

City of Klamath Falls Downtown Plan

Draft Plan Summary

May 6, 2020



Plan Outline

- Introduction
- Downtown Today
- Public Engagement Summary
- Goals and Strategies
 - Historic Preservation
 - Mobility
 - Urban Design and Streetscapes
 - Land Use and Regulatory Alignment
 - Downtown as a Destination



Downtown Today



Downtown Today

- History
- Previous plans and studies
- Key demographics
- Existing infrastructure
- Existing land uses



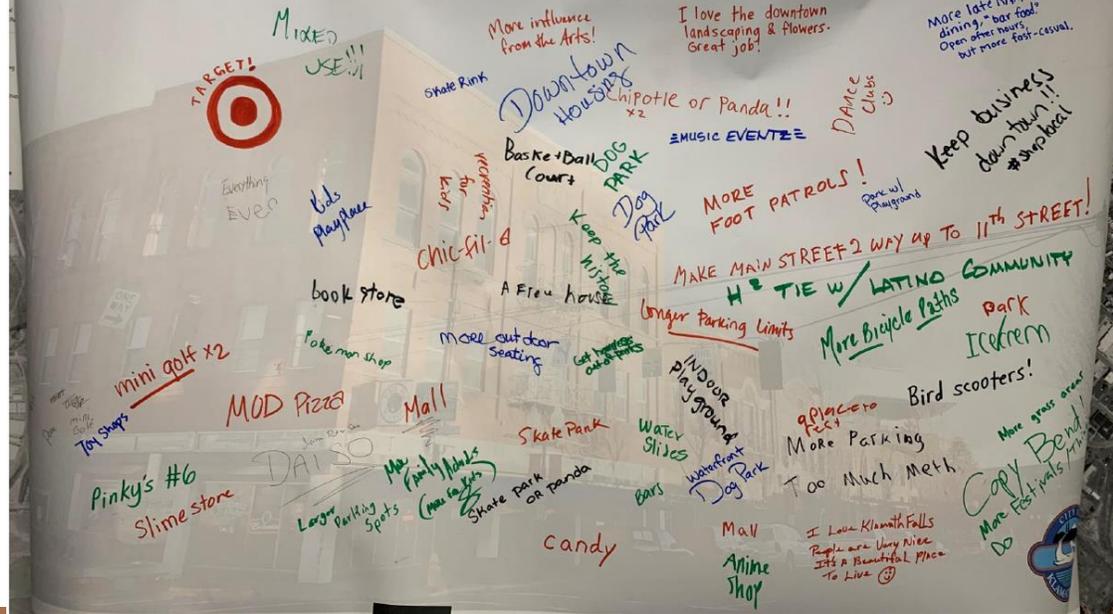
Public Engagement



Third Thursday

- Members of the project team tabled at Third Thursday in June and July 2019
- Attendees were asked to share their dreams for the future of downtown and to choose their top priorities

My wish for the future of Downtown Klamath Falls is...



My biggest priority for Downtown Klamath Falls is...

<p>Historic preservation</p>	<p>Make it easier to walk, bike, or drive downtown</p>	<p>Better streetscape amenities</p>
<p>Improved entrances and gateways</p>	<p>Create an entertainment district with shopping, dining, and community events</p>	<p>More jobs and housing</p>



Workshop

- September 10, 2019
- Workshop participants collaborated in small groups to complete an interactive mapping activity that let them share their vision and priorities for the future of downtown



Big Ideas

- Preservation of historic resources
- A mix of uses in downtown
- Improved streetscapes
- Activating the waterfront
- Exploring traffic flow options
- Redevelopment of key sites
- Creating a 24-hour downtown

Goals and Strategies





Historic Preservation

Historic Preservation

- **Goal: Preserve and restore downtown's historic structures and character**
 1. Pursue Certified Local Government designation
 2. Continue to explore official Historic District designation
 3. Conduct an inventory of the most at risk buildings.
 4. Identify funding opportunities for aesthetic and structural restoration and retrofits.
 5. Provide additional incentives for preservation of historic structures



Mobility

Mobility

- **Goal: Establish a traffic flow pattern that is beneficial for downtown businesses and supports efficient travel to and through downtown for users of all transportation**
 1. Conduct additional technical studies on one-way to two-way conversion on the Main Street/Klamath Avenue couplet, as well as other traffic flow alternatives.
 2. Assess functionality of other existing one-way streets in downtown core.
 3. Consider alternative methods of traffic calming that will slow traffic through downtown.

Mobility

- **Goal: Create an environment where walking and biking are viable, pleasant, and easy choices for travel in Downtown Klamath Falls**
 1. Add curb extensions (bulbouts) at key intersections.
 2. Explore lengthening walk signal timing to allow for more time to cross the street.
 3. Consider adding designated bike infrastructure to Main Street/Klamath Avenue couplet.
 4. Continue tactical urbanism approach to “test driving” ideas before fully implementing them.

Mobility Safety Improvements



Mobility

- **Goal: Encourage and support a symbiotic, well-connected community by creating and enhancing connections between downtown and surrounding amenities.**
 1. Improve pedestrian connections to Timbermill Shores and Lake Ewauna waterfront.
 2. Create connections between downtown and Spring Street urban renewal area and Amtrak station to promote foot traffic as area redevelops.
 3. Create connections between downtown and Oregon Institute of Technology and Sky Lakes Medical Center.

Mobility

- **Goal: Establish a parking ecosystem that best serves downtown businesses, residents, and visitors**
 1. Assess existing in-lieu fee program which allows businesses to eliminate on-site parking requirements to determine if fee amount is appropriate.
 2. Expand and modify existing Downtown Parking District Boundaries to match Downtown Business Overlay boundaries.
 3. Determine need and potential locations for designated loading zones that will be reserved during certain hours for businesses that receive frequent deliveries.
 4. Strategically use 20-minute, 1-hour, 2-hour, and 4-hour on-street limits to promote turnover while still providing enough time for visitors to linger.
 5. Assess the feasibility of reserving all on-street parking for visitors and customers and locating “E” zone parking for employees on lower-visibility off-street lots.
 6. Consider increasing the cost of “E” zone employee parking permits.
 7. Create Parking Cash-Outs for employees.



Urban Design and Streetscapes

Urban Design and Streetscapes

- **Goal: Create attractive and welcoming gateways for visitors arriving downtown via all modes**
 1. Utilize signage, public art, and landscaping to create memorable gateways at all major access points to downtown.
 2. Improve the northern Main Street gateway entrance to downtown.

Urban Design and Streetscapes

- **Goal: Establish a wayfinding system that will guide visitors using all modes of transportation to experience all that downtown has to offer**
 1. Create a wayfinding style guide for downtown.
 2. Add or improve wayfinding signage that directs drivers to Main Street corridor from Klamath Avenue.
 3. Place pedestrian scale wayfinding signs at key gateways, intersections, and gathering places.
 4. Create network of wayfinding signage for cyclists directing towards greenways and major destinations.

Urban Design and Streetscapes

- **Goal: Activate the Lake Ewauna waterfront**
 1. Improve the integration of the waterfront as a centerpiece in Timbermill Shores.
 2. Explore opportunities for increased recreational opportunities on Lake Ewauna

Urban Design and Streetscapes

- **Goal: Create an attractive and functional streetscape that contributes to downtown's sense of place**
 1. Create a maintenance plan for streetscape amenities, such as benches, trashcans, etc. Assess existing streetscape amenities to determine need for replacement/repair.
 2. Add additional pedestrian scale streetlights beyond main downtown corridors. Consider following dark sky guidelines for new and replacement light fixtures.
 3. Increase opportunities for street seating at cafes and restaurants.



Land Use & Regulatory Alignment

Land Use & Regulatory Alignment

- **Goal: Create an efficient downtown regulatory scheme that promotes desired development, including mixed-use**
 1. Review existing regulatory overlays and consider consolidating boundaries for more efficient implementation and enforcement.
 2. Convert Downtown Business Overlay to Downtown Business Zone on zoning map.
 3. Create standards for Mixed Use development in zoning code

Recommended Zoning Changes

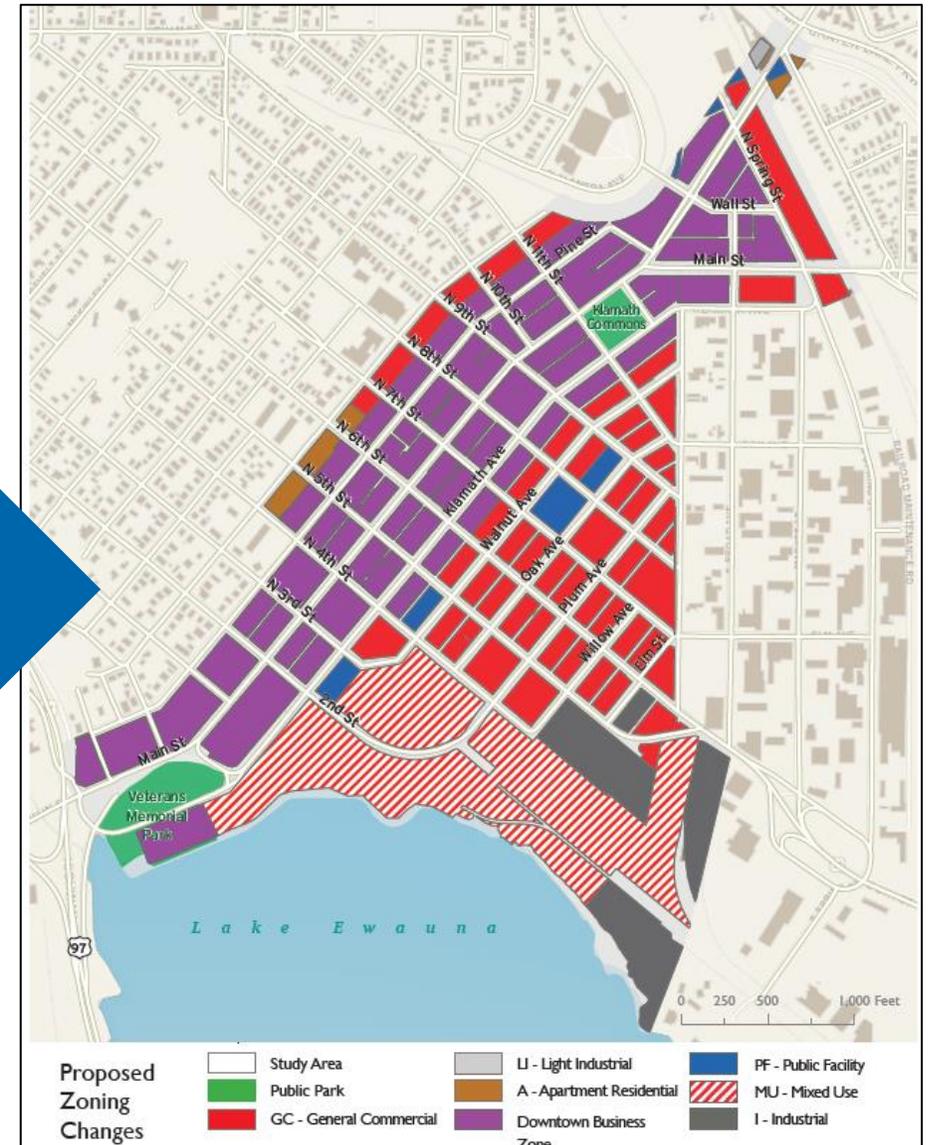
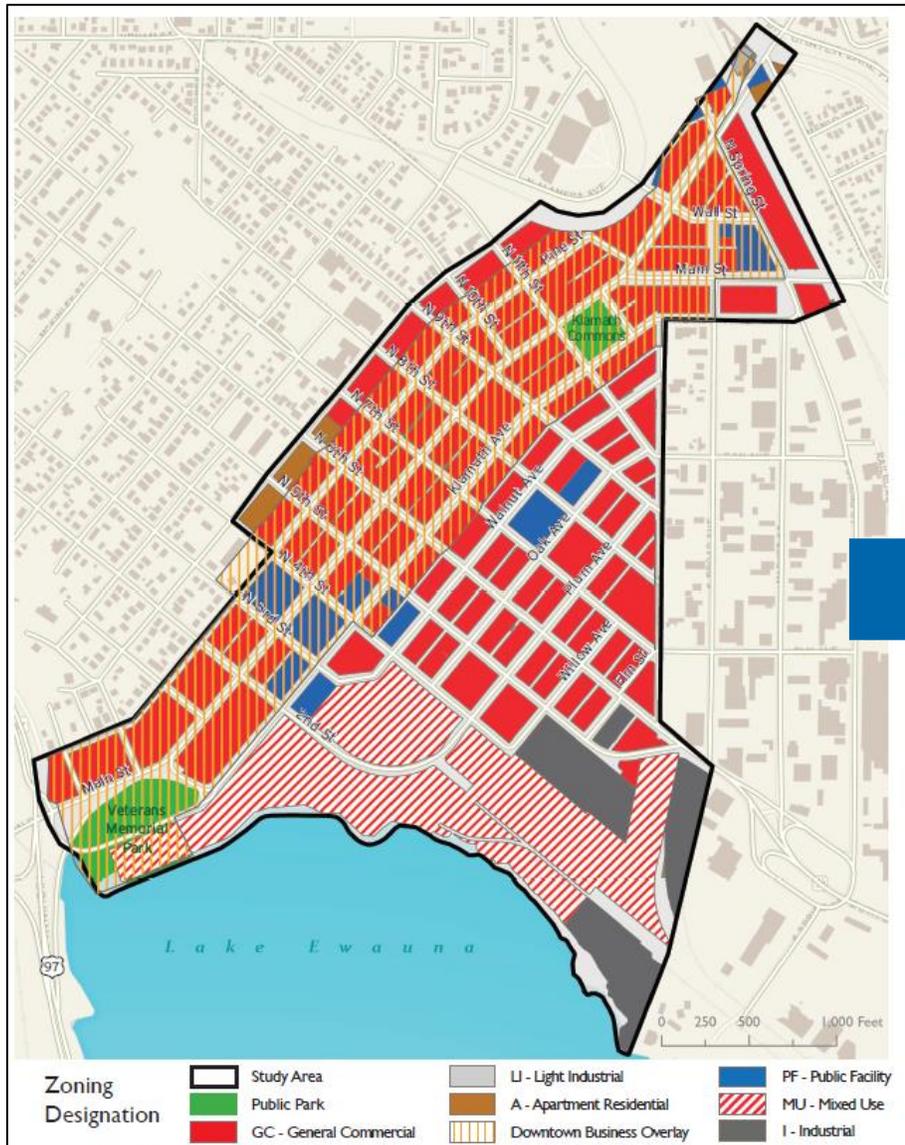


Figure 22. Mammoth Falls Zoning Map, 2020

Land Use & Regulatory Alignment

- **Goal: Ensure that exterior renovations in downtown are consistent with the area's historic character and consistent with design requirements for new construction**
 1. Create or designate a review body to consider exterior alterations to existing buildings.



Downtown as a Destination

Downtown as a Destination

- **Goal: Create a 24-hour downtown that continues to be the region's entertainment and events destination**
 1. Encourage conversion of vacant upper floors to residential and/or office uses where appropriate.
 2. Market downtown to both visitors and future residents
 3. Continue to support community events
 4. Create opportunities for food carts.
 5. Continue to promote public art throughout downtown.
 6. Explore providing public wi-fi for downtown visitors through a public-private partnership.