

**Onalaska Subarea Plan
Community Advisory Committee
Meeting 2 Notes**

The meeting began with a reminder of the CAC mission, purpose and process. The CAC is a group of people who have volunteered to give advice to Lewis County staff and Planning Commission about the vision of Onalaska in 20 years with goals and policies to achieve that vision. The final product is a document, prepared by staff, that captures the CAC's discussions and direction. The process to adopt is a public hearing at the Planning Commission, followed by a public hearing at the Board of County Commissioners.

Next, there was Q&A on the materials that were shared prior to the meeting.

Workshop

The goal of the workshop was to finalize the draft vision statement that came from the first meeting. The draft statements were sent to the CAC 2 weeks prior to the meeting. In small groups, the CAC members were asked to take those statements and revise them to be clearer. It was noted that defining the words in the statement or figuring out how to achieve the vision is the work of the next 6 meetings, this is simply finalizing the vision statements. Everyone was able to work on 3 statements of their choosing. Below are the final statements, organized by topic.

Community

1. Preserve the small-town character and history of Onalaska.
2. Maintain the unique sense of place.

Land Use

1. Protect surrounding rural and farmlands from overdevelopment and overcrowding.

Housing

2. Encourage affordable, quality, clean housing options.

Economic Development

3. Promote and encourage conditions that enable local businesses to thrive and prosper.
4. Attract businesses that serve and employ local residents.
5. Provide necessary purchased goods and services without leaving Onalaska.

Transportation

1. Encourage bicycle and pedestrian-friendly local streets.
2. Improve the pedestrian and vehicular safety of State Route 508.
3. Improve the accessibility of Onalaska.

Recreation and Environmental

1. Encourage families to live and play in town.

Public Facilities

1. Ensure sufficient infrastructure (e.g., water, sewer) to support anticipated growth.
2. Provide necessary governmental/public services (e.g., schools, EMS, transit) within town.
3. Promote services and facilities that allow residents to age in place.
4. Support and expand community facilities (e.g., senior center, community center).

Note – If reviewing this list results in thinking of a topic that is missing, please email that to staff before October 27 and it will be included in the materials for the next meeting.

