

Downtown Davis Plan
University of California, Davis
Pop-up Workshop

Pop-up Workshop Series

Tuesday, February 13, 2018



UC Davis Pop-up Workshop Summary of Community Feedback

Introduction

The City of Davis is planning for the future of its downtown (2040 Vision) and looking to the community to participate in this conversation.

Project Overview

Throughout this planning process, community participation will be key component in shaping Downtown Plan.

The goal of the project is to:

- Create a guide for long term development and infrastructure
- Evaluate existing development policies, codes and guidelines, and address recurring challenges to the development process
- Consider many elements that can enhance the quality of life in Davis

Through this collaborative effort, the City of Davis will consolidate the Downtown Vision to create the kind of place the community desires.

Workshop Purpose

The Downtown Davis Plan Project Team held a pop-up workshop at the UC Davis Campus to introduce college students to the project and gather feedback on proposed improvements for Downtown.

Workshop Format

The Downtown Davis Project Team held an interactive pop-up workshop on Tuesday, February 13, at the UC Davis Campus Quad from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Students were encouraged to stop by and provide input on the interactive boards. After providing input, students were welcomed to spin a prize-wheel for a chance to win a City of Davis tchotchke or Downtown Davis gift card. The project team created three interactive boards, covering social sustainability, housing, and economic sustainability.



The first board prompted the question “*What are your top 3 ways to improve Downtown’s social well-being?*” This board displayed photos of different improvement options for Downtown, including a *comfortable living environment for people of all ages, activity areas for children, housing units with spaces to socialize, public gathering spaces, programmed events, local businesses, and workplaces.* There was also a space for students to give additional input.



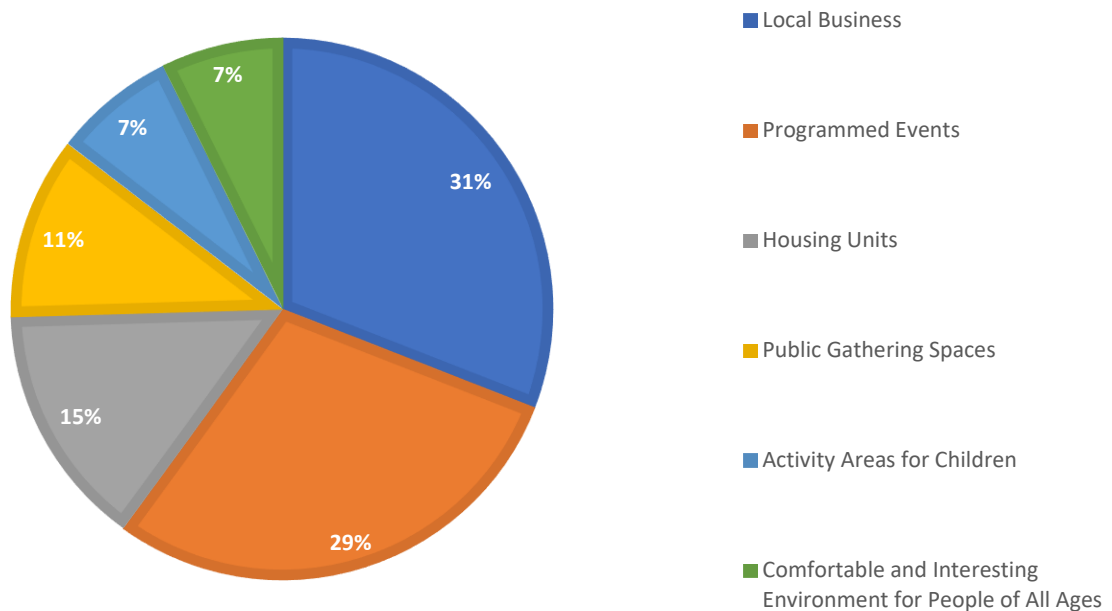
The second board prompted the question, “What type of housing would you like to see in Downtown?” This board was blank, prompting students to place post-it notes on the board with ideas for the future of housing in Downtown.

The third board prompted the question, “What do you think Downtown needs to create a sustainable, local economy?” The board featured photos of entertainment, offices, housing, and retail, as well as an ‘other ideas’ section for students to place post-its on or dot-stickers to provide input.

Compilation of Student Feedback

The Downtown Davis Project Team received 170 responses from the University students. Below is a compilation of student feedback the project team received through boards.

What are your top 3 ways to improve Downtown's social well-being?



Local Business

- Better Indian food
- Citywide ISP [internet service provider] with Wi-Fi hotspots
- Later hours equal more jobs, which equal more business
- Longer bar hours
- More apartments and supermarkets. We have nowhere to live, and nothing to buy without a car
- More coffee shops – 2
- More ethnic food marts
- More farmers' market hours – 2

- More Korean food in general
- More Philadelphia rolls and more seafood ramen
- More study spots with parking that lets you stay longer than two hours at a time – 2
- Open late, past 8 pm
- Outside restaurant and bar. No building included. Fire places to keep students / people warm
- We need some good Korean BBQ. Davis has everything else

Programmed Events

- Concerts/ cultural events – 3
- International market / grocery store (Middle East/Europe/etc.)
- Local theater - affordable theaters, venues, festival
- More concerts, fairs, etc.
- More festivals, food stalls, and night market
- Oktoberfest, and beer gardens
- Open mic nights
- See Bread & Circus. Puppet theater - large, interactive program

Housing Units

- Family housing – housing that can be used by all
- High density community with open plazas
- Higher-density housing
- More affordable housing spaces for co-op living – 2
- Study spaces / hangout spots – skateparks

Public Gathering Spaces

- Hangouts for large groups
- Lights
- More music shows, karaoke events, and overall culture CLOSE to campus. More venues for student activity
- Natural podiums - vertical spaces / landscapes
- Pedestrian Mall
- Swing sets for adults
- Tactical sculptures

Activity Areas for Children

- 24-hour gym
- More events Downtown
- Water feature for play in summer

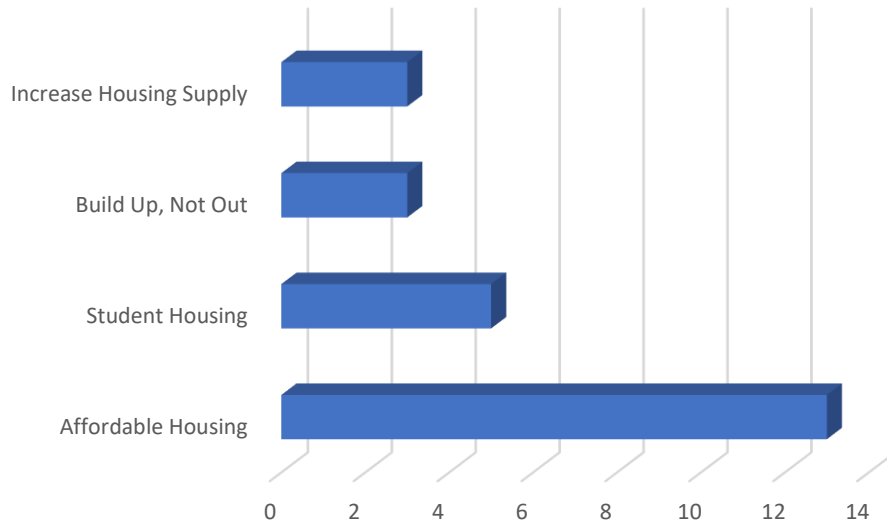
Comfortable & interesting environment for people of all ages

- Develop unused green space into parks
- More community gathering spaces
- More fun / mainstream clothing and food shops for younger students / adults
- Need more plazas and gathering spaces for people Downtown (i.e. Whole Foods Plaza)





What type of housing would you like to see in Downtown?



Additional Comments

- Dedicated cycle lanes. See Nordic model.
- High rise buildings
- Highest of possible high density
- More accessibility for students
- Not so condensed in Downtown. Too crowded!
- More lights please
- Why does rent have to go up so much each year?

What do you think Downtown needs to create a sustainable local economy?

Restaurants

- A restaurant that offers low price, healthy, fresh food
- Ethiopian restaurant
- Taqueria
- Unique food carts. Food court bazaar. Local - see Portland and Minneapolis

Housing

- Healthy housing market

Business

- Better late-night study spaces
- Davis is a great city. More businesses or offices might be good
- Prioritize number of shops, not just local business

Entertainment

- More Latino dancing or gathering places, i.e.- corridors

Other suggestions?

- 99 Ranch Market
- A mall in Davis
- Acai bowl
- Ban plastic
- Better food varieties
- Get a Sprouts in the old Whole Foods space. It's like Whole Foods but cheaper.
- Grocery store – 2
- I like that we don't have big box stores in downtown and few fast food restaurants
- Improved relationships and integration of Downtown / the City and campus
- Less bars
- McDonald's
- More activities for weekends for all ages
- More lighting and safer traffic control
- More lighting downtown - 2
- More small local businesses (like Mishka's, Pinkadot, Avid Reader, etc.)
- No mall
- Outdoor gear with kids' stuff
- Walmart – 2



What is your transportation experience Downtown?

Cyclist

- Better / safer bike lanes or separate bike routes
- Have more bike routes to accessible areas and have more bike racks downtown
- Helmets and lights on everyone
- I park and walk everywhere and enjoy how close everything is and safe
- Left turns are the worst – 2
- More fluidity biking with less stopping
- Safe as a biker
- Some streets need repaving; better marked bike lanes
- Safer bike lanes



Motorists

- More roundabouts. See Carmel, Indiana for benefits regarding traffic, safety
- Not nearly enough parking, especially on Friday nights and weekends



Pedestrian

- Davis, and campus, need better street lighting! There are large stretches that are entirely dark at night. Which is scary and dangerous!
- Lighting
- Make Downtown a walk and bike-only space
- Make it safer to walk or cross streets
- More blue police lights
- More lighting Downtown at night- Safety!
- More streetlights
- Sustainable freight plan



Transit User

- A monitor that tracks where the bus is and where it's headed
- Buses running more often
- Buses to Sacramento International Airport (SMF)
- Buses to Sacramento State University
- Connecting ASUCD Unitrans across downtown
- More bus stops with Yolobus
- More express and free shuttle to Downtown Sacramento

