



Aumsville Interchange and Downtown Planning and Design



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Planning, Public Policy and Management Department

"Green Cities"

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Introduction

The *Aumsville Interchange and Downtown Planning and Design* report is a collaboration between City officials, the public, and researchers from the University of Oregon.

The project was initiated by Aumsville City Administrator **Maryann Hills**, Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) Regional Representative **Angela Lazarean**, and University of Oregon, Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management Instructor **Ric Stephens**. The goals and objectives were to identify key City issues; engage with Aumsville citizens; research specific topics in sustainability, urban resiliency and regeneration; and prepare findings and recommendations in a synthesized report. The study area is comprised of two urban corridors: the North First Street (highway interchange)



and Main Street. [See [Study Area Map](#)] Aumsville City Administrator **Maryann Hills** and Public Works Director **Steve Oslie** met with the research team and provided an overview of the City and current development.

The research team conducted a Design Charrette to identify significant planning and design opportunities and constraints. City officials and Fire Chief **Terrell Isaak** hosted the event at the Aumsville Rural

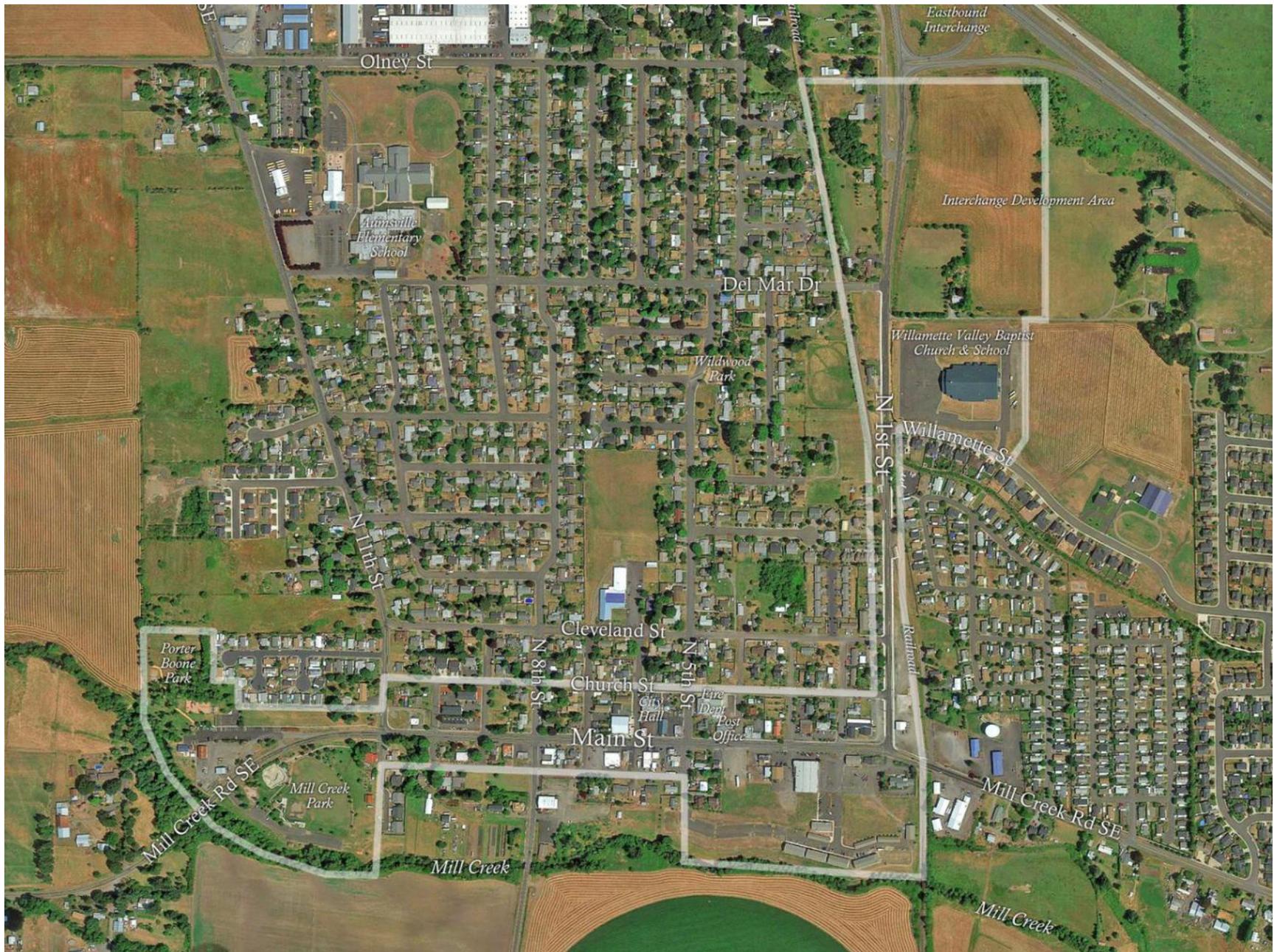
Fire Department Station which was attended by about 50 residents and charrette organizers. [See [Design Charrette Invitation](#)] Charrette participants identified specific city improvement suggestions. [See [Design Charrette Prioritization](#)]

Additional guidance was provided by DLCD Economic Development Policy Analyst **Tom Hogue**, Aumsville Historical Society President **Ted Shepard** and Visiting Chinese Scholar **Shengnan Lai**.

It is the sincere hope of the research team that these recommendations will be helpful in shaping a sustainable, resilient and regenerative future for the citizens of Aumsville.



Study Area Map



Principles for a Sustainable Aumsville



1 Vision

Provide a long-term vision for Aumsville based on sustainability; intergenerational, social, economic, and political equity; and its individuality

2 Economy and Society

Achieve long-term economic and social security

3 Biodiversity

Recognize the intrinsic value of biodiversity and natural ecosystems, and protect and restore them

4 Ecological Footprints

Enable the community to minimize its ecological footprint

5 Model Cities on Ecosystems

Build on the characteristics of ecosystems in the development and nurturing of a healthy and sustainable city

6 Sense of Place

Recognize and build on the distinctive characteristics of Aumsville

7 Empowerment

Empower people and foster participation

8 Partnerships

Expand and enable cooperative networks to work toward a common sustainable future

9 Sustainable Production and Consumption

Promote sustainable production and consumption through appropriate use of environmentally sound technologies and effective demand management

10 Governance and Hope

Enable continual improvement based on accountability, transparency and good governance

Transportation and Connectivity



Let's become a more connected city

There are two principle strategies for downtown development: corridors and centers. This study is devoted to North First Street and Main Street—two corridors which define the sense of place for the City of Aumsville.

Multi-Modal and Multi-Functional Corridors

To maximize the value of these corridors, they should be redesigned to be more multi-modal—specifically more walkable, bikeable, and with consideration for future public transit as well as alternative transportation such as electric and driverless vehicles.

Walkability

One of the most significant factors in the livability of a city is how friendly it is to walking. The questions to be asked are:

1. Is there room to walk?



The key to a vibrant street is walking. (Pearce, 2015)

2. Was it easy to cross streets?
3. Did drivers behave well?
4. Was it easy to follow safety rules?
5. Was your walk pleasant?

(Walkable America, 2015)

An online rating system for walkability is provided by *WalkScore* which ranks downtown Aumsville at “55, Somewhat Walkable.” This score is based on proximity to amenities and public transit.

(WalkScore, 2015)

Improvement to the City’s walkability requires commercial revitalization and also design features including:

- ☞ City comforts—these include street furniture and urban amenities such as drinking fountains, kiosks, and other conveniences.

- ☞ Crosswalk striping, surface treatment and signalization (Main Street)

- ☞ Multi-purpose pathways—bicycle paths, rail trails, and other facilities built for bicycle and pedestrian traffic physically separated from the street right-

of-way (North First Street)

- ☞ Pedestrian signage and wayfinding—information systems that guide people through a physical environment and enhance their understanding and experience of the space.

Transportation and Connectivity



Main Street Bicycle Lane

- ☞ Refuge island, also known as a pedestrian refuge or pedestrian island— small section of pavement or sidewalk, completely surrounded by asphalt or other road materials, where pedestrians can stop before finishing crossing a road.
- ☞ Pet stations—small post with pet waste disposal plastic bags, receptacle and information
- ☞ Public art [see *Public Space and Art*]

More cyclists on city streets translates to more “natural surveillance,” the principle that when people are moving at a slower speed on city streets, they can see the streetscape in greater detail.

(Greenwood, 2015)

- ☞ Sidewalk construction and expansion
- ☞ Storefront orientation
- ☞ Street and sidewalk lighting. These should be shielded to protect adjacent neighbors from glare and the night sky

from skyglow.

- ☞ Street furniture—objects placed along streets or roads for various uses, including benches, directional signs, garbage cans, mailboxes, streetlights, etc.
- ☞ Street trees and landscaping
- ☞ Traffic calming—physical design and other measures, including narrowed roads and speed humps, put in place on roads for the intention of slowing down or reducing motor-vehicle traffic as well

Transportation and Connectivity



North First Street and Main Street intersection current configuration (left) and with roundabout (right)

as to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

Programs that support walkability include *Rails to Trails* and *Safe Routes to School*.

Bikeability

The corridors can become more bike friendly with the same improvements for walkability and:

- ☞ Bicycle signage and wayfinding
- ☞ Bike lanes (Main Street)

- ☞ Bike racks, corrals and parking areas
- ☞ Cycle tracks (North First Street and Mill Creek Road)
- ☞ Street striping and signs

Programs that support bicycle-friendly design and events include *Ride Oregon Ride*, *OR Bike* and *Share the Road Campaign*.

Public Transit

Development along both corridors should include consideration for future public transit design such as:

- ☞ Bus turnouts
- ☞ Future lane reconfiguration
- ☞ Park & ride site

Alternative Transportation

The city should incorporate plans for future transportation modes such as an EV charging station, driverless vehicles, and support for “transportation sharing” programs.

Multi-Functional

In addition to expanding the transportation opportunities, both corridors should be

Transportation and Connectivity

evaluated for their use as green infrastructure, urban ecology, public space, and sense of place. These functions are examined in the following sections.

Main Street

Aumsville's Main Street has typical concerns for contemporary downtowns: business vitality, traffic noise, safety and walkability. These issues can be largely addressed by efforts to:

- ☞ Encourage drivers to drive at the desired speed
- ☞ Improve the aesthetic appearance of the street
- ☞ Enhance the street environment, particularly for pedestrians
- ☞ Minimize conflicts between highway users: pedestrians, bicyclists, transit, freight carriers, and motorists
- ☞ Encourage through traffic to stay on the highway
- ☞ Provide other routes for local traffic
- ☞ Increase the economic vitality of a community (TGM, 1999)

Roadway design elements that support Main



We stand on the cusp of the integration of automated vehicles (AVs) into the daily transportation experience.
(Kopczenski, 2015)

Street revitalization include:

- ☞ Bikeways
- ☞ Colored shoulders
- ☞ Corner radius
- ☞ Drainage (biofiltration swales and rain gardens)
- ☞ Gateways
- ☞ High-visibility crosswalks
- ☞ On-street parking
- ☞ Pavement markings
- ☞ Planting strips

- ☞ Raised, landscaped medians
- ☞ Refuge islands
- ☞ Signage
- ☞ Street trees
- ☞ Textured pavement
- ☞ Traffic calming
- ☞ Traffic control (signs and signals)
- ☞ Transitions (shoulders, gateways, planting strips)
- ☞ Wayfinding

Streetscape

Three specific development projects would transform these corridors: thematic street trees, integrated signage/lighting, and an entry statement roundabout.

Thematic Street Trees

The benefits to an integrated street tree program are numerous and include downtown beautification, shade, dust filtration, seasonal color and fragrances, traffic calming and others. A comprehensive landscape plan that considers infrastructural benefits as well as scenic value will have an

Transportation and Connectivity



Main Street Pathway

immeasurable effect on the entry and downtown corridors.

Integrated Signage/Lighting

Few aspects of city planning are as challenging as signage regulation. Even so, a comprehensive, unified signage program can help create an extraordinary sense of place. Information signs, kiosks, wayfinding signs and entry statements should all complement and reinforce the city imagery and brand. This program should be integrated with an innovative lighting plan that can be modified to reflect City events and activities.

Corridor Intersection Roundabout

Aumsville has a unique opportunity at the intersection of North First Street and Main Street to construct a roundabout that both improves traffic flow and creates a significant entry statement to the downtown. A modern roundabout is a circular intersection where drivers travel counterclockwise around a center island. There are no traffic signals or stop signs in a modern roundabout. Drivers yield at entry to traffic in the roundabout, then enter the intersection and exit at their desired street. Studies by the Federal Highway Administration have found that roundabouts can increase traffic capacity by 30 percent to 50 percent compared to traditional

intersections. (WSDOT, 2015) A roundabout can provide excellent traffic control at many intersections and may be especially suitable for the gateway to main street. (TGM, 1999)

*Transportation and Connectivity
Recommendations*



Transportation and Connectivity Plan



Green Infrastructure and Renewable Energy



Natural methods of stormwater management attempt to mimic the natural water cycle that functions in green spaces.
(Greenblatt, 2015)



*Let's be a
model of
responsible
growth*

Sustainable Development and Regenerative Design

Sustainable development is critical to the long-term health, safety and welfare of communities. The traditional definition of sustainable development was “*Sustainable development* is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” A more contemporary expansion of this concept reflects not only balancing the economy, environment and society, but doing so with a *living systems approach* and attention to *sense of place*. This

combination of sustainability, living systems and sense of place is referred to as *regenerative design*. The research team focused on two specific aspects of regenerative design related to city structures and facilities: green infrastructure and renewable energy.

Green Infrastructure

Low Impact Development (LID) is an innovative stormwater management

Green Infrastructure and Renewable Energy



(less
than
six



Wind turbines can be one of the most environmentally friendly forms of renewable energy. (Rubottom, 2015)

approach with a basic principle that is modeled after nature: manage rainfall at the source using uniformly distributed decentralized micro-scale controls. The two corridors could both use LID techniques such as biofiltration with bioswales and rain gardens. **Biofiltration** is a pollution control technique using living material to capture and biologically degrade pollutants. **Bioswales** are landscape elements designed to remove silt and pollution from surface runoff water. They consist of a swaled drainage course with gently sloped sides

percent) and filled with vegetation, compost and/or riprap. A **rain garden** is a shallow depression that is planted with deep-rooted native plants and grasses. The garden should be positioned near a runoff source like a downspout, driveway or sump pump to capture rainwater runoff and stop the water from reaching the sewer system. North First Street provides opportunities for even larger biofiltration retention basins. Main Street is an ideal location for decorative rain gardens that are integrated into an overall landscape program or customized for individual

businesses. Streets adjacent the primary corridors should be redesigned as green streets.

Green streets are street rights-of-way that, through a variety of design and operational treatments, give priority to pedestrian circulation and open space over other transportation uses. The treatments may include sidewalk widening, landscaping, traffic calming, and other pedestrian-oriented features.

Green Infrastructure and Renewable Energy



Catalytic development site with potential for biofiltration facilities

Renewable Energy

Solar and wind energy conversion systems provide numerous benefits to the downtown economically, environmentally and socially. Aumsville should take a leadership position in regards to renewable energy by installing solar panels and/or wind turbines on City Hall and the Fire Station. Small scale solar panels and/or wind turbines should be located wherever feasible such as light standards and the water tower. Renewable energy programs are part of **corporate social responsibility (CSR)**, the continuing commitment by business to contribute to economic development while improving the quality of life of the workforce and their

families as well as of the community and society at large. If necessary, the Development Code should be amended to support siting these facilities on and adjacent commercial buildings.

As the City updates its vehicle fleet, there is an opportunity to shift to electric vehicles (EVs) and— eventually— even automated or driverless cars. Receptivity to new transportation modes will establish the City as forward-thinking and innovative.

For a long-term vision, Aumsville may wish

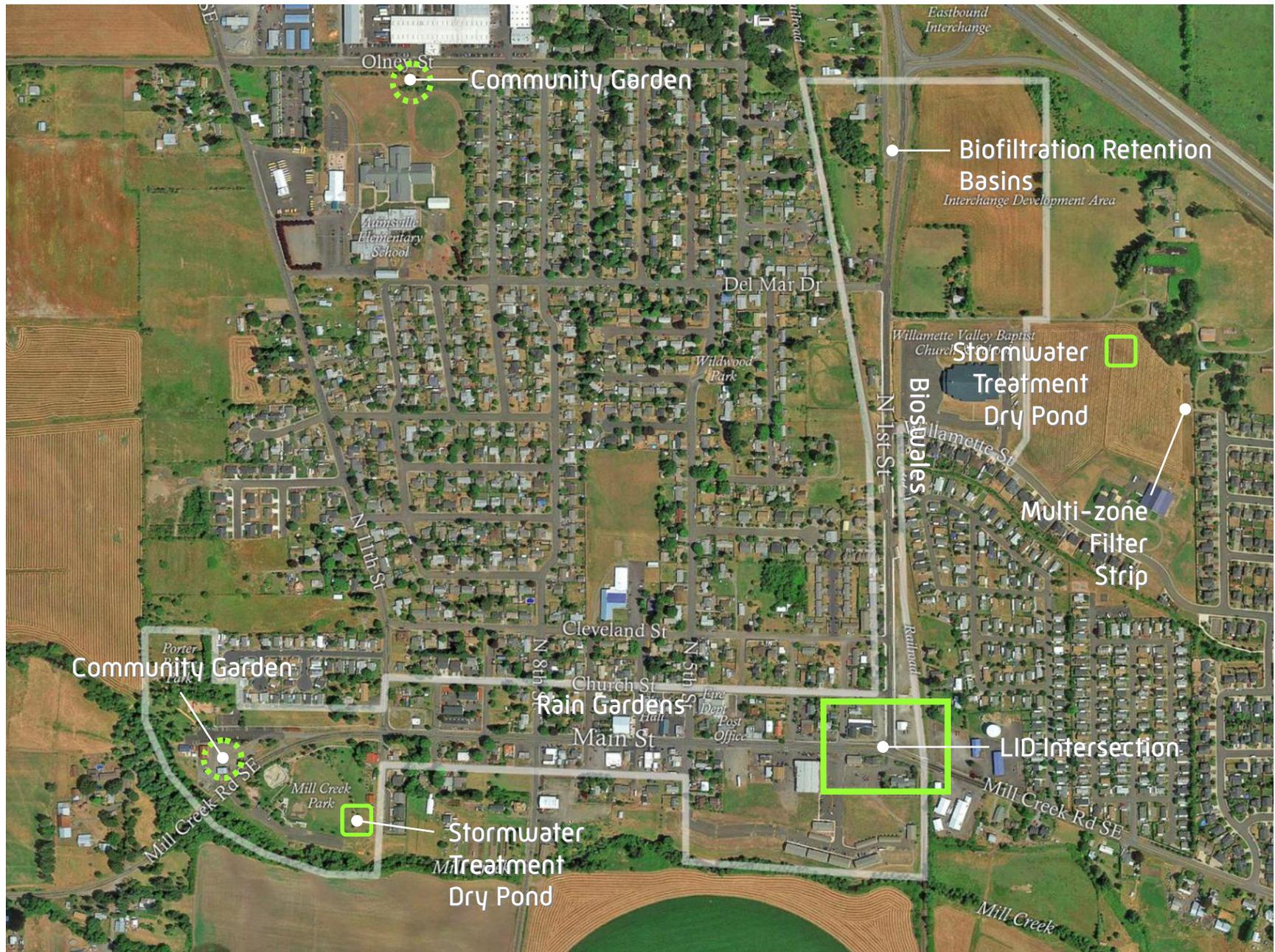
to consider a solar farm, wind farm or biowaste-to-energy facility to become less vulnerable to disruptions in the regional energy grid and more economically independent.

The time is now to discover and implement ways to conserve water.
(McClendon, 2015)

Green Infrastructure and Renewable Energy Recommendations



Green Infrastructure Plan



Urban Ecology and Agriculture



Let's bring nature into the city

Cities are discovering not only the value in environmental services connected with green infrastructure, but also the ecological and social benefits of having nature within the city.

Biophilic Design

The **biophilia** hypothesis suggests that there is an instinctive bond between human beings and other living systems. (Wilson, 1984) This concept has evolved into an approach to urban planning and design referred to as biophilic design. Biophilic cities have the following qualities:

- ☞ Biophilic cities are cities of abundant nature in close proximity to large numbers of urbanites; biophilic cities are biodiverse cities, that value, protect and actively restore this biodiversity; biophilic cities are green and growing cities, organic

and *natureful*;

- ☞ In biophilic cities, residents feel a deep affinity with the unique flora, fauna and fungi found there, and with the climate, topography, and other special qualities of



Re-introducing native plants adds to the natural heritage of an area and to the authenticity and character of the environment. (Henningsgaard, 2015)

place and environment that serve to define the urban home; in biophilic cities citizens can easily recognize common species of trees, flowers, insects and birds

(and in turn care deeply about them);

- ☞ Biophilic cities are cities that provide abundant opportunities to be outside and to enjoy nature through strolling, hiking, bicycling, exploring; biophilic cities nudge us to spend more time amongst the trees, birds and sunlight.

☞ Biophilic cities are rich multisensory environments, where the sounds of nature (and other sensory experiences) are appreciated as much as the visual or ocular experience; biophilic cities celebrate natural forms, shapes, and materials;

☞ Biophilic cities place importance on education about nature and biodiversity, and on providing many and varied opportunities to learn about and directly experience nature; in biophilic cities there are many opportunities to join with others in learning about, enjoying, deeply connecting with, and helping to steward nature, whether through a

nature club, organized hikes, camping in city parks, or volunteering for nature restoration projects;

- ☞ Biophilic cities invest in the social and

Urban Ecology and Agriculture

physical infrastructure that helps to bring urbanites to closer connection and understanding of nature, whether through natural history museums, wildlife centers, school-based nature initiatives, or parks and recreation programs and projects, among many others;

- Biophilic cities are globally responsible cities that recognize the importance of actions to limit the impact of resource use on nature and biodiversity beyond their urban borders; biophilic cities take steps to actively support the conservation of global nature. (Biophilic Cities, 2015)



Aumsville is a perfect place to start implementing biophilic design. (Talaber, 2015)

Green Roofs and Green Walls

Green roofs or **living roofs** are partially or completely covered with vegetation and a growing medium, planted over a waterproofing membrane. They may also include additional layers such as a root barrier and drainage and irrigation systems. Green roofs have greater insulation and lifespan than traditional roofs; they are more

visually pleasing; they contribute to a more biodiverse downtown; and reduce heat island effect, the increase in temperature from heat-absorbing materials and surfaces.

A **green wall** is partially or completely covered with greenery that includes a growing medium, such as soil. Most green walls also feature an integrated water delivery system. Green walls are also known as **living walls** or **vertical gardens**. Green walls “soften” building exteriors—especially

those that are flat with little articulation. Green walls can also be designed for edible landscape including a wide range of fruits, vegetables and herbs.

Urban Agriculture

The desire for local food is growing along with an awareness of “food deserts” —urban areas where it is difficult to obtain fresh produce.

Urban agriculture or **urban farming** is the practice of cultivating, processing, and distributing food in or around a village, town, or city. Urban agriculture can also involve animal husbandry, aquaculture, agroforestry, urban beekeeping, and horticulture.

Community Gardens

The approach favored by the research team is to promote **community gardens** as an important social, educational and economic of an Aumsville lifestyle. A **community garden** is any piece of land gardened by a group of people, utilizing either individual or shared plots on private or public land. The

Urban Ecology and Agriculture



Main Street at present (left) and with street trees (right)

land may produce fruit, vegetables, and/or ornamentals. The City currently has a partially inactive community garden at the northern edge of town. A community garden located near the downtown will capture a synergy with commercial businesses and City events. There are multiple benefits associated with community gardens:

Community gardens bring people together. (Wang, 2015)

Community Organizing

- ☞ Community gardens increase a sense of community ownership and stewardship.
- ☞ Community gardens foster the development of a community identity and spirit.
- ☞ Community gardens bring people together from a wide variety of backgrounds (age, race, culture, social class).

- ☞ Community gardens build community leaders.
- ☞ Community gardens offer a focal point for community organizing, and can lead to community-based efforts to deal with other social concerns.

Crime Prevention

- ☞ Community gardens provide opportunities to meet neighbors.
- ☞ Community gardens build block clubs (neighborhood associations).

Urban Ecology and Agriculture



City Hall at present (left) and with green walls (right)

- ☞ Community gardens increase eyes on the street.
- ☞ Community gardening is recognized by many police departments as an effective community crime prevention strategy.

Cultural Opportunities

- ☞ Community gardens offer unique opportunities for new immigrants (who tend to be concentrated in low-income urban communities) to:
 - Produce **traditional crops** otherwise

- unavailable locally,
- Take advantage of the experience of elders to produce a significant amount of food for the household,
- Provide inter-generational exposure to cultural traditions,
- Offer a cultural exchange with other gardeners,
- Learn about block clubs,

Community garden spaces provide an opportunity for reconnection to knowledge and ourselves. (Swain, 2015)

- neighborhood groups, and other community information.
- ☞ Community gardens offer neighborhoods an access point to non-English speaking communities.
- ☞ Community gardens allow people from diverse backgrounds to work side-by-side on common goals without speaking the same language.

Urban Ecology and Agriculture



Youth

Community gardens offer unique opportunities to teach youth about:

- ☞ Where food comes from
- ☞ Practical math skills
- ☞ Basic business principles
- ☞ The importance of community and stewardship
- ☞ Issues of environmental sustainability
- ☞ Job and life skills
- ☞ And, community gardening is a healthy, inexpensive activity for youth that can bring them closer to nature, and allow them to interact with each other in a socially meaningful and physically productive way.

Food Production

- ☞ Many community gardeners, especially those from immigrant communities, take advantage of food production in community gardens to provide a significant source of food and/or income.
- ☞ Community gardens allow families and

Green spaces are a fundamental factor of the prosperity of the 'sustainability and green' industry.
(Williams, 2015)

- ☞ Urban agriculture is 3-5 times more productive per acre than traditional large-scale farming!
- ☞ Community gardens donate thousands of pounds of fresh produce to food pantries and involve people in processes that provide food security and alleviate hunger. The Aumsville **food pantry** should be reopened and operate in coordination with the community gardens.

Health

- ☞ Studies have shown that community gardeners and their children eat healthier

individuals without land of their own the opportunity to produce food.
☞ Community gardens provide access to nutritionally rich

foods that may otherwise be unavailable to low-income families and individuals.

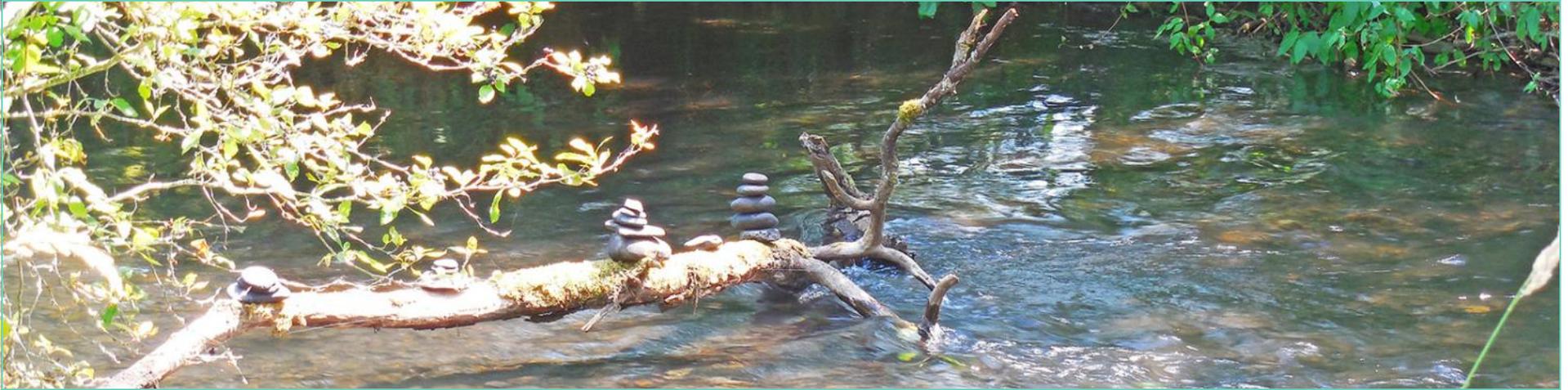
- ☞ Eating locally produced food reduces asthma rates, because children are able to consume manageable amounts of local pollen and develop immunities.
- ☞ Exposure to green space **reduces stress** and increases a sense of wellness and belonging.
- ☞ Increasing the consumption of fresh local produce is one of the best ways to address childhood lead poisoning.
- ☞ The benefits of **Horticulture Therapy** can be and are used to great advantage in community gardens.

A mission statement is crucial in terms of guiding the use and benefits you will receive from your new garden. (Marinelli, 2015)

Green space

- ☞ Community gardens add beauty to the community and heighten people's awareness and appreciation for living things.
- ☞ Community gardens filter rainwater, helping to keep lakes, rivers, and groundwater clean.
- ☞ Community gardens restore oxygen to the air and help to reduce air pollution.

Urban Ecology and Agriculture



Adopting water-sensitive urban design will allow for the Mill Creek to return to its natural flow regime while protecting and enhancing the ecosystem. (Pierce, 2015)

- Community gardens recycle huge volumes of tree trimmings, leaves, grass clippings, and other organic wastes back into the soil.
- Community gardens provide a place to retreat from the noise and commotion of urban environments.
- Community gardens provide much needed green space in lower-income neighborhoods which typically have access to less green space than do other parts of the community.
- Development and maintenance of garden space is less expensive than that of parkland.

- Scientific studies show that **crime decreases** in neighborhoods as the amount of green space increases.
- Community gardens have been shown to actually **increase property values** in the immediate vicinity where they are located. ([Gardeners in Community Development, 2015](#))

The City should form a community garden club or other organization to administer the community gardens. In addition, a master gardener must be appointed to direct the program which should be integrated into City activities, elementary school programs,

and local businesses. In addition to the commercial value of garden produce and flowers, the program should be expanded to include a tool lending library, public education courses on gardening, cooking classes and an integral part of events such as the Corn Festival. There are multiple programs to assist in community gardens such as the [American Community Gardening Association](#).

Edible Landscaping

Another way to increase local food is to encourage edible landscaping. Selecting

Urban Ecology and Agriculture

landscape materials that may be consumed can have a dramatic impact on the local community. “The Incredible Edible Todmorden” is an example of a small town that redefined its community through incorporating local food as an essential element. Their mission is to provide access to good local food for all, through:

- œ working together
- œ learning – from field to classroom to kitchen
- œ supporting local business

([Incredible Edible Todmorden, 2015](#))

Native Species Landscaping

All public right-of-way landscaping should be with native species which are pest and drought-resistant. Particular emphasis should be placed on native wildflowers which provide numerous environmental and esthetic benefits including climate adapted, drought and pest resistant, low water demand, seasonal color, threatened species conservation, songbird and butterfly attractors, soil binding, erosion prevention



Edible plants native to the area are especially ideal; they help maintain the uniqueness of a place, resist being overtaken by invasive plants, provide food for animals and people, are diverse in appearance, and can help in rerouting water runoff.

([Brassfield, 2015](#))

and education programs. As with all landscaping, markers should be provided with the botanical name, common name and interesting facts.

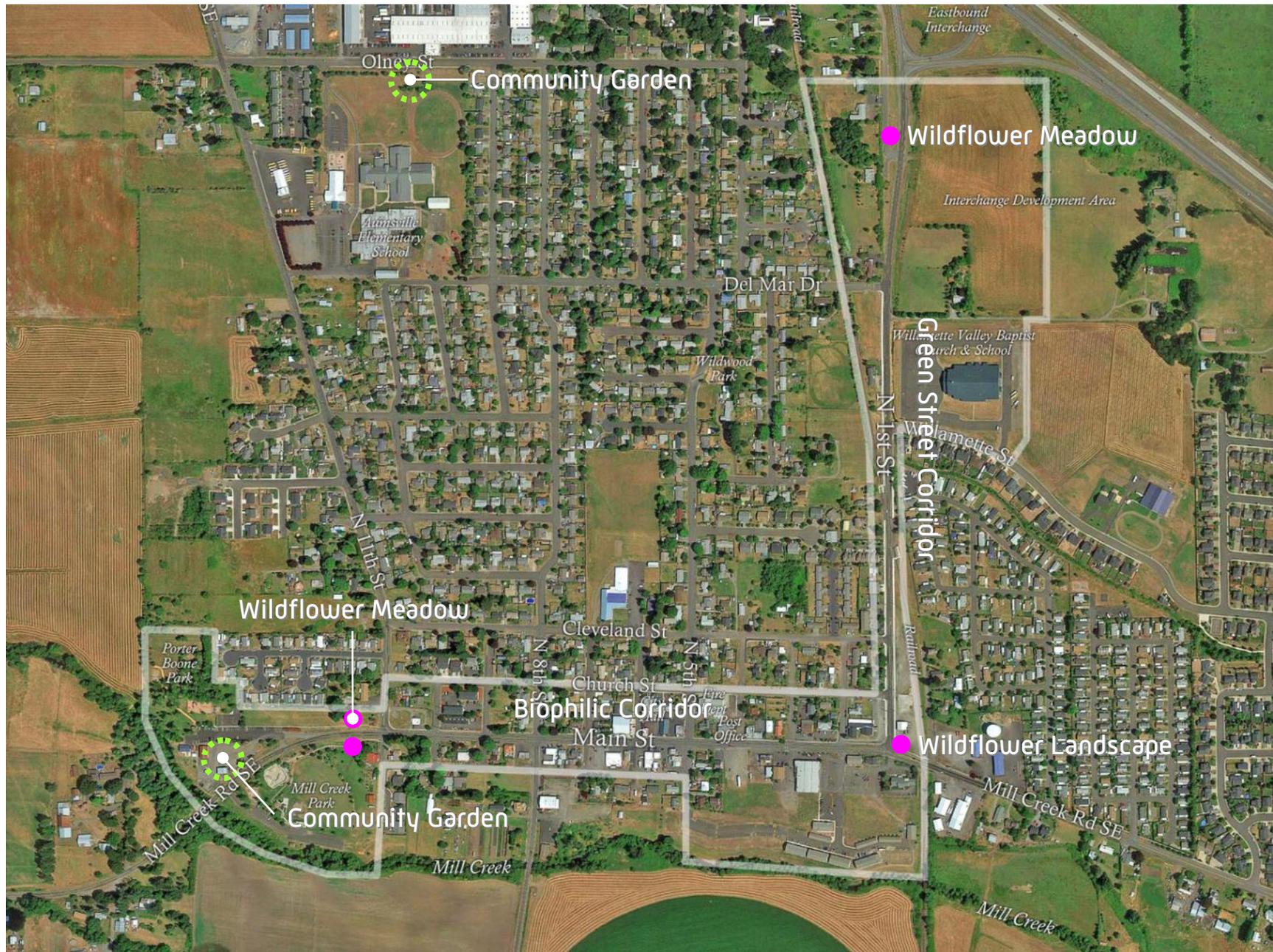
Here is a list of common native wildflower species and their suggested location:

- œ Beardtongue (streetscape)
- œ Bitterroot (streetscape)
- œ Bluehead gilia (streetscape)
- œ California poppy (streetscape)
- œ Common harebell (streetscape)
- œ Douglas aster (streetscape)
- œ Graceful cinquefoil (meadow)
- œ Great camas (meadow)
- œ Large-leaved lupine (meadow)
- œ Meadow checkermallow (meadow)
- œ Monkeyflower (meadow)
- œ Nodding onion (streetscape)
- œ Oceanspray (streetscape)
- œ Oregon iris (streetscape)
- œ Western columbine (streetscape)
- œ Winecup clarkia (streetscape)

*Urban Ecology and Agriculture
Recommendations*



Urban Ecology and Agriculture Plan



Public Space and Art



Let's celebrate our community.

The research team enjoyed many of the City's features, but the most impressive and lasting memory is one of a *community that cares*.

Aumsville has an extraordinary sense of community that is evident in its such events as the farmers' market and Corn Festival. It can be seen in the citizens' volunteerism for fire fighters. And it can be experienced on a daily basis with residents who take pride in their City. This sense of community comes from a focus on family and pets; a rural lifestyle and small town dynamic.

Public Space

A **public space** is a social space that is generally open and accessible to people.

Roads (including the pavement), public squares, parks and beaches are typically considered public space. Aumsville would benefit socially, economically and environmentally from having more



Aumsville Rural Fire Parade

significant public spaces. The Project for Public Spaces has identified *Eleven Principles for Creating Great Community Places*:

1. **The community is the expert**
The important starting point in developing a concept for any public

space is to identify the talents and assets within the community. In any community there are people who can provide an historical perspective, valuable insights into how the area functions, and an understanding of the critical issues and what is meaningful to people. Tapping this information at the beginning of the process will help to create a sense of community ownership in the project that can be of great benefit to both the project sponsor and the community.

2. **Create a place; not a design**

If your goal is to create a place (which we think it should be), a design will not be enough. To make an under-performing space into a vital "place," physical elements must be introduced that would make people welcome and comfortable, such as seating and new landscaping, and also through

"management" changes in the pedestrian circulation pattern and by developing more effective relationships between the surrounding retail and the activities going on in the public spaces. The goal is to create a place that has both a strong

Public Space and Art

sense of community and a comfortable image, as well as a setting and activities and uses that collectively add up to something more than the sum of its often simple parts. This is easy to say, but difficult to accomplish.

3. Look for partners

Partners are critical to the future success and image of a public space improvement project. Whether you want partners at the beginning to plan for the project or you want to brainstorm and develop scenarios with a dozen partners who might participate in the future, they are invaluable in providing support and getting a project off the ground. They can be local institutions, museums, schools and others.

4. You can see a lot just by observing

We can all learn a great deal from others' successes and failures. By looking at how people are using (or not using) public spaces and finding out what they like and don't like about them, it is possible to assess what makes them work or not



Brian Haney Memorial Skate Park

5. Have a vision

The vision needs to come out of each individual community. However, essential to a vision for any public space

work. Through these observations, it will be clear what kinds of activities are missing and what might be incorporated. And when the spaces are built, continuing to observe them will teach even more about how to evolve and manage them over time.

is an idea of what kinds of activities might be happening in the space, a view that the space should be comfortable and have a good image, and that it should be an important place where people want to be. It should instill a sense of pride in the people who live and work in the surrounding area.

6. Start with the petunias: lighter, quicker, cheaper

The complexity of public spaces is such that you cannot expect to do everything right initially. The best spaces experiment with short term improvements that can be tested and refined over many years!

Elements such as seating, outdoor cafes, public art, striping of crosswalks and pedestrian havens, community gardens and murals are examples of improvements that can be accomplished in a short time.

7. Triangulate

“Triangulation is the process by which some external stimulus provides a linkage between people and prompts strangers to talk to other strangers as if they knew each other” (Holly Whyte). In

Public Space and Art



Main Street Furniture (left) and with bronze sculpture and paw prints (right)

a public space, the choice and arrangement of different elements in relation to each other can put the triangulation process in motion (or not). For example, if a bench, a wastebasket and a telephone are placed with no connection to each other, each may receive a very limited use, but when they are arranged together along with

Public art is one of the easiest, effective, and cost efficient methods to revitalize a city. (Jordan, 2015)

other amenities such as a coffee cart, they will naturally bring people together (or triangulate!). On a broader level, if a children's reading room in a new library is located so that it is next to a children's playground in a park and a food kiosk is added, more activity will occur than if these facilities were located separately.

8. **They always say "It can't be done"**
One of Yogi Berra's great sayings is "If they say it can't be done, it doesn't always work out that way," and we have found it to be appropriate for our work as well. Creating good public spaces is inevitably about encountering obstacles, because no one in either the public or private sectors has the job or responsibility to "create places." For example, professionals such as traffic engineers, transit operators, urban

Public Space and Art



Main Street, right of way, and private flower garden

planners and architects all have narrow definitions of their job – facilitating traffic or making trains run on time or creating long term schemes for building cities or designing buildings. Their job, evident in most cities, is not to create “places.” Starting with small scale community-nurturing improvements can demonstrate the importance of “places” and help to overcome obstacles.

9. **Form supports function**

The input from the community and potential partners, the understanding of how other spaces function, the experimentation, and overcoming the obstacles and naysayers provides the

concept for the space. Although design is important, these other elements tell you what “form” you need to accomplish the future vision for the space.

10. **Money is not the issue**

This statement can apply in a number of ways. For example, once you’ve put in the basic infrastructure of the public spaces, the elements that are added that will make it work (e.g., vendors, cafes, flowers and seating) will not be expensive. In addition, if the community and other partners are

The optimum place for a dog park is the “Goldilocks Zone,” not too close, yet not too far from residential housing. (Coutant, 2015)

involved in programming and other activities, this can also reduce costs. More important is that by following these steps, people will have so much enthusiasm for the project that the cost is viewed much more broadly and consequently as not significant when compared with the benefits.

11. **You are never finished**

By nature good public spaces that respond to the needs, the opinions

and the ongoing changes of the community require attention. Amenities wear out, needs change and other things

Public Space and Art



Hanging Flower Baskets and Public Art “Easter Eggs”

happen in an urban environment. Being open to the need for change and having the management flexibility to enact that change is what builds great public spaces and great cities and towns. (Project for Public Spaces, 2015)

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is defined as a multi-disciplinary approach to deterring criminal behavior through environmental design. CPTED strategies rely upon the ability to

influence offender decisions that precede criminal acts by affecting the built, social and administrative environment. Aumsville should adopt CPTED (pronounced “sep ted”) best practices for all City public spaces.

Public Art

Many cities do not have sufficient public space, and many more do not have *any* art in the public realm. Public spaces help define a city’s *sense of community*; public art can help

define a community’s *sense of place*. Together they can revitalize and regenerate the City.

Traditionally, small town public art was a single statue commemorating an historic figure. Today, the types of art within the public realm span a wide spectrum:

- ☞ Animated spaces/objects (banners, flags, pop jets, water features...)
- ☞ Computer-generated art
- ☞ Dance & theater
- ☞ Earthworks
- ☞ Fairs & festivals

Public Space and Art

- œ Functional elements (bike rack, street clock, sundial...)
- œ Green spaces & landscaping (gardens, flower baskets, planter boxes...)
- œ Guerilla art
- œ Happenings
- œ Installation
- œ Interactive art
- œ Laser art & holography
- œ Lighting & pyrotechnics
- œ Monuments & buildings
- œ Murals & mosaics
- œ Music & sound
- œ Parades & processions
- œ Performance art
- œ Photography & video
- œ Public spaces
- œ Smart/flash mobs
- œ Social practice
- œ Statues & sculptures
- œ Street entertainment

sense of community and place for the City. They can either be organized and implemented by the local community or designed as competitions at whatever scale the City wishes.

Public Space and Art Recommendations

Public art is a necessity to our communities because it engages community members, it boosts the local economy, and it contributes to urban regeneration. (Angel, 2015)



Aumsville should consider all of these public art forms and determine which match the

Public Space and Art Plan



Resiliency and Revitalization



Let's create a more desirable future

Resiliency

The term “resilience” refers to the ability to adapt to changing conditions and withstand and rapidly recover from disruption due to emergencies. (Presidential Policy Directive, 2015) The foundation for resiliency has the following elements:

- ☞ **Improvisation**—adapting to unfolding situations
- ☞ **Creativity**—new alternatives with elements that achieve fundamental objectives in ways previously unseen
- ☞ **Flexibility**—a willingness to depart from widely accepted standards and practices of doing things.

It is important to note that this foundation may indicate that Aumsville’s response to

changing conditions and emergencies may be a new state rather than a “recovery” to a previous one. If and when a disaster occurs, the City should recognize an opportunity to rebuild a more sustainable, regenerative and



Main Street should have a cohesive theme and design that visually connect one end to the other. (Kashuba, 2015)

resilient community. Disasters also include social and economic as well as environmental disruptions. Aumsville has experienced a tornado as recently as 2010, and a subduction earthquake is projected for the relatively near

future. Aumsville should coordinate with State and County programs and prepare for each step in the disaster sequence:

1. Risk assessment
2. Mitigation, response and post-disaster planning
3. Disaster preparedness
4. Emergency response
5. Recovery
6. Regeneration

Revitalization

Urban revitalization or regeneration as defined here is not traditional urban renewal focusing on housing, but a comprehensive and integrated vision and action which leads to the resolution of urban problems and which seeks to bring about a lasting improvement in the economic, physical, social and environmental of an area that has been subject to change.

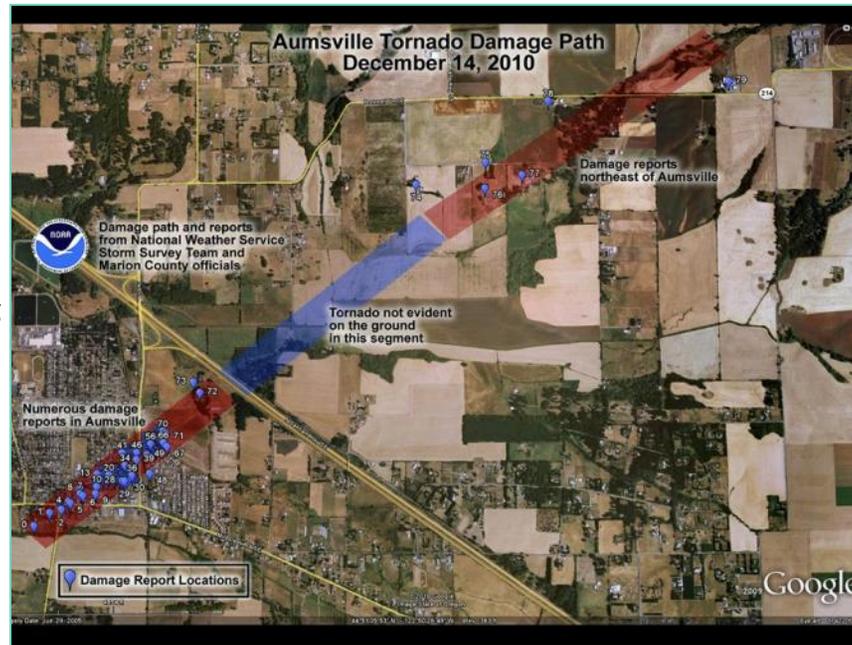
The Main Street Four Point Approach

The National Main Street Center has developed a program specific to revitalization with four key points:

Resiliency and Revitalization

1. Organization

Organization establishes consensus and cooperation by building partnerships among the various groups that have a stake in the commercial district. The most effective Main Street programs get everyone working toward the same goal. With this level of collaboration, your Main Street program can provide effective, ongoing management and advocacy for your downtown or neighborhood business district. Through volunteer recruitment and collaboration with partners representing a broad cross section of the community, your program can incorporate a wide range of perspectives into its efforts. A governing board of directors and standing committees make up the fundamental organizational structure of volunteer-driven revitalization programs. Volunteers are coordinated and supported by a paid program director. This structure not only divides the workload and clearly delineates responsibilities, but also builds consensus and cooperation among the



The [2010] tornado was an anomaly...yet the response, recovery and lack of casualties can be attributed to the consistent resiliency of the town and its citizens
(Alberti, 2015)

2. Promotion

Promotion takes many forms, but the goal is to create a positive image that will renew community pride and tell your Main Street story to the surrounding region. The techniques we teach, and the variety of tools at your disposal, will help

to rekindle the vitality of your community. Promotions communicate your commercial district's unique characteristics, its cultural traditions, architecture, and history and activities to shoppers, investors, potential business and property owners, and visitors.

3. Design

Design means getting Main Street into top physical shape and creating a safe, inviting environment for shoppers, workers, and visitors while preserving a place's historic character. Successful Main Streets take advantage of the visual opportunities inherent in a commercial district by directing attention to all of its physical elements: public and private buildings, storefronts, signs, public spaces, parking areas, street furniture, public art, landscaping, merchandising, window displays, and promotional materials. An appealing atmosphere, created through attention to all of these visual elements, conveys a positive message about the commercial district

Resiliency and Revitalization



Aumsville can develop tourism in a way that involves capitalizing on local agriculture, creating community events, and renovating public parks, open spaces, and trails. (Tani, 2015)

and what it has to offer. Popular design activities also include instilling good maintenance practices in the commercial district, enhancing the district's physical appearance through the rehabilitation of historic buildings, encouraging appropriate new construction, developing sensitive design management systems, educating business and property owners about design quality, and long-term planning.

4. Economic Restructuring

Through economic restructuring, we can show you how to strengthen your community's existing economic assets while diversifying its economic base. Successful communities accomplish this by evaluating how to retain and expand successful businesses to provide a

A sense of place, the feeling that you have arrived at a place, helps strengthen a community. (Setter, 2015)

balanced commercial mix, sharpening the competitiveness and merchandising skills of business owners, and attracting new businesses that the market can support. Many Main Street programs also achieve success through creative reuse of historic properties. Converting unused or underused commercial space into economically

Resiliency and Revitalization



“Community building” looks at how to create connected, thoughtful and resilient communities through design, citizen participation and creativity. (Otake, 2015)

productive property also helps boost the profitability of the district. The goal is to build a commercial district that responds to the needs of today's consumers while maintaining the community's historic character. ([National Main Street Center, 2015](#))

The Story of Aumsville

The City of Aumsville must have a “story” that the Main Street and First Street corridors clearly tell through an appropriate theme supported by design details. The story

Each town has its own individual story to tell based on its history and the people who live there.
(Udo, 2015)

should be told through **experiential design** that encompasses all the sense: sight (landscapes, wayfinding...), sound (music, water...), touch (textured paving, sculpture...), smell (flowers, food...), and taste (outdoor food, beverages...). The

visioning program will help describe the story, and—if well-told—the city will be the stage for transforming experiences.

Resiliency and Revitalization Recommendations



With our sincerest wishes for a vibrant future.

Green Cities, Summer 2015

Recommendations



Transportation & Connectivity

- 1. Autonomous Cars**
Evaluate North First Street and Main Street for their ability to accommodate driverless cars.
- 2. Bicycle Lanes**
Install bicycle lanes throughout the city. [see *Transportation & Connectivity Plan*]
- 3. Bike Friendly Design**
Review City development for compatibility and support for bikeability. (i.e. requirements for commercial development bike racks)
- 4. Bike Racks, Corrals and Parking**
Provide more places for people to park and lock bikes. Incentivize commercial business bike racks. Bikes racks should be viewed as opportunities for public art.
- 5. Community Rides**
Host annual Community Rides event.
- 6. Crosswalks**
Design crosswalks with decorative pavers and/or treatments for traffic calming. Install a major crosswalk at Main Street and 11th Street. Combine with curb extensions and/or other *traffic calming* techniques.
- 7. Cycle Track**
Evaluate the potential for a cycle tract adjacent both North First Street and Main Street.
- 8. Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station**
Site an EV charging station at or near City Hall.
- 9. Integrated Community Media**
Provide multiple community media such as website, Facebook, community email lists, flyers, etc. These should be coordinated and complementary.
- 10. Medians**
Construct medians in North First Street and Main Street. These should incorporate green street and traffic calming principles.
- 11. Park Paths**
Construct multi-purpose trail to skate park and baseball diamond.
- 12. Parking Demand Management Plan**
Create an overall strategy for downtown parking. This program will include planning for the Corn Fest and other City events.
- 13. Pet Stations**
Provide *pet stations* and more places for people to tie up dogs and other pets in order to encourage more walking and time outside with their animals.
- 14. Public Employee Cycling**
Incentivize bicycle commuting for public employees.
- 15. Rails to Trails**
Redesign the local rail corridors to serve as community multi-purpose paths.
- 16. Reduce Parking Requirements**
Amend the Development Code to reduce parking requirements for commercial development.
- 17. Roundabout**
Redesign the intersection at First and Main Streets with a roundabout.
- 18. Safe Routes to School**
Facilitate a partnership between *Safe Routes to School* and Aumsville Elementary School.
- 19. Share the Road Campaign**
Create and sustain a *Share the Road Campaign*.
- 20. Sidewalk Expansion**
Expand the sidewalks along Main Street.
- 21. Signage and Wayfinding**
Create a consistent program for community signs and wayfinding that assists visitors, pedestrians and bicyclists. This includes signage for the state highway. Design specific signs for dog-owners.
- 22. Street and Sidewalk Lighting**
Design street and sidewalk lighting that makes both safe while also shielding glare to protect night sky. Lighting should be powered by solar cells on top.

Recommendations

Lighting should be viewed as an opportunity for public art such as decorating pedestrian scale lamps like corn stalks.

23. Traffic Calming

Consider a wide spectrum of *traffic calming* tools for North First Street and Main Street. *Chokers* would be particularly effect for traffic calming Main Street and also make crosswalks safer.

24. Walkability

Review City development for compatibility and support for pedestrian-friendly design.



Green Infrastructure & Renewable Energy

25. Biofiltration

Plant cattails or similar species in *bioswales*, *bioretention basins* or adjacent flood control retention basins for stormwater pollutant remediation.

26. Bioretention Basins

Replace existing retention basins with bioretention basins.

27. Bioswales

Construct *bioswales* along North First Street adjacent railway and new multi-family housing.

28. Green Infrastructure Flood Control

Integrate creative flood management into city planning such as *bioswales* and *rain gardens*.

29. Green Streets

Redesign North First Street and Main Street to incorporate green street concepts.

30. Infrastructure Integration

Integrate natural hazard mitigation with natural resource protection and restoration, storm-water management, ecosystem concerns, floodplain management, and protection of water quality for public use.

31. Low Impact Development

Apply *low impact development* (LID) practices in all projects.

32. Rainwater Management

Develop a rainwater management program with infrastructure for rainwater harvesting and storage.

33. Solar Panels

Install solar panels on municipal structures (buildings, light standards, the water tower).

34. Storm Drain Signage / Art

Mark all storm drains with text and/or art to educate citizens about the relationship with natural watercourses. (i.e. salmon image)

35. Wind Turbines

Install wind turbines for City Hall, the Police Station and the Fire Station.



Urban Ecology & Agriculture

36. Administration

Designate the parks department, garden club or other organization to administer and manage community gardens. Charge fees for garden site use and tool lending. Apply fees towards administration, maintenance and equipment.

37. Biophilic Design

Incorporate plants throughout the downtown with street landscaping, planter boxes/baskets, green walls and green roofs.

38. Community Gardens

Locate new community gardens in the downtown area and near the elementary school.

39. Church Gardening Programs

Coordinate with local churches to establish gardening programs and activities.

40. Community Compost

Build a compost station in each community garden and coordinate this with a city-wide program for

Recommendations

- composting.
41. **Community Tools**
Provide a locked tool shed and stock with standard garden tools to be administered by the garden club. (See *tool lending library*.)
 42. **Cooking Classes**
Combine the community food garden with cooking classes.
 43. **Donation Stand**
Build a small stand to offer free excess garden produce.
 44. **Ecological Corridors**
Plant sections of North First Street and Main Street with drought-tolerant, native species that include wildflowers for color and scent. Many of the parking areas on the south side of Main Street could be converted to green space with the parking relocated adjacent and/or behind the buildings.
 45. **Edible Landscaping**
Encourage edible landscaping within the public right-of-way and parks. Include species that bear fruits, nuts, vegetables and herbs. Edible plants must have small information plaques.
 46. **Events**
Schedule community garden events and activities that coincide with city programs such as the *Farmers' Market*, *Corn Fest*, etc.
 47. **Floral Images**
Plant flowers to create colorful pictures and patterns in the park and City entries.
 48. **Food Bank**
Provide the food bank with fresh garden produce from the community food garden. This should be a component of the *food pantry*.
 49. **Green Waste**
Install a green waste / mulch collection site.
 50. **Garden Sanctuary**
Create a place within the garden for reflection.
 51. **Green Roofs**
Encourage green roofs for downtown commercial buildings.
 52. **Green Walls**
Encourage green walls facing North First Street and Main Street.
 53. **Horticultural Therapy**
Organize a therapy program in coordination with the community hospital.
 54. **Impermeable & Permeable Surfaces**
Disconnect impermeable surfaces such as parking lots from the central sewage system. Whenever possible, install permeable surfaces for parking, sidewalks and walkways.
 55. **Information Kiosk**
Provide an information kiosk to post garden and community activities.
 56. **Information Plaques**
Provide information plaques for street trees and public realm plants that give the common name, botanical name and anecdotal information. Similar types of information plaques should be provided for all significant downtown structures.
 57. **Main Street Flower Baskets**
Hang flowers in pots from light posts on Main St.
 58. **Main Street Landscape**
Plant more native trees and vegetation on Main Street.
 59. **Management Plan**
Design a community food garden management plan. [See *Start a Community Food Garden: The Essential Handbook*]
 60. **Master Gardener**
Appoint a volunteer or city employee "Master Gardener" responsible for the community garden program.
 61. **Mission Statement**
Define a mission statement for community gardens in collaboration with local residents, businesses, schools, and associations.
 62. **Multi-zone Filter Strip**
Establish multi-zone filter strips to

Recommendations

- mitigate high-flood risk sites (i.e. behind Willamette Baptist Church/School).
63. **Native Species Landscaping**
Encourage the use of native or local species in developing more green spaces.
64. **Park Flowers**
Plant species with flowers, or bloom, surrounding the skatepark to improve the esthetic appeal.
65. **Park Trees**
Plant native trees around the baseball diamond.
66. **Phytofiltration Strips**
Establish phytofiltration strips adjacent buildings in the downtown.
67. **Planter Boxes**
Provide planter boxes for Main Street and a program that synchronizes species for seasonal color and scent.
68. **Planting Beds**
Insert planting beds between parking lots, the sidewalk and streets. These may serve green infrastructure services and esthetics.
69. **Porter Boone Food Garden**
Local a food garden in the Marion County public works plot. Integrate the garden and adjacent Porter Boone Park.
70. **Potluck**
Organize a potluck, banquet or harvest-related event to celebrate and promote the community food garden. These events could be scheduled in conjunction with local holidays and/or City events such as the Corn Fest.
71. **Rain Gardens**
Design *bioswales* as *rain gardens* along well-traveled walkways. (I.e. along Mill Creek Road)
72. **Rules**
Post safety and usage rules at entrance.
73. **School Garden Programs**
Coordinate with the local schools for short-term and long-term class programs connected with agriculture, biology, earth science, etc. Garden produce and products could be used for sales to raise money for school programs.
74. **School Tree Planting Program**
Host an annual program for a class to plant trees with markers that identify the species and class.
75. **Security**
Fence the community garden with a locked gate.
76. **Signage**
Place signs around the community garden to promote the program and announce events. (Signage must be complementary with overall city branding)
77. **Social Media**
Provide a Facebook Group website or other online media to connect gardeners and administration. [see *Integrated Community Media*]
78. **Stormwater Treatment Dry Pond**
Establish stormwater treatment dry ponds in sites susceptible to flood hazard (i.e. behind Willamette Baptist Church/School).
79. **Stormwater Tree Pits**
Create connected, stormwater tree pits that have additional capacity for stormwater detention.
80. **Street Trees**
Plant thematic street trees along North First Street and Main Street.
81. **Summer Youth Program**
Schedule gardening activities to coincide with the summer youth program.
82. **Vertical Gardening**
Construct green walls for food gardens and decorative screening.
83. **Volunteer Program**
Organize a community garden club or connect with another service organization to recruit volunteers.
84. **Wildflower Landscaping**
Landscape along North First Street with native wildflowers and create a wildflower meadow near the interchange.

Recommendations



Public Space & Art

85. **5K Run / Fun Run**
A biannual family 5K for running with your dog and celebrating pets.
86. **Art and Design Competitions**
Organize art and design competitions in coordination with community improvements and events. For example, a creative crosswalk connecting the parks at the western end of Main Street.
87. **Corn Maze**
Create an interactive, year-round corn maze. There would be an area in one of Aumsville's parks where there would be a synthetic corn maze. The corn could be made out of flexible material and would be a great place for families to explore.
88. **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)**
Adopt CPTED strategies and best practices.
89. **Decorative Downtown Lighting**
Create a night lighting program that creates different esthetic effects coordinated with holidays of city events.
90. **Decorative Waterspouts and Rain Chains**
Encourage downtown businesses to use decorative waterspouts and rain chains.
91. **Dog Club**
Create an informal "dog club" and coordinate community activities and events.
92. **Dog-Grooming Festival**
Organize an annual festival for creative dog-grooming and costumes.
93. **Dogs-on-Parade / Corn-on-Parade**
Organize an art program similar to "Cows-on-Parade" where local businesses or groups come together and pull together funds to create decorated dog statues. Part of the proceeds go to charity. Alternatively, organize a "Corn-on-Parade" with large fiber-glass corn cobs.
94. **Dog Park**
Convert a large, vacant lot (i.e. the current, cement-surfaced, truck parking area) to a temporary dog park. Provide separate areas for small and large dogs. Designate certain times/dates for off-leash use of community parks.
95. **Downtown Art Scavenger Hunt**
Have artists create small works of art throughout the downtown and provide a map to help residents and visitors find and learn about them. This may be integrated in to the public art *Easter Eggs* program.
96. **Downtown Music**
Temporarily have outdoor piano music organized by local schools with upright pianos. Have local decorate and/or refinish the pianos.
97. **Fire Hydrant Decoration**
Organize an annual competition to paint/ decorate downtown fire hydrants (i.e. similar to the "Cows-on-Parade" event).
98. **Harvest Festival**
Organize an annual Harvest Festival which may include citizen participation in planting downtown green spaces, harvesting edible landscaping produce and community dinner.
99. **Lighted Paw Print Pavers**
Construct lighted paw print glass pavers guiding visitors to the pet park and water fountain.
100. **Mosaics**
Create pavement mosaics at various downtown and park locations.
101. **Murals**
Paint wall murals on large building walls along Main Street. (i.e. Hotshot)
102. **Musical Water Fountain**
Construct a musical water fountain near splash park.
103. **Outdoor Shopping and Dining**

Recommendations

Encourage businesses to program more outdoor activities. If necessary, modify Development Code to allow outdoor dining. Convert some or all front parking for these uses. [see *parklets*]

104. **Park Benches**

Decorate park benches by individuals of the community with family themes.

105. **Park Public Art**

Place public art by the skate park and baseball diamond.

106. **Parklets**

Plan for temporary and permanent parklets.

107. **Pattern and Textured Walkways**

Design a thematic walkway with a city-wide pattern and/or texture for traffic calming and sense of place.

108. **Pet Festival**

Organize a festival surrounding families and their pets.

109. **Pet Statue**

Site a “Human’s Best Friend” statue with a working water bowl for pets.

110. **Plaza**

Site and develop a commercial plaza (i.e. vacant car repair lot) to serve as an informal ‘town square.’

111. **Public Art “Easter Eggs”**

Install small, public art pieces throughout the downtown. Many of these should be

partially hidden to encourage a “sense of discovery.” Each business should have at least one of these ‘hidden’ public art *Easter Eggs*.

112. **Sculpture**

Consider sculpture at the North First Street and Main Street entry statements, and at their intersection. The sculptures should reflect Aumsville culture such as agriculture (corn, hops), people and events.

113. **Skateboard Events**

Organize a periodic skateboard competition or event.

114. **Street and Park Furniture**

Evaluate and site appropriate street and park furniture such as benches, seating, people/pet water fountains, trash cans, lighting, kiosks, pet stations, etc.

115. **Temporary Use**

Identify *temporary uses* for vacant lots and amend Development Code as appropriate. For example, the cement-surface lot at First and Main could become a hard-surface recreation area.

116. **Tornado Commemorative**

Create a community sculpture or memorial for the 2010 tornado.

117. **Water Features**

Site water features in the downtown that are designed to be seen, heard and

touched.

118. **Water Tower**

Organize a design competition to paint/ decorate the downtown water tower.



Resiliency & Revitalization

119. **Agritourism**

Develop programs to engage citizens and visitors with local agriculture.

120. **Brand**

Create an Aumsville “brand” and integrate it into all aspects of City communication and imagery.

121. **Building Assessment**

Assess buildings and infrastructure before the *Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ)* event, and locate areas with expected infrastructure collapse and failures related to a CSZ event and local flooding hazards.

122. **Building Retrofit**

Retrofit suspect infrastructure, particularly those with potentially exacerbating features (ex: decrepit gas lines, hazardous materials/asbestos) in order to minimize the synergistic effects of a CSZ event.

123. **Business Improvement District**

Establish business improvement district

Recommendations

- and/or other non-profits.
124. **Canvas Citizens**
Canvas local businesses and residents about needs and quick fixes such as striping crosswalks or parking spaces.
125. **Catalytic Development**
Create a catalytic development company. This is critical for the interchange property which requires a non-traditional developer.
126. **City Priority**
Make Main Street a Council or Planning Commission priority in its annual goal setting
127. **City Website Emergency Pages**
Design a section of the city website to incorporate safety advice and emergency measures. The development of an app could be a good way to keep citizens informed on a moment to moment basis.
128. **Climate Action Plan**
Initiate a *Climate Action Plan* in coordination with County and State programs.
129. **Community Forum**
Have a community forum to discuss downtown issues.
130. **Community Room/Center**
Locate or build a community multi-purpose facility.
131. **Downtown Business Association**
Form a Downtown Business Association.
132. **Downtown Entertainment**
Create a downtown with experiential design.
133. **Economic Diversity**
Promote and facilitate the concept of a disaster resistant economy in Oregon.
134. **Elementary School Workshop**
Host a workshop/design charrette for elementary school students.
135. **Emergency Preparedness Education**
Schedule preparedness planning and kit making sessions for the community to ensure each family has its own plan and emergency supplies. Engage the public through hazard-themed public art such as a tornado statue or “flood” water feature in downtown. (i.e. *Tornado Commemorative*)
136. **Emergency Shelter**
Plan for the potential use of public lands to temporarily house refugees.
137. **Emergency Supplies**
Stockpile emergency supplies and food in several separate, safe, and accessible locations for citizens of Aumsville and potential CSZ refugees.
138. **Entry Statements**
Construct *entry statements* at the North First Street interchange and Mill Creek Road/Main Street intersection. These could be created from a regional design competition. A portion of the entry statement could be corn planted in shape or image. Building murals and street painting may be combined, and—if so—integrated with the entry statements.
139. **Event Programming**
Create a new type of event or *high peak* to balance the Corn Fest such as a Guinness record, flash mob, Sister City festival, free movie night, etc.
140. **Farmers’ Market**
Expand the farmers’ market to include local restaurant booths, musicians and other activities with booths for local schools.
141. **Food Carts/Trucks**
Coordinate with food cart/truck vendors to participate in community events and site them as *temporary uses*.
142. **Food Pantry**
Reopen the food pantry. This should be coordinated with the community food garden and event programming.
143. **Form-Based Code**
Make the right thing easy. Revise development codes to support walkability, green infrastructure and urban ecology.
144. **Hazard Evaluation**
Describe and evaluate the natural

Recommendations

- hazards to which the state of Oregon is vulnerable.
145. **Hazard Mitigation Funding**
Identify sources of hazard mitigation funding and the procedures that must be followed to obtain such funding; make this information widely available.
146. **Housing Strategy**
Develop a rental housing market. Pioneer an affordability strategy. Focus on for-sale housing.
147. **Inter-City Network**
Coordinate a communications program between adjacent cities (i.e. Stanton and Turner) to share information and resources. I.e. safe and convenient bike connectivity.
148. **Main Street Four Point Approach**
Adopt the *Main Street Four Point Approach* for downtown revitalization.
149. **Mitigation Policies, Programs, Projects and Strategies**
Describe and evaluate state, local government, and private sector hazard mitigation policies, programs, and capabilities, consistent with federal codes and regulations. Identify and evaluate proposed hazard mitigation strategies, projects, and legislation to ensure consistency and to proactively integrate natural resource goals into mitigation activities.
150. **New Urbanism Principles**
Adopt New Urbanism principles for all new development and revitalization projects.
151. **Office Market Strategy**
Re-create a strong office market.
152. **Oregon Downtown Development Association**
Coordinate with the *Oregon Downtown Development Association* for programs, guest speakers, resources...
153. **Oregon Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan**
Continue to develop, implement, monitor, evaluate, and update the Oregon Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan.
154. **Post-Earthquake Recovery**
Plan a vision for a post Cascadia earthquake Aumsville.
155. **Private/Public Partnership**
Forge a healthy private/public partnership.
156. **Program Coordination**
Coordinate hazard mitigation programs and activities at all levels in the state of Oregon.
157. **Public Education**
Provide education and information about natural hazards and steps which can be taken to mitigate against their effects.
158. **Public Outreach**
Provide public outreach and educate about the hazards that the public may face, starting with youth education and awareness.
159. **Retail Strategy**
Develop a local-serving retail strategy.
160. **Strategic Plan**
Develop a downtown revitalization strategic plan. Set measurable goals and objectives.
161. **Street Front Development**
Require future and expansion development to building sited on Main Street with parking located behind.
162. **Tool Lending Library**
Set up a “tool lending library” with emphasis on tools that contribute to urban resiliency projects. This may be conjunction with the community gardens program.
163. **Vision**
Capture the vision. Engage with citizens to determine a shared, desired future.
164. **Warning, Advisory & Wayfinding Signage**
Locate evacuation signs and literature to raise awareness of preferred routes in the event of the CSZ quake.
165. **Water Education & Awareness**
Provide information on water

Project Website

Green Cities

Many hands make great plans

- Home
- Contacts
- Design Charrette
- Public Hearing Simulation
- Resources



Aumsville Interchange & Downtown Planning and Design

The **Green Cities** course is in the University of Oregon Planning, Public Policy and Management Department program. Interdisciplinary students examine the history and future of the interface between urban growth and environmental concerns, and the technological, social, and political forces that continue to shape it. Special emphasis is given to sustainable development, urban resiliency and regenerative design

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YOU'RE INVITED

Aumsville Interchange & Downtown Planning and Design Charrette being held **Saturday, July 11th from noon to 3:30PM** at the Aumsville Fire Station.

The city of Aumsville is partnering with the University of Oregon's Department of Planning, Public Policy, and Management to create a comprehensive report with recommendations for future planning and design of the business district, as well as addressing the city's current strengths and weaknesses. There will be 25 students and two international scholars who will survey our town and then meet with citizens at the charrette. Lunch is being provided by the city and we invite you to bring your ideas, questions and Aumsville vision to the charrette! Charrettes are organized to encourage the participation of all. That includes everyone who is interested: residents, developers, business interests, government officials, and activists.

A Design Charrette is an intensive planning session where citizens, designers and others collaborate on a vision for development. It provides a forum for ideas and offers the unique advantage of giving immediate feedback to the designers. More importantly, it allows everyone who participates to be a mutual author of the plan.

Through brainstorming and design activity, many goals are accomplished during the charrette. First, everyone who has a stake in the project develops a vested interest in the ultimate vision. Second, the design team works together to produce a set of finished documents that address all aspects of design. Third, since the input of all the players is gathered at one event, it is possible to avoid the prolonged discussions that typically delay conventional planning projects. Finally, the finished result is produced more efficiently and cost-effectively because the process is collaborative.

Ultimately, the purpose of the charrette is to give all the participants enough information to make good decisions during the planning process.

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