

# Board and Committee Summit



## SUMMARY REPORT



**CITY**of  
**TUALATIN**

# INTRODUCTION

Tualatin's first-ever Board and Committee Summit was held on December 10, 2025. The Summit included the full City Council, city staff that work directly with boards and committees, and, of course, the board and committee members themselves. Of the 58 current board and committee members invited, 37 attended the event. Attendees represented the following permanent boards and committees.

- Architectural Review Board
- Arts Advisory Committee
- Budget Committee
- Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Advisory Committee (IDEA)
- Library Advisory Committee
- Parks Advisory Committee (TPARK)
- Planning Commission

The only permanent board not represented at the event was the Core Area Parking District Board. To keep logistics manageable, invitations were limited to appointed board and committee members on permanent boards and committees.



## Four goals were identified for the event.

1. Provide the City Council with information directly from board and committee members who are charged with advising the City Council on matters of interest to the city.
2. Connect board and committee members to the City Council's 2030 Vision.
3. Provide an opportunity for board and committee members to interact with each other and the City Council.
4. Show appreciation for board and committee members and enhance the positive sense of community and service in Tualatin.



## AGENDA

The agenda was structured to solicit feedback from attendees on the community's strengths, challenges, opportunities, and priorities. Mayor Frank Bubenik and Council President Valerie Pratt welcomed attendees and oriented them to the City Council's 2030 Vision. The rest of the agenda was dedicated to two facilitated activities.

### **Small Group Activity** **(45 minutes)**

As a table group, attendees were asked to answer three out of four provided questions. After fifteen minutes, attendees were called back together to report their discussion to the full group. Notes were captured on the summary chart (see appendix) and table group's charts (see appendix).

### **Human Spectrum** **(30 minutes)**

For this activity, attendees were asked the extent they agreed or disagreed with a statement. To express their sentiment, they were instructed to physically move to stand between two signs, one reading "Strongly Agree" and the other reading "Strongly Disagree". After each question, a few attendees were asked to explain why they chose to stand where they did. Notes were captured on the summary chart (see appendix).

# Small Group Activity

Between the tables, eight different questions were answered. Themes discussed by groups are included below.

**1** If you were putting together a resume or cover letter for the city, what would you highlight as Tualatin's "special skills"?

- Friendly and welcoming community, family friendly, safe
- Parks, greenspaces, Tualatin River National River Way, Ice Age Trail
- Community support for city services like library, parks, public safety, Juanita Pohl Center lunches
- Good governance, stable government, fiscally responsible
- Events, library, arts
- High quality of life
- Transportation network (easy to get elsewhere)

**2** What are the most pressing challenges we are facing as a community now, and what do you expect to be the challenges in 2030? Is the list different?

- Lack of downtown (now and future)
- Traffic, transportation, and lack of public transit, traffic signal light timing (now and future)
- Cost of living (now and future)
- Housing availability, housing costs, senior housing, accessibility (now and future)
- Lack of local businesses, employment opportunities (now and future)
- Lack of community gathering places, places to display art (now)
- New technologies (future)
- Preserving community identity as development occurs (future)
- Diversity and past mistakes/harm (now and future)
- Environment (now and future)
- Education and school district boundaries (now and future)

**3** If you could apply a dose of innovation to a community challenge, what challenge/concern would you choose?

- Senior housing
- Community engagement
- Healthcare affordability, especially for seniors
- Third spaces, safe spaces, gathering places, under-used or empty lots
- Food carts, farmers markets, community gardens, local food
- Environment
- Cost of transportation
- Cost of living

**4** What have you observed in other cities that you'd love to see implemented here in Tualatin?

- Farmers markets, food carts, incubator space
- Small business support, more diverse businesses, enhanced storefronts
- Community center, indoor recreation space, event space, performing art space
- Less parking
- Active, vibrant downtown
- Better utilization of the lake, more events/festivals
- Protected bike lanes, pedestrian/bike bridges over high traffic areas
- Mental health response
- Senior living community
- Population that lives and works in same community



**5 When you travel to other parts of the country and talk to locals there, how do you brag about Tualatin?**

- Clean, safe neighborhoods, walkable
- Public art, parks and trails, library, Juanita Pohl Center, veterans programming
- Active aging adults
- Council is open to community needs, well run, trust in government
- Amenities
- Sense of community

**6 If you could get everyone in Tualatin together in a room to discuss how to overcome a community challenge – what challenge would you choose? Why?**

- Traffic and transportation issues, bike connections, safety
- Gun range noise
- Downtown revitalization
- Events
- Gathering places
- Affordable housing, housing supply
- Creating and supporting neighborhood amenities (not just downtown)

**7 What are things outside of the city's control that impact the community's experience in Tualatin?**

- Gun range
- State mandates (housing, parking)
- Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
- Cost of living (housing, utilities)
- Major highways and roads
- Tualatin River Watershed and Bull Run Watershed
- Part of the Portland-Metropolitan Area
- Community and regional growth
- Climate impacts (weather)
- Indoor recreational amenities – private only!
- Better restaurant/dining options

**8 What current city project or program are you most excited about right now? Why?**

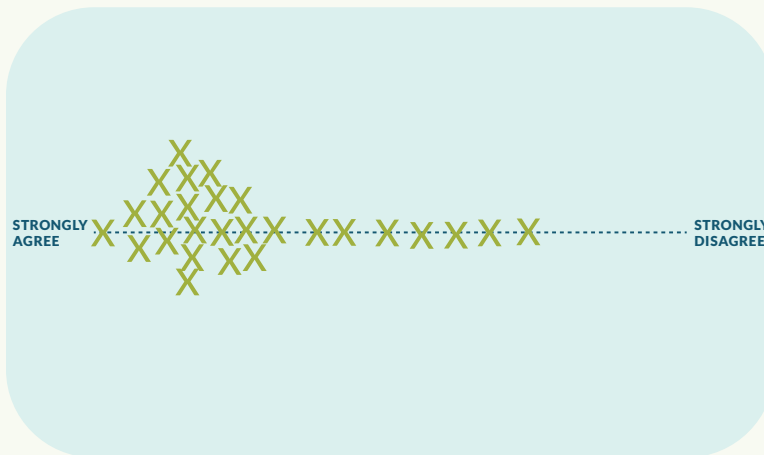
- Downtown redevelopment
- New riverfront park
- Parque Las Casitas

# Human Spectrum

In addition to one warm up question, attendees were asked the extent to which they agreed with six different statements.

## 1 *The number one complaint I hear from community members is about traffic.*

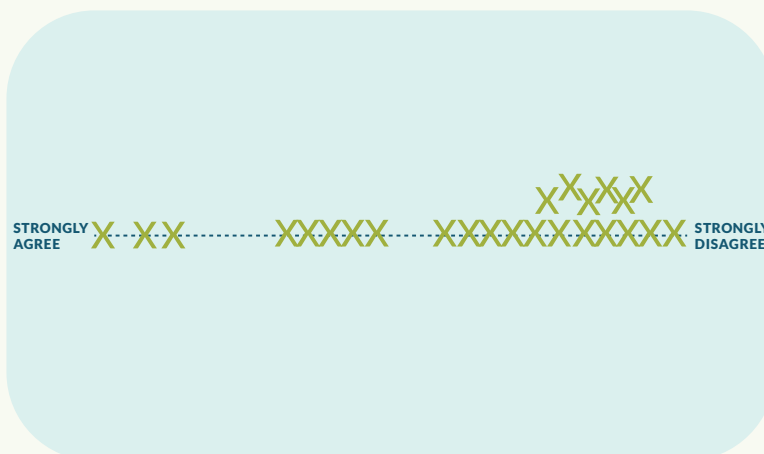
Most attendees stood somewhere between the midpoint and strongly agree for this question. Specific comments are paraphrased below.



- Agree, but there are other issues too.
- Agree, the Tualatin High School parking lot is awful.
- Agree. I don't hear any other complaints.
- Agree, traffic connects to a lot of other community issues.

## 2 *We should focus on issues impacting the community now, rather than twenty years in the future.*

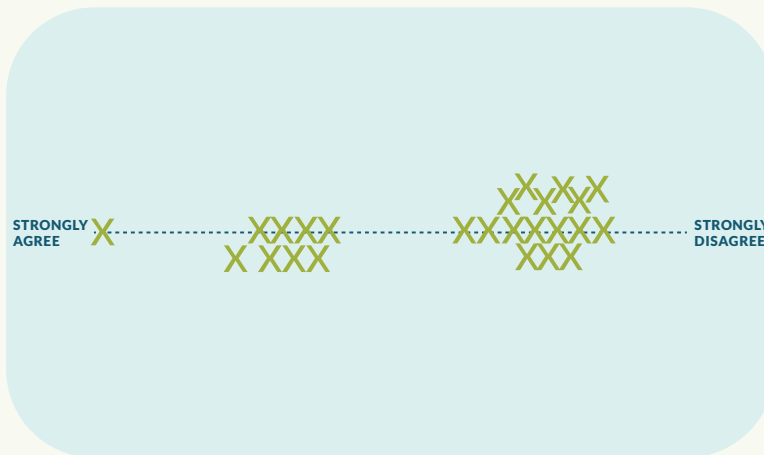
Attendees were spread across the spectrum, with the largest clump between the midpoint and strongly disagree for this question. Specific comments are paraphrased below.



- Disagree, good planning now for the future helps to reduce future issues.
- Disagree, focusing on the future prevents disasters.
- Middle, now is urgent but the future matters too.
- Middle, focusing on now makes the community feel heard.
- Middle, we can and must do both!
- Agree, we live for today.

### 3 *Most of my neighbors have a good idea of what's happening in Tualatin.*

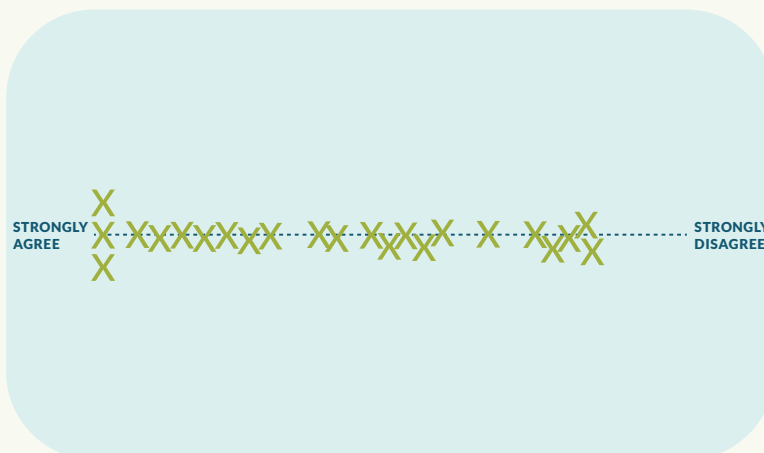
Attendees largely disagreed with this statement, although there was a small clump around the midpoint and one individual who agreed. Specific comments are paraphrased below.



- Disagree. People are busy and are connected with different groups and organizations.
- Disagree, I'm shocked by the lack of understanding.
- Disagree, it's hard to find information.
- Middle, I tell my neighbors what's going on.
- Agree, this is an activity community, and we text all the time.

### 4 *Tualatin should be innovative and take risks to achieve the 2030 Vision.*

Attendees were spread across the spectrum, with a slight majority agreeing with the statement. Specific comments are paraphrased below.

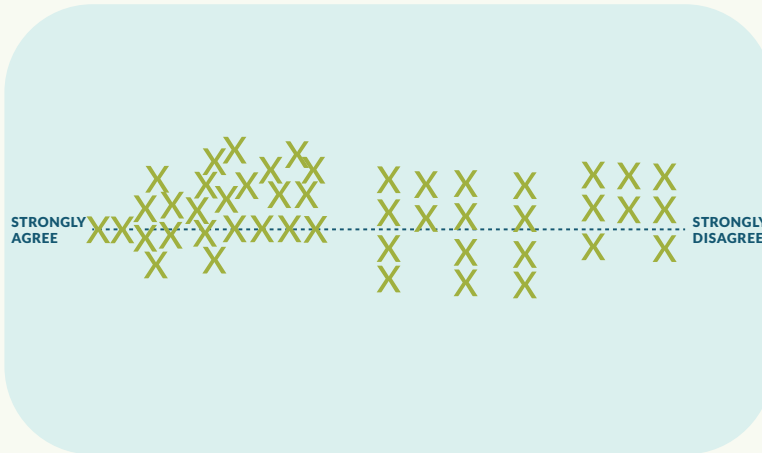


- Disagree, there are budget risks to being innovative.
- Middle, sometimes taking a risk is worth it.
- Middle. Fail fast, learn fast, and iterate.
- Middle, be innovative in strategic ways.
- Agree, taking a big risk can mean a bigger reward.

5

### *We can influence the issues that are most pressing to the Tualatin community.*

Attendees were spread across the spectrum, with a slight majority disagreeing with the statement. Specific comments are paraphrased below.

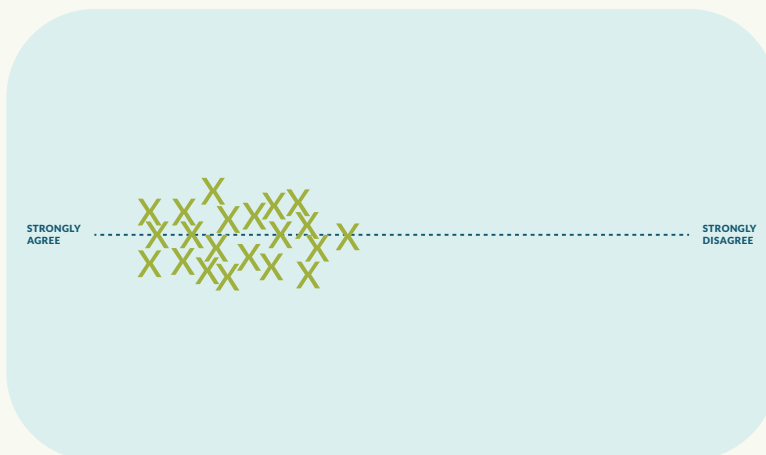


- Agree, people are responsive.
- Middle, some issues we can influence and some we can't.
- Middle, we can influence some issues, but it's limited.
- Middle, we can influence issues, but there's a lack of understanding.
- Disagree, we can't influence the issues that people care about.

6

### *I'm excited about the next five years in Tualatin.*

Attendees unanimously agreed with this statement. Specific comments are paraphrased below.



- I'm excited about the downtown revitalization project.
- I'm excited about our parks.
- I'm excited about our library.
- I'm excited about our ability to influence housing issues.
- I'm excited about community activities.



# *Appendix*

Board and Committee Summit Outline

Small Group Summary Chart

Small Group Charts

Human Spectrum Summary Chart



# Board & Committee Summit

## Outline

**5:30pm**

- Doors open, food available
- Jackie and Margaret are available to demonstrate how to log volunteer hours
- Room set up with podium, microphone, eight round tables, easels with chart paper and pens
- Seats assigned as people enter to spread out different board/committee members, council members, and staff

**6pm**

Welcome, Mayor Frank Bubenik

- Purpose of “Summit”
- Role of boards and committees
- Introductions (ask for people to introduce themselves committee-by-committee)
- Review agenda
- Point out bathroom and other logistics, encourage at will bathroom breaks

**6:15pm**

Council Goals, Council President Valerie Pratt

- Explain annual goal setting process – “Council Advance”
- Council 2030 Vision

**6:30pm**

Introduce first facilitated activity, Sherilyn Lombos

**Small Group (45 min)**

Provide each table group with 3 – 4 questions. Staff members to facilitate and record the group’s discussion on chart paper. After fifteen minutes, reconvene as a large group to share out highlights from each group (30 minutes). After first group reports, ask groups to indicate whether they had similar or different perspectives, but not to repeat perspectives.

Tables 1 – 4 Questions:

1. If you were putting together a resume or cover letter for the city, what would you highlight as Tualatin’s “special skills”?



# Board & Committee Summit

2. What are the most pressing challenges we are facing as a community now, and what do you expect to be the challenges in 2030? Is the list different?
3. If you could apply a dose of innovation to a community challenge, what challenge/concern would you choose?
4. What have you observed in other cities that you'd love to see implemented here in Tualatin?

Tables 5 – 8 Questions:

5. When you travel to other parts of the country and talk to locals there, do you brag about Tualatin? What do you say?
6. If you could get everyone in Tualatin together in a room to discuss how to overcome a community challenge – what challenge would you choose? Why?
7. What are things outside of the city's control that impact the community's experience in Tualatin?
8. What current city project or program are you most excited about right now? Why?

**7:15pm**

Introduce second facilitated activity, Sherilyn Lombos

## **Spectrum Line (30 min)**

Ask everyone to line up facing the facilitator. Facilitator to ask people to line up along a spectrum to express the extent to which they agree or disagree with a statement. After everyone has made their selection, ask a few people to share why they are standing where they are on the spectrum.

Questions:

- Winter is the best season in Tualatin
- The number one complaint I hear from community members is about traffic.
- We should focus on issues impacting the community now, rather than twenty years in the future.
- Tualatin should be innovative and take risks to achieve the 2030 Vision.
- Most of my neighbors have a good idea of what's happening in Tualatin.
- We can influence the issues that are most pressing to the Tualatin community.
- I'm excited about the next five years in Tualatin.

**7:45pm**

Closing, Mayor Frank Bubenik



# Board & Committee Summit

- Thank you
- Leftovers
- Annual appreciation gift
- Reminder about board/committee survey



# BOARD + COMMITTEE SUMMIT



DECEMBER 10, 2025

## → SMALL GROUP ←

### 1 "SPECIAL SKILLS"

- PARKS, LIBRARY, HISTORICAL, ARTS, EVENTS
- SAFE RIVER! KE AGE WELL MAINTAINED
- NO IN + OUT
- JPC MEALS
- FRIENDLY, WELCOMING
- COMMUNITY SUPPORT - BONDS
- GOOD GOVT + TRUST
- EVENTS
- CLIMATE ACTION PLAN
- ACCESS OUT
- JOBS HERE
- QUALITY OF LIFE

### 2 PRESSING CHALLENGES NOW + 2030

- COST OF LIVING + AFFORDABLE HOUSING
- TRANSPORTATION + TRAFFIC
- ENVIRONMENT WALKABILITY CONNECTIVITY
- 3<sup>rd</sup> SPACES
- EDUCATION - LOCATIONS
- EMPLOYMENT
- DIVERSITY + INCLUSION - PAST ACCESSIBILITY
- ART
- COMMUNITY IDENTITY
- RESTAURANTS
- DOWNTOWN

### 3 INNOVATION DOSE

- 3<sup>rd</sup> SPACES
- FOOD CARTS
- USE UNDER-USED SPACES
- SENIORS
- HEALTHCARE
- FARMERS MARKETS + GARDENS
- ENVIRONMENT

### 4 OTHER CITIES

- FOOD CARTS, GARDENS, MARKETS
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - BIZ
- TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS + SAFETY
- OWN MENTAL HEALTH
- MORE EVENTS
- DOWNTOWN
- BIKE LANES
- LESS PARKING LAKE??
- ART SPACE
- PHYSICAL EVENTS SPACE

### 5 BRAGGING

- NEIGHBORHOODS + WALKABLE
- PARKS, LIBRARIES SAFETY
- OPPs FOR YOUTH
- COUNCIL - PPL FEEL HEARD
- WELL RUN GOVT + TRUST
- EDUCATION
- ACCESS TO LEADERSHIP

### 6 IN A ROOM

- TRAFFIC + LIGHT TIMING
- GUN FIRE SOUNDS
- DOWNTOWN
- EVENTS - UNIQUE
- INCLUSION
- AFFORDABLE HOUSING - YOUNG FAMILIES
- LAND USE

### 7 OUTSIDE CONTROL

- GUN RANGE + FED POLICY
- STATE HOUSING MANDATES
- AFFORDABLE HOUSING + UTILITIES
- ICE RAIDS
- MAJOR HIGHWAYS, TRAINS, TRAFFIC
- RIVER + WATER SHED
- METRO PROXIMITY
- CLIMATE CHANGE

### 8 FAVORITE

- RESTAURANTS
- INDOOR REC OPTIONS
- DOWNTOWN - COMMUNITY IDENTITY
- RIVERFRONT PARK, ENVIRONMENT
- FOOD CARTS
- PARQUE DE LAS CASITAS



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## Small Group Activity

As a group, choose three of the four questions to answer. Think about the questions individually, discuss them as a group, and then put together some thoughts to share with the full group. You have fifteen minutes.

### Tables 1 – 4

1. If you were putting together a resume or cover letter for the city, what would you highlight as Tualatin's "special skills"?
2. What are the most pressing challenges we are facing as a community now, and what do you expect to be the challenges in 2030? Is the list different?
3. If you could apply a dose of innovation to a community challenge, what challenge/concern would you choose?
4. What have you observed in other cities that you'd love to see implemented here in Tualatin?

### Tables 5 – 8

5. When you travel to other parts of the country and talk to locals there, how do you brag about Tualatin?
6. If you could get everyone in Tualatin together in a room to discuss how to overcome a community challenges – what challenge would you choose? Why?
7. What are the things outside of the city's control that impact the community's experience in Tualatin?
8. What current city project or program are you most excited about right now? Why?



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## Small Group Responses

Question #1- *“If you were putting together a resume or cover letter for the city, what would you highlight as Tualatin’s “special skills”?*

### Small Group 1:

- Extraordinarily friendly and welcoming
- Parks and green spaces
- Tualatin River National Riverway
- Ice Age Trail
- Community willing to support library, parks, and safety
- Dedicated population to bettering community
- City doing a good job shepherding bond funding
- City governance stability
- Relational strengths
- People show up for events
- Working Climate Action Plan

### Small Group 2:

- Parks and green spaces, trails
- Family friendly
- River
- Fiscally responsible
- Library
- Access to places beyond Tualatin
- Well-maintained
- Jobs within the city - availability
- Quality of Life
- Great city activities

### Small Group 3:

- Parks
- Safe community
- JPC Meal program
- No in and out
- Community that cares
- Accept all people



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- Community with long memory
- Library
- Events
- Arts and Arts Committee

Question #2 - *“What are the most pressing challenges we are facing as a community now, and what do you expect to be the challenges in 2030? Is the list different?”*

Small Group 1:

2025

2030

|   |   |
|---|---|
| A lack of a downtown  | Lack of structures to protect town heart                                  |
| Traffic   | A Lack of downtown  |
| Access to public transit  | Lack of housing availability  |
| Housing affordability   | Lack of places that are not chains – need local restaurants and breweries |
| Lack of cultural center   | Need to engage young people in community                                  |
| Lack of places that are not chains – need local restaurants and breweries |   |
| Lack of comradery   |   |

Small Group 2:

- Transportation
- Affordability
- Livability
- Sense of community/identity
- Downtown core
- Housing
- Walkability
- Passive transportation





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- Accessibility/walk in and out
- Connectivity
- Intercity communications
- Regional connectivity

Small Group 3:

2025

2030

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Transportation            | Keeping our foundational identity intact |
| Affordable housing        | New technologies (AI)                    |
| Diverse employment        | Accessibility                            |
| Diversity (general)       | Acknowledge past mistakes                |
| Acknowledge past mistakes |  |

Small Group 4:

For both 2025 & 2030

- Cost of living
- Transportation
- Environmental
- Third spaces
- Traffic
- School geographic locations
- Access to education
- Timing of lights

Question #3- ***“If you could apply a dose of innovation to a community challenge, what challenge/concern would you choose?”***

Small Group 3:

- Senior Housing
- Community engagement
- Safe spaces



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- Healthcare affordability – especially for Seniors
- Safe gatherings

## Small Group 4:

- Food carts/gathering spaces
- Redistribution of underused spaces
- Farmers Market
- Sustainable food
- Affordability
- Cost of transportation \$\$ down
- Empty lots
- Community gardens
- Required environmental mitigation or incentives for developers

Question #4- *“What have you observed in other cities that you’d love to see implemented here in Tualatin?”*

## Small Group 1:

- Farmers markets and food cart pods as incubator space for small business
- Mini shops for new small business
- Need event space
- Recreation center

## Small Group 2:

- Protected bike lanes – how are they working?
- Community gathering space
- Food carts
- Park once and walk
- Seasonal lake
- Downtown critical mass
- More utilization of lake

## Small Group 3:

- Mental health response instead of police
- Farmers market
- More festivals of all types
- Downtown district



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- Performing arts space/gathering space
- More diverse businesses (small and medium)
- Food carts
- Senior living community with full services and affordable

## Small Group 4:

- Food carts
- Farmers Markets
- Enhanced storefronts
- Incentives to keep business in Tualatin
- Revitalization of downtown area
- How do we get people here to work and live?
- Pedestrian/bike bridges over high traffic areas (example- from Grab a Gyro to McDonalds)

Question #5- *“When you travel to other parts of the country and talk to locals there, how do you brag about Tualatin?”*

## Small Group 5:

- Neighborhoods, public art
- Clean
- Parks, library, trails
- Safe
- Youth opportunities
- Actively aging adults
- Veterans
- JPC programs
- Council is open to community needs
- Council is practical and responsive – feel heard
- Town is walkable
- Economic base

## Small Groups 7 & 8:

- Community pride and sense of community
- Amenities – don’t really need to leave!
- Safe City



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- Well run – trust in government!
- Great place to raise kids – Parks, trails, activities
- Education opportunities and access to leadership

Question #6- ***“If you could get everyone in Tualatin together in a room to discuss how to overcome a community challenges – what challenge would you choose? Why?”***

Small Group 5:

- Traffic – Tualatin High School traffic flow, traffic light timing
- Bike connections, safety
- Sound of gunfire from gun range (proximity to high school)

Small Group 6-

- What can we control?
- Downtown creating identity to draw people in
- Unique events, spaces
- What people like – feel a sense of community here
- Gathering places (examples- library, plaza, commons)

Small Groups 7 & 8:

- Transportation – getting in and out, sometimes getting around
- Affordable housing – lack of supply, hard to move here without funds (younger families)
- Amenities are too centralized not spread out which causes traffic and lack of ease of access

Question #7- ***“What are the things outside of the city’s control that impact the community’s experience in Tualatin?”***

Small Group 5-

- Gun range
- State housing mandates (House bill 2001)
- Affordable housing
- ICE – fear it creates





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## Small Group 6-

- State mandates
  - Parking, housing
  - Some good, some restrictive
- Federal immigration enforcement
  - Community members in fear
  - Discontinued DEI programs
- Costs
  - Housing, utilities
- Major highways, roadways
  - traffic and trains
- The river and watershed
  - Also water supply (Bull Run)
- Port of Portland, Metro (pros and cons)

## Small Groups 7 & 8-

- Growth of communities around us impacts us, what do we do about it?
- State level policies, legislation, regulation we must follow/respond to
- Climate Impacts – weather, flood plain, social impacts
- Indoor recreational amenities – private only!
- We want some better restaurants/dining options

Question #8- ***“What current city project or program are you most excited about right now? Why?”***

## Small Group 6-

- Downtown revitalization
  - Potential
  - Envision possibilities
  - Community identity, gathering spaces
  - Community enthusiasm
  - Food carts!
- New Riverfront Park
  - Beauty = people and visitors
  - Environment and river
    - Interpretive



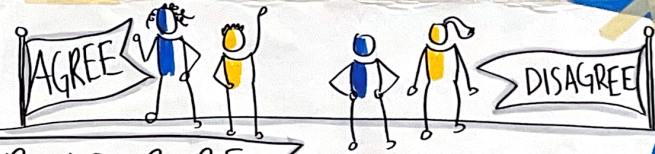
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- Las Casitas Park
  - Community Engagement and meeting their wants
- Future Ideas
  - Arts Center – performance & visual art
  - What makes community?
  - Library
  - Parks
  - Arts

# BOARD + COMMITTEE SUMMIT

## HUMAN SPECTRUM

DECEMBER 10, 2025



### #1 COMPLAINT = TRAFFIC

- ▶ AGREE! BUT OTHER ISSUES TOO...
- ▶ AGREE! THIS PARKING LOT
- ▶ AGREE - NO OTHER COMPLAINTS
- ▶ AGREE - ALL ROADS LEAD...

### FOCUS ON NOW ISSUES

- ▶ DISAGREE - GOOD PLANS FOR FUTURE
- ▶ DISAGREE - PREVENT DISASTERS
- ▶ MIDDLE - NOW IS URGENT, BUT FUTURE MATTERS
- ▶ MIDDLE - NOW - COMM FEELS HEARD
- ▶ MIDDLE - WE CAN DO BOTH - WE MUST!
- ▶ AGREE - LIVE FOR TODAY

### MY NEIGHBORS GET IT

- ▶ AGREE! ACTIVE COMMUNITY - TEXTS!
- ▶ MIDDLE - I TELL MY NEIGHBORS
- ▶ DISAGREE - PPL BUSY + OTHER ORGS
- ▶ DISAGREE - SHOCKED BY LACK OF UNDERSTANDING
- ▶ DISAGREE - HARD TO FIND INFO

### INNOVATIVE!

- ▶ DISAGREE! BUDGET RISK
- ▶ MIDDLE - RISK IS SOMETIMES WORTH IT
- ▶ MIDDLE - SMALL RISKS!
- ▶ MIDDLE - FAIL FAST, LEARN FAST - ITERATE
- ▶ MIDDLE - STRATEGIC
- ▶ AGREE - BIG RISK → BIG REWARD

### WE HAVE INFLUENCE

- ▶ AGREE - PPL ARE RESPONSIVE
- ▶ MIDDLE - SOME YES, SOME NO
- ▶ MIDDLE - PERSONAL YES, BUT LIMITED
- ▶ DISAGREE - CAN'T INFLUENCE WHAT PPL CARE ABOUT
- ▶ MIDDLE - YES, BUT LACK OF UNDERSTANDING

### I'M EXCITED

- ▶ DOWNTOWN
- ▶ PARKS
- ▶ LIBRARY
- ▶ HOUSING
- ▶ COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

