

**City of Washington & East Washington Borough Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan
January 2011 Public Meetings Summary**

In January of 2011, three public meetings were held to gather information on the City of Washington and East Washington Borough Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan. The meetings were held on the following dates:

- January 12, 2011 – 6 to 8 PM at the Washington High School (30 people signed in)
- January 18, 2011 – 7 to 9 PM at the First Christian Church (39 people signed in)
- January 26, 2011 – 6 to 8 PM at the Washington High School (32 people signed in)

The meetings were open house style and attendees were asked to visit seven different stations to provide input. The stations included:

- **Welcome** – Sign In and get a project summary handout.
- **Vision and Community Development Objectives** – Provide input on the vision and overall direction for the planning process.
- **Assets** – Identify assets that the City and Borough have.
- **Opportunities** – Identify opportunities that the City and Borough that can be built upon to become assets.
- **Challenges** – Identify challenges that may prevent the City and Borough from achieving the plan vision.
- **Historic Resources** – Identify resources in the City and Borough that should be protected in terms of historic importance.
- **Exit Survey** – Complete a survey to provide additional input for the plan.

The following pages are a summary of the information collected at the public meetings.

For more information, please contact:

- Brandi Rosselli, Mackin Engineering (project consultant) at 412-788-0472 or brusselli@mackinengineering.com
 - Lynn Galluze, City of Washington at 724-223-4232 or lgalluze@washingtonpa.us
 - Heather Walsh, East Washington Borough at 724-222-2929 or hwalsh@eastwash.com
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City of Washington & East Washington Borough Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan

Assets Station Summary

PARKS AND RECREATION

- Playgrounds
 - Thayer Street Playground
- Open Space
 - Open space located near Washington Park and Washington Park Elementary school; lots of trails
 - 16 acres donated to East Washington Borough
- Facilities
 - East Washington Neighborhood Pool
 - WW II Memorial Park

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Business Development/Retention
 - South Main Street
 - Family owned restaurants
 - Great buildings along Main Street (architecture)
- Tourism (potential to build upon this)
- Mix of jobs

HOUSING

- Great Neighborhoods
 - Washington Park
 - Route 40/Stewart (historic)
 - Thayer Street
 - Lemoyne Avenue
 - S Wade Avenue
 - McKennan Avenue
 - Morgan Avenue
 - E Chestnut Street
 - E Prospect Avenue
 - SR 136/Stone Aly
- Residential areas within walking distance to schools

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

- Administration
 - East Washington Borough takes good care of the roads
- Amenities
 - Washington Symphony
 - Great arts community
 - Off-wall theater
 - County seat

- 1st Thursdays
- Citizens Library
- School District
 - Washington Park Elementary School
- Small town feeling and values
- Strong civic organizations
 - Masons
 - Kiwanis
 - Lions
 - Rotary
 - Knights of Columbus
 - BPW
 - ZONTA

TRANSPORTATION

- Roadways
 - US Route 40 – National Road
- Gateways
 - North Avenue is an attractive corridor
 - Nice gateway on SR 136
- Two railroad stations

HISTORIC AND NATURAL RESOURCES

- Train Station
- Trolley Museum
- Rich history
 - Whiskey Rebellion
 - Historic buildings and homes

City of Washington & East Washington Borough Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan Opportunities Station Summary

PARKS AND RECREATION

- Rails to Trails
 - Proposed rail trail to Claysville presents opportunities for economic development as well as recreation
- Facilities
 - Opportunity for ice skating rink/arena
 - Places to rent bicycles, etc.
 - There is a need for handicap accessibility at pavilion
- Playgrounds
 - Need smaller playgrounds in neighborhoods
 - Utilize volunteers to monitor playgrounds
- Programs / Activities
 - Opportunities to provide year round activities for youth (i.e. organized sledding in winter)
 - Additional events (i.e. jazz festival) in Washington Park
 - Hire a Parks and Recreation Director
- Green / Open Space
 - Provide areas for more passive recreation

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Marketing/Promotion
 - New development presents an opportunity to incorporate marketing and news into a newsletter and/or website
 - Provide a Welcome Center – Advertise City events
 - Build upon the Farmer’s Market – Brings people into downtown
- Business Development
 - Existence of W&J presents opportunity for economic development - amenities that can serve both community and college such as bookstore
 - Simplify and regulate signage in downtown and establishing wayfinding / directional signs to promote local businesses
 - Marcellus shale drilling presents an opportunity to develop regional offices and distribution centers in the City / downtown
 - Downtown has the opportunity to develop unique retail that cannot be found in local “strip” commercial centers or malls
 - Ice cream parlor downtown
 - Offer Wi-Fi in the downtown area to bring in businesses
 - 2nd Story renovations in downtown

City of Washington & East Washington Borough Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan Opportunities Station Summary

HOUSING

- Redevelopment
 - E Washington and the City need to address dilapidated housing and rental housing – should capitalize upon opportunities to buy key properties and demolish and redevelop – could provide much higher quality multi-family housing in keeping with neighborhood character

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

- School District
 - The quality of the school district presents an opportunity for positive marketing for East Washington
 - Work with the School District to have seniors complete “Senior Volunteer Projects” in the community
- W&J
 - There should be a W&J Representative at City/Borough events to encourage more connectivity and partnership between the communities and College
- Utilities
 - Put utilities underground (phases)
- Community Events
 - Hold a “Community Day” to clean up the city (focus on park)

TRANSPORTATION

- Pedestrian Connections
 - New development presents an opportunity to make sidewalk connections and provide pedestrian connections to all neighborhoods
 - There is an opportunity to re-create connections (vehicular and pedestrian) to Washington Park from East Washington neighborhoods
 - Existence of train station and former rail lines presents opportunity for local transit – to S. Hills, Canonsburg, Pittsburgh, etc.
 - Promote walkability – complete the sidewalk network – connect to destinations (i.e. WalMart)
- Roads
 - There is a need to improve the quality and condition of the road network on campus in order to positively market Washington / E Washington

HISTORIC AND NATURAL RESOURCES

- Marketing/Promotion
 - Historic attractions present opportunity to develop a walking route with a map
 - City and region’s history in general present a rare opportunity for tourism and marketing

City of Washington & East Washington Borough Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan Challenges Station Summary

PARKS AND RECREATION

- Washington Park
 - Improve roads/access
 - Need an additional entrance/exit
 - Need multi-purpose field (too many ball fields)
 - Need more playgrounds
 - Need dog park
- Playgrounds
 - Drug dealers and vandalism in West End
 - Poor maintenance
- Facilities
 - Need ice hockey rink, amateur hockey team
- Open Space
 - Need more green space and open space in City/Borough
 - Redevelop vacant lots as open space/parklets

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Business Development/Retention
 - Stores/restaurants need to be open later
 - Disillusionment amongst business owners – need to educate why beneficial to stay open late, recruit package tours, etc.
- Vacant Buildings
 - Millers Building (Chestnut/Main) – should be demolished
 - Former Land America Building (Beau/Franklin) – need to rent out
 - Lack of funding to demolish buildings
 - Should develop a revolving fund to demolish buildings/rebuild/resell
 - Absentee landlords/owners is an issue in the CBD
- Marketing
 - Need to create CD for realtors that publicize assets (City, Borough, Hospital, W&J, School District, etc.)
 - Lack of an established “vision” for the downtown – look at similar towns and replicate efforts at revitalization
 - Streetscape not good enough – need to give people a reason to go, not just look pretty
 - Need a coordinated marketing effort to bring in new business and advertise available office space – no one is currently marketing
 - Need to improve websites to offer updated economic information to prospective businesses/developers/residents
 - Websites should link to local realtors, properties for sale, rent, etc.
- Parking
 - Parking rates have been increased – too high & deter shoppers
 - Need to offer free street parking

City of Washington & East Washington Borough Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan Challenges Station Summary

- Technology
 - Need to offer free WiFi downtown
 - Possible to work with W&J to offer?
 - Need to offer advanced fiber optics
- Tax Base
 - Decreasing population leads to decreasing tax base
 - Need to research opportunities for tax revenue sharing
 - Too many non-profits, not enough taxable land/buildings
 - High taxes (City/School) deter development and businesses
- Commercial Corridors
 - Appearance of Jefferson Avenue – “corridor of crap”
- Zoning Issues
 - Current zoning hinders redevelopment
 - Jefferson Avenue – many abandoned gas stations but similar use is not permitted
 - Conflict between former industrial areas and residential

HOUSING

- Appearance/Conditions
 - Maintenance costs too high for elderly, disabled, etc.
 - Converting SFR into apartments to pay mortgage/rent
 - Need to work with W&J to rehabilitate homes
 - Develop revolving loan fund
 - Institute a program to encourage W&J/Hospital professionals to live in City/Borough
 - Need to improve code enforcement
 - Owners don't take care of property
- Types
 - Need more housing types for retired/elderly – patio homes, garden apartments, etc.
 - Offer loft apartments downtown
 - Vacant shopping mall on Oak Spring Road (S Strabane Twp) could be redeveloped as assisted living facility/retirement community
- Rental Units
 - HUD rentals
 - Too many halfway houses for drug addicts
 - Not enough control over residents
 - Too many absentee landlords
 - Need to inspect
 - More transient renters than in past years

City of Washington & East Washington Borough Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan Challenges Station Summary

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

- Administration
 - Too many municipalities
 - City/County should merge (similar to Lexington/Kentucky, etc.)
 - Need to change state laws to force local municipalities
 - Need to take a regional approach to providing services
- School District
 - Look at combining school districts (Washington and Trinity)
 - Too high taxes

TRANSPORTATION

- Traffic Congestion
 - Beau Street due to development on 19
- “Gateway to Washington”
 - Status of project? Funding? PennDOT involvement?
- Public Transit
 - Lack of taxi service in evenings and on weekends
 - Need improved service, particularly nights/weekends
 - Lack of reliable transit affects jobs (people can't get to late shifts)
 - Need better service to Pittsburgh

ACCESSIBILITY

- Housing
 - Need accessible housing for disabled
 - Not enough available
 - People can't find suitable housing
- Sidewalks
 - Lack of them in some places
 - Not all curbs are accessible to wheelchairs, etc.
 - Borough sidewalks difficult to navigate
- Economic Development
 - Businesses/stores not fully accessible
 - Lack of adequate employment opportunities
- Transit
 - Need more/better evening and weekend service (currently no Sunday Service)
 - Lack of transportation limits ability to take jobs (location, hours)

**City of Washington & East Washington Borough Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan
Exit Survey Summary (64 returned)**

Q1: WHERE DO YOU LIVE AND / OR WORK?

	LIVE	WORK
CITY OF WASHINGTON	22	32
EAST WASHINGTON BOROUGH	31	7
OTHER	9 (CANONSBURG, S. STRABANE; N FRANKLIN, LONE PINE; BUFFALO; CHARLEROI)	

QUESTION 2: How did you find out about the project? Check all that apply.

Attended a public meeting	9
Newspaper Article	20
Poster	1
Website	6 (Wash High Alumni Facebook, TRIPIL)
Flyer	12
Radio	2
Other	24 (Notified by e-mail, subcommittee, School District, Family, Word of Mouth, Farmer's Market, West End Neighborhood Watch, TIHC, Past Board Meeting)

QUESTION 3: What are the three (3) things you like best about living or working here?

Top 3 Answers
The people/friendly community/family oriented (25)
Convenience to shopping, work, church, medical services, education (24)
Historic buildings / historic nature of neighborhoods (20)

QUESTION 4: What are the three (3) things you would most like to change?

Top 3 Answers
Improve the downtown with new business opportunities (24)
Improve rental properties / rundown homes / improve code enforcement (17)
Consolidation (8)
Need more gyms, parks and playgrounds for the youth (8)

**City of Washington & East Washington Borough Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan
Exit Survey Summary (64 returned)**

QUESTION 5: Do you have any comments on the DRAFT Project Vision and Objectives?

Overall people agreed with and liked the Vision and Objectives - some suggestions included:

Too vague (3)

Include statement about education

Build upon and strengthen sense of community

Focused on structures (physical entities) rather than processes (city recreational planning, Farmer's Market, etc.)

QUESTION 6: If the City and/or Borough could spend money on ONE major project what should it be?

Top 3 Answers

Economic Development (21)

Parks and Recreation (8)

Transit (7)

QUESTION 7: What partnerships do you think the City and/or Borough should pursue to improve their ability to offer a high quality of life to their residents, businesses, workforce, students, and visitors?

Top 3 Answers

Closer partnership with W&J (14)

Share municipal services to reduce cost (9)

East Washington should consolidate / merge with City (4)

QUESTION 8: What obstacles may prevent the City of Washington and/or the Borough of East Washington from achieving the vision and objectives of the plan?

Top 3 Answers

Money (22)

Politics (12)

Limited tax base (6)

**SECOND PUBLIC MEETING
SUMMARY**

October 12, 2011

The meeting was held as an open house and attendees were asked to visit various stations to provide input. 39 people signed in. The stations included:

- **Welcome** – Sign In and get a project summary handout.
- **Plan Elements / Categories** – There was a station for each element (total of 6) and attendees were asked to rank their top three priority projects for each element.
- **Exit Survey** – Complete a survey to provide additional input for the plan.

Top Three Recommendations from Plan Element / Categories Stations

- **Land Use**
 1. Enact consistent property maintenance codes for the City and Borough
 2. Offer incentives for property owners and developers to redevelop in the Core Area
 3. Create a Public Art Advisory committee to develop a Public Art Program
 - **Housing**
 1. Update the City's ordinance to require annual inspections of rental property
 2. (note: There was a three way tie for the next priority)
 - Offer incentives to homeowners for energy efficient renovations (i.e. reduced permit fees or bulk purchasing programs)
 - Offer incentives for property owners in the CBD to develop upper story housing
 - Prioritize properties for demolition and seek funding to target these sites
 - **Community Facilities and Services**
 1. Work with Police to reinstitute walking beats
 2. Provide educational sessions and materials to local media and real estate agents about school district successes
 3. Form a Town and Gown committee to identify additional partnership opportunities
 - **Economic Development**
 1. Work with Redevelopment Authority to create a redevelopment plan for the CBD to declare blight and facilitate property acquisition
 2. Target businesses (food and beverage, boutique retail, office space, etc.) for the
-

Catalytic Investment Zone

3. Consolidate economic development services and programs under the direction of one City organization

- **Transportation**

1. Conduct a feasibility study for a trail connecting the East Washington Park with the Washington Park
2. Develop a sidewalk improvement and maintenance plan
3. Determine interest in a countywide transit system

- **Historic Preservation**

1. Commission feasibility studies for key vacant or underutilized buildings
2. Submit a nomination for the CBD as a historic district to the National Register of Historic Places (provide access to historic tax credits)
3. (note: there was a two way tie for the third highest priority)
 - Nominate the YWCA and Immaculate Conception Church to the National Register of Historic Places
 - Strengthen the East Washington Historic District Ordinance

Exit Survey Results (27 completed)

Identify Top three recommendations (regardless of Plan Element / Category):

The following items were listed by three or more people:

- Code Issues (6)
 - Abandoned properties / demolition (4)
 - Consolidate economic programs / services (3)
 - Continue to implement the Elm Street Program (3)
 - Implement a sidewalk maintenance plan (3)
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Recommendation	Results*	Priority**
OBJECTIVE = Direct resources to Improving the Core Area for Revitalization		
Offer flexible development standards and incentives to property owners and developers to redevelop in the Core Area	.22	<i>High</i>
Reactivate the Tree City USA designation (with a Tree Board, funding and tree care ordinance)	.01	<i>Low</i>
East Chestnut Parking Garage - Construct a new multi-modal facility with a transit park-and-ride at the site of the East Chestnut Street Parking Garage	.0	<i>Low</i>
TRIPIL Headquarters - Construct a new facility to house the Tri-County Patriots for Independent Living (TRIPIL) and provide other office space for rent	.0	<i>Low</i>
Millcraft Retail / Housing - Construct a 3-story mixed-use building with retail on the first floor and residential space above	.03	<i>Low</i>
OBJECTIVE = Provide a sense of place for residents and visitors that capitalizes on the history of the area		
Create a Public Art Advisory Committee to develop a Public Art Program ✓ Enact a “Percent for Art Ordinance” that requires a percentage of the cost of constructing/renovating municipal buildings and public spaces be devoted to original artwork on the premises ✓ Incorporate art into public transit stations, vacant buildings, public spaces	.11	<i>High</i>
Distribute information to interested organizations to develop community gardens in vacant lots	.06	<i>Medium</i>
Enhance gateways to welcome visitors into the community ✓ Develop a logo and focus on history as theme ✓ Priority areas include working with the Joint Services Club to improve their existing signs	.10	<i>High</i>
Develop small public parks in vacant lots in high-traffic, well lit areas	.10	<i>High</i>
OBJECTIVE = Address stormwater issues in the project area		
Host stormwater programs on topics such as rain gardens, rain barrels, etc.	.01	<i>Low</i>
Promote the use of stormwater Best Management Practices such as porous pavement, green roofs, vegetative screening, vegetative swales, etc.	.06	<i>Medium</i>
Implement stormwater management projects for the Catfish Creek Watershed	.07	<i>Medium</i>
Enact Washington County’s model stormwater ordinance as part of the Borough code	.0	<i>Low</i>
OBJECTIVE = Ensure local ordinances are compatible with the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan		
Enact a joint zoning ordinance for the City and Borough	.0	<i>Low</i>
Update the City and Borough’s subdivision and land development ordinances	.04	<i>Low</i>
Enact consistent property maintenance codes for the City and Borough	.17	<i>High</i>

* Results = Number of Votes for the Recommendation / Total Number of Votes for the Element

** Priority = High (0.0—0.4); Medium (0.5—0.8); Low (0.9+)

Recommendation	Results*	Priority**
OBJECTIVE = Improve property maintenance		
Utilize provisions of the Neighborhood Blight Reclamation and Revitalization Act (Act 900) to hold the mortgage lender responsible for property maintenance	.09	High
Create a Property Maintenance Committee to work with property owners to develop a plan to address violations	.0	Low
Prioritize properties for demolition and seek funding annually to target these sites	.12	High
Offer incentives for property improvements (i.e. tax abatement, reduction in prior citations)	.01	Low
Amend the City's Rental Ordinance to require annual inspections of rental properties	.13	High
OBJECTIVE = Re-establish traditional family neighborhoods		
Institute semi-annual community clean up days	.05	Medium
Partner with major employers and institutions to offer low interest loans or down payment assistance to encourage employees to live in the City/Borough	.01	Low
Partner with Habitat for Humanity to publicize their program to families in need	.01	Low
Continue to implement the Elm Street Plan for the Highland Ridge Neighborhood (i.e. façade improvements, neighborhood watch, new public park)	.09	High
Develop neighborhood revitalization plans for other at-risk neighborhoods (similar to the Elm Street program in the Highland Ridge neighborhood)	.06	Medium
Partner with institutions (W&J College, Washington Hospital and the Community Bank) to offer revolving loans to convert multi-family homes back to single family homes	.05	Medium
Update the City/Borough Zoning Ordinance to restrict conversion apartments to suitable areas	.02	Low
OBJECTIVE = Preserve the residential character of East Washington Borough		
Establish a low interest loan or grant program for façade improvements and/or property maintenance	.03	Low
Update the Borough's zoning ordinance to address conversion apartments (i.e. designate a minimum size for apartments, permit live/work arrangements)	.08	Medium
OBJECTIVE = Encourage residential development that expands housing choices consistent with the existing character of the neighborhoods		
Offer incentives for property owners in the Central Business District to develop upper story housing ✓ Work with the Marcellus shale industry or local institutions such as W&J College to create Master Agreements with developers	.12	High
Establish a Real Estate Round Table to identify housing needs and opportunities	.01	Low
Work with Accessible Dreams to develop accessible housing for persons with disabilities	.0	Low
OBJECTIVE = Increase energy efficiency in residential neighborhoods		
Promote local and state Weatherization Programs (i.e. the Action Housing Weatherization Program and Community Action Southwest's utility program)	.01	Low
Offer incentives to homeowners to utilize energy efficient renovations (i.e. reduced permit fees for renovations, promote bulk purchasing of energy efficient products)	.12	High

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** Priority = High (0.0—0.4); Medium (0.5—0.8); Low (0.9+)

Recommendation	Results*	Priority**
OBJECTIVE = Increase local capacity for economic development activities		
Consolidate economic development services and programs under the direction of a single city organization	.10	<i>High</i>
OBJECTIVE = Increase marketing efforts to publicize assets		
Create a marketing strategy that capitalizes on the “Historic Town” theme	.09	<i>High</i>
Create tourist packages with coupons for local businesses	.0	<i>Low</i>
Implement a Washington Passport Program where users would visit businesses to obtain stamps and be entered into drawings	.01	<i>Low</i>
Utilize QR codes at key sites such as the hospital, parking garages and courthouse	.0	<i>Low</i>
Work with businesses to participate in existing programs such as U Promise and Groupon	.01	<i>Low</i>
Update the City and Borough Websites to include a community calendar, advertise local attractions/businesses, and real estate info	.05	<i>Medium</i>
Utilize vacant storefronts to publicize upcoming events/programs	.01	<i>Low</i>
Form a standing “special events programming” committee and incorporate social media tools into the promotion and outreach strategy	.0	<i>Low</i>
Create the “Student - Community Collaborative” whose members include representatives from the student government and student organizations	.01	<i>Low</i>
Publicize the advantage of doing business in the City versus surrounding areas	.07	<i>Medium</i>
OBJECTIVE = Improve the area between the Central Business District (CBD) and W&J College by creating a “Catalytic Investment Zone” to direct future investment		
Target business services, food and beverage (national fast food chain/franchise, or brew pub), office space, and specialty or boutique retail (antiques)	.12	<i>High</i>
Improve the corridors between the Central Business District and W&J ✓ Focus on one block to begin enhancing physical connections	.01	<i>Low</i>
Develop a “pocket park” in the vacant lot along E Wheeling Street	.03	<i>Low</i>
OBJECTIVE = Improve the condition of buildings in the Central Business District (CBD)		
Work with Redevelopment Authority of the County of Washington to create a redevelopment plan for CBD and declare blight to facilitate property acquisition	.16	<i>High</i>
Form a property owners association to engage property owners within the Business District Improvement area	.0	<i>Low</i>
Work with George Washington Hotel to upgrade its facilities to become a state-of-the-art conference center	.07	<i>Medium</i>
Identify, assess and prioritize sites and buildings within the CBD such as the Coca-Cola Plant and YWCA	.02	<i>Low</i>

* Results = Number of Votes for the Recommendation / Total Number of Votes for the Element

** Priority = High (0.0—0.4); Medium (0.5—0.8); Low (0.9+)

Recommendation	Results*	Priority**
OBJECTIVE = Target existing and emerging growth sectors to locate within the Central Business District (CBD)		
Develop an office space inventory that documents building conditions of existing and potential space in the CBD	.0	Low
Conduct a survey of existing office tenants within the CBD to determine existing and future space needs	.0	Low
Work with the County Chamber or other business organizations to create “industry sector-specific” committees to share information and discuss issues about their sector	.01	Low
Prepare marketing collateral that can be distributed by existing local firms at industry trade shows or other applicable venues	.0	Low
OBJECTIVE = Improve parking within the Central Business District (CBD)		
Advertise locations of free parking in the CBD	.03	Low
Provide discounted garage leases to local employees	.0	Low
Work with local business owners to validate parking for their patrons	.09	High
Complete a cost/benefit analysis for providing central kiosks rather than parking meters	.01	Low
Continue to search for funding to construct a pedestrian bridge to link the Crossroads Garage with Main Street	.01	Low
OBJECTIVE = Improve the walkability of the Central Business District (CBD)		
Initiate a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Plan for the .25 mile radius of the proposed Chestnut Street Transit Intermodal Center that encourages the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Infill mixed use residential (retail first floor, office or residential on upper floors) ✓ Streetscape improvements including wayfinding and crosswalks ✓ Options for placement of benches, bike parking, pedestrian scale street lights, trash receptacles, signage, and other details ✓ Potential placement of shared lane pavement markings or bike lanes on Chestnut Street, Main Street, College Street, and Beau Street 	.06	Medium

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** Priority = High (0.0—0.4); Medium (0.5—0.8); Low (0.9+)

Washington/East Washington Comprehensive Plan Public Meeting 10/12/2011
 Prioritization Results—A Plan for Community Facilities and Services (page 1 of 1)

Recommendation	Results*	Priority**
OBJECTIVE = Increase the capacity of the City and Borough to identify and implement projects		
Establish a joint planning commission and monitor the progress of the Comprehensive Plan	.05	Medium
Hold bi-annual retreats with the joint planning commission to establish priorities	.0	Low
Hold quarterly meetings in each Ward or neighborhood	.02	Low
OBJECTIVE = Establish partnerships to provide services more efficiently		
Form a Town and Gown Committee with W&J College to identify additional partnership opportunities	.12	High
Develop a Council of Governments to formalize existing partnerships with neighboring communities	.08	Medium
Work with Washington County to identify additional services to be shared (already share 911)	.02	Low
Apply for funding to complete a Regional Police Study	.0	Low
Conduct a study to determine the feasibility of sharing fire services with neighboring communities or utilizing a combination of paid/volunteer fireman	.03	Low
OBJECTIVE = Improve the safety throughout the City and Borough		
Work with the Police Department to reinstitute walking beats	.19	High
Develop Neighborhood Watch programs (similar to 8 th Ward)	.05	Medium
Hold “Meet and Greets” and educational programs with policemen on a regular basis	.02	Low
Work with business owners to light up storefronts (even when the business is closed)	.01	Low
Work with business owners to stay open later one night a week	.02	Low
Secure parks and public areas with fencing, locks, cameras, etc.	.0	Low
Continue to search for funding to install cameras throughout the Central Business District	.0	Low
OBJECTIVE = Improve the perception of Washington School District		
Provide promotional materials to the local media and real estate agents publicizing successes	.13	High
Conduct a study to determine the feasibility of a merger with surrounding districts	.05	Medium
OBJECTIVE = Ensure that the recreation amenities offered meet the resident’s needs		
Work with the National Y (YMCA) to construct a new facilitate in the City	.09	High
Complete a Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan for the City/Borough	.09	High
Continue to work with W&J College on a shared Recreation Center	.07	Medium
OBJECTIVE = Increase the energy efficiency of public facilities and services		
Complete the scheduled energy audit of City property.	.02	Low
Undertake an energy audit of Borough property.	.01	Low

* Results = Number of Votes for the Recommendation / Total Number of Votes for the Element

** Priority = High (0.0—0.4); Medium (0.5—0.8); Low (0.9+)

Recommendation	Results*	Priority**
OBJECTIVE = Preserve the historic integrity of the Central Business District (CBD)		
Submit a nomination form for the CBD as a Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places (this will provide property owners access to historic tax credits)	.22	High
Submit a nomination form to the National Register of Historic Places for the following properties ✓ YWCA Building ✓ Immaculate Conception Church	.10	High
Offer local tax abatements for responsible renovations in the CBD	.07	Medium
Commission feasibility studies for key vacant or underutilized buildings ✓ Hire architects / engineers to develop plans on how to best reuse buildings and provide cost estimates for bringing the buildings up to code (including ADA)	.28	High
Create a Historic Preservation Ordinance for the CBD district and a Historic District Commission for enforcement	.07	Medium
Adopt Design Guidelines for Historic District	.02	Low
OBJECTIVE = Strengthen the vitality of East Washington using historic preservation		
Establish a Historic District Commission to enforce the Ordinance	.04	Low
Submit a nomination form for Lemoyne Avenue as an Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places ✓ Enforce this District under the same Commission and utilize the same Design Guidelines as the existing East Washington Historic District	.01	Low
Implement a Tax Increment Financing District for the East Washington Historic District ✓ Revenue could be used for improvements such as new brick sidewalks, decorative light fixtures, signage or other improvements to the public right of way	.06	Medium
Strengthen and expand the purview of the East Washington Historic District Ordinance	.10	High
Adopt voluntary Design Guidelines that include a review process that can be used in conjunction with the Historic District Ordinance	.02	Low

* Results = Number of Votes for the Recommendation / Total Number of Votes for the Element

** Priority = High (0.0—0.4); Medium (0.5—0.8); Low (0.9+)

Recommendation	Results*	Priority**
Objective = Improve the safety of the Jefferson Avenue/I-70 Interchange		
Continue to support the Jefferson Avenue improvement project on the Transportation Improvement Program (traffic signals for this area are scheduled to be replaced)	.01	Low
Lobby for the coordination of the traffic signals along Jefferson Avenue (SR 0018) to be placed on the Transportation Improvement Program	.01	Low
Objective = Develop a comprehensive wayfinding signage program		
Install temporary signs for Pony League World Series	.01	Low
Install directional signs from the I-70 exits to the business district, Washington Park/Pony Field, and Washington & Jefferson College	.02	Low
Install route markers for SR 0844 from the I-70 Off-Ramp	.02	Low
Street name signs should be installed at all intersections	.11	High
Install a guide sign on I-70 eastbound in advance of Exit 15 Chestnut Street that says “Washington & Jefferson College, Use Exit 20, Beau Street”	.0	Low
Objective = Improve traffic flow and relieve congestion		
Apply to Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) for the Regional Traffic Signal Program to synchronize signals along main corridors	.05	Medium
Install center line pavement markings on Jefferson Avenue, West Chestnut Street and Beau Street (between Jefferson Avenue and Franklin Street)	.0	Low
Install center line pavement markings on Dunn Avenue from the traffic island to the north	.0	Low
Investigate the need for a traffic signal at the intersection of E Beau Street and North Avenue	.03	Low
Improve the traffic conditions at E Wheeling Street and Dunn Avenue	.0	Low
Investigate the need for a traffic signal at the intersection of Jefferson Avenue (SR 0844) and McAdam Avenue	.0	Low
OBJECTIVE = Enhance existing and develop new pedestrian connections		
Institute the Walk Works Campaign to encourage walking clubs to use the 1 mile loop along Main, Beau, College and Maiden Streets	.09	High
Inventory City and Borough streets to identify areas that are not ADA accessible (i.e. crosswalks and curb cuts)	.08	Medium
Develop a sidewalk improvement and maintenance plan	.14	High
Conduct a feasibility study to develop a trail connection between East Washington’s Borough Park and Washington Park	.17	High
OBJECTIVE = Provide a comprehensive public transit system		
Complete and implement the Washington City Transit Study	.02	Low
Determine interest in developing a countywide transit system	.12	High
Expand night and weekend bus service to better serve persons with disabilities, to/from Washington School District events, etc.	.06	Medium
OBJECTIVE = Improve energy efficiency within the transportation system		
Conduct a study to identify and remove unnecessary traffic signals	.02	Low
Purchase fuel efficient (natural gas or hybrid diesel) buses to replace new ones and offer smaller shuttles for less used routes	.03	Low
Develop an “app” for smart phones for transit users to download schedules	.0	Low

* Results = Number of Votes for the Recommendation / Total Number of Votes for the Element

** Priority = High (0.0—0.4); Medium (0.5—0.8); Low (0.9+)