

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT  
MASTER PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Public Workshop  
*February 1, 2007*

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Roundtable Questions

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HOUSING

1. Describe the overall condition of the housing in your neighborhood. Has there been improvement or decline over the past ten years? Are there more homeowners or fewer? Are the landlords doing a better job today than in the past? Are the residents – both renters and owners – responsible and acting as good neighbors?
2. Describe the changes you've seen in the prices in the housing market over the past ten years. How has this been positive for the city? How has it been negative?
3. In terms of housing, how does Bridgeport compare with its neighbors? If you were looking to buy a house, would you consider Bridgeport a good long-term investment? If not, what would it take to make the city more desirable?

(over)







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**Economic Development**

1. Should the city embrace and support existing manufacturing firms versus other types of industries in light of current economic trends for limited growth in manufacturing? What kinds of businesses do you think the city should work to attract?
2. What sectors do you think are most important to revitalization (e.g. commercial, high-tech, residential, small business and service sectors)?
3. How should the city handle Brownfield sites and cleanup funds? Should the reuse of these sites be dictated by the Master Plan, by remediation resources or by new opportunities?

(over)





3. The presentation suggested that of all municipal services education is most essential to families and neighborhoods. Do you agree? (Please indicate whether you are a parent of a school-aged child.)

4. The presentation also suggested that Bridgeport a) Support continued capital budget expenditures on new schools; b) Support tax credits and other techniques to provide parental choice and competition; and c) Enlist the private sector to support schools such as New Haven has done. Do you agree with the above?

6. The presentation suggested that cultural facilities and services could be critical to changing Bridgeport's image.

- A key component of this investment may be cultural facilities in the downtown, such as theater and the arts. Do you agree? What types of these facilities would you like to see downtown?
- What do you think about expanding cultural facilities to other parts of the City? What types of facilities would you like to see and where should they go?



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**Transportation and Infrastructure**

1. Does your neighborhood flood? If so, where and when? Should the city be concerned about global warming and its effect on rising sea levels?
2. City engineers are concerned that Bridgeport's water and sewer systems do not have sufficient capacity to accommodate all the new development that is currently proposed. Should infrastructure be improved to provide increased capacity for water and sewer? Would you support a bond issue to pay for this?
3. How do you get around the city? What mode works best for you? Are there any improvements to the transportation system that you would like to see made?
4. The Downtown Plan has suggested a trolley connecting Steel Point, Downtown and South End. Would you support this idea?

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Environment and Open Space

1. Bridgeport is known as the Park City and has made investments in its streetscapes, including lighting, sidewalks and fencing. Do you think this program has made a difference? If so, why? Should streetscaping be expanded? If so, where?
2. A focus of past plans and efforts has been to preserve parks and create an open space network along the waterfront. Should the City's open spaces be upgraded and expanded? If so, where?
3. If federal funding were available, would you support reopening the bridge to Pleasure Beach?
4. Air quality remains an issue with I-95. How should the City respond to this problem?