

City of Renton Community Needs Assessment for Housing and Human Services

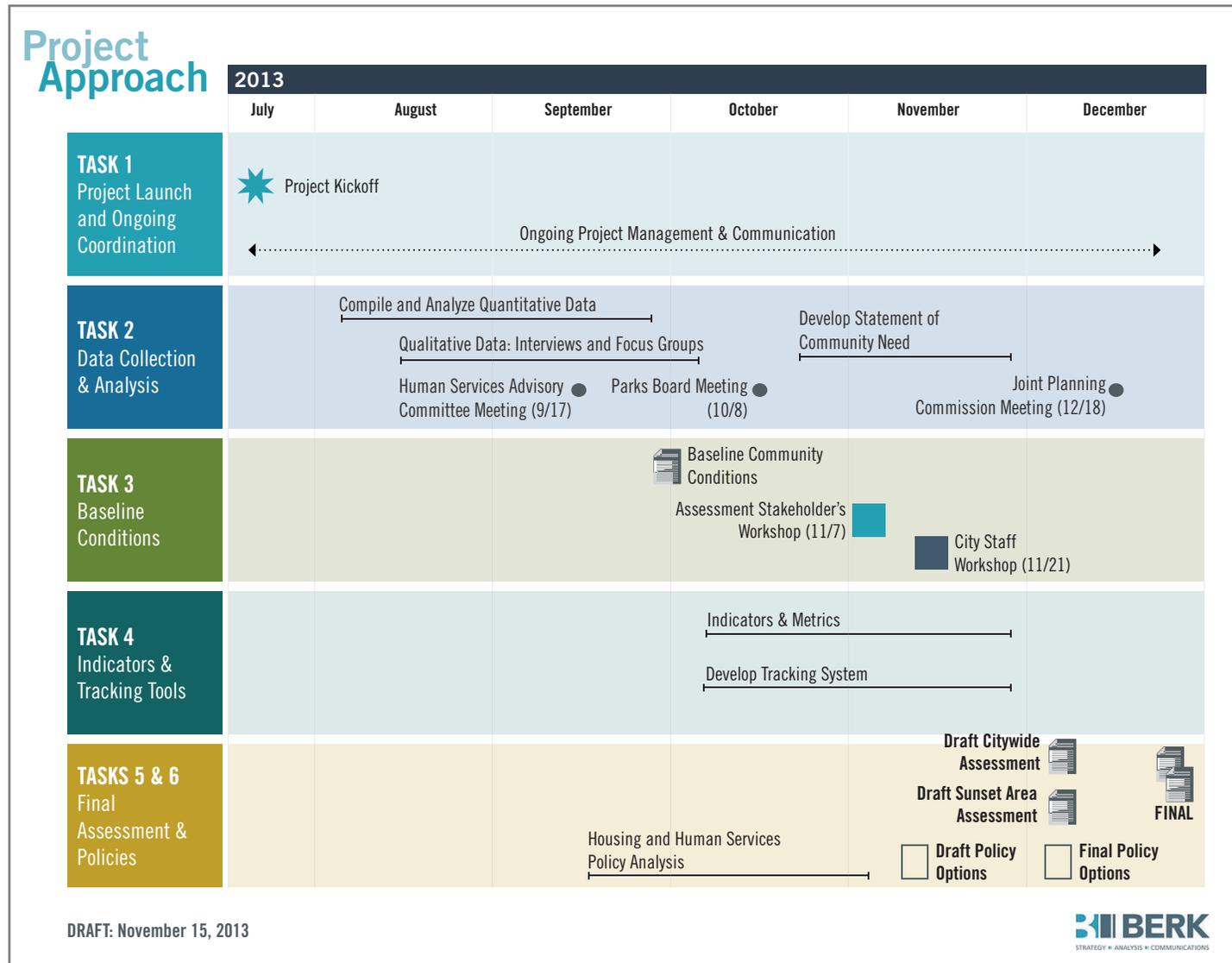
About the Project

The City of Renton is developing its first ever comprehensive community needs assessment for housing and human services. The assessment provides a picture of existing community conditions within the City and identify gaps in housing and social services. In addition, the assessment will guide the City Comprehensive Plan's Housing and Human Services element updates, which must be adopted by June 30, 2015.

The project also identifies the specific needs of the Sunset community revitalization sub-area to help the City and the Renton Housing Authority (RHA) mobilize resources to respond to community needs, including potentially applying for a Choice Neighborhoods grant.

The **Project Approach**, details the components of the project, including:

- » A quantitative assessment of the City's demographics, population trends, and housing supply and quality.
- » Interviews, focus groups, and workshops to supplement the quantitative research.
- » Identification of priority human service needs and gaps and obstacles to human service delivery.
- » An evaluation of the City's housing policies and recommendations for aligning policies and strategies to meet community needs.



Outreach & Engagement Objectives

- Engage key stakeholders in the assessment process and develop common understandings of community needs.
- Use a collaborative approach to assess community needs and build meaningful indicators to track progress overtime
- Develop community support for future actions driven by the Needs Assessment.
- Cultivate buy-in for the Community Needs Assessment to improve its utility as an advocacy piece for the community of Renton.
- Augment the quantitative information collected for the City and the Sunset Sub-area by
 - » “Ground-truthing” secondary data by members of the community and the organizations that address community needs.
 - » Providing context and background information to improve data interpretation and tell the story of community needs.

Activities

- Key informant interviews (8)
- Focus Groups (4)
 - » Human Services Advisory Committee
 - » Community In Schools of Renton Family Liasons
 - » Golden Pines ESL Class
 - » Sunset Area Senior Residents
- Assessment Stakeholder’s Workshop
- City Staff Workshop
- Information sharing
 - » Parks Board
 - » Planning Commission
 - » City Council

Preliminary Community Conditions Metrics

Population & Community Characteristics

- Population
- Age Distribution
- Household Size
- Racial Composition
- Languages Spoken at Home
- Countries of Origin for Refugee Arrivals

Household Economics

- Median Household Income
- Household Income Segmentation
- Percent of Families with Food Stamp/ SNAP Benefits
- Unsheltered Homeless Counts
- Homeless Students in Renton and Washington State
- Labor Force Participation and Unemployment Rate for Civilians 16+ Years Old
- Percent of Renton Households Spending More than 30% of Income on Housing

Neighborhood Opportunity

- Map of Economic Health Index by Tract in Renton
- Map of Mobility/Transportation Index by Tract in Renton
- Means of Transportation to Work
- Travel Time to Work
- Percent of Renton School District Students Meeting Grade Level Standards
- Graduation Rates
- Racial Comparison of Graduation Rates

Health & Childhood Development

- Five-Year Total Deaths per 100,000 of Top Five Causes of Death
- Five-Year Percent of Adults 18+ with Negative Health Risk Factors and Chronic Disease
- Five-Year Percent of Adults with Inadequate Access to Care Indicators

Housing Inventory & Affordability

- Number of Housing Units
- Housing Age
- Affordability
- Households by Percent of Median Income
- Affordability of Renter Occupied Housing
- Renter Households by Housing Need Category
- Renton Rental Unit Gap Analysis
- Average Apartment Rents and Vacancy Rates
- Comparison of Fair Market Rents and Current Market Prices
- Renton Gross Rent by Bedroom
- Percentage of Rental Units that are Overcrowded
- Owner Tenure Household by Housing Need Category
- Renton Median Sales Prices,
- Annual Income Needed to Purchase a Home at Current Median Selling Price