NORTH END
Neighborhood PLAN

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

BOISE
NEIGHBORHOODS

ENERGIZE OUR
NEIGHBORHOODS

North End
NEIGHBORHOOD (virtual)
OPEN HOUSE
Public Comment on Final Plan

FEBRUARY 17, 2021
ZOOM MEETING
This meeting will be recorded and made available online at cityofboise.org/northendplan
Deanna Dupuy, AICP, City of Boise Planning Project Manager

KayCee Downey, City of Boise Associate Design Review Planner

Ellen Campfield Nelson, AICP, Agnew::Beck
TONIGHT

• WELCOME
• OVERVIEW + FAQ
• “CHAT REACT” – Neighbor Questions
• COMMENT + ACT
• THANK YOU!

Please mute your line for everyone’s audio clarity.
Phone-only participants, press *6 to mute.
Please turn on your cameras if you are willing and able.
NEIGHBORHOOD-BUILT PLAN

• Engaged over 1,000 residents and stakeholders!
• Neighborhood Planning Committee

Mark Baltes        Todd Martin
Debbie Donovan     Autumn Street
Anne Hausrath      Jon Swarthout
Jayne Inouye Pankratz   Julie Varin
Alex Jones        Susan Stacy, Editor
Chelan Lippincott
“CHAT REACT”

• On Zoom? Submit questions in the chat at any time.

• Our team is monitoring the chat and will respond to questions in this meeting.

• We will have a portion of the meeting for phone call-ins to ask questions.

• Meeting recording and this presentation posted to the project website afterward.

• cityofboise.org/northendplan
FAQs

• What is a Neighborhood Plan?
• Why is it important?
• How was this plan developed?
• What are the main ideas in the plan?
• What are the next steps to create the final plan?
• How can I review and comment on the plan?
WHAT IS A NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN?

- Long-term plan document with vision, goals, and priority actions
- Partnership between the City and neighborhood residents
- Adopted by City Council to supplement City’s comprehensive plan, *Blueprint Boise*
- NENA was involved, but this is a neighborhood plan, not a Neighborhood Association Plan

[Links to City of Boise website: www.cityofboise.org]
WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- Baseline
- Communication link
- Recommendation
- Project list
- Informational tool
HOW WAS THIS PLAN DEVELOPED?

LEARN
- Existing conditions research
- Neighborhood Input

VISION
- Neighborhood input analysis
- Develop draft vision and goals

CREATE
- Draft actions and objectives
- Project identification and prioritization

FINALIZE
- Neighborhood input on draft and final plan

WE ARE HERE!
NEIGHBORHOOD VISION

“The North End Neighborhood buzzes with diverse and friendly residents, thriving neighborhood businesses, and appreciative visitors. Front porches, active alleys, historic architecture, dogs and cats, bicycles, a thriving tree canopy, restaurants, shops, schools, faith communities, parks, and access to the foothills all combine to produce an exceptionally livable neighborhood. The vision is for the neighborhood residents to protect these characteristics while acknowledging the possibility that changes can be positive.”
NEIGHBORHOOD VALUES

• Walkable
• Inclusive
• Stewardship
• The North End population has remained stable, with the population increasing 3.8% (equivalent to an average of 43 new individuals a year) from 2010 to 2019.

• The North End’s population of 25–34 year-olds decreased by 5.2% from 2009 to 2018, suggesting that young adults may be unable to, or are choosing not to live in the North End at a greater rate than other age groups.

• Median household income in the North End rose 22.3% between 2009 to 2018.
KEY TRENDS – HOUSING

• The cost of housing has risen significantly with median assessed values going from $102,000 in 2001 to $427,200 in 2019.

• There are fewer renters in the neighborhood with 58.1% of homes being owner occupied in 2018, compared to 50.6% in 2009.

• Housing types available within the North End continue to be dominated by single-family homes, which increased in number by 6% between 2009 to 2019.
KEY TRENDS – MOBILITY

• Each household in the neighborhood owns an average of 1.6 motor vehicles, lower than the citywide average of 1.8.

• North Enders primarily commute in single-occupied vehicles (SOV) at 76.4% in 2018, 4% lower than citywide average.

• Biking is the next most used transportation mode for commuting, with about 9% using this mode compared to 2.8% citywide.
GOAL AREAS

- MOBILITY
- HOUSING
- NEIGHBORHOOD ENGAGEMENT
- PLACEMAKING
- NATURAL SPACES
- SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS
NEIGHBORHOOD-LED PRIORITY ACTIONS

Mobility

• Conduct an annual survey of North End residents to understand commute and travel behavior.

• Expand bicycle and pedestrian education and encouragement efforts (culture/advertising campaign, street safety education, neighborhood group rides, etc.).

Housing

• Promote, fundraise for, and continue NENA’s partnership with organizations that provide emergency housing assistance for residents in the North End.

• Provide more educational materials, resources and events about the history of the North End, including its people and iconic buildings (video tours, workshops, etc.)
Neighborhood Engagement

• Conduct an annual survey of the neighborhood to track neighborhood priorities and needs.

• Host “neighborhood conversations” as public educational events, or to form neighborhood working groups who wish to examine topics of mutual interest.

Placemaking

• Create a North End mural program to promote and install community art.

• Continue “FINE” (Funds to Improve the North End) grants for small-scale neighborhood serving projects.
NEIGHBORHOOD-LED PRIORITY ACTIONS

Natural Spaces

• Launch a “Thousand Tree Challenge” for the North End in conjunction with the city’s “100,000 Trees Challenge,” a campaign to expand the tree canopy over the next decade.

• Identify, inventory, and map neighborhood-level trail access points and informal trails.

Sustainable Systems

• Educate and encourage neighbors on sustainable practices (waste reduction, native/drought-resistant landscaping, rainwater catchment, etc.).

• Support citywide “Dark-Sky” evaluation of light fixtures and streetlights to decrease light pollution.
WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

• FEB-MAR: This meeting and concurrent comment period *(ends March 19)*

• MAR-APR: Incorporate neighborhood comments into final plan draft

• Review by NENA

• Public hearing at Planning and Zoning Commission

• Adopted by City Council to supplement the City’s comprehensive plan, *Blueprint Boise*
HOW CAN I REVIEW AND COMMENT?

• cityofboise.org/northendplan
• Comment through March 19th
• Chapter breakdown
  • Chapter 1: History
  • Chapter 2: Snapshot
  • Chapter 3: Context
  • Chapter 4: Neighbor Ideas
  • Chapter 5: Framework
  • Chapter 6: Action Plan
• Please share with friends, family and neighbors!
• Survey contains opportunities to sign up and be (even more) involved
YOUR QUESTIONS
North End Plan Presentation: Chat React Questions

1. What part of the city is considered the North End?

The North End Neighborhood as defined by the City of Boise is roughly bounded by Hill Road on the North, 4th Street on the east, State Street on the south and 28th Street to the west. The neighborhood has about 10,000 residents in 5,600 homes in approximately 2 square miles. The neighborhood boundary map is shown on Slide 8 in this presentation and can be found at cityofboise.org/northendplan.

2. How will the neighborhood plan impact how future decisions are made?

Neighborhood plans are one of the most local-level planning documents adopted within the City of Boise. These plans are based heavily on neighbors’ ideas and priorities, and are also developed to be consistent with “higher-level” officially adopted plans such as Blueprint Boise (the City of Boise’s comprehensive plan). Because of this, neighborhood plans help convey neighborhood-based priorities to City staff and elected officials, as well as other public agencies. When these entities make recommendations or decisions directly affecting the neighborhood, the neighborhood plan will be referenced and reviewed to ensure decisions are consistent with the plan’s vision, policies and priorities.
3. How adaptive is the plan e.g. as topics arise? What is the long-term life of this plan? Will it be modified in the future?

Neighborhood plans are intended to contain long-term vision, values and goals that can guide the neighborhood and remain relevant over a 10-to-20-year period.

4. Has Ada County Highway District (ACHD) been involved in the process? How does the plan correspond with ACHD plans?

Ada County Highway District (ACHD) relevant adopted plans — such as the North Boise Bike and Pedestrian Plan — were referenced during the planning process to ensure consistency with the neighborhood plan. ACHD staff were also involved in the first plan workshop and City of Boise transportation planners reviewed draft versions of the plan to ensure recommendations were not in conflict with existing ACHD and City of Boise transportation priorities. The North End Neighborhood Plan does include new ideas about mobility that are intended to influence transportation policy for the future, such as supporting the creation of a Citywide Vision Zero plan.
5. What is the difference between the Neighborhood Plan and the Neighborhood Association?

The North End Neighborhood Plan is a plan created largely through input from residents, businesses and other organizations throughout the neighborhood. It is a City of Boise document intended to reflect shared ideals and priorities of the North End.

Typically, Boise’s neighborhood associations are heavily involved in neighborhood planning efforts and neighborhood association boards usually endorse their neighborhood’s plans. However, neighborhood plans are developed and officially adopted by the City of Boise and become an addendum to the City’s comprehensive plan and do not require approval from neighborhood associations to become an official regulating plan of the City.

The North End Neighborhood Association (NENA) is a 501(c)4 organization with a governing board and defined membership whose boundaries are currently synonymous with boundaries the City of Boise uses to define the North End neighborhood. As the registered Neighborhood Association, NENA had representatives on the Neighborhood Planning Committee and funded parts of the public outreach efforts through a Neighborhood Investment Grant from the City of Boise. The intent of developing the plan is that NENA, like other neighborhood partners, will use the plan to help guide its activities and priorities, so that their work is consistent with the neighborhood’s desires.
6. Was there discussion in the planning process or the plan itself about short term rentals (STRs) and accessory dwelling units (ADUs)?

There was discussion and debate about both topics during the planning process among neighbors which revealed important tension points within the neighborhood. For example, some saw STRs as detrimental to neighborhood character while others felt STRs allowed people who could not otherwise afford to live in the North End an important source of supplemental income.

For ADUs, neighbors expressed a desire to understand how many ADUs are in the neighborhood and how property owners use them in order to assess their impact or contribution to the neighborhood. Related policies and actions identified in the neighborhood plan largely focus on collecting data about and assessing the impact of both ADUs and STRs within the neighborhood and across the City.

Note: The City’s authority to regulate STRs is impacted by legislation at the state level; regulations related to ADUs are currently largely within the purview of the City of Boise (described on page 51 of the plan).
North End Plan Presentation: Chat React Questions

7. Who wrote the history section of the report?
Susan Stacy, a resident of the North End and former planner for the City of Boise was asked by the North End Neighborhood Planning Committee to be the neighborhood’s editor of the plan. Susan developed the history section (Chapter 1: The Grid). Thank you, Susan!

8. How does the plan address the transitional edges of the neighborhood?
The North End Neighborhood Plan studied and set actions for improving boundary streets such as Hill Road, 28th Street, and State Street. Additionally, the plan set actions for coordination between adjacent neighborhoods (Sunset, Downtown, the East End, and Central Foothills) on shared interests such as transportation, housing, and placemaking.

A review of the neighborhood’s designated Future Land Uses and existing Zoning are found in Chapter starting on page 79.
9. Does the plan address climate change concerns?

This was a common area of interest for planning process participants with support for addressing climate change concerns voiced by many North Enders. As a result, the plan identifies goals, policies and actions to support both “Natural Spaces” (Goal 5) and “Sustainable Systems” (Goal 6).

Goal 5 reads “Conserve, enhance and protect experiences with nature at every scale.”

Goal 6 states “Promote infrastructure systems that are forward-thinking and focused on sustainable living and climate resilience.”

Supporting policies and actions for these goals can be found in chapters 5 and 6 of the plan.
THANK YOU!

- Cityofboise.org/northendplan
- Survey is live until March 19th
- Please share with your friends, family, and neighbors!