# Downtown Tulsa Strategic Plan Public Forum Feedback

The Downtown Coordinating Council hosted two public forums for members of the Downtown community and broader public to hear Progressive Urban Management Associates present on the Strategic Plan for a Downtown Management Organization. The forums were publicized using the same email contact lists utilized for the community engagement sessions in January, on our website and social media, in the weekly newsletter, and via local media coverage including the <u>Tulsa World</u> and <u>KWGS</u>. Nearly 120 stakeholders participated in these forums.

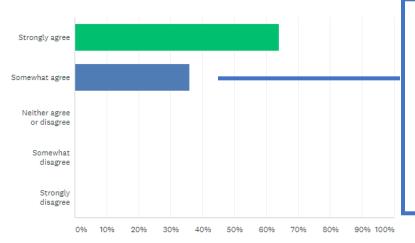
	8/11 Forum	8/12 Forum
Number Registered	79	63
Number Attended	62	55

# 8/11 Forum8/12 ForumImage: Distance of the state of t

### **Post-Forum Survey Results**

Forum Registrant Affinity

*Q:* After listening to the strategic plan presentation, to what extent do you agree the recommendations address Downtown's needs today and in the future?



- Need expansion of resources for individuals experiencing homelessness
- Concerns about assessment rate changes moving forward
- Ensuring cleaning and safety and day-to-day operations
   throughout Downtown
- Enhancing gateways to adjacent neighborhoods
- · Support of existing and historical Downtown events
- Clarity on the role of the City as it relates to Downtown
- Coordinating tree plantings with nearby property owners
- Board composition, intentional involvement, and lifting up diverse voices staying true to recommendations

## Public Forum Detailed Chat Questions and Feedback

These questions/comments were posed by attendees during each forum and answers were provided by DCC staff, P.U.M.A., or a combination. In advance of the forums, attendees were provided with copies of the full plan and the FAQ sheet that can be accessed at <a href="https://www.downtowntulsaok.com/strategic-planning">https://www.downtowntulsaok.com/strategic-planning</a>

### Session 1

- Would love to hear more about the BID
- In terms of members on the Board and Advisory Boards, would there be terms for each? If there is a rotation who manages that process, staff or board committees?
- Will there be an opportunity for downtown residents, workers and business owners to have representation on the boards? They are just as important as property owners to the success of downtown? Why is there not more focus on further residential growth since that seems to be where the growth trends are already occurring?
- Can you go back to the composition of the boards for the 501c6 and c3? Diverse representation on those boards is critical. Thx
- Will there be Citizen Volunteer Opportunities
- What is the plan for all the trash the homeless leave under bridges etc? Thanks, Jeni Resident of Liberty Tower.
- How does this plan relate to the new TIFs being established?
- There seems to be a negative connotation to TSID based on recent mailings by local law firm. With a refinance, is there an opportunity to change the name so all stakeholders inside IDL to have a voice? Thanks
- Have we thought about structured partnerships with potential partners located outside of the IDL?
- I am on the board of an adjacent neighborhood here in Crosbie Heighsts.better lighting and public art for years now. I would love to put my name on a list, an email etc. to learn more about such assistance we can offer and/or receive regarding financial and public support. Thank you for holding the opportunity to participate in these discussions.
- What are the current thoughts for parking and growing revenue through parking moving forward?
- Many thanks for your comprehensive approach to this process, I appreciate your willingness to incorporate feedback
- Thank you for the presentation.
- Thank you!
- Thank you Brian and team!
- Thank you so much!
- Thank you Brian.
- Thank you for the presentation PUMA and thank you Brian
- Thank you!
- thank you so much Brian
- Thank you for the presentation.

### Session 2

- Is the plan that the new organization would support existing activities or would it host its own activities? e.g. music festival
- How does the Tulsa Regional Chamber interact with this new entity? Their focus is economic development.
- Will promotional activities continue?
- How are the other downtown districts like the Tulsa Arts District, Blue Dome District, Cathedral District, etc. being considered in relation to Greenwood? They each have unique identities and marketing opportunities to draw visitors to the downtown core.
- In FAQ that were sent out it mentioned that DCC has been a recommending body to the Mayor how will this change the relationship between the organization and the Mayor/Government offices?
- Fast forward five years what will be the single greatest accomplishment be of the partnership? I.E. what is the main driver of this new organization?
- Not sure if Brad and the team are aware, but Tulsa County is preparing a PACE program (Property Assessed Clean Energy) for commercial properties. It would be great if the new DTP could help promote this opportunity to Downtown building owners and developers as part of its technical assistance.
- Is this organization where we would go to start an idea to increase the attractiveness of downtown like a suspension of parking fees?

# Post-Forum Survey Detailed Comments

- I think it is very encouraging to give a more entrepreneurial arm for Downtown Tulsa Management to support current
  downtown event planners but also add more creative opportunities. I fell in love with Downtown when I first moved here, and
  of course there are ways we can continually step up, but the current infrastructure in the way in which downtown operates and
  is headed is far better than most cities in the country. I wish more people would recognize that like I do. Don't forget to be
  proud of the growth and highlight those who have bought in over the past 11 years, it's the spirit that will continue drive us
  forward.
- I enjoyed the presentation and believe this will be a good strategy for the improvement of downtown.
- This was an important step, congrats! Our interest lies in arts as not just beautification, but rather as quality of life and economic generator. Will you be including festivals and performing arts orgs in your plan or is it just visual arts? As the only United Arts Fund in Tulsa, the proposers/presenters of the historic Vision Arts package, approved by voters and annually granting to 43 local arts non-profits, we have collected important data and impact information that may be helpful. In short, we want to help and we need to know more about your granting process and what is supported and where does that live. The arts are key to economy rejuvenation and growth. Your new org. will hopefully include advocates in the arts field that are doing the work to boost our economy, know the players and grow visibility of Tulsa as an arts destination. (you all did great, btw)
- It seems we've tried this a few times in the past but not much has been accomplished. How will it be different this time? Has the stadium trust bought into the idea? The fees being currently contributed to the DCC will the fees be transferred automatically to the new entity?
- The strategic plan looks great on paper. My main concern is navigating the oversight and accountability as this plan (if approved) is implemented. Thank you all for your work and time.
- Seems great.
- Property owners in downtown paying the assessment fee may need personal outreach to ensure ownership and support. It would be a good partnership idea to provide funding support to Mayfest via ahha; and the Tulsa Christmas Parade, which were forced to be reinvented in 2009 with the dissolution of DTU. More details regarding partnership with the Greenwood Main Street program is important due to so many entities in that space. More clarity about the role of the City going forward regarding downtown would be helpful. It would be nice to see a reopening of a street level TPD office with bicycle officers patrolling downtown like we used to have. Most of the trees were taken out by property owners. I hope the beautification and tree planting plan will have some teeth with these property owners.
- Well thought out and planned with similar cities as examples. There will always be push-back but I think this is a wellbalanced, thoughtful and inclusive plan.
- I really think that there needs to be defined representation on the proposed Downtown Tulsa Partnership board from a wide variety of stakeholders. This should be much broader than just property owners. While that may be the intent, the plan does not explicitly say this. I would deliberately include downtown residents, downtown workers, downtown churches representatives, event center representatives (everything from BOK to Cains to the IDL Ballroom). It is very important that the Board be as inclusive of downtown stakeholders as possible without becoming too big.
- I am pleased to see and hear the words "diversity" and "involvement" in your presentation. I live in one of those adjacent neighborhoods (properties down here in the past 20 years) and have been waiting for the city to invest in the area that could truly place Tulsa on the larger horizon as representing a creative, historically relevant, unified, progressive city. A truly walkable, livable, urban oasis in Oklahoma where the 21st century has (finally) arrived.
- Day to day operations will be most important as well as promotion of Downtown. Support for events through publicity or even physical support like free street barriers would also benefit all. As mentioned, the diversity of all the board make-ups is important. Any Board made up of only property owners will potentially be limited in focus. Comment was made that one board is made up of "property owners because they write the checks". As a business owner, I can tell you I write a check every year to cover my portion of the stadium assessment. In some cases, the property owner is merely a conduit to get the assessment funds from business owners to the TSID.
- Glad I sat in- I live in The Heights (Brady Heights) and was most interested about Clean/Safety I didn't know who was
  responsible for the cleanup under the bridges. My kids are now the age that I'm allowing them to walk downtown on their own they know the rules of staying away from the Cheyenne/Bolder underpass I would love to sit in on other discussions about
  Clean and Safe. Thank you very much!
- Good presentation covering all areas of the plan and taking the time to answer all the questions.
- I want to know how much will our assessment go up??
- Appreciate the thoughtfulness and completeness of the planning. Looking forward to a more inclusive and diverse leadership moving forward.

- I think the objectives laid out for downtown are spot on. There has to be a balance between bettering our City for current residents and stakeholders, as well as working toward a goal of recruiting and retaining new businesses and residents. I'll steal a popular progressive theory here when we support and bring EVERYONE up (homeless population, small businesses, ordinary residents), EVERYONE succeeds (larger businesses and property owners, the City at large).
- Given the 100 + year history of broken trust with people of color in Tulsa, in particular the Black communities, the intentional involvement and lifting up of diverse voices will be so critical. More so than in other locations given the 100 year commemoration of the race massacre, Greenwood Rising, The Black Lives Matter street sign debate, etc. Over communicate and ensure very strong outreach.
- Love it!!
- Overall reorganization is appreciated. Looking forward to seeing how the new entity works with the existing entities to support them and not compete with them.