

## Vibrant Economy Listening Session Comments

2/23 Green Table	
1.	If we could have more people living and working on the island as well as spending their money on the island. Would like to see tourism dollars get to island. Basic needs of safety. Would like to see diversity increased. Basic price of living on island is making us lose diversity.
2.	We're losing young people who are not coming to the island because it is difficult to get a foothold into real estate. We have an aging population and schools are losing students. Younger families are not coming to the island.
3.	Asked if we had fairly good demographic information? We do because we know we are not diverse.
4.	What kind of economy do we have? Service economy. We service tourists and people who live here.
5.	Over 3000 business licenses on the island. Most not brick and mortar. Most are home businesses. They are not tied into the network of providing service.
6.	A geographic economy, driven by location with proximity to Seattle and Kitsap peninsula. Convenient to have home based business because of proximity to Seattle.
7.	Bellevue grew out of the need for people to stay at home to work. There are opportunities to grow business.
8.	How do we get people out of their home? Do we have the kind of structures that entice people out of their homes to have a social network within their business? There is a minimal square feet for office space. If it was designed right, we may get people to come here to work and commute from other places here. The island needs to develop an atmosphere of business. If there were more vendors coming here to work, eventually you will get the diversity of income and people.
9.	It comes down to cost. People are reluctant to spend rent on a place when they can operate their business from home and cover the cost with their mortgage.
10.	We want green businesses: high tech, manufacturing computers, maybe, something with low impact. Bainbridge is positioned to be the perfect incubator for new businesses. We need to recruit new businesses. There has not been any recruitment effort on the City's part.
11.	Natural course of growth is going to be west of Seattle because everywhere else is overgrown already.

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12.	An interesting tension between “we want to grow but let's not increase density”.
13.	Growth needs to be in the right spot. Get a foot ferry in the picture, and parking will not be as much of an issue.
14.	Some people do not want growth period.
15.	Foot ferry between Pt. White and Bremerton? Bridge from Lynwood Center to Port Orchard? Bainbridge Islanders will never allow it.
16.	Traffic: Improve public transit? Already pretty well established. How do you get people out of their cars?
17.	There's a social pushback from riding the bus. It's a social block unless people encourage from school age to ride the bus.
18.	4500 people per square mile would improve public transit.
19.	How do you break the myth of Bainbridge Island being a bedroom suburb? What's changing in inner cities is people are coming back because the City is planning gentrification of areas. You have to do it from an economic model.
20.	Do we want the economy to grow? This is a fundamental question. There is a large portion of the community that does not want growth to happen.
21.	Do we want to be like everyone else? I think this is what we are migrating towards. Growth never pays for itself. You always have infrastructure costs. It gets more expensive as you grow. I like jobs and increased economy, but I also like the quality of life we have here.
22.	Population of the earth is increasing period.
23.	I have a great affinity for Bainbridge Island. I own property here, but I cannot afford to live here.
24.	People continually want more, but without growth we cannot improve things like public transit without it. We need to have smart business people who are improving the economy, not the City. It is not the City's job to recruit businesses to Bainbridge Island.
25.	Real estate is the number one business on the island. It attracts home based businesses and people who also have offices in Seattle and telecommute 2 days a week.
26.	Real estate brokers need to think about marketing to home businesses.
27.	Affordable housing issues stem from the high price of land. You need a range of housing. I do

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<p>not know if we have that here. The larger homes are driving the real estate business.</p>
<p>28. The City has a bigger role to play and be more assertive in their policies and programs. There is a need for more apartments/rentals.</p>
<p>29. City is increasing size of ADU's to increase rental market which also undermines the zoning.</p>
<p>30. School District has said the student population is actually increasing. Schools are an attraction on the island. Kids leave at 21 and then some come back when they are older.</p>
<p>31. Night life is lacking on the island. 20-30 year olds are coming for the wine weekends. Maybe if we had nightlife, they would be more willing to live here.</p>
<p>32. How do you become an incubator for business when we will not allow big box stores that we leave the island to visit? We are not going to allow those stores. A number of businesses have moved off the island. What industries would we try to attract? Software development?</p>
<p>33. So what proactive role does or should the City have to develop the island as a business "Incubator." Tax incentives are not possible because the City needs the taxes. The high cost of permit fees on this island is ridiculous compared to Port Orchard. Where in the City's budget can they cut to give incentives?</p>
<p>34. The current Comp Plan does not have any benchmarks, indicators to measure success of goals. The City is so insular.</p>
<p>35. Vision statement from Planning Commission is too generic. It tries to give everything to everybody.</p>
<p>36. There has been tremendous growth in the last 20 years. The comprehensive plan has galloped to the finish line.</p>
<p>37. The biggest issue has always been that if it is not codified in code, it doesn't matter what the comp plan says.</p>
<p>38. All of this has been done in the past, the City should look at the programs out there that the Downtown Association has looked at with Sustainable Bainbridge (Rob Smallwood has list of programs).</p>

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2/23 Orange Table	
1.	Bainbridge is a special place within a larger region, important to keep in mind what makes Bainbridge unique. We have a variety, with some larger employers, including government. And with great community involvement, we can keep it plugging along. Seattle employment not a bad thing, because those jobs are higher income. Vibrancy means a broad base of opportunity, for both starting businesses and living here.
2.	How do we get the starter companies to stay here once they take off- not just an incubator island? Is there any place else that could have a large enough office building to move into.
3.	Avalara is a great story in what they have been able to accomplish, but sense is that because they started here, some semblance of the business could remain on Bainbridge Island, even if they move elsewhere. Lots of companies/ tech on Bainbridge and Kitsap that exist under the radar. Plan should address the business issues like parking
4.	What can we put in the comp plan to achieve what we are looking for? More Avalara or less commercial?
5.	One economic theory put forward for Visconsi discussion is that a municipality has to always have land available
6.	Affordable housing is critical for the workers of the Island, and how can the comp plan encourage that- head fire department mechanic doesn't live on the island. The teachers aren't living on the island anymore.
7.	I can't live on the Island, and most of my employees can't live on Bainbridge (Bloedel). Avalara employees don't often live on Bainbridge Island- live on Seattle, so the Seattle economy cannot be disconnected from Seattle. What is a vibrant economy?
8.	Do we want more businesses, when we have empty commercial space?
9.	Sage- is a business that sells overseas, not as much locally.
10.	Concern more about retail. Turnover of retail shops is high.
11.	How much retail can the Bainbridge population support?

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12.	We own property on Ericksen and could not find a commercial tenant to fill it, rents too low.
13.	The empty space is more focus on office not retail.
14.	What about medical business growth?
15.	Does a vibrant economy mean more commercial growth? The market will drive it.
16.	In the comp plan, do we have too much commercial space? Could we down-zone?
17.	In the 2035, the Seattle region will grow by 1.5mil, Kitsap will add same 7% (70K) people in the 20 year horizon. What if anything can we plan for that growth?
18.	We can't do this in a vacuum, need to understand the larger economy, professional services, fiber, telecom, this community will attract new businesses - do we want smart sustainable growth? Or let the market dictate?
19.	Bainbridge is on a limited aquifer.
20.	That assumes that we consume with the old standard... the most vibrant community over time are the one that use less resources.
21.	PSE is thinking of brining in big batteries as a test on Bainbridge, why we won't consider brining natural gas lines over from across the bridge. The PSE is a major upgrade, even though the grid only peaks out 4 days a year.
22.	Bloedel has trouble getting internet and power to the property, and is using wireless to serve.
23.	What has prevented natural gas? Supposing it would be capitalization for bringing natural gas, PSE must not see a profit yet.
24.	The natural resources and utilities are essential
25.	What about Bainbridge always has outages wouldn't gas make a difference? PSE- it would be extremely expensive- every road would have to get torn up.
26.	The reliability of power and communications, and right zoning, right incentives, may spur the private sector to do something that otherwise wouldn't happen. Infrastructure key to promoting BI

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27.	Bloedel has benefitted from `Bainbridge ride over last summer; otherwise those ferry tourists wouldn't have come.
28.	The commercial areas like Rolling Bay and Island Center and Winslow needs focus on infrastructure first.
29.	The BainbridgeRide doesn't pencil out yet economically, but is subsidized because of values.
30.	Growth is inevitable. How can we help facilitate keeping that special feel?
31.	The core of regional economy Seattle, as it gets more expensive, then the rings will be
32.	We are assuming that we have perpetual growth, but we have a right as a community to limit our growth. We don't have to keep taking more and more people.
33.	Is there support for zero growth? Based on natural resources yes.
34.	We have to change how we do things, conservation efforts.
35.	Disagreement about what the water reports say about carrying capacity, can't we agree on the idea of stewardship.
36.	How much growth are we willing to accept? And that's where the land use come in? And do we have the infrastructure to support growth?
37.	Very difficult to prove that development will impact services.... Get creative in that battle.
38.	We just bought 23 acres of land (Sakai park land) but the taxes that would be generated from houses not enough to pay for services.
39.	Detroit lost 900K residents, Amazon is big for Seattle, and if Alibaba takes off in us, then Amazon will be dramatically impacted. If Amazon loses, then south Lake Union will tank. Boeing engineers laid off, Microsoft has problems with space, if Seattle economy tanks, then Bainbridge is impacted. Diversity is key.
40.	Seattle is a diverse economy nationwide. Rotterdam unloads their ships/ trains with driverless vehicles/ trains. West coast ports need to catch up.
41.	What types of businesses do we want?

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42. One of the largest employers in Kitsap is military? What happens if the military changes, and if Poulsbo becomes the center instead of Silverdale? If the downtown merchants were here, they would say that tourism is the way to grow without impacting natural resources.
43. Home businesses good, help to make it affordable to and attractive for home businesses.
44. I think this community is ideal to nurture small home based businesses, infrastructure very important and need the employees. Home businesses are using a lot of electricity.
45. Better internet service, anything the city can do.
46. The building code allows home based businesses, and should be supported and incentivized.
47. What kind of businesses do we want to attract? Art kind people? Photographers, graphic designers.
48. We have a business, technology has a soft impact here, because of raw materials coming in or going out/ the electricity needs to be reliable.
<b>2/23 Red Table</b>
1. I'd love to see islanders shop on Bainbridge Island. Live and shop here. Having a range of employers...diverse employees draw diverse visitors. Anchor, larger employers....eat, shop here during daytime hours - employees that is.
2. Local food offered here...restaurants and farmers markets.
3. Long term vibrant economy...more locally based businesses and services. Low cost oil etc is not sustainable ....keeping real services available so people can stay here.
4. Welcome a larger range of businesses. For businesses, it's a transitional model - to evolve and educate local businesses. Education of business owners to provide a range of services.
5. There is a disconnect between code and what citizens want - fix this. Asani, for example. Rules don't always follow what Comp Plan says.
6. Comp Plan is now out of date and the Code and the Comp plan need to come together. Who is tracking that changes to one follow to the other.

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7. In Copenhagen, they study what are the activities do the people do- local food, recreation, local business, business development, transportation, more access to trails and multi modal activities. BI Ride for example is very important for the Senior Center. Parking is a big deterrent to local shopping. Businesses might consider relocation or new parking rules to adapt to customers. Options for families currently small - i.e.: food for little kids and big kids or teams...Big group of islanders whose needs are not being catered too. What kind of space do activities require? What buildings then do you build?
8. Parking is unresolved issue and has been for years....some services require folks with vehicles, such as a hardware store.
9. US Post Office space, for example, has space that could be used much better. Transportation could better describe the problem, not parking. How to make this place less car dependent. Is the only solution to put in more parking spaces? City is not following parking rules, Senior Center vs. Rowing Club parking vs. merchant parking vs. Avalara. Could Winslow Way be turned into a pedestrian space and still be sensitive to needs of merchants?
10. Paper Products for example has increased sales 40% on weekends selling pop and tourist things to guests. Density where it should be? Walking where it should be? Winslow Tomorrow looked at more than just Winslow Way but up to High School Rd and down to water. Mixed used spaces drawing more folks.
11. What keeps these great ideas from getting realized? Parking requirements? Lack of bussing? Lack of housing downtown?
12. Maybe there's no one person who sees what's in charge of all these priorities - lots of plans but no one person pushing plan. Grow Community for example is trying to be multigenerational.
13. Holistic Island thinking is not happening...Winslow residents yes, but the rest of the island has to buy in. Public input - all the stakeholders must be able to weigh in. Bike and walking trails for example at the Sakai property, develop a trail that goes somewhere before improving car access. Water taxis to Pritchard Park.
14. Economy is more than just Winslow....Business parks, tech aspect to bring more folks to the island, the big group of home based businesses. How to support the home workers. Code support working with home based business. Meeting spaces...desk spaces...Neighborhood centers

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reflecting office Island expat type businesses would support home based businesses. Big list of meeting spaces available - not everyone knows it exists.

15. Farmers want to develop a farm stand but would the code allow it?

16. Build out neighborhood centers before creating farm store. It's expensive building out these spaces....off the grid is cheaper, in town is pricey.

17. Square footage is limited downtown and it's challenging to keep business ....

18. Bifurcation - on island vs. big box store category....

19. Back to school supplies is decreasing each year - 13% maybe served from Paper Products.

20. Need not being served on Island - clothes, supplies and food sold by one store like a Fred Meyer.

21. Online presence - but some people don't want to wait.

22. Creating community like a farmers market...knowing people by name makes a difference.

23. City government chips away at these good ideas...lots of stakeholders want to weigh in....no end date and it's frustrating. Needs to be a person responsible to guide the process through to and END. Government is slow!

24. Mission Statement - too long currently. Simplify it.

25. Business owners should be able to see a clear vision that they can adapt business plans too.

26. Winslow is denser area....Winslow is easier to connect than the outlying areas...creating hubs justifies transportation connections.

27. Transportation and thinking about the island holistically in terms of growth.

28. Benchmarks, metrics, measurements - how do we measure economic growth?

**2/23 Yellow Table**

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1. Recognizing city regulatory climate – creating incentives for type of development and/or expansions for businesses and living here.
2. Think about transportation as underlying pieces in developing the bases – for smaller businesses – not much room for industries.
3. Need to face the fact that the ferry maintenance yard is at prime real estate – and co-locate technology type of businesses there as prime spot for business opportunity.
4. Jobs available not matched well with cost of living on the island.
5. Would be nice to have a broader base here – not a whole lot of diversity here – small business focus on the downtown core and focus on tourism.
6. Jobs based on Bainbridge can't afford to leave here.
7. Manufacturing is a base to economic base – Bainbridge only has Day Road – Political reluctance for industrial space.
8. Growth management is killing economic growth.
9. Need to look at more affordable housing for residents to work and live on the Island.
10. Tourist – create a vision and demo community that attracts people from off the island – to experience the demonstration of echo (green, sustainable working and living community).
<b>2/23 6<sup>th</sup> Table</b>
1. Vibrant economy? Yes, in particular in Winslow.
2. Locally-owned, independent businesses are most important. Responds to local needs.
3. Money stays in our economy when shop locally.
4. Tech is becoming more important. "Clean" industry is important.
5. Tourism is increasing. BI Ride has helped.

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6. Connectivity between different "villages" is important. Attractive to locate growth in certain areas.
7. Neighborhood service centers are good idea. Lynwood Center is most vibrant right now. Perception is that it's doing well, but some rely on subsidized rent. Displaced agriculture.
8. People still go off island to shop. Commuters shop in Seattle. What are the local needs? Room for expansion of offerings to retail. Rents can be high - Lynwood example relies on corporation decision to support new businesses.
9. Can't regulate landlords into making supportive decisions. But, business and landlords are partners and want success.
10. Looking for ways to connect Winslow Way community across 305. Pedestrian disconnect across the highway. What's the draw to get people across?
11. Parking is a key to successful meeting current and future demand.
12. Rarely easy parking in Winslow, especially mid-day.
13. Portland is a good example of good promotions, especially for tourist draw. But, we can do better at getting people downtown.
14. Lodging - hotels not the only option. Air B&B is frequent use for younger visitors.
15. What are creative ways to get people to shopping centers - not only serving cars. Park Once concept. Move people around in Winslow by bus. Consider ways to get downtown employees to park in other areas.
16. Promotion is the job of Chamber of Commerce or business association. They get LTAC funds. Can support the whole community.
17. Definition is wide - arts is an important part, and food. But, too expensive for artists to live here.
18. Are we doing enough to support home-based business? Are there limits in our Code that we don't need?
19. Desire for more younger people. May be too expensive. Options to attract the 20-somethings. Some businesses stay open later. Welcome back to the students who graduated, went away and then came back to live on "The Rock".

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20. Commuters have driven public transit routes. BI Ride has been unexpectedly successful. Can show where the demand is. Need to establish and stick with routes. People need to learn about it, and rely on it.
21. City could support public transit. Would ease parking. Businesses could support, too, to relieve downtown parking.
22. Highway 305 too busy. Shows that many go off-island to shop, live, and come here to work. Transit brings more people from off island to ferry than from on-island buses.
23. Economic development is part of the Comp Plan. But, City money should have direct tie to an activity with metrics.
24. LTAC distribution not a great model. There have been long-standing issues. Criteria is inconsistent and not transparent.
25. Considering high value on arts in the community - what is the role of the City? When City funding diminished, organizations did not fold.
26. Could require businesses to "give back" in some certain percentage - for example Safeway could be required to do community support or events. Want to have shared value of supporting non-profits, large companies should also provide support to local area. City role in providing incentives and allow bonus in terms of development.
27. Consider implementing minimum wage structure for island businesses.
28. Recognize that some businesses are more expensive.
29. City can serve as role model - buy local, don't buy bottled water, buy environmentally-conscious products.
30. Safe connections, particularly for bikes along roads that go from one neighborhood service center to another.
<b>2/23 Blue Table</b>
1. We should model our community after Sequim and their support of the farmers.
2. To me a vibrant economy is more well rounded than just tourism

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<p>3. Tourism is our best use.</p>
<p>4. Sequim sort of took the bull by the horns. Attention to seniors, agriculture, alternative route for thru traffic, listened to their community, promoted themselves, made an effort to assess their resources and promote themselves. Bainbridge being primarily motivated and dominated by what?</p>
<p>5. We are basically a bedroom community somewhat, and there are other questions that tie into tourism. I think the tourism will follow the attractiveness of their island. We need to start buying up land for agriculture not for forests. Affordable housing is not happening. How can we build farming on the island to help support the tourism.</p>
<p>6. How would that impact taxes?</p>
<p>7. We need to impact taxes by having informed voters. This last election we did not have informed voters. Pretty soon the taxes really add up. If City bought land then it would be off the tax rolls. Making some sort of arrangement so you can afford to farm the land.</p>
<p>8. There are mechanisms to keep the taxes at less than what is the developable part of the land.</p>
<p>9. There is a category for communities like Sequim: theme community. Sequim chose lavender and works well for them. Also, Leavenworth. Category for communities that choose to go in that direction.</p>
<p>10. I think our theme should be discord.</p>
<p>11. I agree that this is a bedroom community to some extent. It has also become something else. People are also coming here to work. Thirty-somethings. I think that's a force. Day road area more traffic than ever before. They're living elsewhere and working on the island. I personally welcome that.</p>
<p>12. As far as affordability. I'd like to see the City adopt a policy of conservatism. We burn through millions. We spent \$50k for a sculpture. Every City Council meeting its \$40k here, \$50k here, and then the law suits! This is going on for 20-25 years.</p>
<p>13. There is no unified Bainbridge Island. Do we want to be a themed community? Does our downtown want to be a theme, or do we want to be there for the community? We're heading that way by default. They take the ferry ride, the stand on street corners looking at maps, its changing the culture of this town. We lose character of town with tourism. We started to lose our character when we lost the hardware store. I want a mystic seaport at ferry maintenance yard. About four years later, it was to try and reclaim the boat yard. Story of why we lost boat yard is an important one because it involved our City. The LTAC "mafia". Need ethical leadership. We don't know who Bainbridge is. How do we create a plan when we don't know who we are. Tourist town, etc?</p>

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14. Everyone disagrees, except we all agree on discord.
15. The effect of internet on our community. Internet companies stealing business from local merchants. Our leadership structure actually helps these people. Team Winslow, City, all sponsored Discover Bainbridge Island. Arts and humanities brought in non-profits, etc. Event was designed to capture Palo Alto type businesses. We're out gunned and out manned and we are a vulnerable community because of greed and power. They flock to these communities because we're so pro-corporation.
16. The City Council is in charge of what policies, values and direction of the community.
17. We've all agreed it's a very diverse community, so how does the Council know.
18. They're supposed to come to the job with passion, service.
19. They do that already.
20. The City Council is not in charge of micromanaging. They're here to make sense of the chaos and disorder.
21. Council is not the solution. Community has to come together. You can't expect elected officials to impose it.
22. City Council can't impose their interest. They need to represent everyone.
23. Resident I want to give a return on our investment. Are you helping us move forward.
24. If we're branding ourselves and looking for tourism, can we still be a community?
25. The majority of the people on the Island are working off-Island. Unless we factor is that as an important element of the our community. We can't attract people that are working off Island into our shops. When you're commuting you do as much shopping in Seattle as much.
26. There is a dangerous of becoming a bedroom community.
27. Look at the people working at home that our telecommuting. Look at the people coming into town to work from Kitsap or Seattle. People working in Seattle often have a support person at home that our caring for them while they're away.
28. I can't afford to shop on the Island. I don't shop at the Island at all. I can drive off Island and by everything I need. Silverdale. Leakage.

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29. Why is that premium price?
30. Because the market bears it. People on this Island make a lot of money.
31. Town and Country is not spending XX amount of dollars . They sell at an even higher price than Central.
32. Captive audience. You spend the extra money to shop on the Island because its more convenient.
33. There's also some economies of scale for off-Island meeting.
34. Do we want to live in Silverdale?
35. There are expenses in time and money to get to Silverdale.
36. We're in a changing economy. I can buy over the internet and have it delivered to my house. I have 150 animals in my front yard. We have to factor in the change of economy in getting things delivered. For people that have limited time, that is an important factor.
37. People are making changes every day about what they want to do. It's a heterogeneous target. Where are the hotspots?
38. We don't agree on what it is. We've overemphasized the importance of the downtown area. We've invested and we don't get a return on it. All the investor hasn't generated the return. I'm talking about a vibrant economy.
39. I think we have vibrant economy. We need to maintain the diversity of the economy. Let's not become a theme community. If we don't allow a method for different types of people to thrive then we're going to become Bellevue or Mercer Island.
40. I can't afford to live here anymore. Basically this town has destroyed me economically.
41. Affordable housing on Bainbridge starts at \$450,000. We have a lot of affordable housing. What's affordable?
42. The trouble with affordable housing is that most the people living here work in Seattle. If we're going to have affordable housing the City will have to buy it for City employees.
43. It is the American dream to have your real estate increase in value.
44. What is the key metric that we would use for measuring success in economy?

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45. One metric would be the participation in the local economy of as many generations and as many islanders as possible.
46. The businesses have shifted in the downtown area to be more attractive to tourists. We need an mercantile so people can buy things here at a reasonable costs. We need the hardware store. We need less fru fru stores.
47. But what's driving that is the economy.
48. The rents keep going up downtown.
49. As long as the rents keep going up we need more screwball businesses that don't serve the community, but the people that own the businesses aren't serving the community.
50. You can't demand what's downtown. It's going to be what is supported by the market.
51. From the family side of it. We shop downtown whenever we can. We shop downtown.
52. The people that buy things make the market for downtown businesses. Is there anything we can do to say that this is the wrong direction.
53. We have to elect people to the City Council that have a sense of comprehension of the confusion and disorder that exists. We don't elect people that have the aptitude for making order out of chaos.
54. We don't utilize people.
55. There are studies that show both the supply and demand for products and services on the Island. Can we use these studies to work with the City to incentive and attract businesses that meet the needs of the communities.
<b>2/25 Red Table</b>
1. Vibrant is when there is action, things are happening and moving. Transactions are being made, plans are being implemented.
2. Vibrant means active street life, lots of action on the streets.
3. Vibrant means people shopping here and doing business here, we should not "bleed revenue".
4. Vibrant is when business owners are making money so they can stay in business. People don't realize how hard it is. Overhead is high. Biggest income is during the summer, so more visitors

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would mean more income.
5. KidiMu, art museum, Waypoint park are all helping. When downtown Seattle waterfront is redone, that will help. Things are picking up.
6. Rents are high because of scarce real estate. Costs of upkeep etc are high for landlords.
7. Limited space in the downtown core for businesses.
8. City has no control over property taxes--no way to give a break to local business owners.
9. Employment opportunities also contribute to vibrancy--offices too, not just retail and restaurants.
10. We have enough opportunities for manufacturing. We need more retail downtown, more to get people to take the boat and come here. Downtown needs to be more attractive and getting downtown from the ferry should be easier, more user-friendly and more attractive. It's not a pleasant trip right now. We need a more attractive, accessible waterfront. Right now there is no connection to the water.
11. Main Street looks pretty good after the reconstruction but why didn't we underground the power?
12. We've been talking about a view/pedestrian corridor to the water forever, why can't we get it done?
13. The water is part of the island identity, but it's not obvious now. There needs to be visual and physical access to the water. Tourists come here and ask, "Where's the water?"
14. Needs to be an urban design plan for the City. Need guidance on creation of place and connection to place.
15. Poulsbo has big marina with lots of boat slips and that makes a big difference to the businesses. We need more of that here.
16. This should be a premium place for people to go, given water, proximity to Seattle etc. But it isn't. People go elsewhere.
17. We don't take advantage of the ferry potential that would bring more people if we made it desirable.

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18. Need signage to tell people who come here where to go, where to eat etc. Tourists don't know where to go. The ferry terminal is not attractive.
19. People won't come unless it's a pleasant place to be. People say they don't want tourists but we need them and should invite them.
20. Need transportation from the ferry to Faye Bainbridge, Bloedel, and Grand Forest. We need a shuttle bus like the casino has.
21. We have BI Ride but not enough people know about it.
22. The City needs to make a commitment to the downtown. For example, not enough trash pickup. A basic thing to take care of but the message is City doesn't want to pay for extra service. Downtown Association and Chamber do make an effort, but there needs to be a piece of the City that is heavily committed and involved in bringing tourism.
23. We have lots to offer but we need to promote ourselves.
24. Leavenworth "works it" to bring people into town, because everyone wants the business and crowds. Always something going on and something to do.
25. We need architectural standards for downtown. "Build it so it fits." Our architecture is "everywhere USA".
26. Pick a big vision that works and then develop a program that attracts people it. For example, events that everyone works on, all the B&Bs participate, transportation is coordinated
27. Need to attract people during the off-season to help sustain businesses.
28. Need a unifying theme for Bainbridge Island.
29. Encourage residents to shop locally. But parking downtown is a problem. Employees are parking downtown and moving their cars when needed--absolutely non-productive.
30. Why were businesses allowed to build without enough parking?
31. Need to get around Island safely without cars. And why do we have a bunch of parking that is dedicated to the boat ramp and just sits empty.

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32. Get rid of boat ramp. Why do we have big boats backing in to park in the same area where we have little kids playing and people walking?
33. Use area to the east of the playground for parking.
34. New rowing club building is going to make parking situation worse.
35. We need a parking garage. There is no parking downtown, and freeing up a few spaces here and there isn't going to help.
36. NSCs--how do businesses there survive during the winter? Discussion: It depends on the types of business. Whether they thrive depends on adequate parking, having some green space. NSCs are a good conc.ept. Heyday Farms has been an enhancement.
37. Lynwood is successful because there is continuity in architecture and it's attractive.
38. Another part of the economy is people making things. Need a co-op store where people can sell what they make.
39. Really good pedestrian and bike system, the less parking you'll need.
40. The flip side of NSCs is that as they grow, they may draw people away from Winslow.
41. On-line shopping has completely changed the way we shop and how businesses work.
42. BIDA needs to revitalize, "change things up." Not just the same 4 events every year. What about things like the "restaurant week" and look at what other communities are doing?
<b>2/25 7<sup>th</sup> Table</b>
1. Roughly half of people work on Bainbridge and roughly half commute? Guess - mix of people working from home and then in business. Seattle commuters. Buy local.
2. Leakage of money out of our community because of people not working and buying local is probably pretty high. Serves the needs of the people who live here.
3. Important. Would hate to see us dependant on tourist dollars. Find basic principles. So many work in Seattle, but want services at home. When it comes to healthcare,

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4. People want to stay local instead of having to go to Seattle. Leakage to big box stores. Think more broadly to be more resilient sustainable community. Local Bainbridge merchants deserve our support. Paper Products a good example. City buying through paper products. Very expensive to run a business on Bainbridge. Rents high/prices high. Expensive to shop here. Don't shop local because cost so high. Basic lifestyle could be a part of the future/lowering carbon footprint. Where's the profit in the basics. Consumer rights - city having a problem selling anything as a cooperative. Is the city really going to be in competition? The cost of retail space on Winslow. Making use of the neighborhood business centers good to keep local. Encourage businesses to operate in those service centers. A place that people can come together. Many shop off island, but depend on island businesses when need to communicate. Treehouse Cafe is a community oriented place. Lynnwood in general has gone through a nice enlivenment. Winslow dead after dark, Lynnwood is vibrant. Water is biggest restraint in Rolling Bay. Need acceptable septic and fire flow. Cause for lack of growth in Rolling Bay. Neighborhood service centers were zoned for small business. Every hub on the island is different from the other. Each should have limitations specific to the area. Having eateries is important to neighborhoods. City look at Comp. Plan to see if possible in areas with restrictions. What does sewerage Rolling Bay mean? Sequim is sewer system example. They have land. It's either sewer or septic. Maybe we're limiting ourselves. Bullitt Foundation example. It is possible. Couldn't have done it without adjustments from the City Council. Design specifics altered the rules. Advanced thinking/making these things possible.

5. Call it the three legged stool. Practice social, economic operations. How they manage resources. City to allow/encourage things to happen. Sustainable vibrant economy is really important. The extent in which we are using the Earth's resources. One Planet/Gross National Happiness examples. How close is Bainbridge to supporting that agenda? We are getting close to leadership. Council has to be willing to lead/step up. Leadership in the green area. Have to protect eco system. Have to encourage the triple bottom line. Comp plan update process is one chance to educate and bring people into the future and values. We have role models here/sustainable business practices. B Corporation example. Incentive to be recognized. Frees them up to being responsible to share holders. Groups looking at a system that Portland has

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implemented to become certified in sustainable development. Doesn't have to come from the city/should be a partner. What can we do to attract the businesses we want. Look for businesses that fit a certain profile. Office expats is an example. Example of Avalara. May leave because of growth. Space can be used for new businesses. Chamber taking initiative.

6. Is the goal to be able to get people who live on the island to work on the island? Or people who work on the island to live on the island? How does it benefit the island? Attracting work force from Seattle? They are using services here. Bad parking. PSE energy audits example. Beginning to end analysis of businesses. Service vehicles coming from off island. Encourage local business. Teachers/fire not able to afford to live here. Losing diversity/income diversity. Socio-economic diversity is nil. What can you do from a Comp. Plan? Integrate different levels of housing. Diversity is really important to a green economy. Housing above the business. Hope whatever ideals are put in the Plan get translated into Code. Doesn't sit in a plan. Hold Council accountable. Even if it means creating new codes. Might have to be creative.

7. What are the rules outside of Winslow? Zoning? Home businesses encouraged. Should be able to work with neighbors. Lowering carbon footprint should be a core value. Promote people to work at home. Code needs to remedy limits to home business. There are complaints about farming/smell/look. Right to farm language. City needs to hold strong. Especially if the small business owner is trying to make neighbors happy. This is the way we do things here. We have a long culture of that.

### 2/25 Green Table

1. Jerri of BIDA said her role is to listen and will be glad to kick the ball into the playing field. We have leakage in business that is going across the bridge and to Seattle and the internet. These are challenges. We cannot combat these changes, need to be creative on how we will fill those gaps, very proud of our independently owned businesses. At the cusp of needing fresh ideas and change.

2. Jerri saying there are lots of options. How do you keep your mainstreet alive when there is such a pull. Sequim is a "theme" community, same as Leavenworth. She views Bainbridge as more than one note.

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3. Brewery owner saying they opened in 2012. The city was kind of negative and neutral, not easy to get started, lots of hoops. City could be more helpful with less obstacles.
4. Jerri mentioning the shoulder season, November thru September.
5. Ron talking about home business, there are a lot. The leakage thing does not apply to the home businesses, he wants to put in a plug for those businesses.
6. Bill asking should the city encourage home businesses?
7. Bainbridge as a whole is a pass thru destination. Traffic is hard to handle. They see the Waypoint and the Museum but then it's just the highway and trees.
8. In downtown Winslow, we need more unique mom and pop not Pottery Barn. Small and unique and special.
9. Need more gathering spaces like the brewery, theater, pottery. Lynwood is a great center.
10. Venues are important but sometimes too expensive or elusive.
11. We have very few low cost gathering spaces for lectures and meetings. Library is a huge gathering space.
12. Bainbridge is known for its culture; the fabric of the community was cultural.
13. Art is very important, kids grew up seeing successful artists on the island so they too became artists.
14. Bainbridge has a tradition and history of artists living here.
15. Art should be encouraged, housing should be affordable.
16. New generation can't afford to be here.
17. Young people are into micro housing.
18. Save the farm land, have an allotted amount.

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19. If farming is sustainable they need to have somewhere to live. Artists and farmers cannot afford to live here.
20. In 1960 the average size of a home was 900 square feet. Affordable housing is a big issues. A lot of our teachers cannot live here nor our service people like fireman or police. Does not promote a tight knit community.
21. HRB can get some systems in place to address this affordable housing question.
22. The Ferncliff Village plan was originally going to have the cars parked away from the houses. The plan was dropped, now it looks ugly.
23. We do not have a large commercial workforce.
24. Jerri saying the leakage reports can indicate where business is wanted needed, etc. focus on what the report is saying.
25. Look at our zoning map and look at what is allowed. Some are allowed that don't compliment the community.
26. If ten types of businesses were identified...is that something we can encourage? Work with the Chamber, BIDA, and the City. We need a mercantile conveniently located.
27. Jerri saying it's our job to go recruit, City needs to provide a tax incentive. Seattle is very aggressive in their recruiting.
28. Change the way people shop: don't just go online. Shift their buying habits.
29. We have a "Bainbridge mark up" reputation.
30. Bill saying BIDA, City and Chamber can help target the businesses we want.
31. Incentives that would appeal to smaller businesses. Grants for small business.
32. Encourage tax incentives for local start ups.
33. Accounting for inflation, the 1975 minimum wage would now be 22 dollars an hour. They are making the money but can't afford to spend it.

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34. If you raise the minimum wage, costs will go up.
35. From a farming standpoint, can't afford to pay 15 bucks.
36. Because the boom is in the summer, the college kids come back and get the jobs. Why should the students get crappy wages.
37. Need to talk about subsidies, should be more help for the farmers.
38. There are businesses that would suffer from a higher min wage. We should not have to sacrifice a winery or farm.
39. A community that is committed to steward ship and social justice, we want to attract people. We value the special character of the island.
40. Public transportation revolves around the ferry.
41. BainbridgeRide is a good start. Frog Hopper was cool.
<b>2/25 Blue Table</b>
1. Climate? A tax base would be nice. The recession showed what a weak position BAINBRIDGE was in financially. Diversity of economic base beyond real estate.
2. Leakage ...consumers leaving the island to shop elsewhere. Local money has 3x the impact when spent in the community. Not just Winslow Way but all the community centers should be supported.
3. Local relationships are important. Local economy has many benefits, i.e.: Pike Place Market, the shop owners know each other and connect.
4. Winslow Way with its upgrades (besides the street - that's a death wish to drive/cycle on) is nice but a boardwalk w/ sitting areas letting folks congregate and be part of community. Food Carts! We should not just be money driven but community ideas and values should be emphasized.
5. Waterfront should be more connected to city streets. Events! Make community.
6. Visconsi shows that community has feelings but no voice. Codify ideas. Encourage filling the empty storefronts.

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7. City Code didn't implement/codify the Comp Plan and that is why we're meeting today.
8. Accessibility is key - if you want a vibrant economy you have to create a culture that draws people to you.
9. Leadership! Shaming! Infrastructure (parking, cell & internet access, more busses) investments - how to change habits and eventually ,economy.
10. Parking garage - multi modal transportation - numerous solutions that may be implemented to increase accessibility.
11. Frog hopper was good but not reliable enough. BI Ride great!
12. Walk ability needs to be encouraged.
13. Business types we can attract or retain? Kayak business, boatyard, water activities, Art Museum, Nakata Pool, Day trip destinations, restaurants, hiking that can be made accessible to those w/o cars. Bring your wallets not your cars.
14. Local customer base keeps businesses here. We don't live and die by tourists, we really don't. Local owners need to provide what customers need and want. Few business owners own their buildings - rent is high. We have a creative community - hardware store downtown would be great- a general store is needed i.e.: socks and underwear ....
15. Bay Hay & Feed is a model for what other businesses can be like.
16. Incubators i.e.: Office Expats is something that should be encouraged. Don't forget WSF is getting \$\$\$ for the reverse commute of local workforce.
17. Being able to work on the island is great - how do they afford to live here? And have a vehicle since transportation can be a problem.
18. Cell phone service needs improvements so locals can work from home - telecommute. Citizens would support City takeover of fiber optic network if it gave great services.
19. Buy out PSE, takeover fiber optic technology would be heroic moves for City Council to take on.
20. Sailing & boatyard are important.

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21. Business Group collaboration? City has really stepped up participation in these groups - it's great. Seems like they're listening to what local owners are expressing.
22. The Art Walk is like a Paseo once a month - it's wonderful.
23. Businesses should consider staying open later - it's been suggested many times and doesn't seem to happen. It's a chicken and egg situation. Concerts, movies in the park, loosely organized games all push economy. Look at Lynwood Center - Tyvek City no more! It's attractive, and it has gathering spaces. Fountains, seating.
24. Eclectic feel of the Island - distinctive not necessarily nostalgic. Historic, perhaps. Give folks cameras and create a collage of images that help define what "we" think of when we think of the Island. How to highlight authenticity. At the end of the day, to maintain these qualities it must be codified.
25. Final thoughts on vibrant economy - attracting young families - making sustainability a priority - affordable. Oh. Ferry district needs to be improved.
<b>2/25 Orange Table</b>
1. Disadvantage not being on Winslow Way as a small business. If not on Winslow Way, seems to be off the map. No traffic on Ladies Night Out or Chilly Hilly for example.
2. Downtown Association should be helping these small businesses.
3. We feel the more and better small businesses on the island will be better for tourism. It would be better for everyone. We need to encourage those shops not on Winslow to have more exposure. All traffic and business seems to stay on Madonna and Winslow.
4. Question of lighting, is it good enough? Businesses on east side of Winslow also have a problem.
5. As a citizen, one thing she sees is developing other places besides Winslow.
6. What can we do to be a self sustaining, vibrant economy with businesses that the citizens here can use. Having our own hospital, electrical utility, municipal composter. This will create more jobs on the island.

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<p>7. Being able to outsource jobs.</p>
<p>8. A lot of home based businesses and light industrial are real bases for economic growth. Retail is somewhat limiting and we really cannot compete with the big box stores across the water. The island can do a number of things to support light industrial and manufacturing. Potentially being involved in more high speed internet. There may be a need for more light industrial areas on the island or food processing, woodworking, etc., like on Day Rd. Local economic development problem can lie with getting capital to start small businesses. There are ways the City and developers can leverage capital to help small businesses get a start. Cooperatives (BGI lecture upcoming on Evergreen Cooperative in Indianapolis).</p>
<p>9. Encourage people who have money to invest and be aware of opportunities. Port Townsend has a local investment group. The City can identify resources that are available, being a resource in helping businesses tie resources together and grow small businesses to capital to help them grow.</p>
<p>10. Kitsap Economic Development Agency provides some of the services mentioned.</p>
<p>11. The City does not have a specific staff member in charge of business development.</p>
<p>12. The City's work on Waterfront Park is really crucial. Miss the Wednesday night concerts, etc. Looking at what we can do in the months we have incredible weather is an option that used to be happening on the island. Streets roll up even in the summer at 6:00 PM. With the refurbishment, having more opportunities at Waterfront Park again would be great. People will know that things are happening downtown during this time.</p>
<p>13. Dilemma of businesses closing early at 5-6 because there is not any business. Are people afraid of the parking? Paradox of closed business because of no customers; no customers because businesses are closed. East of 305 the businesses have a hard time as well.</p>
<p>14. It would be nice if there was more signage to direct people down Madison and to the businesses. Bainbridge Downtown Association should have a well marked map that points out these small business off Winslow Way.</p>
<p>15. High speed internet Wi-Fi only on Winslow. Should be offered to other small businesses. Have QR codes for people with advertising, etc., to give tourists information.</p>

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16. Question asked about whether neighborhood service center development will affect downtown businesses. General consensus is no.
17. BI Ride brought up and discussed.
18. Port Madison area is missing services. Would be nice to have a neighborhood center up there. What does the City offer for food carts/vendors who want to setup in an area?
19. Dial a ride comprises about half the BI Ride service. Questioned whether or not they are advertising on the ferry monitors?
20. To be able to get to another neighborhood without having to drive is great for an aging community. Can a route stop at farm, craft, wood working stands, etc. You can go wherever you want, you just have to ask.
21. What is stopping people from setting up little shops? There are City Codes that regulate that and deal with safety, etc.
22. Pop-up shops so people can get to know businesses that exist on the island, create awareness. Lynwood Center Kiosk has a setup kind of like that.
23. Does the farmers' market help small businesses get started? Absolutely. Can get product into people's hands with very little investment and get feedback.
24. The farmers' market is strict about only serving island based products.
25. Lynwood Sunday Market for whomever shows up. No relationship to farmers' market.
26. We have so many non-profits on the island. It appears that the non-profits tend to support the Bainbridge businesses in their events, etc. There is some sustainable economy with them as well. They employ a lot of people, more than you might think. Point was made that they are not usually a living wage, though they do support businesses with their purchases.
27. B&B, Inns and hotels do not market here on the Island. Not a lot known about them. Sometimes they advertise on the ferry.
28. What can we do to brand Bainbridge Island (like Minnesota, Land of 10,000 lakes)? What could we use to help brand the island? For instance, BARN. Come to the island to take classes, etc.

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29. Bike trails for safe riding to work, etc.
30. A lot of people use Bainbridge as a waypoint to the Olympic Peninsula, etc. How do we get them to stay here? Not a lot of lodging to keep them here. Plenty of possibilities to develop that.
<b>2/25 Yellow Table</b>
1. The amount of retail or services on the Bainbridge Island has improved, but still lacking. Would be great to be able to get most things on island
2. People who work here should be able to live here
3. A sign of vibrancy is that storefronts wouldn't sit empty
4. I think the economy is improving steadily, with retail availability.
5. I think Bainbridge was a little insulated from the great recession. Treehouse Cafe didn't suffer much during recession, but downtown store owner did.
6. Vibrant economy , tourism and retail doing ok, but missing diversity of some more blue collar jobs. I think that we could nurture the vibrant economy with the idea of having our own electric utility. Our own utility would provide 35 jobs that Island residents can take. Would also lower costs of doing business on the island, which would spur enterprise.
7. I have a hard time thinking about economic development- what scale do we want economic development. We are talking about jobs and revenues, and types of business- what scale are we talking about?
8. I had moved out of other places because politicians had been too focused on commercial development-
9. In systems thinking, the least effective place to leverage change is at the numbers level- change it at the structure level. Economy is about the flow of money and intelligence.
10. The vision statement was too vague, what does it even say about economic development.
11. Previous plans didn't have metrics to indicate if the plan was being achieved.

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12. The plan needs to have an implementation plan.
13. Infrastructure, like high speed broadband would be very important to help grow the vibrant economy. Half of the island is not served well. We should have a metrics goal for 21st century utilities and broadband.
14. The island has a lot of jobs that don't need an industrial base (think architects or artists). Should the school district help to support future citizens to be in cerebral job.
15. Yes, there will be specific code amendments that will come out of the comp plan.
16. What is missing for the economy , some of it happens organically, but the economy is less diverse than it used to be. Fisherman used to live on the Island.
17. Communities that have a more diverse economic base, suffer less during downturns.
18. If my sons want to go work at Kitsap Mall, can't get there on existing public transit from the Island.
19. The vast majority of Bainbridge restaurants are anti- big box and chains. For everything has a NIMBY response.
20. We have a great downtown that isn't vibrant after 7 or 8 pm. Hard to convince merchants to stay open too late, but the merchants haven't been that receptive, even though the tourists are still out and about.
21. Same comment regarding people getting out of a BPA performance. The Alehouse is thriving, because it is the only place open.
22. Having nightlife could help keep younger people on the Island socializing, instead of going to Seattle.
23. All of these Island tours- i.e. Chilly Hilly, Studio Tour, etc. have so many people that come across the ferry to attend.
24. Some of the more damaging things in the economy is when the focus is too much on one thing, Squeaky Wheels can sometime divert energy and resources, and divisive.
25. Ensure that things stay on the table that was planned to be on the table- not just squeaky wheels.

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26. I think the City Council has become better at staying on task. The more inclusive the council can be will serve.
27. What is missing from the island that we should have? More blue collar jobs- people who live and work on the Island.
28. What about the green economy jobs? Can the solar installers etc. live here?
29. Treehouse Cafe workforce predominantly lives off island.
30. In 2000, I bought the last 200K house on the Island. Affordable housing, is essential.
31. The housing costs restricts what kind of income people can live here.
<b>2/25 Pink Table</b>
1. Does it matter to have Bainbridge being a standalone economy
2. If you take a look at registered business on the Island there is probably 5500 of them. They work out of their homes, and offer services or consulting services. This is the biggest telecommuting population in the state. It is an economic force.
3. When is the City Council going to go to the internet and make them upgrade.
4. Broadband is inadequate. Worked out of home and went into office twice a week. I think we have e a population that demands a higher level of service. I think there's a lot of things that the City can be doing to support existing tax papers. Providing transportation and good infrastructure is a natural in terms of the economy and community development.
5. I don't understand what telecommuting has to do.
6. If a person has to go to Seattle then it costs a new ferry boat. It would cost of a portion of that to fiber the whole island.
7. The economy is changing. In the long run it demands that people be at home. Telecommuting gets people off the road.
8. Is the economy good, bad, what?
9. It depends on the lens. If you have a home or children great schools and good house values.

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10. It's an extraordinarily difficult place to be a business owner.
11. This is a very seasonal place to business. We have too much business four months of the year. We all want a vibrant economy. It's very hard to sustain a business when there's very little business walking in your door for the first quarter. Locals don't like tourists, it's hard to go the bathroom, parking, etc. However, we wouldn't have downtown business without tourism. I'm from a place that had a vibrant downtown and until Wal-Mart came in and killed it. Kudos to Town and Country, it's more expensive to stay there, but kudos for them to stay in downtown.
12. I'm not sure I'm going to be in business a year from now.
13. I'm also a business owner and thinking about throwing in the towel.
14. Are the kids going to go into T&C or global apps? If we had fiber they would stay here.
15. Vibrant = exciting, buying the things you need here not at Silverdale, or Wal-Mart, or online.
16. From my point of view a vibrant economy is not so much a thing we create, but it's the system around us. I advocate for the non-profits that do work. When we think about the quality of life that work on BI, there's a non-profit providing all those services and they've grown up beside the business sector. There is a strong co-existence. We've been incubating this wonderful place that has strong non-profit world organizations. We should celebrate that success. That charm and elements of quality of life show up on mainstreet. If it was a row of big boxes the two things wouldn't exist. Small businesses help create the system of non-profits which helps create a strong economy.
17. The businesses account for a certain amount of the funding that creates all the things that we enjoy on Bainbridge Island.
18. If you can keep the workers here, whether they be the owners of a business, when they go to Seattle, there's nobody here in that middle age group. If you want an economy here you have to keep you employable people here. Keep them here telecommuting so they'll shop here.
19. The City could play a great role of supporting and fostering the education between the population and the small business world. I find myself looking on Amazon because I like the reviews, but I can't help but notice the prices. However, I believe in a small town, and a mainstreet, but some people blame the small business for not being more price competitive. The City could play a great role in demonstrating that role.
20. How would the City engage in that?

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<p>21. For the last two years I've paid all this for brick and mortar so everyone can say I love BI. Those dollars do not show up in my business. The world is going to online shopping. My husband orders his Tums from Amazon. That's not going to change. Instead of trying to negate that from happening, let's make our economy by changing the model. We are an amazing destination. Moving over Seattle, choosing to be over here, opposite of what people normally do. You want more of us- young professionals without kids. You have elderly and young families. How can we look to other cities. For example, Austin has played up music theme, Burlington worked together as community and City and revived something that is dying. We don't need more stores with something to look at. That lends itself to tourism, not just four months of the year, create experiences, and create destinations. It will keep the integrity of the downtown intact so we can move with the times.</p>
<p>22. As a foodie, yikes there's not a lot of choices on Bainbridge Island.</p>
<p>23. City help us get some more restaurants in. I'm not recognized by the City as a restaurant and a caterer, but I am by the state. Let's get them to stay over, show them what we have, and keep it here.</p>
<p>24. When Bainbridge Winery was advertised in Sunset. The wineries at Day Road, the customers are at the ferry terminal. The two shall not meet except if they drove. They can't get from the Eagle Harbor in out there.</p>
<p>25. BI Ride is great on a few days a week between x and x hours. It doesn't give you enough time to get to Bloedel.</p>
<p>26. It won't come to Eagle Harbor. They say you need to walk to City Hall.</p>
<p>27. A lot of people on the Island hate the idea of tourists. There are 166 overnight lodging rooms on the Island. That is a very small hotel anywhere else. Poulsbo has four times that many. It's a little bit cheaper, and right on the highway. It is hard with only 200 rooms on the Island to survive.</p>
<p>28. Why would you want more? I think that most of the Island is really weary of tourism. People are angry out of tourism. We have a high daytime, but they don't spend the night, party for the weekend, come for events, that behave as tourists in other parts of the country. If they spend the night they're your family and friends, of for a wedding, or an event. We have gardens, bicycles, cooking schools, the tourists they attract are small in number.</p>
<p>29. But, there is 196 Alaskan tour boat.</p>
<p>30. They only come for the day.</p>
<p>31. Nobody is telling them about Bainbridge Island.</p>

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32. How can the City attract tourism?
33. Tourists want more than 3 restaurants to choose from. We need more vibrancy. More festivals, more wineries, more options. Tourism is not a four letter word.
34. I've lived on the island since 1981. I adore living here and being retired here. I can walk into the Traveler, Eagle Harbor Books, etc. I know the people it brightens my day. I'd like to see more of that, I'd like more basic things I have to buy, so I don't have to go. I'm spending more at Eagle Harbor so I don't have to go on Island. I cherish having things here, they add to the quality of my day. So I resist full tourisms. I think there's a middle ground that can add to the quality of life. I want to help avoid going to Silverdale or having packages dropped by drones. My issue is public transportation.
35. What about Uber on the Island?
36. We act like we're Ballard.
37. Our people commute is a lot of people that don't live on the Island, but they use the ferry to get to Seattle from the Peninsula. I can park anywhere in Poulsbo. Parking is an issue, plus ticketing.
38. Parking is an issue. We had this wonderful upgrade of Winslow. We have all this parking that is reserved for free parking boats. We signed an agreement that said we could have a boat facility if we had parking.
39. This is going to be worse if we get more density downtown.
40. We're going to push all the growth downtown and not support the commercial centers. The City is not paying for the flowers, etc., the businesses are.
41. We are the highest cost utility in their market. We don't have an alternative like natural gas.
42. If the City could put pressure on PSE. Give us two options.
43. It is not an easy thing to do business in the state of Washington. COBI could provide a small business consultant as a liaison from the City to help navigate codes, etc. "Here is what I would like to do. How could I achieve that?"
44. If you went and read our sign ordinance, it is hard to understand. Carmel uses pictures in their Code. Why don't we do a little digital? Put a picture in the code. They look at that they don't have to dig through all the code.
45. When the local banks closed we lost our loan. Nobody could help. The bankruptcy lawyer then connected us with a bank that could underwrite us. We need someone with the knowledge to assist a business. Many, many small businesses and entrepreneurs, could benefit from small

## Vibrant Economy Listening Session Comments

business assistance.
46. We have Bloedel and other things you can only get here. We need to emphasize and support our unique characteristics.
47. If I took an informal poll I'd bet you a \$100, that I don't know about Bloedel. The City should support.
48. Working with an event planning company, doing event at Bloedel. Spent 15 hours looking for a dock they could land a float plane on, but there is no float plane landing. So they're going to Kiana Lodge and landing the float plane there. We need a float dock.
49. Specific things would like to have done business incubators, parking, and a float dock.
50. Lunch time meetings suggested.
51. Want government to be in a facilitating role as opposed to a governing role.
52. We need a better brand, the City has a civic government brand. By brand I mean the messages the City uses about what makes Bainbridge Island doesn't reflect what's here. A lot of people moving and my own age are sympathetic with the vibe of arts, business, etc. they're trying to learn what it means. We should be the steward.