

CoW DOWNTOWN PLAN - DRAFT DOWNTOWN ACTIONS - PRELIMINARY SURVEY RESULTS

Oct 5, 2017

HOW WE LIVE DOWNTOWN

ACTION	TOTAL SCORE	TOTAL RANKING (out of 95)
Expand existing policy incentives to achieve better integration of affordable and social housing units with market housing types for new multi-family and mixed-use development.	70%	17
Continue discussions with the Government of Yukon on the potential for affordable market and social housing developments on properties within and beyond the Downtown South area to achieve a more even distribution throughout the Downtown.	69%	19
Work with government and community partners to prioritize development of the 5th and Rogers site in Downtown South, with a focus on high-density, blended social and market housing.	62%	40
Maintain the Residential Downtown (RD) zone for the Old Town area as a means of supporting existing and future residential-only building forms.	62%	44
Review allowable floor area and building setback requirements to ensure that new development complements the neighbourhood character.	62%	45
Review lot setback requirements for Downtown core commercial zones to improve pedestrian experience and aesthetics.	60%	55
Prioritize the sale and redevelopment of the Municipal Services Building at 4th Avenue and Ogilvie Street, following the relocation of staff and services.	58%	62
Consider integrating base design requirements relating to public realm improvements (e.g. site and urban design) into the Zoning Bylaw for the Downtown core area commercial zones.	54%	75
Consider revising building setback requirements in the area between 2nd and 4th Ave and Jarvis and Ray Streets to create less imposing and "tower-like" multi-storey buildings.	53%	77
Consider base design guidelines (e.g. site/urban design, building form and character, building materials) for Old Town and incorporate into the RD zoning.	51%	89

HOW WE MOVE DOWNTOWN

ACTION	TOTAL SCORE	TOTAL RANKING (out of 95)
Undertake a 2nd Ave Corridor Study and Safety Audit that investigates and addresses better pedestrian and transit facilities, reducing vehicle speeds, and safer pedestrian/cyclist crossings.	70%	14
Increase frequency and effectiveness of snow clearing (particularly along key active transportation routes).	70%	16
Consider expanding the public realm requirements for Commercial Service (CS) zoning (e.g. Real Canadian Superstore to Walmart area) to improve pedestrian safety, connectivity, and aesthetics in future development.	68%	22
Construct separated bike lanes through the northern part of Downtown (Chilkoot Way, 2nd Avenue, and Quartz Road).	67%	27
Improve lighting for key pedestrian/cyclist network connections (e.g. underneath the Robert Campbell Bridge).	66%	30
Explore upgrades (e.g. lighting, seating, wind protection) to high priority transit stops.	64%	34
Develop All Ages and Abilities (AAA) cycling and pedestrian infrastructure along key east-west routes linking the escarpment to the riverfront, including Ogilvie, Black, Wood, Hanson, and Hoge Streets.	62%	39
Extend the lower escarpment paved trail south of Hanson Street and connect to the Millennium Trail and airport escarpment.	62%	43
Work with the Government of Yukon and other large employers to encourage alternative forms of transportation for Downtown-based employees.	61%	46
Extend the lower escarpment paved trail north from Black Street to Ogilvie Street and investigate options to extend the trail further north of Ogilvie Street towards Two Mile Hill.	60%	52
Construct an on-street separated bike lane along 4th Avenue to complement the riverfront and lower escarpment trails as a key north-south artery.	60%	53
Increase frequency of line painting for crosswalks and active transportation routes.	60%	54
Complete paving and associated pedestrian and cycling improvements along 6th Avenue.	59%	58
Design snow storage into future improvements.	59%	60
Increase application of alternative pavement marking techniques for crosswalks and other roadway markings (e.g. permanent markings).	58%	61

HOW WE MOVE DOWNTOWN - cont.

ACTION	TOTAL SCORE	TOTAL RANKING (out of 95)
Investigate opportunities to improve cleanliness, maintenance, and waste collection within Downtown alleyways.	57%	66
Optimize secure bicycle storage infrastructure and rider amenities at key locations throughout the Downtown (e.g. the proposed transit hub/parkade).	56%	68
Explore the feasibility of an iconic pedestrian/cycling bridge across the Yukon River in the vicinity of Hanson Street/Yukon Visitor Information Centre to diversify active transportation options to and from Hospital Road, Riverdale, and Downtown.	55%	71
Construct a new paved multi-use trail connection between 2nd Avenue and the riverfront north of Shipyards Park and south of Waterfront Station.	54%	74
Prioritize road improvements with proposed cycling infrastructure improvement routes in Old Town.	53%	76
Prioritize sidewalks on both sides of the street along planned All Ages and Abilities east-west cycling routes in Old Town.	52%	83
Construct an enclosed transit hub in the Main Street area, potentially in conjunction with a mixed-use commercial parkade structure.	52%	84
Establish a second escarpment staircase in the Downtown South area (as outlined in the Downtown South Master Plan)	50%	90
Increase frequency of street and paved pathway sweeping.	48%	91
Investigate the potential for park n' ride lots (outside the Downtown) and a corresponding Downtown shuttle service.	46%	92
As part of a larger city-wide review, consider optimal locations for future electric vehicle charging stations throughout the Downtown	45%	93

HOW WE WORK AND SHOP DOWNTOWN

ACTION	TOTAL SCORE	TOTAL RANKING (out of 95)
Explore increased arts, culture, culinary, and recreation programming for the core commercial area, supported by temporary road closures to create safe pedestrian-only environments.	72%	11
Explore increased arts, culture, and recreation programming for Front Street, supported by temporary road closures to create safe pedestrian-only environments during scheduled events.	70%	15
Support efforts by local businesses and organizations to launch new thrift/reuse stores for Downtown.	69%	18
Work with local businesses (e.g. restaurants, mobile food vendors) and community arts groups to coordinate a "pop-up patio program" for the riverfront wharf and park area, ideally in conjunction with related Main Street events.	69%	20
Explore opportunities with the Government of Yukon to optimize public access to and enjoyment of riverfront heritage buildings, including potential artisan/cultural uses, commercial food and beverage, and potential existing tenant relocation.	69%	21
Work with local businesses (e.g. restaurants) and community arts groups to develop a "pop-up patio program" for Main Street during the summer and immediate shoulder seasons.	68%	25
As part of the Parking Management Plan update, explore how to balance customer/employee/residential parking, reduce employee parking demand with alternative transportation, and prioritize parking for carpool and micro vehicles.	67%	28
Foster entrepreneurship and growth of the local knowledge economy by exploring the potential for improvements to the broadband communications network.	66%	31
As part of the Parking Management Plan update, explore the potential for a new mixed-use parkade/transit hub near Main Street, changes to parking requirements for new developments, and temporary spill-over parking on City-owned lots.	64%	35
Maintain the current coverage for existing Mixed Use Commercial, Mixed Use Commercial and Mixed Use Waterfront zones, which allow for significant mixed-use development.	61%	48
Foster entrepreneurship and the growth of the local knowledge economy by exploring the potential for improvements to the network of publicly accessible Wi-Fi.	61%	49
Explore pilot project for activation of the alley behind Horwood's Mall and extending to Elliott Street via a special name, permanent/temporary art, lighting, casual seating/patios, and alternative waste collection for adjacent businesses	59%	59
Initiate discussions with the Yukon Department of Tourism & Culture and local arts, culture and business groups to explore potential for "Made in Yukon" webpage/web portal and related e-commerce opportunities.	57%	65
Collaborate with the local Chambers of Commerce and Government of Yukon to explore the demand for increased online presence for Downtown business and service providers.	53%	78
Explore mixed-use commercial potential of the City-owned space located between the Yukon Visitor Information Centre.	51%	86
Policy and/or regulatory mechanisms impacting the establishment and growth of co-working/shared office spaces and business incubators.	45%	94
Limit hotels (excluding motels and bed and breakfasts) from locating outside of Downtown	33%	95

HOW WE PLAY DOWNTOWN

ACTION	TOTAL SCORE	TOTAL RANKING (out of 95)
Work with Yukon Aviation Branch to secure continued public access to the upper escarpment trail and resolve ongoing erosion issues.	74%	8
Install public washrooms in a highly visible and central location in the commercial core area for the comfort of residents and tourists alike (e.g. the waterfront wharf area).	72%	10
Optimize four-season and daylong use of outdoor public spaces and corridors.	71%	12
Encourage the integration of winter-city design principles into the amenity spaces of development applications.	68%	23
Extend the paved lower escarpment trail south of Hanson Street and connect it to the Millennium Trail (at the 4th Avenue/Robert Service Way traffic circle).	66%	32
Designate a formal network of paved and unpaved City trails in the Downtown and provide information kiosks/maps at key points along the escarpment and the riverfront area highlighting nearby trails and connections to wilderness trails/areas.	64%	36
Consider and promote opportunities for the creation of smaller, flexible public spaces (e.g. “pocket” parks) into streetscape improvements and new public building projects.	60%	56
Extend the paved lower escarpment trail north from Black Street to Ogilvie Street and consider extending the trail further north of Ogilvie Street if feasible.	56%	69
Designate, improve, and sign a small network of natural surface trails in the escarpment area (including the unpaved portion of the airport escarpment).	56%	70
Explore the feasibility of an iconic pedestrian/cycling bridge across the Yukon River in the vicinity of Hanson Street/Yukon Visitor Information Centre to provide a more direct connection to Chadburn Lake Regional Park.	53%	79
Construct a playground at Shipyards Park.	53%	80
Construct the proposed new Eagle Park playground in Downtown South as recommended in the Downtown South Master Plan and playground redesign process and rename it “Clay Cliffs Park”.	52%	85
Establish a second escarpment staircase in the Downtown South area.	51%	87

HOW WE THRIVE DOWNTOWN

ACTION	TOTAL SCORE	TOTAL RANKING (out of 95)
Explore the feasibility of an incentives-based program to utilize vacant Downtown lots for community benefit (e.g. gardens, use by community groups, etc.).	77%	1
Continue to implement the Yukon Housing Action Plan recommendations with partners.	76%	2
Encourage the incorporation of housing insecurity and affordability measures into any mixed commercial-residential development initiatives on government (City, territorial, and First Nation) lands in the Downtown.	76%	3
Initiate discussions to establish a collaborative working group of community organizations, businesses, and property owners to develop initiatives targeting the riverfront, Salvation Army/Ecole Whitehorse Elementary/liquor store and Main street areas	75%	4
Initiate pilot program for three-stream (e.g. waste, organics, and recycling) services in high traffic areas including Main Street, Front Street, the lower escarpment trail, Rotary Park, and Shipyards Park.	75%	5
Consider and work to mitigate the potential negative impacts of Downtown development on service organizations.	71%	13
Explore the potential for additional community garden spaces along the escarpment.	68%	26
Explore the feasibility of a program to utilize and encourage rooftop spaces for outdoor amenity, green space, and small-scale agricultural uses.	67%	29
Increase landscaping and site edge treatment (e.g. sidewalks, landscaping, lighting, etc.) requirements for properties located in the northern portion of Downtown (e.g. from Jarvis Street all the way towards Chilkoot Way and the Walmart area	62%	41
Continue support and funding for valued beautification initiatives such as the Communities in Bloom and Christmas lights programs.	61%	50

HOW WE EXPRESS OUR IDENTITY DOWNTOWN

ACTION	TOTAL SCORE	TOTAL RANKING (out of 95)
Continue to support Kwanlin Dun First Nation's work on the Whitehorse Waterfront Heritage Project (e.g. examine collaboration and partnership opportunities during implementation).	74%	6
Encourage the integration of outdoor patio, deck spaces and rooftops overlooking natural amenities (e.g. Yukon River, escarpment, parks, future pedestrian bridge crossing).	73%	9
Incorporate light pollution mitigation measures when reviewing design proposals and infrastructure projects.	68%	24
Establish a Design Review Panel to apply the existing mixed use waterfront zoning (CMW) Design Guidelines to the review of development and redevelopment proposals in the riverfront area.	65%	33
Integrate more First Nation themes, language, and names into Downtown places, amenities, and wayfinding infrastructure.	64%	37
Promote the City's Historic Restoration Incentive Policy to owners of heritage properties to encourage the formal historic designation and maintenance of heritage buildings.	63%	38
Work with local arts groups and First Nations to develop and implement "tactical urbanism" interventions – focused, temporary and low-cost arts and culture projects/exhibits intended to activate residential, commercial, and public spaces.	62%	42
Promote the City's Heritage Fund as a resource to local artists interested in creating public art in Downtown that helps to tell the history of the area (e.g. First Nation heritage, post-Whitehorse town site establishment heritage).	61%	47
Develop Design Guidelines for the Core Commercial (CC) area to guide urban and building design for Main Street and immediate area.	61%	51
Consider reallocating some public art expenditures related to the new Municipal Operations building to the Downtown area instead.	60%	57
Incorporate wilderness themes into waterfront and escarpment trail interpretive signage.	58%	63
In collaboration with the Government of Yukon, explore the potential for at-grade restaurant/café and weather-protected patio space for the northern portion of the White Pass & Yukon Route building.	55%	72
Explore the feasibility of a warehouse-type structure (e.g. "Freight Shed") of sufficient scale to provide wind protection for the wharf and house public washrooms, tables and seating, and multi-use space for performances, etc.,	55%	73
Explore improvements to the north and south entrances to Downtown (e.g. Robert Service Gateway; Two Mile Hill Road; Quartz Road) through traffic calming and gateway designs utilizing First Nations and local artists.	57%	67
Evaluate buildings in Downtown that have potential for inclusion as resources on the City's Heritage Registry to reflect the evolving history of Whitehorse.	53%	81
Establish a Design Review Panel to apply the aforementioned Design Guidelines to the review of development and redevelopment proposals in the CC area.	53%	82
Consult with property owners on Wood Street, from 3rd to 8th Avenues, to potentially designate the area as a heritage district to protect the unique representation of different Whitehorse townsites eras.	51%	88