

## **Town of Eatonville Master Planning Workshop 3 Community Findings**

### **Executive Summary**

On March 12, Baker Barrios held its third workshop for the Town of Eatonville Master Plan. This meeting was exciting and full of ideas from residents, community leaders, and the BBA team. The meeting was done using a World Café-style, where people split into six groups to talk about important topics at six different tables. Each table was about something different: Hungerford Property, Transportation, Residential, Main Street, Parks and Recreation, and Historic Preservation. Everyone had 10 minutes at each table, so all voices were heard. This report shares the thoughts, ideas, and dreams from each table.

### **What is the World Café Style?**

The World Café style is a friendly way to talk and share ideas. It feels like talking at a coffee shop, where everyone gets a turn to speak and listen. People move between tables with different topics, spending 10 minutes at each. The goal is for everyone to share their thoughts and work together to find solutions.

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### **Table 1: Hungerford Property**

#### **What is your vision for the Hungerford Property?**

##### **Education:**

- Residents want a place for learning from Pre-K all the way to college, including a Magnet Elementary School.
- They want programs that help create good jobs and support the community's growth.
- Bringing education back to Hungerford Property is seen as a way to honor its history.

##### **Community:**

- People want public programs like a Cultural Center or Unity Museum focusing on Science and Spirit.
- Ideas include a new Town Hall, an Event Lawn for gatherings, and "The Hub" with Health & Wellness, Education, Economic Vitality, and Basic Services.
- Sports fields for young people are important, too.

**Food:**

- Residents want to honor the past through food, like grocery stores, community gardens, and farm-to-table markets.
- Modern agriculture and science for new ideas are welcome.
- "Eat-On" events could bring the community together.

**Commercial:**

- They suggest mixed-use buildings along Kennedy Blvd, with homes above shops.
- Business spaces should support the main goals of education, community, wellness, and food.

**Summary:**

Education, community programs, wellness, and food are most important. Commercial and residential areas are okay as long as they support these main ideas.

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**Table 2: Transportation****Pedestrian Safety:**

- Children walking from Catalina Park to school are not safe.
- Ideas include buses for school times, crossing lights, and better street lighting.

**Traffic Congestion:**

- Rush hour traffic is a problem, and more housing could make it worse.
- Solutions include traffic lights, safe crossings, and slowing down cars.

**Connectivity:**

- It's hard to travel between East and West Kennedy and to downtown.
- People want better sidewalks, more buses, and safe bike paths.

**Summary:**

People want safer streets, less traffic, better sidewalks, and more transportation options to help everyone get around town.

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### **Table 3: Residential**

#### **Infrastructure Improvements:**

- People want more sidewalks, better lighting, and more parks.
- Kennedy Blvd is dangerous during rush hours.

#### **Historical Sites:**

- The current Town Hall used to be a mortuary, which makes some residents uncomfortable.
- People discussed moving or redesigning Town Hall.
- The Motel Bensims site is run down and could be repurposed.

#### **Lakefront Access:**

- Residents want everyone to have access to the lake, not just private properties.

#### **Summary:**

Residents want safer streets, more parks, better lighting, and access to natural spaces like the lake. They also care about respecting historical places.

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### **Table 4: Main Street**

#### **Commercial Revitalization:**

- Residents want shops on the ground floor with apartments above.
- They want businesses that reflect their culture and history.

#### **Safety & Aesthetics:**

- Ideas include more street lights, nicer sidewalks, and slowing down traffic to make it safer for people to walk.

#### **Economic Opportunities:**

- People want small business programs and job training.

#### **Summary:**

Residents want Main Street to be a lively, welcoming place that feels like Eatonville. It should be safe, beautiful, and full of opportunities.

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**Table 5: Parks and Recreation****Green Spaces:**

- People want more parks, playgrounds, and nature trails, especially near Lake Bell and Lake Wilderness.
- They dream of a big lawn and amphitheater for events.

**Cultural Activities:**

- They want spaces to host cultural events and celebrate Eatonville's history.

**Water Access:**

- More access to the lakefront for fun and relaxation.
- They worry future development could take away this access.

**Summary:**

Parks and green spaces are key to making people feel healthy and happy. Community events and water access matter a lot, too.

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**Table 6: Historic Preservation****Cultural Heritage:**

- Strong interest in preserving historical sites and promoting Eatonville's cultural identity, including the Thomas House, Mosley House, Club Eaton, Rainbow Club, and the Hungerford Property.

**Education:**

- Using historical assets for educational programming and tourism.
- Collecting and housing the true history of the Town of Eatonville and its founding families and their descendants to date in a central location.

**Collaboration:**

- Partnering with historical organizations to enhance preservation efforts.
- Ensuring that development respects the cultural expression of the Town.

- Residents would like development to not be displacing and unrecognizable to the town's rich heritage.
- Residents also stated that Town Hall and other places need to be brought up to date so that the Town's heritage of business cultivation is not lost at the entrance of Town Hall.

**Summary:**

Historic preservation is a high priority for residents, with emphasis on leveraging Eatonville's rich history for educational and economic benefits.