#### American Planners Association - Wisconsin Chapter 2019 Annual Conference

## **Engagement Process**

Change frustration to fantastic results







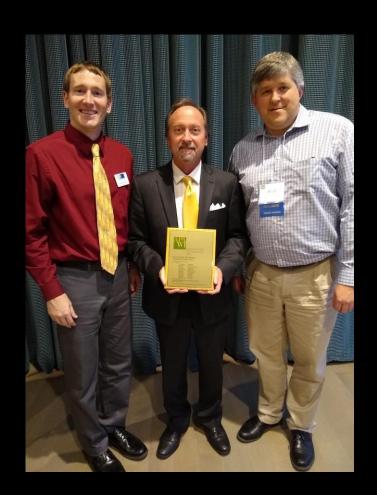






## Thank You APA!

2019 Planning Excellence Award





### Introduction

#### <u>Presenters</u>

Noah Wiedenfeld
Planning Director, City of New Richmond

Todd Streeter
Principal, Community Collaboration

Brad Scheib, AICP
Vice President, Hoisington Koegler Group, Inc



## **Public Engagement Spectrum**

**Stakeholders** Help public Obtain **Public gives** Partner own the understand public with the nondecision problem feedback binding, public influential and on existing solution ideas advice Consult Involve Collaborate Inform Empower



## **Typical Civic – Community Relationship**







### Transform to collaborative relationship











#### **Process Timeline**

#### <u>Initial Launch</u>

- Comp Plan planning/bidding/interviewing 2016
- Hired Firm, started process in early 2017
  - 2 committee meetings took place, results:
  - Consultants talked | citizens listened
  - Lacked community involvement
  - City decided to stop the process
  - Searched for a different process



#### **Process Timeline**

#### Re-Launch - 2017

- Learned of Community Collaboration April
- Reboot planning / Kick-off event May July
- Started committee work August
- Council presentation & open house Jan Feb
- Final CAP recommendations March
- Final Comp Plan / CAP documents June
- City Council approval July





Traditional Engagement Approach



#### Traditional Engagement Approach

#### **Traditional Method**

- Top down (City/Firm driven)
- Advisory group (passive)
- Minimal meetings
- City sponsored open houses
- City/contractor does the work





Rarely attended open houses

Lack of community participation



Fear of predetermined outcome





#### Traditional Engagement Approach

#### <u>Deficiencies</u>

- Passive citizen input to process driven by others
- Doesn't attract wide citizen participation
- Can't create mutual understanding and respect
- Fails to establish community buy-in and ownership
- Fails to build collaborative relationships





## New Engagement Approach

Creating Long-term Relationships



## The Working Committee™ Approach

- Community driven
- Committee members do the work:
  - Identify issues and opportunities
  - Research new ideas and solutions
  - Present recommendations to City Council
  - Host community open house
  - Establish Executive Committee



## The Working Committee™ Approach

#### **Realized Benefits**

- Establishes "We're in this together"
- Focuses on the future
- Solution-oriented efforts
- Generates implementation buy-in
- Creates collaborative relationships through new community ownership
- Attracts continued support and local funding





## The Working Committee™ Approach

#### Hands-Free Process Administration

- Planning, Kick-off & committee formation
- Meeting agendas and summaries
- Committee and City communications
- Meeting facilitation
- Open House and presentation planning
- Media promotion and press releases





## **New Richmond** *Community Action Plan / Comp Plan*





- Change effort to "Community Action Plan" (CAP)
- Goals:
  - Restructure process and document
  - Aggressively promote ongoing activities
  - Make CAP recommendations and Comp Plan marketable



- Committee Tasks:
  - Research fresh ideas
  - Write Vision and Guiding Principle statements
  - Create CAP recommendations
  - Host community open house
  - Conduct presentations
  - Concepts go in Comp Plan





Planning Terms

Land Use & Planning

Transportation/Infrastructure

Parks, Trails and Recreation

Public Facilities & Services

**Economic Development** 

Housing & Neighborhoods

Downtown

**Government Committee** 

**Community Assimilation** 

**Creating Community** 

**Community Connectivity** 

Quality of Life

**Community Pride** 

**Economic Prosperity** 

Diversified Living

**Downtown Revitalization** 

Civic Engagement



Meeting locations





#### **Process Outcomes**



More than 900 volunteer hours









- Presentations
  - Council
  - Organizations
  - State of the City







Plan incorporates committee's work

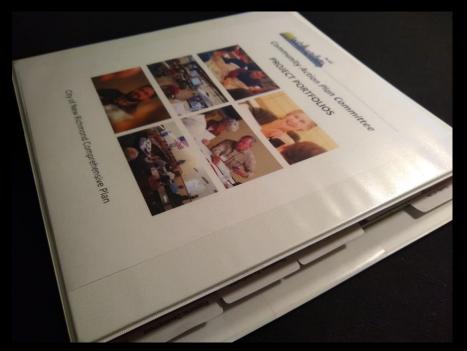
New Richmond's Vision Statement & Guiding Principles

New Richmond's Vision Statement & Guiding Principles

New Richmond's Vision Statement & Guiding Principles were written in a collaborative public process through a Community Action Plan (CAP). It describes how the City of New Richmond looks, feels and functions in the year 2040. The Vision and Guiding Principles helps provide direction for the City and is a step in the process of updating New Richmond's Comprehensive Plan.



More than 30 CAP recommendations





Envision Brochure





#### **CAP Outcomes**

**CAP Committees** 

**CAP Plan** 

Project Development

Envision Brochure

Executive Committee



## **2019 WI Projects**





"I was excited to see the community involvement with the CAP presentation last evening. After hearing the presentations, I am filled with energy and confidence. It also provides an opportunity for a greater partnership with village members and the sub-committees as we work on a strategic plan."



- Scott W. Hildebrand, Village Administrator



## **2019 WI Projects**







"The Village of Pleasant Prairie is filled with civic-minded people. I know this because of the fabulous turnout I witnessed as part of the Downtown Village Green Planning Project."

Dave Klimisch. Trustee #3
 Village of Pleasant Prairie Board



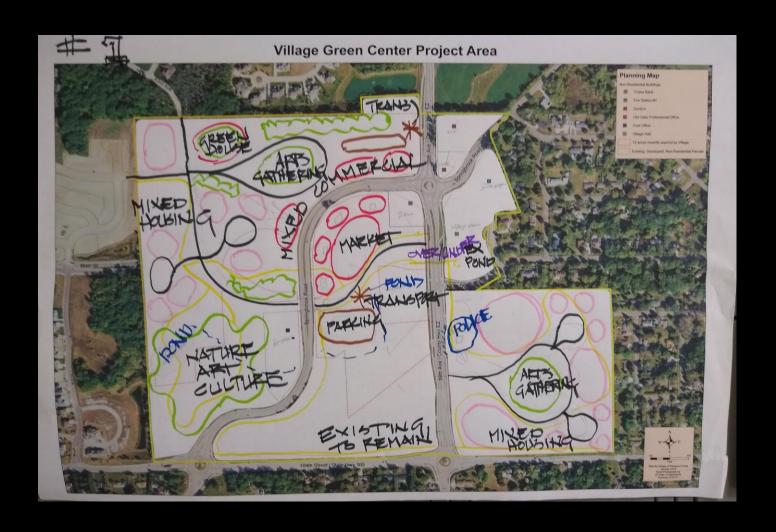


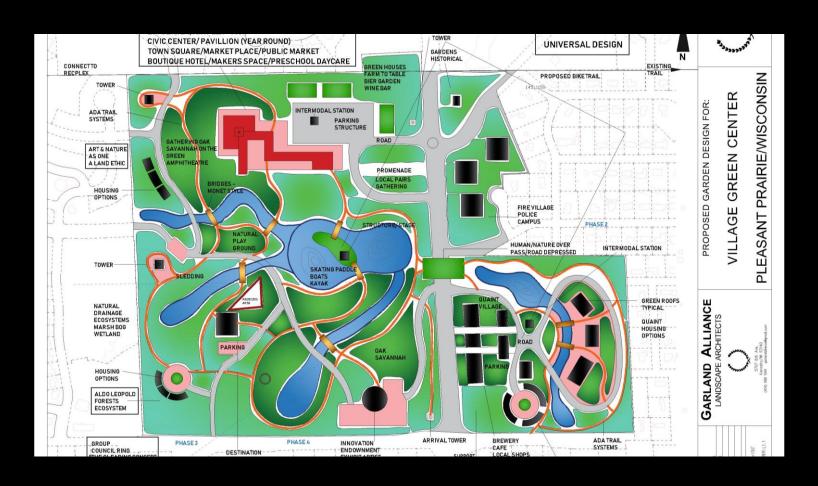


"I appreciate having had the opportunity to participate in the process. It was both professionally and personally rewarding to be part of a truly grassroots community process that was so energetic, creative, and productive."

- Brent McClintock, Chair, Department of Economics. Carthage College





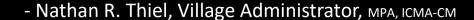








"It is incredible the way the Community Collaboration method engaged and activated the interest of our community. Citizens were truly empowered to participate and develop a vision for the Village Green Center. I am amazed the creativity and enthusiasm it sparked, and grateful for the relationships the process created."







Cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody.

— Jane Jacobs —

## Q&A

#### For more information, contact:



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