



# ZONE 2 – Post-It Notes Comments

## 1<sup>ST</sup> PUBLIC MEETING – MARCH 11, 2008

In the evening on Tuesday, March the 11<sup>th</sup>, over 150 residents, business people and government officials gathered for over two hours at the Florence Howard Elementary School to discuss and provide their input regarding the future of Zone 2 as it has been defined for the purpose of this planning effort. The consultant team provided a short introductory presentation that outlined the process, purpose and timeline of the “New Plan for Mobile” effort. After introducing the consultant team, the project’s objective and the planning process steps to the public the attendees were divided into six groups to discuss in more detail the main elements that the plan should address.

Initially all attendees were given two post-it notes and they were asked to record:

1. What they consider to be the greatest assets of their community;
2. What they consider to be the greatest needs of their community.

The list below includes the array of all the responses and records the frequency in which they appeared in the post-it notes.

### ASSETS:

#### URBAN DESIGN & PUBLIC REALM ENHANCEMENTS

▪ Bishop State Community College	11
▪ Community schools	6
▪ Convenient / proximity to Downtown Mobile	4
▪ Bishop State central campus	3
▪ Most Pure Heart of Mary School	3
▪ Florence Howard	2
▪ Three Mile Creek (water recreation)	2
▪ Parks & Recreation – We could use a park on MLK Avenue for children	1
▪ Installation of Black History Trail markers	1
▪ Quail Birds’ Walk	1
▪ Central High School	1
▪ Franklin Primary central campus	1
▪ LeHore High School	1
▪ Northside Elementary School (use to be in later years a continual learning center)	1
▪ YMCA	1

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

▪ Restoration, Redevelopment, & Construction of new houses, businesses & schools	29
▪ Best grill on MLK Avenue – The Grill	3
▪ Community stores	2
▪ Boys and Girls Club on MLK Avenue	2
▪ Whites Barber	2
▪ Mardi Gras	2
▪ Franklin Medical Mall	2
▪ Hospitals	2
▪ Medical complex	1
▪ Good restaurants:	1
Ellas Bar-BQ, Best Grill, Cake Box, Dan’s, Harry’s Grocery, Mark’s Grocery, BP’s Grocery	
▪ Beauty shop	1
▪ The “Best Grill” – good meeting place, good food (part of Bishop State)	1

**Zone 2**

▪ Convention Center	1
▪ Hotels	1
▪ Restaurants	1
▪ The neighborhood has a rich tradition of business	1

**HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOOD CORRIDORS**

▪ Good neighbors	9
▪ Good homes (Historic & otherwise)	8
▪ Old established neighborhood	5
▪ Close to job and where I attend church	2
▪ Good neighborhood association	1
▪ I like my neighborhood because it is quiet	1
▪ Children and older residents return to the neighborhood	1
▪ I like my neighborhood because it has potential to be great.	1
▪ I like my neighborhood because I am a land owner	1
▪ I like the amount of space in my yards	1
▪ Campground area is close-knit residentially providing a populace where almost everyone has been genealogically connected to both the Trail of Tears and the Kalayaranna of India. We are eager for further progress.	1
▪ I like the neighborhood because I've lived here all my life. I like it because it's my home.	1
▪ I like my neighborhood because I have light	1
▪ I like my neighborhood because I can move around it easily	1
▪ Amount of land space in the area	1
▪ Clean	1
▪ Scenery	1
▪ Convenient; close to my job	1
▪ Drug stores and grocery stores close	1

**INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION**

▪ Access to interstate	2
▪ Public transportation	2
▪ Re-paved streets	1
▪ Easy access to MTA	1
▪ Walkable – everything is convenient	1

**CULTURAL & HISTORICAL RESOURCES**

▪ Historic / Heritage / Cultural	10
▪ We have trees, old homes, four churches	1
▪ Home site – 1157 St. Madar (Meadar)	1
▪ The people and their history	1
▪ Remnants of past culture, e.g., churches, schools, business and social structure	1
▪ Daniel Patlon House	1
▪ Preserve the old	1
▪ Ace Theater on MLK	1

**MISCELLANEOUS ASSETS**

▪ Career opportunities	1
▪ Library	1
▪ City dump site	1

**NEEDS:**

**URBAN DESIGN & PUBLIC REALM ENHANCEMENTS**

▪ Parks – new or update – for children & adults	20
▪ Playgrounds for children	5
▪ Community Center	5
▪ Three Mile Creek – recreation-clean up; flooding-fix	2
▪ Three Mile Creek – open gutter	1
▪ Would like the area of Maple Street developed into water park.	1
▪ City landfill contaminated	1
▪ Landfill development – gases from dump - \$ from gases to develop neighborhoods	1
▪ City of Mobile is too concerned about cleaning up trash and drugs	1

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

▪ Need more businesses / shopping centers / retail stores <i>(Target, Wal-Mart, upscale clothing were mentioned twice each)</i>	38
▪ Grocery store	16
▪ Employment / Job Training	7
▪ Restaurants / Family Restaurants	6
▪ Movie theater	3
▪ Cleaners / Laundromat	2
▪ Bank / Credit Union	2
▪ Beauty shop	1
▪ Clubs	1
▪ Drug store	1
▪ Church needs help in some of the things they are trying to do: Continuing Education Center needs uplift	1
▪ Five-star hotel	1
▪ Don't close Best Grill	1
▪ Blight – Not too great for tourism	1
▪ Storefront rehabs	1

**HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOOD CORRIDORS**

▪ New & better housing & apartment developments / new subdivisions	12
▪ Repair or tear down abandoned or dilapidated houses/buildings	9
▪ Cleanup and do something with abandoned / vacant lots	9
▪ Help homeowners, including senior citizens, with repairs and/or rehab of homes through funding/grants	8
▪ Cleanup / repair homes & neighborhoods	5
▪ Build new homes on abandoned / vacant lots	2
▪ Need quality, affordable housing	3
▪ Need homes for elderly	2
▪ City needs to upkeep their property	1
▪ Clean up trash in public housing area	1
▪ Land condemnation for redevelopment purposes	1
▪ Release of property to developers	1
▪ Absentee land owners – houses in poor condition	1
▪ Enforce housing ordinances	1
▪ Need a preservation research center to rebuild existing housing stock	1
▪ Old house corner Laurel & St. Stephens	1
▪ Zoning changes	1
▪ Back to pedestrian society	1
▪ More older homes to form a community of older homes	1
▪ Housing styles are “not in control”–preserve older homes	1

**Zone 2**

- houses should be constant within neighborhoods
- Low-rent housing units fall below code; tenants may lose shelter 1
- Housing needs to be upgraded to address lead-based paint hazards, accessibility and fire safety issues 1
- C&H Resources-We & City need to continue working on restructuring old homes and building new ones 1
- Better upkeep and protection of Catholic cemetery 1
- Get rid of Club – unsightly buildings 1
- Carver Court area – Our community was a good, nice community back in the 50s and 60s. 1  
We would like that back. We need a park-like area with the few houses that are left.  
Shops, stores, bakeries, laundromat, etc. Old houses torn down; the back area  
park-like setting; drainage.
- Dunbar Street – Need drainage. 1
- The neighborhood is run down. 1  
There is a club on corner of Dunbar and St. Stephen Road. The club always has parties. You can't get into  
your house. The neighborhood already looks bad and beer cans and paper are everywhere.
- 1608 St. Stephen Road – Sport bar needs to be cleared; do away with Club; keep our neighbors 1  
wood cleared; keep our homes; street needs paving; more garages in our neighborhood

**INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION**

- Poor Street drainage / flooding / sewer drainage 40  
Mentioned: Sewage line corner of Dr. MLK & Lafayette; drainage end of Monday St.; drainage  
Cuba & Camp Streets; drainage MLK; manholes clogged Persimmon & Monday Streets  
Additional Comments:  
Worked about 30 years in the Springhill area where I saw 4 or 5 feet drain pipes being put down. All this  
water is going to the Mobile River. Whereas in Mobile have 30-inch drain pipes that cause flooding. Problem  
getting insurance on homes – turned down because of area conditions and being in flood prone area.
- Sidewalks: need more / need to be repaired 25  
*Each mentioned once: Plum St. and St. Stephens to Basil on N. Catherine Street*
- Street Lighting: Lack of / Not Good 22  
*Each mentioned once: Carvers Court on Pope Street & North Santa Street*
- Repair (potholes) / repave streets 11
- Need more and better public/bus transportation 10
- Clean up streets & lots – litter / gutters (put garbage cans on corners) 7
- Improve parking 4
- Don't like State or Congress Streets 1
- Noisy on the avenue; very busy at times 1
- More visibility of stop signs 1
- Street signage that is unique and artistically pleasing 1
- More street landscaping in the form of plantings and sculpture 1
- More fire hydrants 1
- Need speed bumps 1
- Remove speed bumps 1

**CULTURAL & HISTORICAL RESOURCES**

- Arts & Music District 2
- Historical District 2
- Black clubs like years ago – please ask older people; I am too young to know about the black clubs 1
- Improve marketing African American cultural resources 1

**MISCELLANEOUS NEEDS**

- Too much Crime 17  
*(Drug problem mentioned 9 times; gang problem mentioned once)*
- More Police Presence / Protection / Patrols 11
- Enforce noise ordinance 2

- Need increased meetings for crime prevention 1
- Law enforcement of ordinances defers to skin color rather than heritage 1
- Neighbors put trash & garbage out on the street before trash pickup day 1