

HANOVER SUSTAINABILITY MASTER PLAN

Meeting Notes

Date/Time: 07/19/2022; 5:00PM

Approved: 08/23/22

Place: Town Hall, Zoom

Notes Taken By: Donny Goris-Kolb, Project Manager

Re: Hanover Sustainability Master Plan –
Advisory Committee Meeting

Attendance

Master Plan Advisory Committee

Elizabeth Esinhart - Chair

Jarett Berke

Brian Edwards

Joanna Whitcomb

Yolanda Y. Baumgartner

Chris Kennedy

Town Staff

Robert Houseman, Director of Planning, Zoning, and Codes

Vicki Smith, Senior Planner

Members of the Public

Nancy Carter (via Zoom)

Alex Torpey

Consultants (VHB, via Zoom)

Donny Goris-Kolb, Project Manager

Discuss Public Engagement Summary

VHB presented an overview of the draft Public Engagement Summary, meant to serve as an appendix to the Sustainability Master Plan. The Committee generally agreed that the document provides a good overview that captures the feedback of the community.

Beth E.: What is VHB's assessment of the project's level of public participation to-date?

VHB: We have conducted several engagements, and many have garnered significant participation. This includes the public visioning survey that received over 584 responses and the Greatest Wish/Strength survey receiving over 200 responses, among other events.

Rob H.: Please include pictures of the events.

Joanna W.: Please check for accessibility, specifically the colors of the word clouds.

Discuss Development Solutions Workshop Outcomes

VHB presented an overview of the results of the Development Solutions Workshop held in May 2002. The Committee was generally surprised that many of the participants acknowledged the need for and is on board with additional housing and density. The Committee held concern for the number of "new commercial development" sticky dots placed in the general area of Route 120 in consideration of the need to create a vibrant downtown. VHB noted that some participants believed that new residential development should be accompanied by supporting services (e.g., grocery stores)- as well as sidewalks. Further, VHB noted that "new commercial development" does not have to be retail but is open for interpretation based on appropriateness. Some participants noted the lack of a "light industrial" option.

VHB noted that the summary of the Development Solutions Workshop will be incorporated into the draft Public Engagement Summary.

Discuss Draft Vision Statement

VHB presented the draft Vision Statement, with value statements that will serve to guide the chapters of the Sustainability Master Plan.

Brian E.: Good summary coming out of the engagements. What I expected to see.

Chris K.: Captured what the input was – worry about it being open to interpretation. A little more clarity in the direction – e.g., preserve character could be interpreted as “don’t change.” Could be more direct in saying that the community wants to see more density, more housing options.

Vicki S.: Perhaps changing the order to move “Expanding Opportunity” to the top would address this concern.
Beth E. agreed.

Jarett B.: Check verb tense agreement.

Jarett B.: Should be more direct with respect to housing – it is buried under “Expanding Opportunity.” Housing may need to be its own bullet.

Beth E.: Suggest “Expanding Housing Opportunity” and “Expanding Equal Access”

Beth E.: Social justice – discussion of inequities, lack of resources for disadvantaged populations. Expanding social justice opportunities. Public emphasized the sense of community.

The Committee agreed to send any additional comments to Rob H. and Vicki S. by Monday, July 25th. VHB will revise the draft Vision Statement based on these comments and re-share with the Committee for approval. VHB will then start to outline and prepared the plan chapters, which will give the value statements more clarity and direction.

Overview of Framework for Master Plan Document

The master plan chapters will be created to address each value.

Minutes of May 17, 2022

The Minutes of May 17, 2022 were reviewed. Chris Kennedy made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Jarett Berke seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Next Meeting and Other Business

The next meeting will be convened when there is information to be discussed. There was no other business.

Adjourn

At 6:07 PM, Joanna offered a motion to adjourn. Brian seconded the motion. There was unanimous support for the motion to adjourn.