

Date: November 19, 2007

From: WEC Land Use and Transportation Committee

To: WEC

Re: Comments on Core Values

At a meeting on November 14, the WEC Land Use and Transportation Committee reviewed the draft Core Values contained in the report from the WEC Problem Definition and Work Plan Task Force, dated June 19, 2007. (These were in turn taken from work done by the Roundtable in 2003.)

In general, the committee endorses the Core Values. The committee sees these as an umbrella statement of what is important to the WEC, and hopefully by extension to the community, that should inform more detailed work.

The committee does have a few minor suggestions for changes, which are indicated below in legislative format:

Core Values

Any community design solution ~~to the problem~~ should uphold the following **Core Values**:

1. We value openness, inclusiveness and transparency in governance that encourages active community participation from diverse viewpoints, carried on in a civil and respectful manner and consistent with the need for timely and efficient decision making.
2. We value a community that strives for justice for all and where all have access to food, housing, healthcare, transportation and high quality education.
3. We value a strong, vibrant and resilient economy that provides a range of jobs for people with diverse skills, education and interests at various stages of their lives; a community where new generations can grow and prosper without being forced to relocate to find jobs or appropriate homes.
4. We value a community where all people and their property are safe.
5. We value a rich social fabric, and arts and culture as an expression of our community talents and visions.
6. We value the natural community, its rivers, ridgelines, wetlands and species.
7. We value neighborhood character, and created beauty in our homes, buildings and structures.
8. We value the protection of our clean water, air, open space and created assets.
9. We value transportation systems that are supported by and meet the needs of the community.
10. We value getting to a solution, one that is effective, efficient, tangible (as in, something happens) and we value solutions that take the longer-view and will serve multiple generations.

[OR]

10. We value living and planning in ways that take local responsibility for our local impacts and avoid displacing our costs and impacts beyond our community or to future generations.

[One committee member who was unable to participate in person proposed an additional core value, in lieu of the proposed changes to Core Value #7.]

11. We value a community in which neighborhoods are recognized, supported, and empowered to influence civic decisions that affect the residents and business persons in those neighborhoods.