Comment Log

Purpose: The goal of the comment log is to quickly communicate how Design Workshop and the consultant team address each comment or requested revision. The intent is to keep the client, client team, project team, stakeholders and others on the same page as to requested changes and/or revisions. Consistent use of a comment log to track and respond to comments during a project's duration helps to facilitate client communication and fosters the resolution of questions prior to document changes.

Date	Document Title/Version	Commenter	Page	Plan Element Commented On	Comment	DW Action	Status
1/9/2015	Downtown Master Plan (60% Draft)	Deby Lannen	Email dated 1/9		The only two comments I have heard are: my concern about the one way street on the east side of the bridge being southbound, and: the electrical outlets around Heritage Square and town for festival/event usage.	The electrical outlets should be addressed during the design and construction of the park. We will be sure to label the location of future utilities on the 100% draft.	Complete
1/9/2015	Downtown Master Plan (60% Draft)	Brent Humphries	Email dated 1/9		My only real thought would be to ensure we see more detail towards the implementation projects mentioned i.e. detailed steps to take to bring them to fruition.	We have further developed and refined the implementation steps for each project in the document. In the final draft, Design Workshop will further refine the roles and responsibilities associated with each recommendation as well as the order of implementation for each project.	Complete
1/9/2015	Downtown Master Plan (60% Draft)	Ed Hile	Email dated 1/9		Regarding the streetscape, signage, the park – there does not yet appear to be enough detail.	In the 80% draft we have further developed designs of the streets, signage, and Heritage Square Park Master Plan.	Complete
1/9/2015	Downtown Master Plan (60% Draft)	Bob van Til	Page 7		Can you direct me to source of the Legacy Goals? I am having trouble identifying them in our past correspondence or in the data from the public meetings. How do they tie to the top 5 selected on pg. 22?	The Legacy Goals were developed out of Critical Success Factors (CSF – Page 4 of the Project Management Plan). At the Values Workshop on October 15, the public workshop participants voted and ranked the Legacy Goals. The Top 5 projects selected on page 22 were the projects we developed in further detail in the Master Plan and they all embody the values of the Legacy Goals.	Complete
1/9/2015	Downtown Master Plan (60% Draft)	Bob van Til	Page 5		Would you change the words "graphic information system" to geographic information system" on the maps. See for example the map on page 5.	We have addressed this change in the 80% draft.	Complete
1/9/2015	Downtown Master Plan (60% Draft)	Bob van Til	Page 18		I don't think there us a drinking fountain in Heritage park. The text talks of one being there.	DW has removed the reference to the drinking fountain in Heritage Square Park. This original source of this information was page 15 of the City of Taylor 2004 Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan.	Complete

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Date	Document Title/Version	Commenter	Page	Plan Element Commented On	Comment	DW Action	Status
1/9/2015	Downtown Master Plan (60% Draft)	Bob van Til	Page 42		It refers to 'mountainous surroundings.' (grin	DW removed the term "mountainous".	Complete
1/9/2015	Downtown Master Plan (60% Draft)	Bob van Til	Page 48		First Street. The ROW seems too wide (figure 18).	The Right-Of-Way we are using was interpreted from the GIS information provided to us by the City. The official right of way would be confirmed with an accurate survey.	Complete
1/9/2015	Downtown Master Plan (60% Draft)	Bob van Til	Page 53		Can you provide an overall map of all of the sites?	DW indicated the catalyst sites on the figure titled "Downtown Framework Plan" in the Recommendations Chapter. DW can provide clarification in the 100 percent draft if graphics or labeling is required.	Complete
1/9/2015	Downtown Master Plan (60% Draft)	Bob van Til	Page 54		Can you put those features on figure 20?	DW labeled all features on illustrated plans for catalyst projects.	Complete
1/9/2015	Downtown Master Plan (60% Draft)	Bob van Til			Can you map the quiet zone?	At this time further information and coordination with the appropriate stakeholders - Union Pacific, adjacent land owners, etc. is necessary. DW provided an additional map (on page 63) titled "Railroad Quiet Zone" that shows key crossing areas and a potential one-mile quiet zone that could be implemented downtown.	Complete
1/9/2015	Downtown Master Plan (60% Draft)	Bob van Til	Email dated 1/9		I think these other items are still forth coming from the contract: 3.1 the market assessment and 3.6, the return on investment information.	DW to provide additional information relating to the market assessment in the 100 percent document.	Pending
2/5/2015	Downtown Master Plan (80% Draft)	Bob van Til	Page 10 (6 indicated)		References a fourth street railroad museum? This in the caption below the picture. There is no museum there.	DW removed the reference to the Fourth Street Railroad Museum.	Complete
2/5/2015	Downtown Master Plan (80% Draft)	Bob van Til	Page 38 (34 indicated)		Under lighting, figure 14 should be figure 15.	DW updated the text to include the correct figure numbers under lighting.	Complete
2/5/2015	Downtown Master Plan (80% Draft)	Bob van Til	Page 40 (36 indicated)		Second paragraph first sentence, remove one "increased".	DW removed the second instance of "increased" in this paragraph.	Complete
2/5/2015	Downtown Master Plan (80% Draft)	Bob van Til	Page 60 (56 indicated)		Second street, don't understand how plantings can be large shade trees but only a short-term solution. If long-term solution is the goal, dimensions for short-term should account for not being able to move larger established trees. Meaning there's really only one option for improvements and that is the long-term solution.	DW clarified text. Short-term improvements would be created through restriping of the pavement along Second Street to the West of Main Street. Longer-term improvements that are recommended would involve a full reconstruction of the eastern	Complete

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Date	Document Title/Version	Commenter	Page	Plan Element Commented On	Comment	DW Action	Status
						segment of Second Street.	
2/5/2015	Downtown Master Plan (80% Draft)	Bob van Til			Remove the skate park from the over pass location on Main Street.	DW has requested further clarification from Client group regarding this revision.	Pending
2/5/2015	Downtown Master Plan (80% Draft)	Bob van Til			Show E 5th Street from Main to Porter closed.	DW has requested further clarification from Client group regarding this revision.	Pending
2/5/2015	Downtown Master Plan (80% Draft)	Bob van Til			Show Porter Street from E 5th to E 4th Streets closed as well.	DW has requested further clarification from Client group regarding this revision.	Pending
2/5/2015	Downtown Master Plan (80% Draft)	Bob van Til			Remove the Amtrak from downtown. It is most likely to be located at the existing CARTS facility on W 2nd	DW has requested further clarification from Client group regarding this revision.	Pending
2/5/2015	Downtown Master Plan (80% Draft)	Bob van Til			We'd like to have a 'revised 80%' version by the 12th or 13th so that we can include that draft plan in the Council packet for their strategic planning sessions.	DW has asked for Add Service to provide an additional draft revision.	Pending
3/17/15	Downtown Master Plan Revised 80% Draft	Bob van Til	58		Please provide a map of the sites listed on the list. That would make it easier to locate them. The market assessment information and the return on investment information.	DW to provide map for catalyst sites and clarify assumptions for ROI.	Pending
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 5:44 PM	Downtown Master Plan Revised 80% Draft	From: Catherine Parker [mailto:catherineparker72@me.com]	–	Community engagement	Dear Mr. vanTil, I received this email on Friday, March 6, 2015, for the meeting on Monday, March 9, in which DesignWorkshop will reveal its master plan for downtown Taylor. I volunteered a couple of hours my time on Monday, November 17, 2014 to contribute to the Vision Implementation meeting and at that time I signed in with my email. I didn't receive an email thanking me for my time or even acknowledging the time I invested in the future of Taylor. I didn't get a calendar of important dates for the downtown Master Plan process so that I could add it to my calendar to ensure that my voice it heard. I find this unacceptable. Thanks to the constant information that the Downtown Master Plan Facebook page shares, I was able to put this important meeting on my calendar. I alerted the neighbor that I brought with me to the November 17 meeting. I told my surrounding neighbors and they told their neighbors. I will be at the meeting tonight to see what Design Workshop has to present though I have seen the plan—it is impeccable. A plan where every need has been addressed, a plan that is practical as well as beautiful. The City of Taylor is lucky to work with such an accomplished design firm. This plan will put Taylor in line with the rest of the cities of Williamson County and the Greater Austin area. Where it should be. You will receive a follow up email from me tomorrow after I have seen the presentation of the Downtown Master plan. Catherine Parker	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess key themes or areas of concern/support. No revision being requested to the Draft Downtown Master Plan.	No Revision
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 3:04 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: TONY GOMES [mailto:tgomes1@sbcglobal.net]	66-67	Heritage Square Park and City Hall Redevelopment Civic art	Mr. Vantil and Turner, In my humble opinion I would like to see a multipurpose building on the square and angle parking. We should do exactly what they did in Downtown Round Rock to help theirs to a very busy and constantly occupied location destination for the city...Chamber, City Hall, Visitors bureau, farmers market, public rest rooms, professional services space for rent, Art gallery,	DW to ensure master plan includes a recommendation for historic plaques or statues where appropriate in or near the park. DW to include general text	Pending

Date	Document Title/Version	Commenter	Page	Plan Element Commented On	Comment	DW Action	Status
				Pest management	concession, and museum...to name a few. On the lawn with Pavilion and water for the children to play and statue of favorite sons, plaques of Taylor's history and people. Instead what I see is a bunch of trees, and almost little else. The problem with too many trees is that it will create a habitat for animals...Too many birds(pigeons,grackles, Black birds, sparrows to name a few), squirrels, rodents/possums and their droppings, the birds alone will leave a mess on cars. http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/01/04/devil-birds-great-tailed-grackles/1783229/ http://www.birdbusters.com/bird_control_starling.html My input of concerns... Thanks, Tony Gomes	addressing pest management best practices for public parks and civic spaces.	
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 4:39 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Jen Brown [mailto:juanacuatro@hotmail.com]	--		Hi Bob, Thank you for inviting us to the meeting last evening. I would like to comment that I feel strongly about the suggestions to change our street lining to create more traffic downtown, block low usage rail crossings to create quiet zones, create a restaurant district near the overpass, and move full steam ahead with the skatepark. I love the idea of having a town culture support the beginnings of Taylor's Historic district by anchoring the railroad as a main attraction. Let's think of long term growth and attract some real players in the food and hospitality industry by shaping up that side of town. Once we get that going we can start to see small retail businesses thrive and grow. All the best, Jen Brown | juanacuatro@hotmail.com | 281.212.7373	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess key themes or areas of concern/support. No revision being requested to the Draft Downtown Master Plan.	No Revision

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:30 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft		--	From: Craig Eulenfeld [mailto:ceulenfeld@austin.rr.com]	From: Bob Vantil Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:20 PM To: 'Craig Eulenfeld' Subject: RE: Main street project. Hi, Craig. Good questions. The consultant will give general cost parameters. The projects will probably be funded by the typical sources: general fund, TIF fund. Debt, maybe even some private investment, and so on. Good to have seen you again. Take care. Bob van Til, AICP, CEcD Director of Development Services City of Taylor, Texas 400 Porter Street 512-352-5990 x 16 512-563-2347 - cell From: Craig Eulenfeld [mailto:ceulenfeld@austin.rr.com] Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:30 PM To: Bob Vantil Subject: Main street project. Hi Bob, Thank you for the presentation the other night at the Library. I am sorry that I arrived a little late and did not here what the cost of this project would be or more importantly how it would get funded. Can you please fill me in? Thanks! Craig J. Eulenfeld ceulenfeld@austin.rr.com www.eulenfeldinc.net 512-365-7174	DW to include recommendations for general funding mechanisms for downtown plan projects.	Pending
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:55 AM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Mark Plowman [mailto:coyote5372@sbcglobal.net]	--	Railroad quiet zone	From: Bob Vantil Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:26 PM To: 'Mark Plowman' Subject: RE: Future plans downtown Taylor Mark: good question. How do we implement the plan and make sure many, if not, all of the things in the plan get done? The answer is focused and committed leadership and a solid funding strategy that our leadership agrees with. By leadership, I don't only mean the elected and appointed officials but also the community leaders. Setting priorities and allocating a funding source, is key to the implementation of the plan, or even some of the major components of the plan. Thanks for the feedback. I look forward to seeing you soon. Bob van Til, AICP, CEcD ----Original Message---- From: Mark Plowman [mailto:coyote5372@sbcglobal.net] Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:55 AM To: Bob Vantil Subject: Future plans downtown Taylor Bob- Very excited about plan rolled out Monday night. Always the big question. How does it become a reality? The biggest priority in my opinion is "a quiet zone". If Taylor is going to attract capital investment to improve the Blazimar Hotel,historic buildings or residential structures. The answer for making downtown a viable, attractive, livable, space is minimizing train noise. I will be attending future meetings to see if solutions are being offered to make Taylor's future a bright one. Mark Plowman	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess key themes or areas of concern/support. No revision being requested to the Draft Downtown Master Plan.	No Revision

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:05 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Spencer Ford [mailto:spencerford73@gmail.com]	--	Skate park	Bob, It was great to meet you at the city planning meeting. I am glad that the city is working with Design workshop. I know that they are a top urban planning company. I hope that you will strongly consider their advice. The 1st street plan is great. I love the idea of the Amtrack station and having the skate park down town. Taylor should be poised to take advantage of population growth and become a city that we can all be proud to call home. Please do not let this turn into another opportunity to be disappointed by the City of Taylor. The 2014 Taylor Community and Economic Development Initiative lists "Perceived lack of trust and communication," as the first treat identified to Taylor. I speak with people frequently about Taylor. The city has a reputation of being hard to deal with and underhanded. Please take this opportunity to show the people of Taylor that the city is prepared to move forward in an honest and upstanding manner. Project Loop and the kids of Taylor have worked extremely hard to raise $85,000 for a skate park. More than the money, they have raised the image of Taylor. Please reward their hard work and let them achieve their goal by including the skate park in your down town plans. Project Loop has done more for Taylor in the last 2 years then I have seen in the previous 10. I wrote a letter of support to the Tony Hawk Foundation and have a copy of it included below. Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything in the future Spencer Ford (512) 709-8757	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess key themes or areas of concern/support. No revision being requested to the Draft Downtown Master Plan.	No Revision
Date: Thu, Feb 12, 2015 at 10:31 AM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Spencer Ford <spencerford73@gmail.com>	--	Skate park	Tony Hawk Foundation, I want to take an opportunity to send you a letter in support of the Project Loop application for a Hawk foundation grant. I believe the application was mailed in January. The kids from Project Loop have been on a crusade for the last few years to build a skate park in Taylor Texas. Project loop has transformed Taylor. Nobody asked me to write this letter. I just want to let you know that as a resident I am fully in support of the skate park. Taylor is a hard luck town in Central Texas. We are an hours drive from Austin and a 30 minute drive to the closest skate park. The downtown area is populated with vacant buildings from the towns hey day in 1880. The roads are bad, sidewalks are rare and places to skateboard are non existent. Before Project Loop started there was very little positive to say about Taylor. Drugs were prevalent, and the education system was abysmal. There was literally nothing here of value except inexpensive old homes, and good BBQ. A few kids wandered aimlessly around generally getting in trouble. For the last 4 years I have made it a point to wake up at 6:00AM every Saturday and drive my 10 year old son Jonah to skate parks that are 30 minutes to an hour away. He skates for an hour or so and we try to be home by 9:00 AM. Many of the driveways in town are gravel so this is the only time he gets a chance to skate all week. I know that most of the kids in town don't have anyone to drive them to skate parks. Several years ago I began to hear about something called Project Loop. Kids were riding by on bikes with project loop shirts on and fundraising for a skate park in town. Something was happening in Taylor. People were waking up and taking notice. Many of these kids finally had something in their lives that they could work toward. Events started happening. Project Loop put a large temporary half pipe in somebody's yard and had a big event. A creative vibe started flowing through town. I started seeing project loop at skate contests and large events in Austin. I even saw them at the X games this year working the board check. Finally, Taylor has something to be proud of. The down town area is starting to get cleaned up and creative types are taking notice of the little town with the skater thing. Kids who were once low rent kids destine for nowhere now have a purpose in their lives. I am not personally involved with Project Loop. My son is just starting to go to some of their events. He is younger than most of the kids. I have seen from the outside what the mission for	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess key themes or areas of concern/support. No revision being requested to the Draft Downtown Master Plan.	No Revision

					this skate park has done for the town. City Council meetings have skater kids showing up. The leader of Project Loop was just awarded citizen of the year. 5 years ago the city was not very receptive to the idea of a skate park. Now project loop is a central part of the youth in Taylor. They have raised thousands of dollars for this skate park by selling coffee and their very successful 50/50 Taylor Campaign. Project Loop and the goal to build a skate park has given the most valuable thing possible for people in this town. It has given people hope. Please consider their application. The kids of Project Loop and Taylor really deserve to meet their goal. Sincerely Spencer Ford Taylor Texas (512) 709-8757		
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 10:39 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Mike Shear [mailto:mikesurge@hotmail.com]	--	Regional transporation	Dear Mr. Vantil, After reading through the plan, I greatly appreciate the foresight of building out more pedestrian walk ways north of the downtown area, as well as the use of the overpass as a skate park. The more options outside of private car owner ship, such as increased mass transit options, as well as bike paths, I believe the better suited a town is for growth, by eliminating traffic congestion. Thank you, Mike Shear	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess key themes or areas of concern/support. No revision being requested to the Draft Downtown Master Plan.	No Revision
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 7:16 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft		--	Signage Parking First Street Skate park Bike connectivity	Bob, Thank you for your involvement with this process. I am very much in favor of the plan as presented. It was an excellent presentation with emphasis on community involvement. I don't have suggestions for changes, but would like to make a couple of supportive comments. I have grumbled about Taylor's signage since I first set foot here and think the proposed signs would be an excellent first step. I also like the column idea. I strongly favor slant parking on Second Street and later on Main Street. If a little congestion is created, it will encourage more through traffic to use the loop. Frankly, I think we should ticket through trucks that can't provide proof of business in Taylor. (Austin should do that on I-35.) Closing off the north-bound lane next to the overpass is also a good idea as we begin more work on First Street. It would simplify traffic handling at Second and Main and encourage events and business in the vacated space. I am not real excited about the skate park under the overpass, despite it being good use of the property. My experience is that skate parks do not typically draw family members and are better located near or in an existing park. Conversely, if there are skate park events, they would attract a different group of people downtown, which is good. If Brent is on board with it, I'll be supportive. Nancci and I will definitely utilize the bicycle route on Talbot Street... Long term, the commuter option was mentioned and you are no doubt aware that routing rail freight directly from Taylor to San Antonio is being considered. This would reduce freight traffic between Taylor and Austin, thus making the tracks more amenable to commuter and Amtrak options. That could provide a huge benefit to Taylor. Once the Timmerman building is complete, I want to advertise in Austin for folks to catch Amtrak from Austin to Taylor for shopping during the day, especially on event days (overnight for two-day events). Thanks for the opportunity to comment.	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess key themes or areas of concern/support. No revision being requested to the Draft Downtown Master Plan.	No Revision

					Joe Burges		
Tuesday, March 10, 2015 6:20 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	KELLY CMEREK [mailto:kelly.cmerek@bbva.com]	--	Implementation phasing	Bob - thanks for coordinating this Downtown Master plan initiative. I attended the presentation last night and just had a few comments: -The recommendations for improved signage, additional trees, more 45 degree parking, and Heritage Park Improvements were very good common sense tasks the city can do to immediately improve downtown. -The Catalyst Site/First Street Market Plaza idea to tie in with the railroad takes more vision than I have. It seems First Street would be better served to act as a buffer between people and the railroad tracks. Having the Catalyst site being Porter or even Talbot seems to make more sense because infrastructure assets already exist. Thanks again for your efforts and we all look forward to seeing Downtown become a destination spot for all in Central Texas. Best Regards, -- Kelly Cmerek Vice President - SBA Lending BBVA Compass Ph: 512-421-5875 Fax: 512-421-5708 Email: Kelly.Cmerek@bbva.com 1703 W 5th Street, Ste 500, Austin, TX 78703.	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Tuesday, March 10, 2015 5:47 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Jose Orta [mailto:orta_jose@hotmail.com]	--	Railroad quiet zone	From: Bob Vantil Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:36 PM To: 'Jose Orta'; Deby Lannen Subject: RE: Downtown Master Plan Public Comments Jose, my understanding of the cost for the quiet zones is steep, in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. I am not aware if the city has passed an ordinance to regulate train horns. I'll have to check. Does that relate to trains also? Thanks for your feed back. Bob van Til, AICP, CEcD From: Jose Orta [mailto:orta_jose@hotmail.com] Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 5:47 PM To: Deby Lannen; Bob Vantil Subject: Downtown Master Plan Public Comments Am very pleased with the concept of the Master Plan. My concern involves Southern Pacific Railroad. During the presentation, a comment was made by the presenter that the City of Taylor should look into doing away with several railroad crossings as this would be beneficial to the community and would reduce the need for Southern Pacific from having to blow their horns and would create a "Quiet Zone". Currently the only railroad crossings North to South are S. Dolan, Robinson, Main, and Sloan. Though it is a fact that train horns are required by federal law to be sounded at all public crossings, 24 hours a day, to warn motorists and pedestrians that a train is approaching, this can be alleviated if Southern Pacific take additional safety steps such as installing double gates at crossings. Several years ago The Federal Railroad Administration gave communities the option to install full gates at every railroad crossing in order to qualify for a "quiet zone," in which trains stay silent at crossings. Sloan already has a full gate. What would be the cost of putting full gates over Main, S. Dolan and Robinson? According to the Transportation Code, "the governing body of a municipality having a population	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision

					of at least 5,000 may regulate by ordinance the ringing of bells and blowing of whistles and sirens within its limits." Has the City of Taylor actually tried to do this, if so how and when? Jose Orta 512-818-9802 Thanks again, Jose. The cost for fencing will most likely be borne by the city. Bob van Til, AICP, CEcD From: Jose Orta [mailto:orta_jose@hotmail.com] Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 6:13 AM To: Bob Vantil Subject: RE: Downtown Master Plan Public Comments It specifically relates to train horns - however, the regulation comes with the caveat that the City install full gates at every railroad crossing. Just wanted to know who was responsible for this upgrade the City or the Railroad. And you are right, it is roughly $1 Million dollars per crossing. Speaking of railroads, who will bear the cost of fencing? Southern Pacific put fencing up on Welch at their own expense. Will they do so on 1st Street? Jose Orta		
Tuesday, March 10, 2015 5:40 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Grayson Cox [mailto:gcox@ksaeng.com]	36	Trails	Bob, It was good to see you last night at the public meeting, and I definitely look forward to seeing this vision for downtown become a reality. We briefly spoke of this at the meeting, but I thought it was worth suggesting that the Downtown Master Plan could mention the well developed City-wide network of trails and sidewalks, and how future/current projects should help achieve connectivity between downtown and the residential and park areas of the City. This could also tie back to the issue of parking, since Taylor residents who bike to downtown events will free up those always high-demand parking spots. Hike/bike connectivity could also encourage use of the proposed skate park. We'll keep our eyes out for any opportunity to tie any of these master plan priorities into the upcoming Main Street and park trail projects. Thanks, Grayson Cox, P.E. | Project Manager KSA | www.ksaeng.com Main: 512.342.6868 | Fax: 512.342.6877 | Cell: 512.560.2640 gcox@ksaeng.com	DW reviewed the "Downtown Trail and Bike Connections" plan document text to ensure that connectivity to a City-wide network of trails is emphasized in the document.	No Revision
Tuesday, March 10, 2015 5:09 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Gary Gola [mailto:garygola@gmail.com]	--	Main Street lane reduction	Bob, I enjoyed the Downtown Master Plan presentation and the 80% report. I liked a whole lot of what the report contained and suggested and I think it will move Taylor in the right direction. The one item that I do have reservations about is reducing Main Street from 4 down to 2 lanes. I realize that such a reduction in itself is a long shot at best, but I do want to say that I do not think this would be a good idea. My concern is that it would lead to traffic congestion and over time train people to avoid downtown altogether. I do see the points of making more space available for pedestrians, but I think the threat of losing automobile traffic to the area is too much to risk. I also keep thinking about towns like Fredericksburg where they actually have 4 lanes plus a turn lane going right through the middle of their busiest area. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision

					Gary Gola 512-771-2413		
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 11:57 AM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Rick [mailto:rlg@austin.rr.com]	--	General support of plan	Good morning Bob. I just wanted give some input into the Downtown Master Plan. I love this progressive move the city is taking to revitalize the downtown area. Being a resident for almost 60 years and serving on different boards I was beginning to lose faith in the city being stuck in the past and not wanting to move forward. We have a rich history to look back on but we must move forward. Taylor will grow and we cannot stop it but we can have control over the type of growth we have. I go to church in Austin and have a lot of business relations in Austin and it get kind of old listening to all the negative views people have when I tell them I am from Taylor. We make the news a lot but not for the right reasons. There are a lot of things I like about this plan. The signage, the 1st street project, Heritage Park, etc. One of the most progressive and enlightening projects that excite me is the skate park. With me being downtown a lot on weekends and at night I see the kids looking for something to do. I fell like the skate park will not only give them something to do but will help them feel ownership in something and that the city care about them. I know Project Loop and the kids involved has worked really hard to help make this happen and I pray the city will not disappoint them. When I was growing up here there were plenty of thing for kids to do. Summer programs and things to help keep us out of trouble. I hear people all the time complain about the young people but to me if we are not part of the solution then we are part of the problem ! Again congratulations on this move. I hope that we prove all the naysayers that say we will not do anything beyond this point wrong and it does not stop here but move on to full fruition. Sincerely yours, Ricky Gray	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Friday, March 13, 2015 9:10 AM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Craig Eulenfeld [mailto:ceulenfeld@austin.rr.com]	--	Skate park	Bob, My opinion, east 1st st. is not safe. No one in there right mind would let kids skate under that bridge. To get to the point the man showed on the slides, would be neat, but not likely. I agree with him 100% that the undertaking would not be for the faint hearted. You had a lot of people in that room in support of all of this, but probably there is at least 100 or more / one of those who are not city people, who do not want to hang around down town, and just want the peace and quiet of the country. They also would probably say, if you want big city, go to austin, or better yet, go back up north. I personally would be very upset that I had to pay for something like that through taxes. If I wanted to donate to it out of my pocket, o.k. But it is not right to tax people for something that the majority does not care about. So, I hope it would go to a vote before incurring more debt. With other streets the way they are, (bad) it seems to that the general fund needs to be used for current maintenance. Just my opinion. Craig	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Friday, March 13, 2015 7:15 AM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Brenda [mailto:txbriva@yahoo.com]	36	Talbot Street parking, construction	As a downtown building owner for ten years, renovating and improving, I really enjoyed looking through the master plan. I have one comment, about parking. This is in regard to turning Talbot street into a bike friendly street with parallel parking. In order to keep businesses healthy, they need more parking not less. It took about two years of construction on the 2nd street improvements in which two of the businesses in our building went out of business. There are bumpouts on Talbot that would have to be removed (more construction) in order for the bike lines to be safe. Please remember as you trying to bring more people into downtown, you actually need more parking. I don't go into downtown Austin because I can never find parking. Brenda Aguado 119 W. 2nd Street Taylor, TX	DW to provide additional text regarding the importance of minimizing challenging impacts from construction on Talbot Street businesses.	Pending

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:33 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Fuit Fuit [mailto:ttebeau2@gmail.com]	--		Dear Mr. vanTil, Taylor is a city that I will live in until I go to college. I wish to see it prosper in the future, and I believe that with the Master Plan we can reach that goal. Kids will not only hear about Tex Avery, Dan Moody, and Bill Pickett, but the plan that changed Taylor as well. A skatepark would also be a welcome addition and attract more people to Taylor. Not only will a skate park provide entertainment but it will energize downtown Taylor. It will also unite the downtown area with the south of Taylor. I think Taylor is a valuable city to Texas and we need so show this to the world. I think the Master Plan is a good first step in that direction. Please don't our youth when you make your decision. We are Taylor's future. Thank you for your time. Timothy Tebeau	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:57 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Isabella Tebeau [mailto:itebeau@gmail.com]	62	Skate park	Mr. vanTil, The Downtown Master Plan presentation was very promising. It provided direction towards realizing a sustainable vision for Taylor, while honoring Taylor's past and enabling the people who are responsible for Taylor's future. The overall attractiveness and livability was considered. This Master Plan was crafted based on the recommendations from our citizens for our citizens. It would be a huge step in the right direction, if this could be realized as presented. We are aware that change comes with a cost but we have to invest in our future. If we keep delaying decisions we will soon have to ask us if Taylor has a future. I love the idea with the skate park under the bridge. Research has shown that skaters travel and they spend their money where they skate. If word gets out that Taylor has a skate park, it will help revive our downtown area. This could be rather profitable if it is promoted accordingly. Skateboarding is a high-energy activity, which builds strength of body and mind, as it is an activity that requires an individual to be self-reliant while sharing space with other individuals. These are certainly skills we want to see in our youth. One constructive aspect that makes skateboarding a positive activity is that it allows individuals to focus on their personal abilities and skills. As a sport, skateboarding has no prescribed rules, no governing body, and no restrictions that require a team effort. Kids who are not served by team sports, are attracted to skateboarding, because it doesn't require you to join a team and compete so a winner and a loser is declared, it is an activity where there are no losers, only winners. Anyone can simply grab their board and skate at anytime to improve their skills. Skateboarding has other positive attributes, to which older skaters can attest. It builds confidence, and often it's this confidence in oneself that allows one to make the right choices in life. It also teaches kids that they can do things they never thought possible. For parents and kids this is also an opportunity for learning and positive role modeling. One only has to look at champion skater Tony Hawk and see how skateboarding has become a way for him to connect with his kids. Having no other options in Taylor, a well-designed and well-built skatepark will be the facility needed to provide a challenging activity for young people to participate. By providing this kind of location, older skaters will also use and enjoy this park and this mix will give the younger skaters the opportunity to learn and grow not only as a skater, but as a person as well. Taylor needs to make a commitment to our youth. The Project Loop kids worked hard for this and will continue to work hard for this. It is time that the city makes a clear statement and show that they are behind these kids. After all these kids are our future. The Project Loop kids have shown leadership skills and they have proven that they work hard to	DW to include text/footnote reference to this research or similar research citing the economic development impacts of skate parks.	Pending

					reach their goal. Now it is time for our elected officials to step up and show their support. Please put the Downtown Master Plan into action. Sincerely, Isabella Tebeau		
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:51 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Brian Tebeau [mailto:btebeau@gmail.com]	--	Skate park	Hi, Please proceed with the master plan and skate park. The kids have worked hard for their skate park. Brian Tebeau	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 5:54 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Miguel Verastique [mailto:verastique1701@gmail.com]	--	Civic art	Hello, My name's Miguel Verastique and I have called Taylor home my whole life. I have been fortunate enough to have the chance to start here and pursue my dreams of art and industry at Atelier 95. As a part of the Taylor Artist Guild, I have been able to see firsthand the town I knew from boyhood begin to stir and awaken. Momentum such as this is tends to keep moving, and I am sure that ours will continue, but it can always be helped. I'm proud to be part of not only my local art guild, but my town. This plan has only the option of making our town a more intriguing and active place for more people to live, grow, and become just as happy as I am in being from Taylor. I voice my support for this plan and I am sure I am not alone. with sincerest respect, Miguel Verastique	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:47 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Ricardo Zuniga [mailto:rjzuniga@gmail.com]	--	Skate park	Hello Bob, I would like to make the following comments to the DMP: 1. Concept 2 of the Improvements to Heritage Square MAIN STREET SHOULD BE THE FOCUS SINCE THE INFRASTRUCTURE IS ALREADY THERE 2. The Amtrak service should be started as soon as possible. I happened to be in Temple today, I was told how Amtrak riders make a 2 hour stop there. These tourists eat and shop close to the station. 3. The Skate Park should be put on the fast lane. This will attract a younger audience that is sorely missing in Taylor. Best, Ricardo Zuniga	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Friday, March 13, 2015 9:53 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Lauren Glover [mailto:lauren.haley.glover@gmail.com]	48	Civic art Sidewalks Litter management, beautification Additional downtown amenities: nature center Additional downtown amenities: theme park	Dear Mr. Vantil, We love the new Downtown Master Plan!!! Thanks for posting it online so we could review it. My husband and I live close to downtown, and are interested stakeholders in the community. We are especially impressed with the goals of the First Street plaza, arts district, and skatepark- we have needed this for so long, and it seems doable! What about some downtown murals too? They are inexpensive and have great impact, plus there are so many blank walls downtown! Maybe Taylor Artists Guild could do one, or Project Loop of even Taylor High Schoolers. I like the one in Hutto, maybe we could have a mural that represents our history too! We like the idea of improved signage, entrance markers, redoing the Amtrak Depot, and Heritage Square (love the allee trees and water feature, playground, gardens, and amphitheater--it all looks fabulous!!! All the Downtown Master Plan proposals will help to foster some much needed pride in our community and will encourage others to visit. What's more, the plan aligns with our goals of sustainable, economic development. I think the Master Plan represents a cultural shift in Taylor and I am so thrilled that you all are moving forward in such a positive way! I do think Taylor could work harder on code enforcement on our corridors into town (especially on 2nd St.) so people could be impressed and not see so many buildings in disrepair, dirt lots, industrial equipment, RV parks, etc. This may have to change with zoning. I just want it to look like a friendly, attractive place! I like the recommendations of sidewalks- PLEASE add some on Main! It was a great start to add them on 2nd, but I think we need them on Main all the way to Walmart, etc. Even though that is outside the downtown area, I think we need more and better linkages to other parts of town. People walk there all the time, so why not make it safer and more attractive? I also strongly agree with the ideas of creating more shade- the allees of trees, trees lining the sidewalks...yes please! I know some of the Downtown Master Plan goals may be expensive, but I think we should start with what we CAN do now-- for very little money, just some sweat equity! Let's start maintaining what we DO have, with some easy and quick "lipstick" fixes, while we work towards longer range, bigger fixes. Let's PICK UP THE TRASH (this is especially needed at the City Parks-- there is always trash in the water, on the banks of the shores, beer cans, etc even at the Regional Sports Complex. It's depressing. Especially considering we are the "Taylor Ducks" you would think we would keep their (and our) habitat cleaner! Another lipstick fix--let's repaint the downtown crosswalks, like the one on 4th, near Frills and sweep the streets! Then, as the Master Plan proposes, we could add a few benches, flowers, trashcans, recycling cans, banners, etc to the downtown area. Also, more signs would help develop civic pride and encourage tourism. These are all relatively inexpensive, easy improvements. All of this is very exciting! I feel like we are right on the edge of some big and much needed changes! I applaud all the hard work, communication, and organization that went into these efforts. I am SO proud!!!! Keep up the great work Taylor! SOO excited about what the future holds for us.	DW has included text and imagery regarding recommendations for downtown murals in the plan. DW to ensure text or recommendations addressing the need for litter management in downtown spaces is included in the "Streetscape Improvement Opportunities" section. Additional client feedback/clarification requested regarding nature center and theme park.	Client Feedback/ Clarification Required

					THANK YOU PS- A few of my own ideas I just wanted to share. 1) I think rail could really make this town develop! We already have existing rail lines that connect to Austin. Maybe we can work with Amtrak to adjust the schedule so that people could use it as a commuter rail! Imagine what this would do for development! Or if we could have something like the DART rail that takes commuters from Plano into Dallas. I've ridden it and its great! It's about the same distance as Taylor is to Austin. Can you imagine if Austinites could live out here and ride the train in to work?? Talk about economic development! 2) What about a Nature Center? Did you all know we are a major birding site?? I wonder if there are partnerships we could develop with someone like the Audubon Society or Texas Parks and Wildlife and they could help educate the people of Taylor on what a unique site we are for migratory birds, including water fowl. The cattle egrets are a strength, not a nuisance! What about building viewing platforms, and have signs that teach you about the egrets, and all the amazing birds here. I met a lady the other day that drives here from Pflugerville just to observe and take professional photos of the birds. She said she has spotted birds here that have migrated all the way from the Arctic! 3) Lastly, this might be pie-in-the sky, but I wish somehow out in the hinterlands of Taylor, we could have a theme park- "TexAveryLand" or something. I wonder if we could solicit Warner Brothers or Six Flags as potential developers. The Tex Avery connection is a HUGE deal! We need to capitalize on it. I love the new downtown plaque of Tex Avery. I think we should have a statue of him downtown too (and one of Bill Pickett, another Taylor great!) but what if there was a way to actually develop an amusement park with rides, Looney Toons characters and everything out here? We have cheap land, Tex Avery was born here, and we are so close to Austin! Just think of all the Austinites who would rather come here instead of driving to San Antonio! So much closer! And think of all the jobs and tourists it would bring. Just a thought Again, THANK YOU to all the people whose hard work helped create this incredible Downtown Master Plan. Taylor's future looks bright! Sincerely, Lauren Glover and Jarred Brown		
Friday, March 13, 2015 7:27 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Curie Humphreys [mailto:cherrytree323@gmail.com]	--	Amtrak	Mr. Van Til, I attended the Master Plan meeting the other night and found it very exciting and encouraging to see all of the proposed "positive" growth for Taylor! I support ALL of it, and think it would be so wonderful to be able to begin this growth with all of the smallest, most inexpensive changes first! I feel that each new change that occurs will bring with it some of the MOST Noticeable differences to our Downtown. It will also keep the community even more interested and excited about all of the even bigger things to come! Seeing results early should be first and foremost. Ex: Way finder signage for streets; assisting both cars and pedestrians, banners on light posts, parking restriping to support the anticipated growth and make way for new customers and visitors into downtown. To me, each and every one of these little positive additions will keep the momentum pushing forward with excitement and have a very real, tangible change that all of the people from our community can see for themselves! Benches to sit upon, Gateway signs that they will drive by, all noticed and appreciated by the people of Taylor, helping to bring an additional sense of pride to each resident and visitor. While keeping ALL of us on the exciting path of wanting only the best, and watching each of these changes to take place, even if ever so small, but consistent, trends us towards a common goal that was outlined in the phenomenal	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision

					plan that was presented! The idea that Amtrak could literally be an integral part of the growth of our town once again is a unique and wonderful concept...not every town even has the opportunity to do what we could possibly do, how lucky are we?! Taking advantage of such uniqueness is just the type of town I think we should be known for. Any town can add extra trees and parking and lights etc... Not hard. But.... being creative with existing concepts that we ALREADY have working in our favor is Extraordinary. Adds the One of a Kind Character and Integrity to not only our town, but how the town works together to creatively make it a more wonderful place to live, work and play. Once again, there was not one part of the Master plan that I didn't agree with, from Heritage Square, to the Skate Park, to Main Street and beyond...all if it is awesome, the only problem to me is "How soon can we make any of these changes a reality?" The sooner the better for each Adult, Child, Visitor or Taylorite them self. Thank you for all you do to make Taylor a wonderful place to live, work and play, right in the heart of the great State of Texas. Sincerely, Curie Humphreys Owner of Cherry Tree Creative + The Nest Box 321 + 323 N.Main St. 'Downtown' Taylor, Texas		
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 6:49 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Jacob Kopit [mailto:jcbkopit@gmail.com]	--	Skate park	Hello, My name is Jacob Kopit and I have lived in Taylor since 4th grade. My family moved here from Los Angeles so that my brothers and I could experience small town life. Taylor's a great town and I love being a duck, however, there is almost nothing for young people to do in this town. Our charming downtown is a ghost town other than the Howard Theatre. The proposal presented at the library this week was amazing. The images transformed our town into a thriving communtiy in which everyone has a place. As a high schooler, I was involved in Project LOOP. Our activities were great fun, and they allowed us to experience the joy of BMX at the home of Brent Humphrey. Those of us involved in LOOP had few other social outlets available to us here in Taylor. The skate park would be a great opportunity for young people like me to have fun here in town. The pictures also reminded me of some of my favorite Texas towns. Our family has visited, like: Brenham, Alpine, San Antonio, and Fort Worth, among others. Seeing Taylor transformed into a space as beautiful as those is amazing. Please support the master plan. It is a great plan for our city's future. Sincerely, Jacob Kopit	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Friday, March 13, 2015 6:05 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Angela kopit [mailto:akopit5@me.com]		Bike connectivity	Good Afternoon, I am writing to express my overwhelming support of the Master Plan presented at the Community Meeting at the library this past Monday. As a Taylor newcomer (my family has only been here 10 years), I believe the plan presented would return Taylor to its full potential. We were drawn to Taylor by the amazing number of spectacular vintage homes and the charming downtown area. It was only after we moved here that we realized that the downtown was clinging to life, supported by a few visionaries who could look past the years of neglect and imagine the thriving city center depicted in the master plan presented. As we have watched one restaurant and shop after another move into the downtown corridor only to die a slow and painful death, we have wondered when a systemwide approach might present itself. This is exactly what we have been hoping for. What a joy it would be to head into our own downtown to shop and dine and see a movie... to jump on a train to head into Austin, rather than driving into the city. How lovely would it be for Austinites to head into Taylor for a day of shopping and barbecue. This town has amazing potential, but we need to develop it to keep it alive. The skatepark under the railroad bridge is a brilliant use of space, and a great way to get a frequently neglected segment of our population engaged in the community. What a great way to keep the youth of our town interested in Taylor (rather than actively planning their flight from Taylor). I have 3 sons who are proud Ducks, but aside from school activities, have very limited entertainment options here in town. Of	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision

					course we are at the Howard several times each month, but other than that, we are pretty limited. A skateboard park would be a great start. Connecting the south side of town and the new High School to the downtown area via bike paths would also be a great idea. The vision for Heritage Park and the areas immediately adjacent are simply stunning. That site would definitely be a destination for our family. Please embrace this vision and help us to bring some life back to this charming piece of paradise. Sincerely, Angela and Neal Kopit		
Friday, March 13, 2015 5:12 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Ray brown [mailto:vistalite76@yahoo.com]	--	First Street Redevelopment and Amtrak	Hi, I attended the master plan meeting by Design Workshop. It was informative and exciting to be a part of a leap forward for Taylor . I strongly agree with their proposal to revamp 1st street. Specifically the amtrak station and proposed skatepark. Making downtown a destination for people will be good for everyone in Taylor as well as making us unique among small towns in this area. I hope the city implements Design Workshops suggestions and can't wait to see Taylor move forward. Take care, Raymond Brown	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 4:14 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Mark Schroeder [mailto:mark@hejllawfirm.com]	--	Amtrak station Skate park	Deby and Bob I wanted to provide a few comments regarding the impressive master plan. First, I would like to see the city keep the current amtrack station as a hub for development as recommended by the current master plan. I believe the station's potential future use a commuter rail station makes its current location ideal for future development. Secondly, I would also like to see the skate park stay in its currently proposed location under 1st street bridge. I think leveraging the funds that are already in place to provide a jumpstart to the downtown development would be ideal. Thanks, Mark	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 3:28 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Brent Humphreys [mailto:brenthumphreys@me.com]	--	Skate park	Bob- This plan is absolutely perfect especially the programming for Heritage Square, The Amtrak and the Skatepark. A skatepark can be built anywhere but the concept as presented by Design Workshop presents a genuine "Taylor Made" opportunity for the City of Taylor. The concept of a bridge park is not only unique draw but revolutionary to Texas, the shade and protection from the weather would set it apart. The proximity to our under marketed and under utilized Amtrak provides a great opportunity. This currently derelict and under utilized space would be considered a world class skatepark instantly by design and create a huge draw. Visiting riders and tourists would generate positive energy and revenue through events and FOR area retailers. It would also send a signal to Taylor youth that you are a very important part of our community and we want you in the heart. We have a High School and a park that are not exactly accessible for kids on bikes and skateboards so let's not do that again. This bridge skatepark provides an opportunity as a highly transformative moment for the City of Taylor in terms of the continued revitalization of downtown. It also provides an opportunity to help Taylor's negative image and the outside perception. With over 250 skateparks in Texas, Taylor would be "first" in Texas for a bridge park and instantly known as such. People would say Taylor does things different and progressive. People would say Taylor takes pride in and honors public engagement specifically youth. People would say Taylor knows a great opportunity when it sees it and knows how to capitalize through community partnerships. OR Taylor could just build a generic out of the way park elsewhere...To surmise, the skatepark downtown appeases 3 of the top 4 goals as identified in the recent strategic planning session being downtown revitalization, economic growth and skatepark. It also would go along way towards our image and outside perception which is	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision

					another high priority. Many of these plans & studies often result in little action which was also a recurring topic in the same workshops.I think council is in step with the community in wanting the walk to finally match the talk. I'm sure you've undoubtedly received some knee jerk negative reactions to the plan but people often don't understand an opportunity this great. Besides, I doubt those people complaining have 90k to invest. Cheers, Brent Humphreys www.brenthumphreys.com		
Friday, March 13, 2015 3:08 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Catherine Parker (mailto:catherinepar ker72@me.com)	36, 37, 64		I would like to introduce myself—I am Catherine Parker and I have lived in Taylor for 10 years. I am originally from Houston but I have lived in New York City and San Jose, California, and every other metro area in Texas except El Paso. I am raising three children in Taylor because of the affordability and accessibility to Austin. I attended the Vision Implementation Workshop at City Hall on November 17. I made time in my busy school night/work night schedule to attend. I brought an additional person with me, Diana Goetting, so we could contribute to the process. Though I combed through the Master Plan before it was presented, I was throughly impressed with Design Workshop's presentation on Monday night. It is everything that Taylor needs to move forward and be competitive and relevant in the Central Texas market. This plan would put downtown Taylor in line with downtown Georgetown, that's what Taylor must do. As areas in Central Texas continue to grow, potential residents will come to Taylor seeing what it has to offer. Taylor needs to show those potential residents and investors the historically rich downtown corridor that has been revitalized and relevant for today. The city can not continue to live in age in which Austin is on the distance horizon. Taylor needs to do everything possible to connect itself with this vibrant epicenter. Austin is beloved throughout the US, and has the growth to prove it. Taylor does NOT need to remove the Amtrak station from the downtown master plan but it does need to add an intermodal transportation hub in the downtown area that connects Taylor and Eastern Williamson county with Austin. As Austin increases its density, more residents will depend on public transportation, Taylor needs to be poised to be included in Project Connect. After looking at the Project Connect website, it appears Taylor isn't included in this plan but Hutto is. The Heritage Park plan is an amazing gathering space for community events; Design Workshop has integrated the desires of the citizens that attended the Vision Implementation Workshop on November 17. It would be a great asset for the whole community and especially for the downtown residents. Imagine the events that could be hosted downtown along Porter Street, with Heritage Park set up with live music and food trucks. I love the trees, the native gardens and the water feature. Project Loop has shined a positive light on this city with its broad reach and its good news message. On couple of occasions, when I told people I lived in Taylor, they told me of the amazing things they heard happening in Taylor. Both instances they were referring to the work that Brent Humphries was doing with Project Loop. I find it amazing what a group of creative kids and their intrepid leader have done in the eyes of those who live outside of the Taylor city limits. We were thrilled to find the Loop kids working at the X Games last June. They do a great job representing the youth of Taylor. This group of kids that no one believed in worked hard and learned an invatuable lesson—dream big. They wrote some letters, shipped some boards to artists and held an auction. They learned how to work with like an adult in an adult world, making things happen. People outside of Taylor	DW recommends greater connectivity with and support of Project Connect in the "CARTS Fixed Route", "Regional Transit Opportunities", "Amtrak Improvements" of the document. DW does not specifically cite the Project Loop Tony Hawk Foundation grant as a potential funding source for implementation of the skate park, but this information may be added.	Pending

					paid attention. One of the people was Tony Hawk. Not only did he pay attention, he invested in Project Loop and its skatepark. Taylor has a world-class athlete noticing what a group of teens are doing. That doesn't happen to just anybody. When a skate park wins a Tony Hawk Foundation grant it is like winning an Academy Award. The skate park is now a Tony Hawk Foundation park—forever. When competing against other park for events, it will be marketed as a Tony Hawk Foundation Skate Park. That carries weight in the skating and BMX community. Texas is dotted with skate parks located in community parks all over the state; they are nice and certainly better than no skate park but they are not unique and certainly not iconic. That is what a bridge skate park is, an instant icon. No other community in Texas has one. Taylor will be the first. With this park you have made a destination that other skaters will instantly know. I am a mother of three and I have complete confidence that Evergreen Skateparks will design a safe park next to a train track. I have confidence that the kids of will be respectful of their park, they have worked hard enough for it. Thank you for your time and attention. Catherine Parker		
Friday, March 13, 2015 1:50 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Mark Nibbelink [mailto:mnibbelink@drillinginfo.com]	Recommendations Chapter	Main Street Study area – south Heritage Square Regional transportaiton	Bob: Below are my comments re: the Master Plan that was presented on Monday evening. 1. The City should closely investigate the possibilities of narrowing down the traffic foot print on both 2nd and on Main Street. I recognize that Main Street is a Tx DOT battle, but the ability to move casual commerce (specifically dining and social areas) away from storefronts would do a lot, in my opinion, to draw and keep increased foot traffic that would probably spend more. One of the items that I keep hearing from folks is that they wish they had more dining options(both lunch and supper) in downtown Taylor, and increasing the servable footprint would help. Making these spaces tree friendly would be paramount. 2. I liked the look of Heritage Park, although the details of the various recreation venues was difficult to discern. It's my belief that a renewed Heritage Park and a more user-friendly foot traffic experience (expanded dining etc.) as pointed out in 1 above need to be considered as a package, since they are mutually re-inforcing. I would therefore join the budget allocation of the two under one project name to help brand the development. This will also defend the process against those who would complain that the city is confronted with too many things to do. It would also ensure that design elements for both were in synch. 3. The point that was made about quieting rail noise downtown was well made and important. Although we've used soundproofing glass in the McCrory Timmerman, we can't assume that other developers would be willing to take on that added expense. The reduction of the sound profile simply makes it more likely that a higher percentage of potential investors in downtown Taylor will seriously consider Taylor as place to invest. I'd therefore like the City to take lead on working with rail interests to close the streets that now require horn notifications (assuming that traffic flow for emergency and other public vehicles is not compromised). 4. Not much was said about development from Walnut street to the loop. This is an important gateway into town, and it is close enough to the downtown area to have a great impact--positive or negative--on the look and feel of the new Taylor. Some vision of realistic modifications or improvements to this corridor would go a long way to helping the entire community see this as a coherent plan. 5. Referring to the stated preference of the focus groups to preserve what is uniquely Taylor , I think it's important to start building a consensus around developing a narrative that emphasizes the rich history of Taylor. Cedar Park doesn't have this, Lampasas doesn't have it, Hutto certainly doesn't have it, but Taylor does, in abundance. An undercurrent theme of Taylor history woven into the fabric of improvements--would be a powerful branding message for Taylor. 6. Project Connect , will have a huge influence on how the future of Taylor unfolds (http://www.projectconnect.com/north-corridor-video).Anything that we as a community can do to	The master plan recommends various streetscape improvement opportunities for Main Street (examples include parking, district entry features, improvements to streets on the east and west of the bridge to create visual interest and connect north and south Taylor).	No Revision

					be involved in this and use what we learn as a recruiting/business development tool would be important. In the video that I've provided the link to , the mayor of Hutto is quoted. If we don't have a strong voice in this process, we need one. I've taken enough of your valuable time...thanks for letting me weigh in. Happy to discuss anything above, or serve in any way that's useful. Mark Nibbelink Cwmry Boyd II LLC		
Friday, March 13, 2015 12:46 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Ace Tobak [mailto:tapandg@sbcglobal.net]		Wildlife habitat and pest management	Bob, I wasn't able to attend the presentation but I've just had a chance to read the Master Plan proposal and want to put in my 2 cents. As you know I own the property between 1st and 2nd St.s on Main, and live in the existing buildings on 2nd and Main. I'm addressing my concerns to the area of the recommended plan that makes the suggestion for the area under the overpass and these streets. Any proposal can look marvelous on paper (and this looks pretty good) but if and when it's built it's going to come smack up to the reality of the environmental conditions. In the spring the endangered short tailed Mexican Bat nests under the overpass, and while it may look romantic when you see the tourists standing on the Austin Bridge watching the 1000's of bats leave to feed, their presents here is stinky and a nuisance. Their dung dries and becomes airborne and their urine gets all over your car (or you if they fly over head). Then we have the birds that nest under the overpass, besides the pigeons we have a migratory bird that makes a dauber shell nest, with all of the predictable results. Moving onto the constant traffic on the overpass. Its more than noisy, anyone walking or sitting below is breathing bits of tires (yes you can see the particles in the street) and exhaust fumes, this isn't something where installing an awning is going to eradicate the hazard. Then we have the almost continual wind blowing dirt, sand and pollen from the hills and fields to the south and west. Several times a year we get inundated with insects coming from the fields. It's impossible to keep anything clean (read your salad that you've just paid $12. for at an outdoor restaurant). And the elephant in the room is the train. The noise does't only come from the horns, but every time the train is shifted/braked/started the cars hit each other with a huge crashing sound. I know that all of these conditions alter how my neighbors and I conduct our business. I applaud the idea of taking underused real estate and creating a vibrant community active area, I just don't believe that this proposal has any chance of success located here. Please feel free to contact me if I can offer any additional ideas. Sincerely, Ace Tobak	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Friday, March 13, 2015 12:42 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Judy Blundell [mailto:judyblundell@msn.com]		Additional downtown amenities: railway museum Community engagement, transparency	Comments about the Master Plan as presented on Monday, March 9. Bob, my response to the suggested master plan presented by the Design Workshop is as follows: I like the overall concept of the plan. I found it to be well thought out and professionally presented. Having worked as an urban planner for a number of years, I am aware that to fully achieve the vision put forth through a comprehensive master plan, a great deal of funding, dedication and perseverance will be required. The key message that appears and reappears is that Taylor is about to find itself in the middle of a massive growth period, and it is imperative that	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision

we step up and take charge of how that growth will affect our community. We cannot remain passive and expect to emerge intact. The area designated as our historical downtown, must be subject to strong facade compliance codes, i.e. awnings, appropriate signage, shop front enhancement and adequate lighting of pedestrian zones. And landlords must maintain their buildings, they can't simply let them crumble to the curb. I realize that it's very difficult to tell a Texan what they can and can't do with their property, but "not telling" them isn't working very well, because many do not choose to do the right thing. I encourage the city to follow the Master Plan's advice about adopting a set of standards and enforcing them.
The Design Workshop's focus upon both Heritage Square Park and the First St. area along the railway lines is sound. Employing a "bar-bell" strategy by creating two appealing active public zones connected by a walkable thoroughfare provides multiple destinations for visitors and residents to enjoy as well as various options for future business entities to "set up shop." I was hoping that there might be some stronger emphasis on creating a railway museum; perhaps right along the tracks with a window wall open to the rear to show the trains coming and going as they do. Our railway is a bigger asset (tourism wise) than most realize. The area along First St. could play a strong role in the revitalization of the down town
area, but a decision about whether the street level crossing remains in place must be fully addressed. Certainly a safety fence must be put in place before encouraging public gathering in the area, but it should be done in a way that doesn't exclude
residents from the south side of the tracks. I am in favor of the skateboard park beneath the overpass. Skateboard parks create a meeting place that offers action to watch or take part in, and they give good reason to fully light and monitor an area that is under utilized. I have spoken to a small number of
people who seem to believe that skateboard parks attract youth that are less than productive or encourage bad juvenile behavior, but statistics actually prove otherwise. A well designed and maintained skateboard park provides an outlet for juvenile energy, that left unchecked or unfocused can become destructive. Having a place to meet with friends, learn new skills and show them off leads to creative productive thought patterns, increased self confidence and friendships which are a positive influence on kids and young adults. The plan for Heritage Square Park is my favorite part of the plan. It places an active heart into the middle of the town. One that offers activities to a large variety of our residents and one that is highly visible to visitors and those simply driving through. It will send a strong message that we are a community with our residents welfare in mind. The splash pads are very successful in bringing young families together to share a common experience and this is one of the foundations of strong community. The most difficult part of the plan, but one I feel very worth pursuing, is to create a more shaded walkable down town. Having a vast stretch of baking concrete stringing out before you is not at all appealing. Streets only become inviting when lined with trees and tempting shaded benches to sit upon. This involves bump outs for the trees, which may require shifting away from parallel parking to angle parking. There are certainly going to be people who will have multiple reasons why this cannot be done and they are the toughest obstacles of all. They will say that the tree roots interfere (they actually can stabilize moisture levels), they will say that angle parking will slow down the traffic (this is good, not bad), they will say that trees make it hard to see the business signs (glaring sun makes it impossible to see anything, shade makes things clearer) and they will say that TxDot won't allow it. (TxDot will allow it, but it takes some perseverance)
Overall, I am happy that the City of Taylor engaged in the process of updating its master plan. My fear is that is will not be acted upon. Master plans do not come cheap, the development of one is expensive on its own, but to invest in the development of one such as our most recent, and then not act on it would be irresponsible and most likely create a breach in trust between the city and its residents. The people of Taylor are watching very closely to see what happens next; even those who did not attend the
meetings. It is my hope that they will see that their tax dollars are being put to positive use so that all who live here may benefit from the process we have just gone through.

From: Judy Blundell [mailto:judyblundell@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 12:42 PM
To: Bob Vantil; Deby Lannen
Subject: comments for master plan

					Attached please find my comments pertaining to the latest master plan document. jb Judy Blundell Principal Living Line Design Solutions Tel. 512.269.8339 judyblundell@msn.com		
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:05 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Lucio Mendez [mailto:texaslonghornes@sbcglobal.net]	–	Skate park	Hello I'm Abraham Mendez, I have lived in Taylor for 3 or so years now and love everything about it. I am very happy to be apart of this wonderful town and it growth. The plans look great. I would also like to encourage a local skate park! Theirs so much that can come out of this with youth and the community! 18 Baseball parks...8 tennis courts...2 or 3 football Fields... 3 or 4 soccer fields... 1 putt putt golf... 1 community garden... all this for our kids and their future. I support Project Loop and their efforts. Taylor's future is shaping up with yall plans please include a skate park thanks and have a great day. God Bless Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:00 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Tina - Empire BMX [mailto:tina@empirebmx.com]	–	Skate park	We are here for ya'll!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Empire BMX, Inc. 6310 N. Lamar Blvd Austin, TX 78752 ph (512) 474-4269 fax (512) 474-4304 www.empirebmx.com	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
March 11, 2015	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	Tina and Thomas Williams	–	Skate park	Hello Everyone! My husband and I own Empire Bmx, Inc. We are a mailorder and retail shop located in Austin, TX. We've been in business almost 12 years now, and I've rarely seen a group of kids and adults come together for a single cause like the 50/50 Bridge Skatepark. Our friend Brent Humphreys asked for our support and we are here to give it! Empire BMX will be there for Project Loop as well as the skatepark as much as possible. I think once that the park is built, there is the potential for many great things. The city of Taylor could host events, contests, and benefits at the skatepark. I'm confident that kids and their parents from all over Texas and the surrounding area would make the 50/50 bridge skatepark a destination. We all know that kids need an outlet to express themselves. Kids need to be physical. If they do not have outlets for creativity, they become bored and often get in to trouble. We need to help these kids as much as possible, and although we are in Austin, we will do as much as we can for the efforts there in Taylor. Tina and Thomas Williams Empire BMX, Inc. March 11, 2015	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:02 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: ALC Steaks [mailto:steaks@austin.rr.com]	–	Skate park	My name is Scotty Mescall and i am the GM/Owner of ALC Steaks in downtown Austin.I also have been lucky enough to skate every day for the past 35 years House park was built with a lot of people working together and i skate it every day and watch how much it is used and keeps kids out of trouble and focusing on the good stuff in life. I have been apart of Project Loop for quite some time now an am amazed at what Brent is doing and how hard the kids involved help and respond. I have seen location of the proposed park and think its perfect.If i can help out in anyway please feel free to ask anytime. Thank you Scotty Sincerly, Theresa Mertens 1205 n lamar blvd. austin, tx 78703	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision

					512.472.1813 www.ALCSteaks.com		
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:32 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Artman ANONYMOUS [mailto:artmanjames@me.com]	--	Skate park	I am writing this letter in support of the Project Loop 50/50 Bridge Skatepark concept, as part of the Taylor Downtown Master Plan. I have seen the location in its current state, and look forward to witnessing this urban renewal. I have watched over the past years as the children of Taylor have the folks at Project Loop have worked tirelessly on this vision of a new place to recreate and play. What they as young people will take away from this experience are character building lessons that will last a lifetime. I hope you see as adults and leaders of Taylor, that it's time for you make good on this promise. I personally, have had extensive experience working with AFI Film Festival Dallas, Deep Ellum Fest and the Santa Monica Pier Film Series. All of these very successful annual events have brought a sense of lasting community utilizing often unforeseen areas of their cities, much like the multiple uses projected by Project Loop. I view the Project Loop 50/50 skatepark as groundbreaking for the community of Taylor, as well as for its children. Persistence of Vision! Arthur James	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:39 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Christian Helms [mailto:christian@helmsworkshop.com]	--	Skate park	Hi Bob, I'm a business owner and Austin resident, and I've been doing anything I can to support Brent and the folks over at Project Loop in their efforts to establish a skate park there in Taylor. I wanted to take some time this afternoon to send you a brief letter of support, and to tell you a bit about why I think building something like this in Taylor is so important. I grew up in a small town in North Carolina called Bessemer City. In many ways it's very much like Taylor; it's small, close-knit, and what it may not have in fancy development it makes up for with the things that matter. It's a mill community of working class folks who take care of each other. Growing up in a town of about 10,000 folks, I felt that care more than I realized at the time. Living there instilled in me a lot of the character and the values that make me whom I am today. Along with the love I have for growing up in a small town, I've also realized over the years that the size of my town meant that I didn't always get exposed to a lot of things that kids in a bigger towns might have experiencde. I work now in the filed of design, but that's not something I ever knew about as a child. Photography, illustration, or anything creative really— it was all something I considered "play" rather than a way to earn a living and contribute to the fabric of my community. Just a glimpse into the world of opportunity that's out there for a young creative person would've meant the world to me as a kid, and greatly accelerated my journey in finding a career. Brent and Project Loop are creating that opportunity for kids today. Past that, they're building a strong, positive community for boys and girls who may be "outside of the conventional mold", but who have so much to offer. The work Project Loop does fosters self esteem, confidence and life skills that are invaluable to adolescent kids, and that serve them throughout their lives. I can't say enough good things about what Project Loop is doing. I've heard a lot about the proposed skate park in Taylor, and revitalizing the overpass area that would surround it. I think it's great that the kids of PL are now working together to build something for all of the kids of Taylor (young and old) to enjoy for years to come. The idea of giving back and taking an active role in improving an already great small town is an idea that's close to my heart, and the spirit shown by what Loop has done to get here is absolutely inspiring. They're equal parts heart, smarts and hard work, and they love Taylor. For those reasons, and many more, I'm a big supporter of building the skate park in town. I can't wait to drive up from Austin to bring my son, and spend some money and grab some BBQ while we're at it.	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision

					Best, Christian Christian Helms HELMS WORKSHOP christian@helmsworkshop.com http://helmsworkshop.com/ http://www.facebook.com/Helmsworkshop http://twitter.com/xianhelms 512-294-2334 3507 South First St. Austin, Texas 78704		
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:11 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Jim Bauer [mailto:jimb@odysseybmx.com]	--	Skate park	Skate/Bike parks are the municipal baseball fields and football fields of modern times. While those water soaking developments are unused for most of their lives, Skateparks are filled everywhere kids live. It is a proven template all over the world and in this country. Building a park user a bridge is economy of means and space, while protecting the riders/skaters from sun and weather. It is really one of the best uses for that kind of space. In addition to the kids who will have a world class park, it will bring visitors from all over the state (and beyond) and make Taylor a destination spot. I think Taylor is very forward thinking and I commend the governing bodies for letting a project like this come to light. What a reward to prove to the kids in Project Loop that hard work pays off. Thanks for your time. JIM BAUER Art Director OTX design/Odyssey BMX Austin, TX	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:37 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Ashley Fairbairn-Hensley [mailto:a.n.fairbairn@gmail.com]	--	Skate park	Dear Mr. Vantil- I just wanted to take a moment and express our families support of the Skatepark plans here in Taylor. As residents and Parents of Four school-aged Children, one of whom is deeply involved in the BXM community, we are anxiously awaiting this parks presence here in our town! We took our Son to the first meeting with Project Loop under the bridge where they plan to (hopefully) place the park. The atmosphere was magical, all those kids there were completely lit up about the possibilities of the park and at a chance to be involved in it's creation! I love the "under bridge" concept, standing under the bridge you can really "see" it there. And, I know the kids love the idea as much as me. The Park has this families seal of approval! Sincerely, Ashley Hensley	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Wednesday, March 11,	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Carter [mailto:carter_d@hotmail.com]	--	Skate park	Hello Bob, My name is Carter Dennis and I am with an organization called Skaters for Public Skateparks.	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support	No Revision

2015 11:14 PM					I work with cities and advocates throughout the world in developing public skateparks, and have worked with many of the cities in Texas. I live in San Antonio, TX. I have been hearing for sometime that Taylor has been working towards getting a public skatepark, and this is really exciting news. I was even more excited to hear that the skatepark maybe located under a bridge. I understand that this is not official yet. Although this may seem like a strange thing to get excited about...Texas has a lot of great public skateparks. Unfortunately, very few of these skateparks are covered. They get extremely hot during the long summer days and unusable on rain days. However, we are seeing a growing trend across the country of cities using underutilized spaces under highway overpasses. The most notable and recently built Washington Jefferson skatepark in Eugene, OR is a great example.... http://eugene-or.gov/WJskatepark Another great example is Grey's Ferry Park in Philadelphia, PA. This is probably more along the lines of what Taylor could do. http://franklinspaine.com/skateparks/grays-ferry-crescent-skatepark The Vancouver, BC facility was built over 10 years ago is recognized world wide. http://www.newlineskateparks.com/Projects/Featured/12/Vancouver-Skate-Plaza St. John, NB... http://www.newlineskateparks.com/Projects/Featured/108/Station-One-Skate-Plaza—Saint-John%2c-NB Wichita, KS... http://www.wichita.gov/Government/Departments/Park/Pages/WichitaSkatepark.aspx And one of the biggest projects to date the Charles River Skatepark in Boston, MA... http://www.thecharles.org/projects-and-programs/skate-park/ I think using the highway overpass in Taylor would bring something truly unique to the state, and create a model for other Texas cities. To date no other cities in Texas have built a skatepark utilizing a highway overpass. Taylor would be the first. If you have anymore questions about these facilities let me know. Our organization operates 100% volunteer and we would be happy to help you guys out anyway we can. Carter Dennis Executive Director Skaters for Public Skateparks	for draft plan elements.	

					Email: skateparkinfo@gmail.com Website: www.skatepark.org		
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:50 AM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Chisum Pierce [mailto:chisum_pierce@yahoo.com]	--	Skate park	Bob, I just wanted to write a quick email to show my support for Project Loop and the idea of a skatepark under the overpass/bridge at First and Main St. It has come to my attention as a business owner and property owner with interest both in my building and my mother's building that the youth of Taylor need this skatepark badly. At first I was naive to the need for this, but if you just drive down the streets when school is out on a weekday or on weekends you will see multiple groups of kids looking for something to do outside for entertainment. Due to the work that Project Loop has done I started to notice that many of these kids out wandering the streets are on bikes or skateboards. I was never a skater because I grew up on a farm, but seeing these kids in Taylor who have nothing to do except ride in places that are questionably legal leaves these kids with no option but to be at odds with our local authorities and business/home owners alike. I personally believe giving all the kids of Taylor, Project Loop and those who do not participate in this amazing opportunity Brent Humphreys developed, will allow for these kids to have a gathering place that is made for exactly what they need/want and provide a place for entertainment and camaraderie. I think this will actually reduce juvenile delinquency and will give the kids a much better professionally intended venue for their sports of choice instead of using ledges and things like I have on my building, which I worry could be a personal liability aside from the wear and tear it creates on my property. Secondly, I have an investment in my building and property and my mother does well. We both want nothing more than Taylor to become a vibrant town that is a destination, and a skatepark is just another attribute to our town that would draw people to visit. Their are famous skateparks across the country some of them under bridges and some of them that aren't, Brent tells me that this would be the first under a bridge in Texas. Being under our bridge is great for many reasons: it provides shade which would be great in the summer, it would be a step towards the Master Plan's redevelopment and renewed vibrance to our downtown area, it would utilize a portion of our town that would probably go overlooked otherwise, and it is close to the AmTrak so skaters and bikers could ride in from Dallas, Waco, Austin & San Antonio to name a few and being the only "under a bridge skatepark in Texas" would give this skatepark that type of draw. Taylor is making positive and progressive changes and the city's support on this issue would be an investment in the youth and future of Taylor. These are the kids of people who will shop and eat at the shops and restaurants downtown. People could potentially drive in from all our surrounding communities let their kids enjoy the skatepark while they shop and eat. I see this skatepark and the dreams of the kids in Project Loop coming to fruition as a huge win for our community and give it my full support. Thank you for your consideration with this matter. Regards, Chisum Pierce 512-569-2567	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:55 AM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Ron Pippin [mailto:ron@shiny.tv]	--	Skate park	Bob: I wanted to drop you a line and say congratulations on being in the unique position to shape the future growth of Taylor. As a small business owner and family man who may soon relocate from Austin to a quieter life, I'm keeping a discerning eye on Taylor's growth because I firmly believe your town is in the position to become one of the most progressive destination towns in the country. I'm a Board Member and Mentor to Project LOOP. What draws me to the service of these kids is that I was like them - I had no interest in team sports, school was boring and I was more interested in doing and making than homework. I had a mentor like Brent. And he helped me realize that there is, in fact, a place for kids like me to thrive how I choose.	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision

I recently had the opportunity to interview some of the LOOP kids for a class project. And I was blown away at the consciousness and inspiration happening for these kids. It's not often you hear 10th graders talking about "following their passions" and "doing good work for their community." And in more than a decade supporting various youth projects, never before have I witnessed any youth program that's raised 75K from their own hard work and creativity. I'm currently fundraising my own youth enrichment project. And I'm here to tell you it's no picnic trying to figure out ways to connect people to your message and motivate them to give. Under Brent's leadership, LOOP has done that astoundingly well, all while providing support and free promotion to the Taylor community. We've been to events in Taylor like Good Life and the car show. And they are always first class. We recognize the hand of Brent and Project LOOP in these efforts, too.

As an educator, I'm learning a lot from the LOOP model and I apply this in my own classroom teachings and projects. Showing young people how to give generously of their time and talents is an immeasurable growth experience that will have lasting impressions throughout their lives.

Bob, I can't think of a single person who has done more for kids or his own community than Brent. This is something you should seriously take into consideration when deciding whether or not to support the current master plan before you. From my perspective, they've earned the right to be wherever they see fit, as long that decision improves the Taylor community. Quality spaces for youth to do what they love does draw young parents and families to communities, as well as outside press and goodwill. And hotspots like the new masterplan before you provide a gathering point for all that's good in your town.

When Brent informed me of some of the challenges he's having with local leadership about the skatepark location, frankly I was taken aback. What a gift for your community to be handed 75K in other people's money for the betterment of your community. You know Brent. He takes no decision lightly, and he has worked closely with numerous leading professionals to plan a quality destination for the youth of Taylor. And for anyone to be unsupportive of this in any way is simply offensive. Everything he's done for Taylor and the kids is on his own time when he could be out earning for his own family. I suggested that Brent look to another community that might be more supportive of the skatepark. But he disagreed, saying he owed it to Taylor kids to put the skatepark where they live and play.

In closing, I know there's a big misunderstanding about what ride/skate brings to a community. I take my own 7 year old daughter and 9 year old son to our skatepark in Austin. Did you know ride and skate are among the most athletic of all sports? Did you know that ride/skate provides a safe outlet for kids who are not like all the rest? Did you know that fostering skateparks and similar destinations helps kids unite and get the kind of support they might not otherwise receive?
That's good for everybody, especially a community that thrives and grows in the wake of progressivism.

Thank you for your time. I wish you great success in the growth of Taylor. And I look forward to shaking your hand in the near future when you break ground on your phenomenal, progressive master plan that serves the whole Taylor community. If a town provides enough of what people want and need, their kids are more likely to stay and raise their own kids there. And as you know, a community that sticks together grows stronger.

Best Regards,

Ron Pippin
ARTtv
OUTSIDE VOICE
Shiny Object

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:58 AM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Ron Pippin [mailto:ron@shiny.tv]	--	Skate park	Brent: Attached is the letter Ive written to Bob Vantil (Cced) on behalf of Project LOOP. Good luck. We look forward to hearing that the City of Taylor has stepped up, focused on what's right instead of public hysteria and made the smart choice to help Project LOOP build this wonderful thing where the city will thrive. Best Regards, Ron Pippin	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 10:22 AM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: stewart johnson [mailto:anthemii@hotmail.com]	--	Skate park	To whom it May concern, My name is Stewart Johnson, I am 41 years old and a resident of Austin, TX. I am writing you today to lend my support to Project Loop in their goal of getting a skatepark for the city of Taylor, Texas. I have been involved with BMX bike riding and skateboarding since I was 6 years old(1979). I did not fit into the mold of traditional sports such as baseball and football. I was drawn to BMX and skateboarding because they were vehicles of self expression and there were no regulations that dictated how to play. They were a fun, healthy way to express myself and also stay in top physical condition. Having my bike and skateboard to focus all my energy into kept me out of trouble as a youth. My love for BMX and skateboarding also introduced me to the world of photography and videography. I actually managed to turn this love into a career, as I have been working in the BMX industry for 20 years and have produced content for ESPN, ABC and Fuel TV along with over 20 different brands and media partners in the BMX industry. I am one of the lucky people who gets to do what they love, for a living. Bmx and skateboarding are very popular sports among youths (and adults), just look at the X Games on ESPN...this is their 20th year as an event. These activities are here to stay. Giving Kids of all ages a chance to get together and have a safe place to participate in these sports is the right thing to do. These sports increase coordination, balance, and self esteem among other skills that can truly benefit kids (and grown ups alike) in all other aspects of life. I know this firsthand because this has happened in my life.....ultimately guiding me to my career. These kids have worked hard to accomplish this goal, and I hope that the city of Taylor will recognize that passion and support this group. And let's not forgot that a skatepark will also bring more tourists to Taylor, which I'm sure the local businesses will appreciate. Sincerely, Stewart Johnson.	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 2:25 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Catherine Parker [mailto:catherineparker72@me.com]	--	Skate park	Hi, My name is Jonah Ford and I'm 10. I'm a fifth grader at St. Mary's. I play flag football and basketball for the St. Mary's Rams. I have lived in Taylor for 9 and half years. I love all board sports, snowboarding, wake boarding, skin boarding, diving and skateboarding. I like skateboarding the most. My dad takes me to skate at Pflugerville Skate Park every Sunday before my reading tutor. I get to skate before reading. School is hard for me and skating makes it better. If I had a skate park in Taylor my mom says she would take me after my homework is done. I would like that. I might get my homework done faster. I hate homework.	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision

					I want a skatepark under the bridge because it has a lot of shade. There is food close by. It close to Main Street. A park under the bridge will be better than other parks in Austin. I have been to House Park, Pflugerville, South Austin, Round Rock, New Braunsfels, Cedar Park and San Marcos skate parks. I have been to Houston and Lake Tahoe skate parks. I want to go to the new park in Spring for Spring Break. I want my grandma to take me. I went to skate camp at Camp Woodward in Lake Tahoe last summer. I wrote a airplane by myself. Please put the skate park under the bridge. Jonah Ford I am Jonah's mom and he used my address because he forgot the password to log into his email jonahtheshredder@gmail.com but please response to this address and his address. Thank you. cp		
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 7:06 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Ryan Corrigan [mailto:holdonherewego@gmail.com]	--	Skate park	Hello Bob Vantil, A friend and colleague of mine has asked me to write concerning the proposed location of the Taylor Skatepark under the Bridge downtown. I work with Brent Humphreys on lots of the events he has put on in Austin. I actually Build the majority of the ramps he uses to promote project loop. I would just like to tell you how much I love the proposed location of under the bridge. I travel all over the world to build ramps, and Ride Parks, although the parks I build are wood. I just want to say how much it means to have a park with a little character. There are countless parks on the outskirts of town with little or no cover. For here in texas the cover will be more from the sun, than the rain, except in the rare rainy times like we just had. I think people will be more drawn to be part of the city when they can drop there kids off and walk around the town while the kids use the park. I also know that it will have an impact on local business also. I know this from the little bits I come back and forth from taylor moving ramps for out projects. It leads to be buying gas, buying lunch and whatever I need. It maybe a small impact, but it is money being spent in Taylor. I also think a park with character will draw lots of people from all the surrounding cites. The shade being the large factor, no other park in the area has ample shade during the summer. Just little tents and trees for people to try and cower under. I hope this helps a little just so you know there are plenty of us that support the park being in downtown Taylor. Thank you for taking the time to read this. Ryan Corrigan Hold on here we go LLC.	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 7:23 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Bryan [mailto:bryan@texasskateboardingclub.com]	--	Skate park	Bob, we heard the good news that the City of Taylor is considering building a skatepark in the near future. Skateboarding and BMX is an individual sport that appeals to a wide range of kids especially those who do not participate in "traditional" sports. The city has a great opportunity to reach out to kids in the community and provide a positive outlet. We founded Texas Skateboarding Club and ATX Action sports as a way to teach self-confidence and build the self-esteem of young people. Confidence is the foundation for success, and skateboarding is a building block in that foundation. Having a skatepark is a great place for kids and adults to have fun and also encourages a healthy lifestyle. We hope the city will see this project through and views it as a positive way to give back to the community. If there is anything we can do help... please don't hesitate to reach out. Sincerely, Bryan Fiese	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision

					3994 Hwy 290E. Bld B Unit A Dripping Springs, TX 78620 866-465-7073 866-319-3252 fax www.texasskateboardingclub.com		
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 7:26 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Liz Daniels [mailto:lizadaniels@gmail.com]	--	Skate park	Please let the kids build a skate park! Thanks! Liz Daniels	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 8:52 PM		From: Steve crandall [mailto:crandallfbm@gmail.com]			Dear Mr. Vantil, I am writing this letter on behalf of the kids of Taylor Texas, Project Loop, and my good friend Brent Humphreys. My name is Steve Crandall, I am the founding owner of FBM Bike Company, and I am also on the X Games Committee, judging Skatepark, and Dirt Jumping, which is hosted in Austin Texas. I have worked closely with Project Loop for several years now, working hand and hand with the kids, as a part of Fun Fun Fun Fest, and ESPN's coverage of their efforts, involvement and community participation. I have kept a close eye on all of Projects Loops developments, and most recently the site plans, location, and the main street overpass proposal, all of which have set a new precedent for community service with today's youth, and am expressing my full support and appreciation of all parties involved. In working with communities nationwide, and helping develop bicycle and skatepark advocacy, the work of your young community has been nothing short of inspiring, and I hope you take full advantage of the plan presented. Thanks, and best wishes! - Steve Crandall/ FBM	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 3:01 PM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Clint Reynolds [mailto:credencebikes@gmail.com]	--	Skate park	Hi, My name is Clint Reynolds I'm a professional BMX rider, and heard through the grapevine that you guys might have doubts about building the skatepark in taylor. Brent and all the Taylor kids have worked really hard to raise money to build this park. I feel like thats a rare thing these days, and shows how much these kids really need a place to ride and skate. It would be such a shame for them to come this far and be squashed. thats my two cents Clint	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 8:55 AM	Downtown Master Plan Public Meeting and Revised 80% Draft	From: Diana Goetting [mailto:dgoetting@gmail.com]	--	Skate park Amtrak station	Hi, My name is Diana Goetting and I've lived in Taylor for a little over 14 years. I have two children, ages 9 and 8. While we have enjoyed many aspects of Taylor and small town life, I believe it's time for Taylor to improve and grow. I hope that the skate park will go forward. These kids need a safe place to meet and have fun. I also hope that the downtown improvements will happen. Taylor is in desperate need of sprucing up. And a playground! I went to the planning meeting in November and there were a lot of good ideas for downtown. I hope that the amtrack station isn't removed. If Taylor has any hope of growing and connecting to the ever growing Austin area, this is vital. Thanks! Diana Goetting	DW has reviewed each stakeholder's comments to assess areas of concern and/or support for draft plan elements.	No Revision