

2050 East Grand Forks Land Use Plan

STEERING COMMITTEE #2

1/04/2021

11:00 AM

WSB Project Number 016569-000

Notes

Public Engagement

Antonio Rosell talked about the importance getting the input of visitors as well as EGF residents. Despite pandemic, visitors still come into East Grand Forks for a variety of reasons: for work, school, entertainment, personal business, etc. So, it's important that the engagement capture their thoughts on EGF's growth and development.

Blue Weber

Mr. Weber asked what is the target number of participants engaged and how long the survey would take to complete?

Mr. Rosell responded that the that the target will be 500 respondents and that the survey would take about 10 minutes to complete.

Gary Christianson

Mr. Christianson discussed about how, historically, land use plans have overestimated population growth. So, he was leaning toward the lower end project of the various scenarios prepared by the planning team.

He talked about how most of the growth is occurring within the south side of the City. And that growth has introduced much more traffic than what the area can handle.

He talked about the need to stimulate more multifamily residential development in the City.

Diane Blaire

She agreed with previous comments about the need for more multifamily residential.

She talked about how dangerous it is for students to cross Bygland Road.

Nancy Ellis

Ms. Ellis commented that traffic issues are primarily related to school times, particularly drop off and pick up. Traffic peaks after 5PM, coinciding with the end of the workday and school. But, for the majority of day, traffic is calm. The new bridge crossing will alleviate the need to drive up through the Point.

Barry Wilfahrt

Mr. Wilfahrt spoke about a consensus of the Chamber of Commerce is that one southern bridge will not work and pursuing two bridges will provide greater stability to traffic and overall mobility. How to finance the construction of two bridges will be a difficult problem to solve. However, if only one bridge is constructed, it will impose the majority of traffic issues onto the nearest community. The promise of a second bridge will sell that short-term frustration to community members.

Teri Kouba

Since there is interest in exploring the south side to absorb most of the residential growth, Ms. Kouba suggested that there should be a question in the survey that asks about diversifying land uses in the area.