

The Big Idea

WCCDA Neighborhood Advisory Council

Scope of Work (SOW)

The White Center CDA developed a **Neighborhood Action Plan** in 2009 that has been updated annually. Plan priorities were identified through;

- Eight-month community planning process involving over 350 residents and business owners representing culturally diverse White Center
- 32 small group discussions from representatives of the community
- Three public meetings with over 210 people in attendance
- Reviewed and updated annually at the CDA Community Summits

Neighborhood Action Plan Strategies Drive The Big Idea:

Strategy #4 – **Develop Vacant/Underutilized Land into Community-Prioritized Commercial and Permanently Affordable Mixed Income Housing**

Strategy #5 – **Create an Attractive Walking Neighborhood with Great Parks, Community Gathering Spaces/Family Resource Center, and Public Art with Easily Accessible Foot, Bike, and Public Transit**

Additional Strategies Related to the Family Resource Center:

“Prepare and connect White Center residents to living-wage jobs here, support children and families to succeed in school, improve children and family health and wellness”

The Structure of the CDA Neighborhood Advisory Council:

- Up to 20 volunteer members who are part of the White Center community either as residents, business owners, or from White Center service agencies
- Meets twice/monthly from January through May, 2018 (eight meetings)
- Appointed through a nomination process
- Compensated \$100 in May 2018, if members attend six of eight meetings

Overall Advisory Council Goal:

Provide community perspective and input on designing a Family Resource Center and Affordable/Emergency Family housing at the former Public Health building/WC Food Bank building, now known as the **“The Big Idea”** and help determine 10-year housing development priorities for White Center

Scope of Work through May 2018:

- Attend up to two 90-minute meetings per month in January through May 2018
- Provide recommendations on the layout and structures for The Big Idea site and be available to share information with your family and community in White Center as “The Big Idea” plan develops
- Participate in determining the current and future housing needs in White Center, and review and suggest options that expand various housing options here, while minimizing the impact from gentrification.
- Assist in determining 10-Year White Center Housing priorities for White Center that addresses the critical need for more mixed income housing here, while considering multiple housing development options, including affordable housing, family emergency housing, home ownership, additional rental housing, etc.
- Work in collaboration with implementing partners including the White Center Community Development Association (WCCDA), Southwest Youth and Family Services (SWYFS), the White Center Food Bank, Yes Foundation of White Center, and other partnering entities as needed to advocate for White Center

Diverse Advisory Council Membership Needed:

1. Residents from the immediate area around the Big Idea site
2. White Center Affordable Housing site residents
3. Highline School District and Evergreen High School student representation
4. White Center business and community leaders
5. North Highline Unincorporated Area Council member
6. White Center residents, including representation from White Center’s Communities-of-Color

Selected White Center Statistics to Consider:

- A significant majority of 2017 CDA Summit participants want their children to be able to live near them in White Center
- According to HUD, over 75% of the region can not afford to purchase a home
- 50+% of White Center are members of communities of color here, compared with 25% county-wide (Over 50 languages are spoken here)
- 40% of White Center households with children are single parent, mostly women
- 27% of White Center residents do not have a high school diploma
- White Center median incomes are 25% below the King County average
- Affordable housing, based on income, is not available to 45% of White Center renters