

Center of the City Taskforce Meeting

01/22/2020

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Agenda

Alan: Add budget to agenda

Public Comment

Will Hathaway: address cloud over taskforce; comments made about undesirability of library green conservancy. Conflict must be addressed. Comment made about supporters of Proposal A being in “bad faith.” Would like to emphasize that the library green conservancy has been very clear about proposal.

Geoff Henny: has been working in collaboration with European cities on commoning. Put the project in a larger context. Ann Arbor could take a leadership role in this movement. Commons as a way to be more responsive to citizens and to address the shortcomings in the capacity for government institutions to address needs. Cities like: Barcelona, Ghent, Bologna

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Notes

Alan: attachments to notes

Review Ground Rules and Purpose

Group Check-in

Information Sharing

Alan: pursuing underheard voices topic. Been in conversation with person from Potawatomi nation. Shared letter from Edith Lewis

John: notes on week in Decadome. Were able to talk users of Liberty plaza and those who work near the center of the city. Comments: easy connections through the plaza, vigorously activate, eyes in and on the park. Ann Arbor should help homeless and provide dignity to that community.

Jeff: Center of the City could be used as a site for the Mayor’s Green Fair

Review Jan. 15 Open House

Alan: discussion at governance table was not productive, became a contestation over housing

Miles: had a conversation about developing metrics for how council/administrator can gauge success

Hannah: question of funding, member of public brought up the concept of public banking

Jeff: funding: tree line conservancy, they get funding because the project is part of the master plan. There’s an opportunity for this space to be included in master plan

Carolyn: direction for site: there are other big players on block that the city has no control over. The space be evolutionary. Allowing space to be as flexible as possible.

Alan: People's park. Problem with bathrooms in Berkley. Collaborate with university on composting toilets. How do we address problem of public restrooms.

Discuss Direction of Report

Meghan: task is to provide vision and curate next steps.

John: would like to find consensus through the homework assignment from Heather.

Direction be guided by council resolution that established by council

Should be guided in the reality of the bounds of what we can do now

Ann: thinks that we ought to also recognize a long term vision. Give long term guidance. We should anticipate and be strategic.

Carolyn: on implementation: goals, values, and visions can help to guide decision making. A framework for addressing unknowns.

Vision

Broad goals

Objectives

Short term/long term implementation

Alan: would like this to merge with his 31 proposals

Ann: motion does not address content.

Refine Goals and Objectives

Meghan and Carolyn will compile a draft list of goals and objectives to present to Task Force by Monday

Plan for Next Three Meetings

Alan: would like this to get on the city council agenda for the March 2 meeting, and would like to share recommendation with public before submit.. Recommendation should include a concrete resolution for immediate approval

Meghan: should we have an additional meeting?

Carolyn: we should wait until after next meeting to see if that's necessary

Heather: would the taskforce be okay with other staff members reviewing the document

Public Comment

Tom Weider: role in process was to represent proponents of proposal A, would advise against giving minority recommendations or reports or anything that is inconsistent with charter amendment.

Beth Collins: agreed that meeting was contentious. Felt that the Mlive article was disheartening to supporters and residents.

Geoff Henny: would ask that in putting report together, bear in mind: great thing about commons it provides a way for people to deal with the power of government and of the private sector

Other

Budget

Alan: would like our incidental expenses to be reimbursed

Adjournment

[Decadome.Feedback.Notes01.15.20.pdf](#)

[Ann Arbor City Center Commons Proposals.pdf](#)

[recommendations,.1_2020.odt](#)

DRAFT

Will Hathaway statement 1/22/20

There is a cloud hanging over this task force. I'd like to address this and hopefully help us all to move beyond it.

The "cloud" is the accusation by some task force members that there is something undesirable about the Library Green Conservancy, or, more broadly, those who advocated for Proposal A, the ballot initiative that Ann Arbor voters approved in November 2018. The only time in memory when Ann Arbor voters cast a ballot on a specific downtown development decision.

This accusation came up last fall when there was a proposal to have the Library Green help to publicize the first open house. We side-stepped the conflict at that point. I thought it would be a distraction for the task force.

Now I see that this conflict needs to be addressed. Lately a task force member has accused the proponents of Proposal A of acting in "bad faith." In so doing, she has leveled a very serious charge.

A legal definition of "**bad faith**,"

An intentional dishonest act by not fulfilling legal or contractual obligations, misleading another, entering into an agreement without the intention or means to fulfill it, or violating basic standards of honesty in dealing with others.

Just because you disagree with someone doesn't mean that they are acting maliciously. The 2018 campaign was hard fought. Opponents of Proposal A launched a serious, well-funded effort to persuade voters that it was a bad idea. A majority of Ann Arbor voters disagreed. Are you saying that the only reason that they could have voted in favor of the Charter Amendment is because they were somehow deceived? What is the deception? We didn't make false claims and we didn't pretend to want a park. We have been working for it for years and we're still here, working to make it a reality.

The danger of this accusation is that it justifies an idea that the task force is currently entertaining of recommending the overturning of the that November 2018 election.

Let's be clear. The many volunteers who have worked for a decade to create a downtown park are acting in good faith. We ultimately had to use a ballot petition and a vote of the people to achieve that vision.

If task force members appointed to make recommendations for the implementation of the City Charter Amendment work instead to overturn that vote, then they will be the ones acting in bad faith.

My Vision of the Commons as a Safe Space for African Americans

When I first came to Ann Arbor in 1984, I was referred to a small space on Liberty Street that was welcoming for my then 35 year old professional self. People greeted one another outside of a bookstore, musicians occasionally performed in the plaza, it was possible to eat, meet new people and engage in conversations about various topics. In other parts of the downtown area and spaces in the city, I was regularly questioned about why I was in particular neighborhoods, and recognized that until I identified myself as a mature doctoral student studying statistics for the summer, I was viewed as a potential threat. My short haircut and backpack apparently suggested to many of the adults I encountered in the downtown area that I had no business being there.

In 1985, I took a faculty position in Ann Arbor, however, once the safe haven on Liberty lost its bookstore and people who looked like me were regularly roused by law enforcement personnel, my interest in explaining why I had every right to be in the downtown area waned markedly. As I raised my children in the area and my African American son quickly became targeted as not worthy of respect, I stopped frequenting downtown establishments. Eventually my son had significant trouble with the law and explained to me "I've just decided to become what they think I am anyway, Mom".

A truly open and inviting Commons in Ann Arbor would ensure that my son's story and my experiences would be anomalies rather than daily occurrences. It would allow a person of African descent to be stopped by one patrol car for a minor traffic infraction rather than 4-6 cars. I would once again be able to walk for lunch to a restaurant or shop in a store without being followed as a potential thief (This still occurs although I am now a 70 year old retired Emerita Professor). Art, music, dance and politics would be openly presented and discussed in the Commons so that multiple rich heritages would be honored. Conflicts about public policy would be given an airing in a way that all affected could be heard and valued. Children would have multiple opportunities throughout the year to interact with one another, even if they have different economic backgrounds or access to educational resources in their own neighborhoods. Those with mental and/or physical challenges would have access to the community health workers who could help them find appropriate services rather than being arrested. Those African Americans who have contributed so mightily to the development and sustainment of Ann Arbor would be recognized throughout the city.

Do we have the will to provide a space for all to live safely and with honor? I hope so.



Edith A. Lewis

Beginning of recommendations ...to integrate with goals and objectives...
for first consideration January 22, 2020 (alan haber draft)

Delivery Draft: Recommendations on Wednesday February 26, 2020
Put on the Council Agenda for March 2 Council Meeting
Delivery final edit on Friday February 28, 2020

City Council to consider: on March 2, 2020

introduction:

After considering the limitations of Proposal A in focusing only the city owned lands on the Library Block,
and the difficulty of making long term plans or projections without collateral knowledge of what our neighbors on the block are planning,
and difficulty in arranging easements to provide connectivity between northeast and southwest elements of our bar-bell park places, for the moment..
our mandate for the development of these lands as an urban central park and civic center commons must be seen to unfold in stages.

The first stage is fairly straightforward: developing the park parts, beginning Liberty Plaza Improvements, beginning greening the Parking Lot for public use. and developing the commoning process and community elements of self management, and initial commons meeting place..

Consider this stage now through the end of this first fiscal year, June 30, 2020

The second year, July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 will continue park developments and temporary commons facilities, and carry forward a "civic center building working group" to continue discussion with the Library and other neighbors, detailing of alternative building plans and cost projections.

The third stage, by the end of the year, June 30 2021 or sooner, if plans of the Library and cooperation with the commons is functioning,
the "civic center building working group" (recommendation 25 below) will present its best plan, and options, to the "commons council" (recommendation ,)for approval and recommendations to the City Council, to approve and initiate capital fundraising and construction. planning Civic Center Building completion by Ann Arbor Bicentennial celebration, 2024.

Recommendations summary

1. yes means yes
2. press release
3. close parking
4. open space
5. public notice
6. celebratory Opening

7. commons house
8. commons council
9. commons bank
10. commons communication network
11. commons chronicle
12. green working group
13. play working group
14. food working group
15. technology working group
16. performance space
17. orientation
18. School Board
19. Library Board
20. government liaisons
21. partnerships
22. staffing
23. "the Conversation"
24. intergroup relations
25. commons token
26. Archives
27. welcome signs
28. CivicCenter Building design group
29. Housing
30. management
31. Financing
- 32.

1 Affirm **"YES on A" meant YES to Begin.** as of November 6, 2018, and to continue.

1.some resolution with whereases. >> draft elements

whereas the voters said do it, and.

whereas the center of the city taskforce has brought much information and

enthusiasm from the Ann Arbor Public about what "it" can include and become

whereas the commons is increasing a creative point in the municipal economy

being explored by many forward looking cities.all over the world, and

whereas. the long educational and community work and task force outreach has

made a wide citizen beginning for a model of democratic self management

therefore be it resolved that the Ann Arbor City Council creates an Ann Arbor

Community Commons, embracing, initially the city owned lands bounded by

5th Avenue, William, Division and Liberty Streets, representing

the values of mutual responsibility, mutual respect and mutual benefit.

2. Issue a **Press Release** announcement, world wide,

2.1 Press List. . local Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, Southeast Michigan, United States National, and International press,, especially in Cities where "commoning" is being developed,. such as Ghent, Barcelona, Bologna, Soule.

>> 2.2. draft text. Ann Arbor takes a leap into the future, designating the center of its city as a community commons, intending to learn from and increase the experience of the municipal movements world wide to develop local resiliency and self management of commonly pooled resources.

This public land including two park areas and a prospective Civic Center Building is scheduled for completion by the time of the Ann Arbor Bicentennial in 2024 .

Ann Arbor is world renowned as a center of innovation and the home of the University of Michigan.

3. Request DDA and Republic Parking to close **Library Lane surface Parking Lot**, as of April 1. 2020

4. Request City Administrator to begin immediately the interim use steps in **City Council Resolutions**

.1 establish a "Commons Account" in the City financial structure, initially credited with parking revenue derived from the parking lot since November 6, 2018, when the people determined that it be re-purposed as a central park and civic center commons. (About \$200.000 less actual maintenance costs)

.2. establish two accessible temporary toilets adjacent to the Library Lane Lot

.3 establish a temporary storage room adjacent to the Library Lane Lot, for on-site storage tables chairs , staging gear to facilitate public programming.

.4. inventory existing surplus or unused City equipment that might serve to help facilitate programing, tables, chairs, staging, canopies, tents, lights, etc.

.5. establish internet connectivity, hot spots at Library Lane. and Liberty Plaza and throughout the commons area.

.6. commence discussions with neighbors for (temporary) easement access agreements, until a fuller development plan is developed and approved, First Martin, Jerusalem Garden, Denali Building, Credit Union, Downtown Library

7. initiate request that the Center of the City land be labeled as the "Center of the City Commons" on the Downtown Ann Arbor Map, whenever is the next printing.

8. establish a "Commons Mail Box" and adjacent Bulletin Board at 319 South Fifth Avenue

5. Make **Public Notice:** notify all Ann Arborites of the creation of the commons, with a report and invitation, definition of the commons self management and how it works, values statement, notice of "Celebratory Opening" and "Festival of Ideas," meeting times, and other opportunities "to common."

>> .1. (Provide Draft Text....including)

Hear ye, hear ye. after many years, much debate, discussion, acrimony and love, the city of Ann Arbor City Council announced the beginning of our community commons on the public lands, upgrading Liberty Plaza gardens, greening the Library Lane parking lot, and

establishing a community self management process inviting and relying on the love and creativity of our city to make a downtown destination of which we all be proud in the years to come and looking back happily at the travails of gestation.

.2. mail Public Notice to all 72,144 Ann Arbor addresses.

3. email Public Notice to all City lists,

City staff and employees

Neighborhood associations

Business organizations

Community organizations from the Ann Arbor Observer directory.

4. all respondents to the Center of the City Task Force outreach, who left an address, (about 500)

5. Send special Notice to the **Potawatomi Nation**, inviting their counsel in the development a community commons, and to consider a "coming home" Potawatomi gathering in Ann Arbor .

6. Send notice to esteemed scholars and practitioners of commons design, inviting them to help us as "**informal advisors**."

>>suggested initial list:

Peter Linebaugh

David Bollier

Ronald Fleming

Xavier de Chirac, Paris Gardner

Kirk Hoffman, Andrew Weill gardener

Amanda Burden, New York City

Silvia Federici. Re-enchanting the World

Project for Public Spaces

other...

6. Schedule a "**Celebratory Opening**" in conjunction with Earth Day Week, Sunday April 19 to Sunday April 26, including Wednesday April 22. and announce a City wide "festival of ideas" encouraging talk with neighbors and friends and family and to bring your enthusiasms and ideas to the Earth Days,

.1 establish an "**Open Working Group for Earth Day Week Planning**." announcing meeting times.

.2 contact neighborhood organizations, precinct organizations and the League of Women Voters to stimulate festival of ideas conversations.

.3 get in the local calendars, Observer, Current, WUOM, WEMU, WCBN, WAAM, City newsletter, etc.

7. establish a "**Commons House**" meeting place on the Library Lot.

consult with Potawatomi Nation on traditional meeting house forms,

rent a heatable temporary structure 20 feet square or larger.

plan and build or borrow a timber frame or pole barn (temporary) structure and have a "Community Barn-raising," .

8. establish a "**Commons Council**". first meeting. (date)
all welcome to join, announced in Public Notice,
establish "interest groups" based on participation in the first meeting,
schedule a first working meeting of each "interest group." (expecting at least 4 will likely be ready to begin green, play, food, and technology
set a second meeting time for the Commons Council
9. establish a "**Commons Bank**", bank account and commons currency...based on Public Bank and Holo Chain models
>>(Provide links to resources to describe these . . . models)
 - .1 transfer unused Task Force funds allocation to Commons Bank account
 - .2 describe the commons development as a public entrepreneurial endeavor, and seek "technical support" from SPARK and occasional use of SPARK Space
10. establish a "**commons communication network**", and web based on cooperative decision making technology. (details and links www.loomio.org)
11. establish a "**Commons Chronicle**," periodical, accessible report to all
to report schedule of meetings
to report what happens at meetings
to report and share new ideas and resources
internet publication and to post on bulletin board
12. convene working group **gathering of gardeners**
to look at all the existing feedback on "green"
to consider plantings of Liberty Plaza, Kempf House and creating a green roof for the Library Lane parking structure
beginning planning participation in Blooms Day in May
report for the Chronicle,
set second meeting
13. convene a working group **gathering of play loving people**
to look at all the feedback on children and play areas and adult play
look at previous playground and skating rink applications
to begin formulating proposals for play on the Library Lot and Liberty Plaza
write report for the **Chronicle**
set second meeting
14. convene a working group **gathering of food and health and cafe interested people**
to look at all the feed back
to consider short term how food can be more available, relations with nearby food places, and food carts

to consider what could be a "commons cafe" in a future Civic Center Building.
to consider food for Earth Day Week
report for commons Chronicle
set next meeting

15. convene a gathering of **appropriate technology, climate conscious designers** and enthusiasts

to consider all opportunities for use and demonstrations zero carbon and appropriate technologies

solar
wind
geothermal
water purification
composting

to plan increased relations with the University of Michigan School of Environment and Sustainability, and other high tech, knowledge and teaching centers

to consider feasibility of a commons based neighborhood energy utility.

write report for Commons Chronicle

set next meeting

16. convene a "**performance space working group**,

.1 invite performers, artists, performance teachers to consider flexible performance spaces in the commons,

.2 propose calendaring / scheduling procedures to facilitate "activation" and diversity of the spaces

17. design and initiate a web based "**commons orientation web site**" as a teaching seminar on how the commons works, explaining communication, decision making and financing

1. set several meeting times and invite volunteer web designers cyber geniuses to set up what is needed. for democratic decision making www.loomio.org

2. advertise and publicize the webinar on WUOM, WCBM, WAAM, WEMU. CTN and the Ann Arbor Observer and Crazy Wisdom paper, city newsletter. Library newsletter

3. keep a record and publicize how many people have signed up to learn ... aim for everyone to visit the "commons orientation" in cyberspace.

18. Speak at the **School Board**, and send a letter

1. to seek cooperation in developing a "curriculum on the commons" for teaching in the schools

2. seek consultation with science teachers on the development of the center of city as a teaching place, particularly on the principles of permaculture appropriate technology, climate change adaptation.

19. Speak at the **Library Board**, and send a letter

1. to seek cooperation, and liaison in developing a list of the essential "books on

- the commons" that should be in all the Library Branches
2. to seek communication and cooperation in long term planning regarding Library Development, civic center functions and connection with a prospective Civic Center Building

20. Convene a meeting of an invited "**Governmental Liaison Council**" for a first meeting to discuss protocol of liaison and cooperative work.

1. initial suggested list

Ann Arbor District Library
Ann Arbor Schools
Downtown Development Authority
Downtown citizens advisory committee
Ann Arbor Area Transit Authority
City Parks Department
parks Advisory commission
Public Arts Commission
City Energy commissions
sustainability commission
Historic District Commission
Leslie Science Center
Hands on Museum
365 City volunteer program
University of Michigan School of Environment and Sustainability
University of Michigan School of Social Work
University Taubman School of Design

2. invite each to designate a liaison person, and to consider, in their internal deliberations, what might be their relation to the development of the commons. ,

3. set a meeting date and a computer assisted mode of remote participation.

21. Invite a "**friends and neighbors potential partnership list**" partnership gathering,

1. List beginning

First Martin Corporation
Credit Union.
Denali Residents
Jerusalem Garden,
Earthen Jar,
Chelas,
Coop Federation,
Tree Line Conservancy
Ecology Center
Sierra Club,
Neutral Zone
Ann Arbor Art Center

Art Fair Committee
Summer Festival Committee
Wahtenaw Bikers and Walkers Coalition
Center for Independent Living
Huron River Watershed Council
New Center
SPARK
DeLouis Shelter
Washtenaw Literacy Project
Rotary International
Kiwanis
Habitat for Humanity,
United Fund
826 All Hands Active
Womens Farm and Garden Club
THRIVE collabrative

.....consider an initial list of 100

- .2 invitation to celebratory opening
- .3 information on how the commons is developing and coming meetings and opportunities to participate.
- .4 set a meeting date, (possibly at SPARK)

22. establish a "**staffing pool**"

1. invite in Public Notice and the Commons meeting, for people interested in work for the commons, paid or volunteer, to apply
2. seek a staff of 2 people (mixed gender) as feet on-the-ground helpers, ambassadors of the commons, greeters, independent contractors, \$20/hour 10AM_10PM, short shifts, short term, multiple people
also facilitate programming, calendarings and clean up and whatever needed
3. begin a **staff training**,
 - .3.1 budget for staff training.
 - 3.2 non-violent communication, democratic organizing principles
 - 3.3 knowledge of city services and help options when needed
 - 3.4 culture of the commons
 - 3.5 calendaring, clean up and miscellaneous functions of the commons

23. begin "**The Conversation**" on the "culture of the commons", the culture of peace and non-violence, the rapprochement of cultures, the code of conduct and terms of mutual respect, mutual responsibility and mutual benefit. getting along with each other

1. begin on CTN
2. continue on the internet, multiple networks, groups, Facebook
3. at roundtables around town, asking prospective partner organizations to host
4. have a (provisional) summary by Earth Day.

24. convene an **"intergroup relations"** advisory group
- .1 invite people who have studied these questions to advise on helping us all get along together
 - .2 to listen carefully to the under-heard voices.
Native American
African American
poor

25. design and produce a **"commons token"** of appreciation for an offering to the commons, of time, or whatever creativity or resource was offered, paraphilia..
- 25.1. an item of unique shape and no intrinsic value. for each person to have, who makes an offering, who wants...some will just take a picture of it.
 - 25.2 encourage Tee Shirt Printers to make a Commons "T shirt"
 - 25.3. encourage Artists to design Commons "poster art"

26. establish a place for the **"Commons Archive."**
1. seek cooperation with the Downtown Library Ann Arbor History Archive
 2. request all people associated with this endeavor to save and donate their papers, pictures, reflections, as far back as memory goes

27. Have **"Welcome to the Commons" Signs** at each entrance gateway,, expressing dedication to the creation of a culture of peace and non-violence, welcoming to all.

28. Establish a **"Civic Center Building Design Group"**

- 1.gather and review all indoor activities suggested as part of public outreach by the task force and previous aspirations.
- 2 invite willing architects, designers visionaries and any interested person. to form a working group for collaborative planning
3. invite First Martin, The District Library and Credit Union to participate...as their plans could influence our plans and integrated cooperative planning is a desire.
4. Ask communication with Library, regarding a potential connection with a new library and a civic center building on a portion of the commons land, and their timeline for decision making and development.
5. consider possible locations, designs, sizes and costs,
6. report initially by end of June. 2020 and a proposal by June 2021, or sooner.

29. **Housing:**

- 1.recognize the urgent need for additional housing and a city, county, state and federal housing policy adequately addressing the shortage of affordable housing.

2. the commons has other functions than providing real estate for a marginal contribution to the housing shortage., such functions are
 - to host a meeting to lay out a comprehensive housing policy,
 - to be a rallying point
 - to give space to a code compliant demonstration accessory dwelling unit tiny house, to encourage property owners to consider such
 - provide a public information space so people can see the situation and where what plans are underway,
3. include a housing report in the commons chronicle

30. Management

1. designate a community based, non profit, 501c3 trustee to raise funds and facilitate the self management, peer to peer governance.
2. create a new conservancy to perform these functions, or, invite the Library Green Conservancy if they are willing, and appropriate adaptations can be made

31. Financing and Fundraising

1. fundraising is expected to rely on
 - private philanthropic gifts
 - foundations
 - crowd funding from the public
 - benefits, bazaars and bake sales
 - unexpected government programs
 - donations in-kind of labor, supplies, materials, services
2. coordinate with Commons Council, Commons Public Bank and City Administrator on expenditure of funds
3. Put an initial grant application the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, to begin the funding of the greening, in accord with plans developed in the greening working group: grass and green is #1 desire.
4. Put in a followup application to the Wilson Foundation for play grounds in accord with plans developed in the play working group,
5. Consider Taubman, Mott, Annenberg and Cummins Foundation for possible help

32.

Ann Arbor City Center Commons Proposals Summarized And Put In An International Context

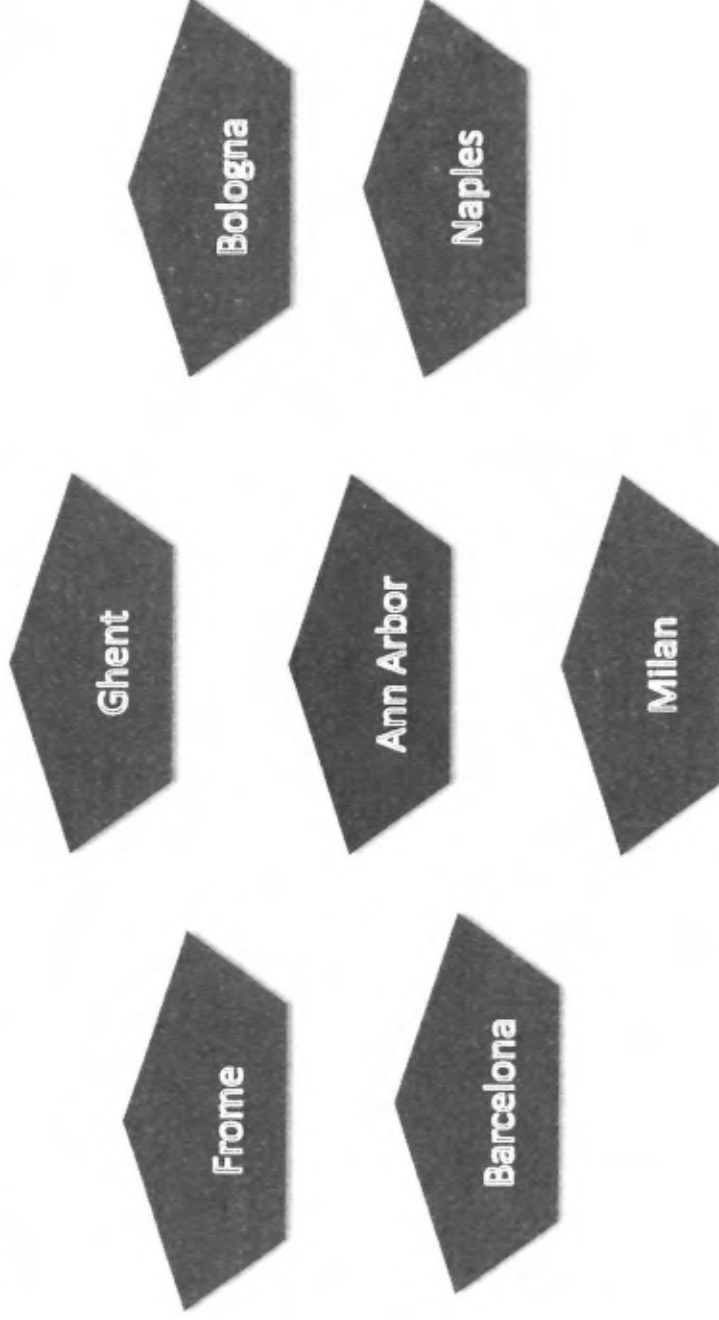
Commons-driven Cities are now a worldwide movement that is growing in response to the failure of conventional economics and politics to meet the needs of ordinary people everywhere. Ann Arbor has always had a tradition of trying new things and making leading breakthroughs in technology as well as social systems when challenges occur. The City Center Commons is an opportunity for the city to again rise to the occasion and claim a global leadership role.

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“The commons is a way to describe shared, material or immaterial property that is stewarded, protected or produced by a community – in an urban context often by citizens’ collectives – and managed according to the rules and standards of that community. It is fundamentally distinct from state bodies – government, city, state – but also from market actors. The commons is independent of, but of course still holds relationships to, the government and the market.”

<https://commonstransition.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Bauwens-Niaros-Urban-Commons-Transitions.pdf>

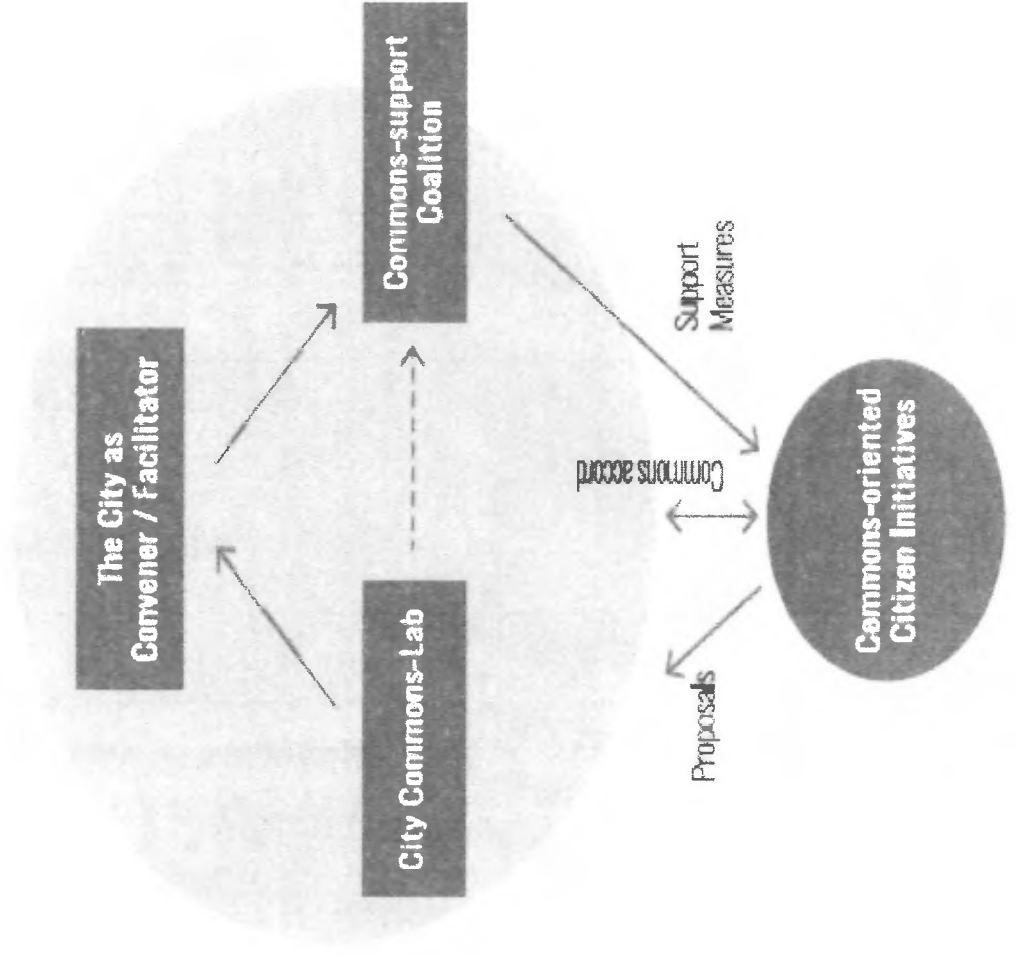
Preliminary Ann Arbor City Center Commons International Network



Initial Ann Arbor Commons Partner Cities

- **Barcelona** is significant because it is the expression of a new radical municipalism that seeks to bypass the current limitations of the nation-state and has a majority political coalition and movement, En Comú, that refers explicitly to the underlying principle of the commons. It illustrates how movement activists can work with existing political parties to create new platforms that foster greater participation in governance.
- **Bologna** is the paradigmatic case for developing new institutional processes for public-commons partnerships. Through this case, it is illustrative of new kinds of experimentalist and adaptive governance and legal tools are needed to allow citizens and other actors to enter a co-design processes for the city.
- **Naples** is a more radical version, explicitly catering for commons-based occupations and claims on public spaces.
- **Milan** presents a version less radical and a more mainstream practice of the ‘integrated sharing city’, which has the merit of seeing the various forms of mutualization of infrastructure, mainly collaborative consumption, as a key strategic development for any city. It is more directly connected to economic development, start-ups, etc.
- **Frome** illustrates how local councils can play a key role in enabling communities to increase their resilience and face their challenges, while not following the political agendas of a party.
- **Ghent** is the first attempt to craft an urban commons focused transition plan at the city level.

One Possible Model of The Basic Collaboration Process between Commoners and the Public Institutions of a Commons-Driven City



Key Sequential Next Steps For The Ann Arbor Civic Center Commons

1. Vote was YES – Honor It.
2. Issue A Launch Press Release
3. Close Existing Parking Space and Transfer Appropriate Revenues
4. Open up Space for Repurposing
5. Send Out Public Notice
6. Schedule And Organize Celebratory Opening
7. Establish Temporary Commons House
8. Set Up a Commons Council and Commoning Projects Mechanism
9. Put in Place Preliminary Management and Financing Committees
10. Create Commons Communications, Discussion, Recognition and Promotions Systems – Physical and Digital
11. Establish Green, Play, Food, Technology and Citizen Care Working Groups
12. Contact Leading Potential Partner Commoning Cities Worldwide for Advise, and Collaboration
13. Put Together Widely Disseminated Citizen Common’s Tutorial and Orientation Materials and Presentations
14. Establish Government Liaisons
15. Generate Partnerships with Community Organizations and Local Businesses
16. Staff the Commons with 2 Paid Full Time Employees and Appropriate Numbers of Support Volunteers
17. Create Civic Center Building Design Group
18. Organize Performance Space
19. Organize A Commons Bank and Community Value Exchange System
20. Organize a Commons Affordable Housing Task Force

Some Key Resources

<http://globalcommonsalliance.org/>
<https://commonstransition.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Bauwens-Niaros-Urban-Commons-Transitions.pdf>
[https://www.tni.org/files/publication-downloads/commons transition and p2p primer v9.pdf](https://www.tni.org/files/publication-downloads/commons-transition-and-p2p-primer-v9.pdf)
<http://www.collaborative.city/>
<https://www.loomio.org/>
<http://bankingoncolorado.org/what-are-public-banks-and-how-do-they-benefit-us/>
<https://open.coop/2018/07/09/holochain-commons-engine-cooperation-scale/>