

City of Porterdale Comprehensive Plan Input Meeting #2

September 1, 2020



FOR THE PEOPLE OF PORTERDALE

Assisted by the Planning & Government Services Division of the
Northeast Georgia Regional Commission

Agenda

1. Surveys and Community Input
2. SWOT Analysis (return surveys to Josephine)
3. Long Term Goals & Vision
4. Community Needs & Opportunities
5. Input and questions

SWOT Analysis (2015)

1. Strengths

- The Main Street program is bringing in businesses and activating downtown. (Is the Main St. Program still active? How are downtown businesses faring?)
- The Friends of Porterdale organization contributes to Porterdale's residents and community. (Is this organization still active?)

2. Weaknesses

- The ability to safely and comfortably walk around Porterdale is limited. (Why?)
- Building codes and ordinances could be stronger, particularly with new housing development. (Is this still true, has anything been done to address this?)

SWOT Analysis (2015)

1. Opportunities

- With an interest in offering residents public transportation, the City may wish to coordinate transit with neighboring jurisdictions; by connecting residents to jobs, education, and retail, improved transit can contribute to economic development. (Option to partner with Covington transit efforts)
- Through partnership with New Leaf Visions, there is an opportunity to continue momentum of increased home ownership. (Is this organization still around?)

2. Threats

- The potential location of the landfill may be a threat to Porterdale, causing increased truck traffic through downtown. (Did this landfill development happen?)

Current Community Vision (2015 CP)

Porterdale is a historic mill town with a small town sense of togetherness and great pride in our past. Our connection to the Yellow River and village character makes Porterdale a great community for the friendly and talented people who live here. We want to protect our history and restore our town to its former vibrancy by focusing on our strengths as a late 1800s mill town on the Yellow River. Our vision of the future includes the following goals:

Current Community Vision (2015 CP)

1. Enhancing and expanding recreational activities for people of all ages to enjoy the river and the outdoors (Recreation);
2. Continuing to preserve the historic structures that can be restored, removing irreparable and dilapidated structures, and **developing infill guidelines** that ensure that new development fits the historic style and character of Porterdale (Built Environment);
3. Fostering an environment that promotes independently-owned businesses that respond to the needs of the community (Business and Economic Development);
4. Restoring and promoting the use of public spaces and buildings as places for the community to gather and participate in activities (Public Spaces);
5. Creating an environment where people can comfortably walk or bike, and where the option to take public transportation is available, and (Transportation);
6. Cleaning, repairing and maintaining the streets, sidewalks, yards, houses, storefronts and river so that people can walk around town and enjoy Porterdale's history and natural resources (Beautification).

Community Goals & Vision

- In 20 years, the community will be, look, feel like.....
 - Broad phrases
 - What can be added or enhanced from the last vision statement?

Community Goals & Vision Notes

- Comments

Stand-out needs so far...

- Improvements to internet services
- Lessening the amount of power outages
- Establish culture identifier for Porterdale
- Utilization of the Gymnasium facility and parks
- Local businesses such as a full-service restaurant
- Further promote recreation on the the Yellow River
- More resources for code enforcement / persistent blight
- Transparency at the local government level

Stand-out needs so far...

- Access to food (grocery store)
- Financial soundness
- Local medical clinic

Stand-out opportunities so far...

- Adopting the DCA model broadband ordinance to open the door for internet providers
- Schedule work sessions with power servicer
- Increase vendor usage of Gymnasium (volunteers, event scheduling and fee structure, daily shopping set up)
- DDA-style business marketing
- Review/Create Yellow River Park master-plan / identify remaining objectives to complete
- Review current ordinances and assess their relevance, the city's capacity to enforce them, and research additional ordinances that could be enacted

Community Needs & Opportunities

- Broken up into categories (2015 CP)
 - Economic Development
 - Cultural and Historic Resources
 - Natural Resources
 - Community Facilities and Services
 - Housing
 - Transportation
 - Land Use
 - Intergovernmental Coordination
 - Financial Management

Community Policies

- 2015 Categories Include:
 - Recreation
 - Built Environment
 - Business and Economic Development
 - Public Spaces
 - Transportation
 - Beautification

New Community Categories

- Economic Development
- Cultural and Historic Resources
- Natural Resources
- Community Facilities and Services
- Housing
- Transportation
- Land Use
- Intergovernmental Coordination
- Financial Management

Comments

- Steering Committee Comments

Questions

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