."*
- *"Downtown walking mall: no cars 1<sup>st</sup> and Cedar, Panida – Eichardts."*
- *"Look at a creative economy."*
- *"Facilitate entrepreneurship."*
- *"Validate craftsmanship - handmade items."*
- *"Establish a place-based economy, developing local resources that are unique to this area, such as small farms, sustainable logging, entrepreneurial craftsmanship and the recreational aspects of lake and mountain."*
- *"Forget the big-box standard stores, and connect local entrepreneurial spirit to real-estate, place-based businesses, etc."*
- *"Diminish our ecological footprint!"*
- *"Shop local first!"*
- *"Always hire locals first!"*
- *"Some selling Sandpoint: i.e. promotion; development."*
- *"A living-wage mandate with teeth (current jobs don't pay enough)."*
- *"We need an economy that serves the needs and interests of blue collar workers, not tourists and the rich."*
- *"We need to develop local resources so we are not dependent on shipping resources and/or extracting/ruining the environment."*
- *"Youth jobs aimed at environmental clean-up."*

- *"Environmental restoration, not tourism."*
- *"Trade schools within the college."*
- *"More skilled people to fill local jobs."*

## **Opportunities**

- *"No byway up Sand Creek!"*
- *"Adopt mixed-use zoning for downtown to create affordable housing closer to lake."*
- *"Address parking lot options and economic activity."*
- *"Network local businesses with public resources to create innovative job opportunities. Take on new economic development strategies that enhance place-based development rather than attracting mega-corporations."*
- *"'Sandpoint is not an island.' Think regionally."*
- *"Jobs = wage issue."*
- *"Resort community = service jobs."*
- *"Decentralize business district."*
- *"Revitalize 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Loah at Larch, Highway 2 and Division."*
- *"Bypass impact."*
- *"Reestablish highway corridors."*
- *"Not everything 'economic' has to be downtown."*
- *"Provide incentives for local businesses. Breaks for local businesses, taxes for chain stores or require local donations for community preservation."*
- *"Construct affordable housing for locals, Schweitzer employees, etc. (note affordable housing constructed in Telluride, Colorado in 1990-1991)."*
- *"Market to large companies to relocate or start new business in Sandpoint."*
- *"Cost of living is too high...we need more affordable housing. It is not affordable for the working class, so we don't have a good pool of working class. A college would help."*
- *"We need more work that is geared toward building a strong community, not toward attracting tourists. The economy will fall, and less and less people will be touring. Local economy will maintain and sustain us, not tourists and the rich people who do not add anything to the work and jobs issues."*
- *"Stop business migration from downtown core."*
- *"Emphasize corridor development along: Fifth, Highway 2, Renover – LP Mill – pole yards."*
- *"Keep lighthouse."*
- *"Pay people to dig knapweed."*
- *"Boycott WalMart and shop local."*
- *"Hint: go all the way outside of the box. Imagine a town (a world) where we don't need money anymore. We just do what we like to do and are good at, and share it."*
- *"Local community-oriented economy rather than towards real estate development."*
- *"Community to own Schweitzer and make the income – not a corporation."*
- *"Community college and NIC – many of us have things to teach or learn."*
- *"Community-owned bio-fuel station and conversion shop."*

## **Vision Circle**

- *“Maintain historical and cultural flavor.”*
- *“Avoid ugly development.”*
- *“Regional thinking and interconnection.”*
- *“Identify why we live here and how we’d like it to be.”*
- *“Decentralize.”*
- *“Affordable housing.”*
- *“Recreation affordable to all.”*
- *“Creativity.”*
- *“An economy focused on prosperity of the people here, all of us.”*
- *“Incentives for local and small business.”*
- *“Innovation.”*
- *“Mixed use zoning.”*
- *“Alternative local medium of exchange (money).”*
- *“Develop plans for commercial areas.”*
- *“Decentralize and expand/develop new business areas.”*
- *“Place-based economy – utilizing and developing local resources unique to our area.”*
- *“Community based development.”*
- *“Locally supported and sustainable.”*
- *“Environmentally responsible business.”*
- *“Local business incentives.”*
- *“Green landscaping at business locales.”*
- *“Regional recycling program.”*
- *“Entrepreneurial education on university level.”*
- *“Affordable housing.”*
- *“We like this town and the development that has occurred.”*

## **Topic 5: Public Facilities and Services**

### **Issues**

- *“Reduce excess lighting – lower carbon dioxide.”*
- *“Maintain educational facilities that exist.”*
- *“Project water and sewer usage and prepare for it.”*
- *“Fire protection for the north side of the city and cooperation with the airport fire department.”*
- *“We do not need big beautiful buildings, we need functional office space.”*
- *“Separate water and garbage bills, they do not have any commonality.”*
- *“Indoor facilities for youth activities – public climbing gym, pool, winter use.”*
- *“More parks and dog parks.”*
- *“Public beach access.”*
- *“Public walking areas along lake.”*

- *"Recycling hub and pick-up, especially for businesses."*
- *"Bike baths/access."*
- *"Connecting corridors: integrated community design."*
- *"Utility service through developing areas."*
- *"All-ages friendly public facilities."*
- *"High school internet access."*
- *"City-wide wireless internet connection."*
- *"Reducing waste and reducing/reusing compostable items."*
- *"Support locally-grown foods."*
- *"Creative, imagination."*
- *"Need an indoor field house for multiple uses – at no cost to users."*
- *"Water quality of Pend Oreille, due to potable water use in late summer."*
- *"Need infrastructure in place before services."*
- *"Neighboring cities cooperatively plan for the most efficient system."*
- *"Energy sustainability – clean, efficient, saves money; police – bicycle patrol; fire – efficient building and alternative vehicle fuel; trash – increase recycling; sewer – capture methane; water – energy efficient pumps; schools, libraries, courthouse, churches – green buildings."*
- *"Walkable neighborhoods."*
- *"Sandpoint could try to be in business and find itself competing with entrepreneurs (e.g. municipal RV parks)."*
- *"Services to match growth."*
- *"Byway would divide town from lake. Need public transport solution – trolley."*
- *"Recycling out of city limits, needs curbside."*
- *"Encourage recycling and encourage less waste. Town composting."*
- *"Health insurance and health care for our population."*
- *"Drinking water shortage."*
- *"Gridlock."*
- *"Sewage: decentralized, alternatives."*
- *"Health: city group healthcare insurance."*
- *"Community owned energy utility."*
- *"Adequate infrastructure for future density."*
- *"Safety services (fire, police, emergency medical)."*
- *"Services need to match or keep up with growth."*
- *"Green community – alternative to fuel, transportation, dealing with waste, etc."*
- *"Energy efficient clean-growth."*
- *"Walkable neighborhoods."*
- *"Better facilities for public meetings."*
- *"Parking for RVs for downtown use: the old lumber mill site? Or Fairgrounds like Creston, B.C."*
- *"Why does Sandpoint penalize poor people on late utility bills? It's an unfair tax on those who are less able to pay it. \$15 door-hang fee and \$15 late fee!"*

## Opportunities

- *"Recycle – no waste, re-use; yard waste – compost to energy; sorting area for 'free' stuff."*
- *"More greenspace and indoor public facilities."*
- *"Good design for bike/walking traffic; especially through corridors."*
- *"Deal with waste locally."*
- *"Easy and abundant lake access."*
- *"Firewood exchange program."*
- *"High school internet through city."*
- *"Public useable space."*
- *"Westside services."*
- *"Establish public trail connecting corridors."*
- *"More public beaches (southside)."*
- *"Senior accessibility."*
- *"Police – some to walk a beat, know the people and vice versa."*
- *"Trash – recycle for real – compost, produce less."*
- *"Economic: community to own Schweitzer (not some corporation), trains from elsewhere to the bottom of the hill."*
- *"Schools - community college and NIC, we as teachers and students, K-12: more and better paid teachers, smaller classrooms, curriculum to be structured around student consensus of how they'd like this world to be and how to get there."*
- *"Libraries: yes, yes, yes!"*
- *"Sewage: research conversion of sewage to ethanol – community-owned bio-flushing station (conversion shop)."*
- *"Lower teacher to student ratio."*
- *"Sustainability education in curriculum."*
- *"Attentive 'green' methods of sewage treatment."*
- *"Recycling centers – not thrift stores – more comprehensive and genuinely recycled."*
- *"More cultural diversity training for educators, police, public employees. Goal: respect and understanding of ethnic differences, alternative lifestyles, 'green' values, etc."*
- *"Accessibility – through alternative transportation options – to public services."*
- *"Preserving environmental quality in relation to parking lots for churches, etc."*
- *"Communication between schools and police/fire/safety."*
- *"Recycling in town – allowed for businesses."*
- *"Water quality of the lake."*
- *"Sewer and water use of large businesses and university."*
- *"Water quality in relation to development and recreation."*
- *"School facility growth in relation to population growth."*
- *"Fire protection outside city limits."*
- *"Would like innovative approaches to water quality, development (zoning issues) and sewage treatment."*

- *"Concerns with hospital and emergency services. Need to address emergency services for out of city limits and Schweitzer."*
- *"Preservation of watershed for wildlife and water quality."*
- *"Allocate funds to expand water and sewer districts in Ponderay and Kootenai."*
- *"Allocate funds to bring Sandpoint sewer treatment up to excellent standards so that it doesn't cost the taxpayers in the city extensively."*
- *"Indoor climbing gym and field house at no cost to users."*
- *"All services should run in a sustainability basis. Less excess and production of garbage."*
- *"Schools – we need more higher education. Schools should be safe."*
- *"Water – no chemicals on lake or on drinking water (except chlorine)."*
- *"Trash – more options for recycling and composting. We need plastic recycling...not available."*
- *"Libraries – our library rocks!"*
- *"Transportation – we need mass transportation...a trolley between Division and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and to Ponderay would be great. Great opportunity for new jobs. Use Bio-diesel."*
- *"Police – Too many cops doing nothing, too many cops with a big power trip. Let police focus on real problems, not ideologies."*
- *"Free rides for seniors."*
- *"Start with the services that the city provides first."*
- *"Infrastructure in place before development. Not burdening existing residents."*
- *"Sewer and water districts based on efficiency and planned growth."*
- *"Snow removal."*
- *"Energy sustainability."*
- *"Clean growth."*
- *"Capitilization of sewer and water."*
- *"Edible landscapes in public parks."*
- *"Mulch grass clippings and tree mass."*
- *"Energy sustainability."*
- *"Area-wide collective efficiency."*
- *"Greater Sandpoint."*
- *"Police bicycle patrol."*
- *"Density questions: localized in Sandpoint or spread?"*
- *"Trolley."*
- *"Walkable neighborhoods."*
- *"Green community."*
- *"Flexible, adaptable zoning."*
- *"Green approach."*
- *"Public transit: horse-drawn trolley, bio-fuel bus."*
- *"Conseroation: provide recycle incentives, composting and mulch program."*
- *"Plan future services with adjoining cities to maximize efficiency."*
- *"Neighborhoods."*
- *"Preserve and encourage churches."*

- *"Include the lake in the downtown with a natural waterfront park (Heritage) in front of the water treatment plant."*
- *"Develop and aesthetic trolley (horse?) system that makes downtown shopping an experience and downtown evenings a memory."*
- *"More public toilets in downtown including on opposite side of Sand Creek."*
- *"(Illegible)... reinvestment."*

### **Vision Circle**

- *"Greenspaces, sustainability."*
- *"Good access – bike/foot/car."*
- *"Recycling, utilizing and limiting waste."*
- *"Excellent public communications infrastructure."*
- *"Focus on education with sustainability/'localized' curriculum."*
- *"Continuing education programs for police and other public employees."*
- *"Program for sustaining water quality – engaging public and city."*
- *"Sandpoint should produce power locally."*
- *"Sandpoint should produce majority of food and other vital resources locally and sustainably."*
- *"Provide a leading example of how to establish a sustainable community – carbon balance."*
- *"No waste, predominantly local production of goods and services. Protection of our natural resources and heritage."*
- *"We support/embrace wildlife – protected space, appropriate design and space use; luminescence reduction."*
- *"Access to forests an lakes and farmland and recreational places."*
- *"Better living for those who live in town because they love the country."*
- *"Social/commercial nodes distributed within growth areas."*
- *"Public facilities should address needs of all!"*
- *"Regional services, quality health care hub for all."*
- *"Protect transportation systems."*
- *"Enhance access to healthy natural places."*
- *"Enhanced facilities for youth – indoor field house and pool."*
- *"Environmentally clean businesses, transportation."*
- *"Public spaces for wildlife and nature and time for reflection."*
- *"Multiple small sustainable energy production."*
- *"Self-sustaining in every way, green city."*
- *"Renewable resources."*
- *"Energy, community-owned."*
- *"Public transportation without pollution."*
- *"Green building codes."*
- *"Using 'generative codes' (Christopher Alexander)."*
- *"Public access to the lake is Sandpoint's greatest public asset. Preserve all possibilities of public use of this asset."*

- *"User experience and memory."*
- *"A green community, 'walking town.'"*
- *"Stay in front of growth by far-sighted planning."*

## Topic 6: Shopping and Commerce

### Issues

- *"Services for working, elders and poor are disappearing from town. We need affordable stores, food, clothing, laundromats."*
- *"Too many real estate offices downtown!" Comment in response to this comment: "Ditto – the whole downtown is banks and real estate. Who shops there?"*
- *"Need to develop Sand Creek. Byway (located) where should be our greatest asset?"*
- *"Turn the entire downtown area into a walking mall (like Boulder) – with shops where people can buy necessary goods – food, clothing, to keep people here instead of going to Coeur d'Alene and Spokane (replace Harold's with organic food.)."*
- *"Buy local campaign. Establish local currency (like Ithica, NY – very successful)."*
- *"Attracts people from out of town to shop there."*
- *"Make rents affordable to small businesses and give tax incentives to bring to downtown. (Like microfinancing)."*
- *"Have vans to take people from Selle Valley, Sagle, different places for participating in a 'local shopping day.'"*
- *"Ask what kinds of shops they would use – not try and turn Sandpoint into a Jackson's Hole or Aspen."*
- *"No more wine bars!"*
- *"Too many banks – too big."*
- *"Store owners don't shovel snow or maintain area in front."*
- *"Sandpoint needs stores selling things residents actually need."*
- *"Perceived parking problem can be alleviated by making downtown auto-free."*
- *"Too much real estate sales. Not enough arts, crafts, goods, galleries, etc. for people to be downtown."*
- *"Rezone for business types."*
- *"A recognizable storefront style 'Sandpoint.'"*
- *"Sprawl – where and how is growth, city/downtown limits? How do we encourage development of services to ease the flow of traffic into downtown?"*
- *"How do we co-exist – tourists and residents – in a 'shopping destination?'"*
- *"How do we keep earned dollars in the community (so people shop here and not go to Spokane, Coeur d'Alene, etc.)."*
- *"Parking."*
- *"Transportation alternatives for getting in and out of town."*
- *"Support local growers, producers, etc."*
- *"Zoning for downtown – restrict types of businesses that can occupy storefronts on main streets – make prime retail affordable for retail start-ups. Retail vs. realtor offices, etc."*
- *"Give me a cultural reason to shop downtown."*

- *"Look of buildings – some sort of continuity in terms of design, color, look, etc."*
- *"Most of the existing and new development – shopping mall, strip malls – shops are in and being developed in Ponderay. Annex Ponderay into Sandpoint. No jokes: Doufor, Ponderay, Sandpoint, Kotne should be one city. One mayor. One police chief. One fire chief."*
- *"Sandpoint need more grocery stores, gym, five-star hotels, big community halls."*
- *"Shopping center and activity center on the lake."*
- *"Bigger hospital."*
- *"All of the above (3 previous bullets) need parking (issue #2)."*
- *"Shopping community to have shops open on weekends – it is bigger than what it was 10 years ago."*
- *"Create a more effective 'business district.'"*
- *"Create a tourist/vacation/gear district."*
- *"Capitalize on the strengths that our area brings – the lake, the mountain, other recreation."*
- *"Sandpoint needs to have some pizzazz. Our downtown needs a 'wow' factor."*
- *"Hotels are lacking!"*
- *"Parking to accommodate more shopping."*
- *"Chains will want to move from Ponderay to here."*
- *"Lack of unified downtown appearance."*
- *"How many business owners are here?"*
- *"Lack of strong business community."*
- *"Jobs don't pay what housing costs."*
- *"Parking."*
- *"Hotels don't connect with rest of business community."*
- *"Loud – too much traffic (big trucks), exhaust, etc."*
- *"Uneven walking surfaces (sidewalks)."*
- *"Garbage, cigarette butts, throw-up."*
- *"Walkable downtown."*
- *"Equitable commerce – retail that is affordable and for local needs."*
- *"Parking downtown."*
- *"Segregations/fragmentation of shopping and commerce areas."*
- *"Public transportation."*
- *"Public sponsored events to lure shoppers. More public space available."*
- *"Support local commerce."*
- *"Businesses that are not sustainable – i.e. generate power, eliminate/reduce waste."*
- *"Parking structure."*
- *"Finish downtown revitalization project so downtown looks consistent."*
- *"Encourage downtown building owners/businesses to keep buildings authentic and clean – sidewalks too."*
- *"Downtown hotel with convention center in downtown corridor (Holiday Inn?)."*
- *"Walkability."*
- *"Parking."*
- *"Lack of bike lanes."*

- *"Not using prime."*

## **Opportunities**

- *"Local produce year round: local growers and farmers market."*
- *"Locally-produced products, crafts, tools."*
- *"Neighborhood commerce little shops – mixed use."*
- *"Open up neighborhoods to business establishments."*
- *"Make products out of forestry wastes for the local market."*
- *"Recycled building materials available as business."*
- *"Need market in south Sandpoint."*
- *"Transit system."*
- *"Promote bike use/safe crossings."*
- *"Sandpoint could have 'urban farms.'"*
- *"Move (downtown real estate offices) them to one building or above street level (2<sup>nd</sup> floor of building)."*
- *"Support for 'made in Sandpoint' businesses."*
- *"Outdoor spaces where people can socialize in the evening – outdoor café and restaurant seating – some thing with the feel of a European plaza...not the lifeless concrete thing by Farmin Park."*
- *"A public outdoor ice rink."*
- *"Encourage people to market and consume meaningful experiences, not things."*
- *"To make Sandpoint a shopping destination for tourists and locals."*
- *"Make it easier for Canadians to do business here."*
- *"Local, non-corporate, culturally rich."*
- *"Encourage local arts and entertainment."*
- *"Protect the natural beauty and pristine environment that makes it enjoyable to live here – people come here because it's beautiful and the wilderness is nearby – not for the shopping."*
- *"Clean, green, eco."*
- *"Support local stores instead of Ponderay."*
- *"New buildings built similar to existing ones (height, materials, etc.)."*
- *"Horse-drawn tram transporting shoppers around downtown core (after cars are excluded)."*
- *"Or walking-only streets (handicapped need options) like Stroget in Copenhagen."*
- *"Real estate and law offices not allowed on the ground floor."*
- *"Possible tax incentives for sole-proprietor, small, unique businesses downtown (instead of big box corporations)."*
- *"To re-examine the merchant appeal of downtown."*
- *"Sand Creek upgrade as a waterway park for shoreline walking. Easily dam it for winter use!"*
- *"More entertainment downtown."*
- *"The central business/shopping core should be maintained and encouraged."*
- *"Some cities have wonderful parking areas in almost every block, e.g. Santa Barbara, CA."*
- *"Parking is critical to a good shopping area."*

- *"Pedestrians can be protected with auto overpasses over sidewalks to enter parking garages located in the center of a block."*
- *"Limit building heights to three stories."*
- *"A mass transit system may be necessary as we grow...we should plan now for the corridor it would travel. Being able to reach the lake and Schweitzer Mountain with shopping in-between would be great!"*
- *"Organic farmers' markets should be encouraged in the shopping areas downtown."*
- *"Sidewalks should be separated from the street with green areas."*
- *"Partnerships with other cities and Canada – promotion of the region as a destination."*
- *"The central shopping area should have a Sandpoint theme with the same style of park benches, public sign posting areas, trash cans, and lighting throughout."*
- *"We should attract eco-friendly businesses, and give them tax incentives to locate in Sandpoint."*
- *"We need net metering for solar power in Sandpoint and all of Bonner County."*
- *"We need to route trucks around town, not through it. The best route is west of town or a tunnel."*
- *"Sand Creek could be a jewel of an area if properly developed – do not build the Sand Creek byway."*
- *"The beach area should be greatly expanded between Sandpoint and Ponderay – in the long run."*
- *"Business and the city can work together to bring the common goals together."*
- *"Cooperate with other cities and towns to have a bigger impact."*
- *"Convention center."*
- *"Community center."*
- *"Five-star hotels."*
- *"Aquatic center."*
- *"Create place-based shopping opportunities – buy goods that are produced locally."*
- *"Galleries – arts town?"*
- *"Provide more cultural events, support celebrations and art activities."*
- *"Continue to support niche/small business shops."*
- *"Begin conversations between business/government/arts."*
- *"Expand downtown core to include entire BIP."*
- *"Encourage living/shopping buildings."*
- *"Build parking/shopping complex."*
- *"Will connect parking lot to rest of town and create consistent shopping experience."*
- *"Convention center."*
- *"Work more closely with Schweitzer (send people down here)."*
- *"Convention center."*
- *"Parking facility – bigger than current."*
- *"More lodging options."*
- *"Ice skating."*
- *"Implement ordinances to require restaurants and bars to have coordinated ashtrays and garbage receptacles in front of their establishments."*
- *"Promote a transportation system to connect people (tourists) from hotels and areas of attraction (Schweitzer, Hope, etc.) to downtown shopping corridor."*

- *"Downtown as a mall – have kiosks with store (business) listing, garbage cans, public art – all things to keep people moving throughout the entire downtown – not just 1<sup>st</sup> Ave."*
- *"Provide public transport."*
- *"Green business support."*
- *"Central parking structure – encourage bike traffic."*
- *"Shape growth."*
- *"Create bike/foot-friendly community."*
- *"Learn from other successful business areas."*
- *"'Village' concept for neighborhoods."*
- *"Mixed use commercial/residential."*
- *"Support local businesses."*
- *"Beautification (no concrete jungle)."*

### **Vision Circle**

- *"Don't build byway!"*
- *"Sandpoint stores and buildings clean, green, sustainable (ecotourist destination), eco-city, culturally rich, emphasizing local production of organic food and products, auto-free zone requires for sole proprietor small businesses providing goods needed by local residents."*
- *"New shopping malls."*
- *"Five-star hotels."*
- *"Large community center."*
- *"Aquatic center."*
- *"More gym, health center."*
- *"Shops open on weekend."*
- *"More library."*
- *"Business district."*
- *"Create tourist activity."*
- *"Parking to support the above (previous 9 bullets)."*
- *"New/improved/commercial airport to support tourist."*
- *"Public transport to support tourist and local."*
- *"Grocery store."*
- *"Integrated parking."*
- *"Support locally owned businesses."*
- *"Downtown is more than 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue."*
- *"Perception of ease of motion (car, bike, pedestrian)."*
- *"Arts town – public art."*
- *"Downtown parking structure."*
- *"Improve sidewalks and help downtown be more walkable."*
- *"Encourage buildings to be 'restored' and kept clean."*
- *"Incentives for business to locate downtown."*

- *“Encourage neighborhood business village concept.”*
- *“Convention center in downtown. Will stimulate year-round boost to downtown.”*