

# NEW BEDFORD

## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Meeting Summary: 01/31/23 Steering Committee Meeting #2



Agency

Landscape + Planning | Cambridge Econometrics | Hisel Flynn Architects | Innes Associates | Rivera Consulting

# 01/31 MEETING AGENDA

## PLAN OVERVIEW AND PROCESS

## EMERGING THEMES PRESENTATION

- Key findings from analysis and feedback so far
- Preliminary emerging themes

## BREAKOUT GROUP DISCUSSION #1

- Themes & Goals Discussion

## REPORT BACK

- Prioritize the themes that resonate the most

## PLACE TYPES PRESENTATION

## BREAKOUT GROUP DISCUSSION #2

- Mapping the Future: Key Areas and Character

## REPORT BACK

- February 11th Public Workshop

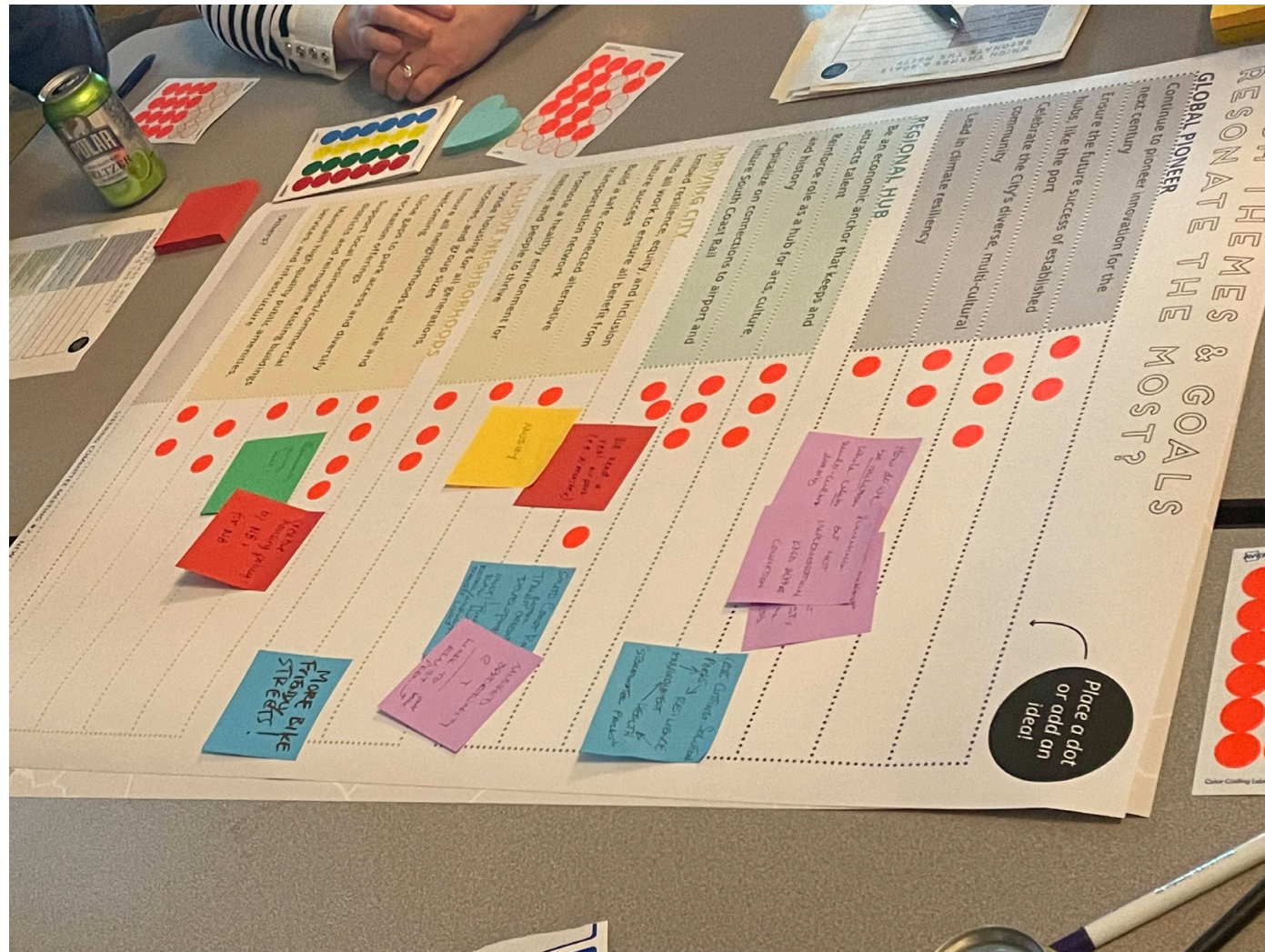


A full copy of the presentation slides can be found on the project website:  
[www.newbedfordplan.com/materials](http://www.newbedfordplan.com/materials)



# OVERVIEW

## Themes & Goals Discussion



**50+** Comments

## Mapping the Future



**95+** Comments

# THEMES & GOALS DISCUSSION

## GLOBAL PIONEER

Continue to pioneer innovation for the next century	● ● ● ●
Ensure the future success of established hubs, like the port	● ● ● ● ●
Celebrate the City's diverse, multi-cultural community	● ●
Lead in climate resiliency	● ●

13+

## REGIONAL HUB

Be an economic anchor that keeps and attracts talent	● ● ● ● ●
Reinforce role as a hub for arts, culture, and history	● ● ● ● ●
Capitalize on connections to airport and future South Coast Rail	● ● ● ● ●

14+

## THRIVING CITY

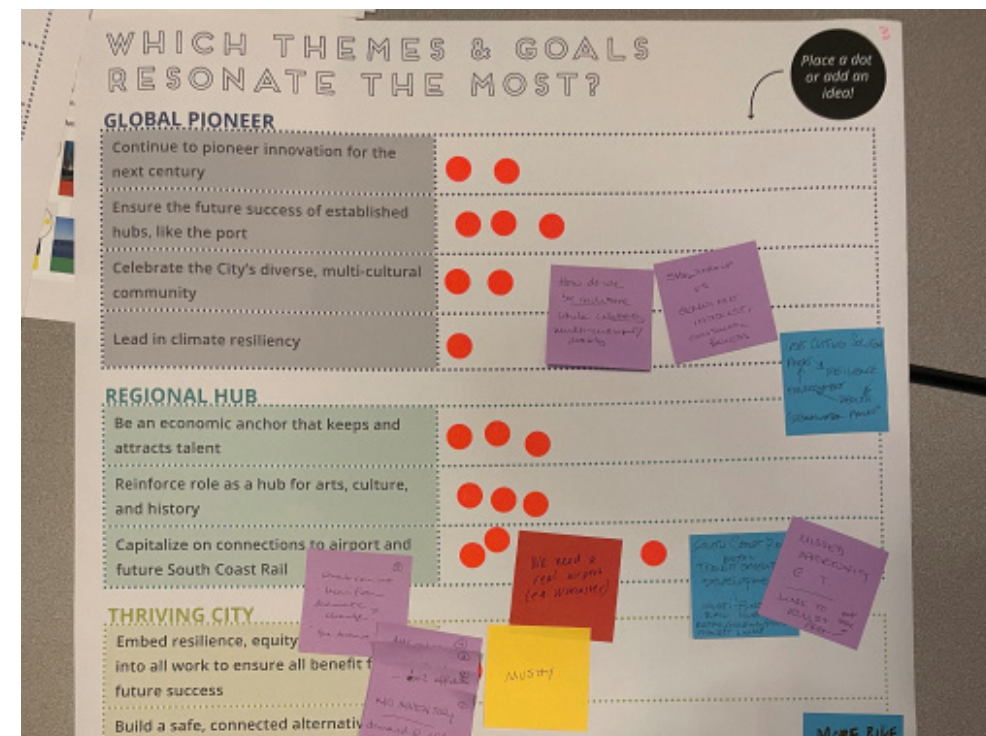
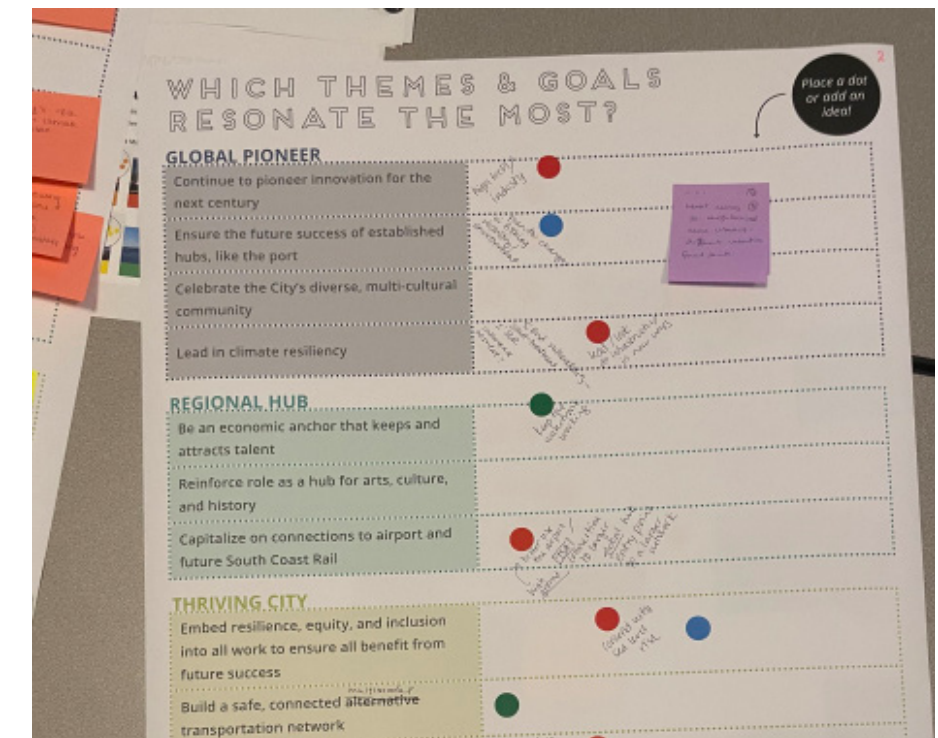
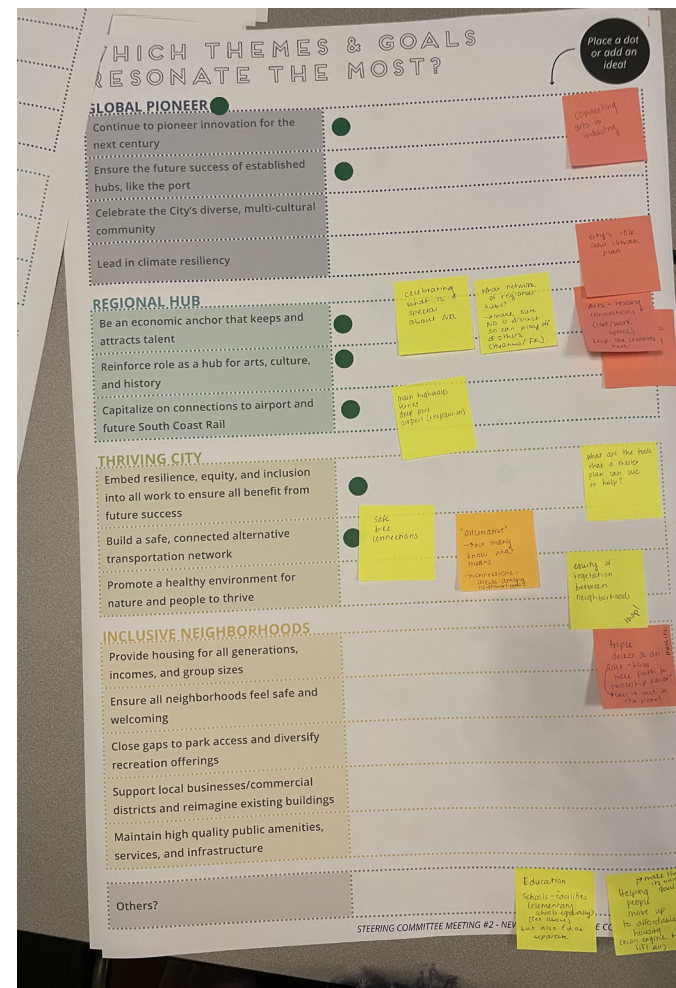
Embed resilience, equity, and inclusion into all work to ensure all benefit from future success	● ● ● ● ●
Build a safe, connected alternative transportation network	● ● ● ●
Promote a healthy environment for nature and people to thrive	● ● ● ● ●

11+

## INCLUSIVE NEIGHBORHOODS

Provide housing for all generations, incomes, and group sizes	● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●
Ensure all neighborhoods feel safe and welcoming	● ● ● ● ●
Close gaps to park access and diversify recreation offerings	● ● ● ●
Support local businesses/commercial districts and reimagine existing buildings	● ● ● ● ●
Maintain high quality public amenities, services, and infrastructure	● ● ● ● ●

22+



# KEY THEMES WE HEARD BY TOPIC AREA

## GLOBAL PIONEER

### Innovation

- Connect arts to industry
- Develop high-tech industry

### Future Success

- Plan for industrial and environmental changes

### Diversity

- Continually welcome diversity while celebrating existing multi-cultural community

### Climate Resiliency

- Align City's role with state climate plan
- Cross-cutting solutions (parks, health, environment, etc.)
- Look at infrastructure in new ways

## REGIONAL HUB

### Economic Anchor

- Celebrate what is special about New Bedford / build and strengthen New Bedford's uniqueness
- Sustain success of the waterfront

### Arts Hub

- Improve arts and housing connections to keep creatives here
- Learn from successful precedents like artist housing

### Connections

- Strengthen regional network through main highways, ferries, and the port
- Connect to larger global hubs through airport expansion
- Embrace the opportunities of mixed-use TOD brought by Southcoast rail

## THRIVING CITY

### Equity and Inclusion

- Identify equity resources and toolkits
- Equitable distribution of open space and vegetation across neighborhoods

### Transportation Network

- Safe pedestrian and bike connections
- Improve safety through multi-modal network

### Climate Resiliency

- Contend with sea level rise

## INCLUSIVE NEIGHBORHOOD

### Housing

- Create housing policy by and for New Bedford
- Revive the legacy of the triple decker and multi-generational living to retain long-standing residents
- Easier path to homeownership
- Address aging housing stock (de-leading)

### Safety & Vibrancy

- Reinforce neighborhood hubs
- More nighttime activities
- Support neighborhoods through community-based policies

### Public Services & Amenities

- Invest in infrastructure & park upgrades beyond downtown
- Connect community-scale parks and hubs
- Prioritize education and enhance school facilities

# MAPPING ACTIVITY - PLACE TYPES

Centers



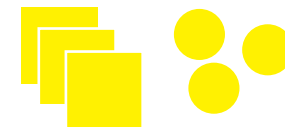
Commercial Corridors



Economic Production Areas



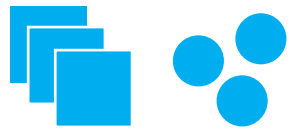
Residential neighborhoods



Open Space/ Recreation



Gateways



# MAPPING ACTIVITY - COMMENTS

Centers



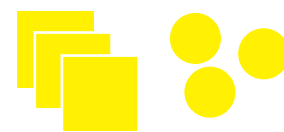
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