



(907) 586-0715
CDD_Admin@juneau.gov
www.juneau.org/community-development
155 Heritage Way • Juneau, AK 99801

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 4, 2024
TO: Mandy Cole, Chair, Planning Commission
FROM: Scott Ciambor, Planning Manager
SUBJECT: Blueprint Downtown Area Plan

BLUEPRINT DOWNTOWN

Blueprint Downtown aims to create a long-term area plan for the Downtown Juneau Area that reflects current public desires and incorporates past work from existing plans.

A major goal is to provide strategic direction for development and growth, while embracing livability and a sense of place, and maintaining quality of life for residents.

The [draft Blueprint Downtown Area Plan](#) is ready for public review and posted to the CDD website.

STEERING COMMITTEE, VISIONING, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Many hours of volunteer work, community participation, and staff time have gone into the creation of the draft Plan. The Steering Committee held 41 meetings over four years, engaged in public meetings, on-line surveys, on-street interviews, pop-ups, radio shows, community presentations, and walking tours. The year-long Visioning Process led by Sheinberg Associates, lucid reverie, and MRV Architects won the 2019 Most Innovative award from the Alaska Chapter of APA.

A TOOL FOR THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Area plans contain policies that guide and direct public and private land use activities [CBJ 49.05.200(b)]. The Planning Commission and Assembly may refer to the Blueprint Downtown to make informed decisions concerning future growth and development while meeting stated goals of the plan that include maintaining a positive quality of life for residents, planning for projects more effectively, assigning appropriate resources to community needs, identifying needs for new or revised zoning and/or development regulations, and identifying infrastructure priorities.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT ROLE

CDD will provide responses to Planning Commission questions and make staff recommendations regarding the draft area plan in coordination with relevant CBJ staff.

PLANNING COMMISSION ROLE AND NEXT STEPS

The Blueprint Downtown Steering Committee has approved a final draft area plan. The Planning Commission will now review the draft, hold public meeting(s) and make recommendations to the Assembly. Staff recommends holding the public hearing at the April 23rd scheduled meeting.