

Draft Theme topics- November 8, 2006 Public Workshop

Good Things about Bradenton

1. Environment and Open Space

Likes: greenbelt systems, picnic areas, lighted sports courts, shade, 'Green' design concepts

Concerns: not enough recreational areas, need better amenities, losing tree canopy

2. Transportation (Roads, Walkability, Parking)

Like: walkable streets, bikeways, narrow streets, historic/small town feel, clean public transportation/trolley

Concerns: traffic jams, poor pedestrian conditions, intimidating streets, downtown raceway

3. Retail and Restaurants

Likes: 'Main Street' style shopping, proximate parking, cooperation of businesses

Concerns: Not enough retail shopping (critical mass), not enough proximate people to support retail, not enough to do, government uses inactive at night, downtown raceway, grocery store needed.

4. Art and Cultural Venues

Likes: Library, Theater, Museum, Marina, City Hall as town center, Events

Concerns: Need more events, venues to hold concerts/celebrations, Cultural Venues need stronger patronage/activity, need movie theater, need to allow outdoor music at night, police and other support services.

5. Governance and Coordination

Likes: Main Street cooperation, frequent craft fairs and events, Village of the Arts events, community outreach

Concerns: common retail hours, outdoor alcohol restrictions, coordinated community amenities vs just a 'condo community', development review, adequate design standards, available funding, implementation follow through

6. Waterfront/ Public Access (inc. Riverwalk, Retail, etc.)

Likes: Riverfront park areas (not just walkway), maximize public water access, docks, walking/biking, development concepts that focus on the River

Concerns: Waterfront blocked, not available to all people, government uses along river block access,

7. Residential Development

Likes: Potential for workforce housing, more housing variety, housing for all incomes, rehabbed residential areas, financially attainable housing for young professionals (density/height OK if achieved).

Concerns: Condominiums overtake waterfront, won't create 'full community' – just condos, need retail to support residential, new development will impact roads

8. Image and Beauty

Likes: Small town 'traditional' character, underground utilities, small grid streets, Riverfront feeling, public art, gateways and graphics

Concerns: lack of landscape or architectural standards, character compatibility of new development, code enforcement issues, overbuilding, homeless population and crime very visible.