

Updates from the Hamilton Neighbourhoods Study

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Hamilton City Council, November 6, 2017

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What has been the impact of the Neighbourhood Action Strategy?

Guided by this research question, the Hamilton Neighbourhoods Study investigates how NAS neighbourhoods have changed over time and which changes can be attributed to the NAS.

Place-based outcomes	People-based outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• housing and physical environment• safety and security• economic development• community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• health• education• employment and income• civic engagement and awareness

How was the study conducted?



Figure 1: Neighbourhoods included in the Neighbourhood Action Strategy.

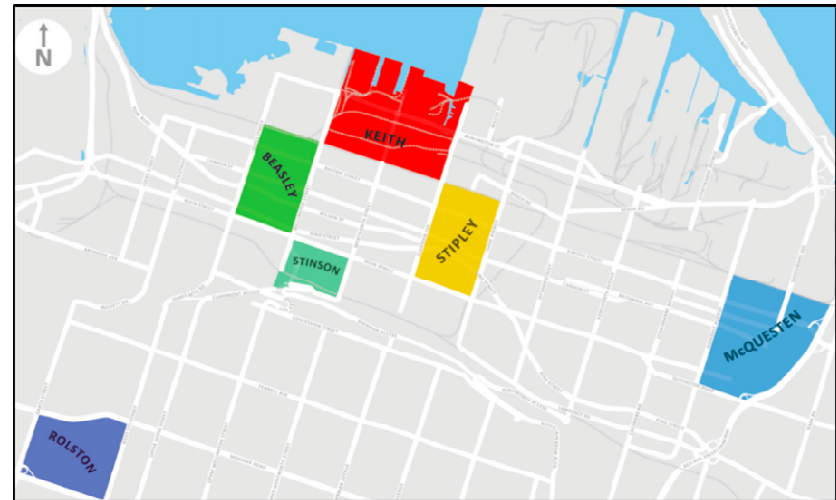
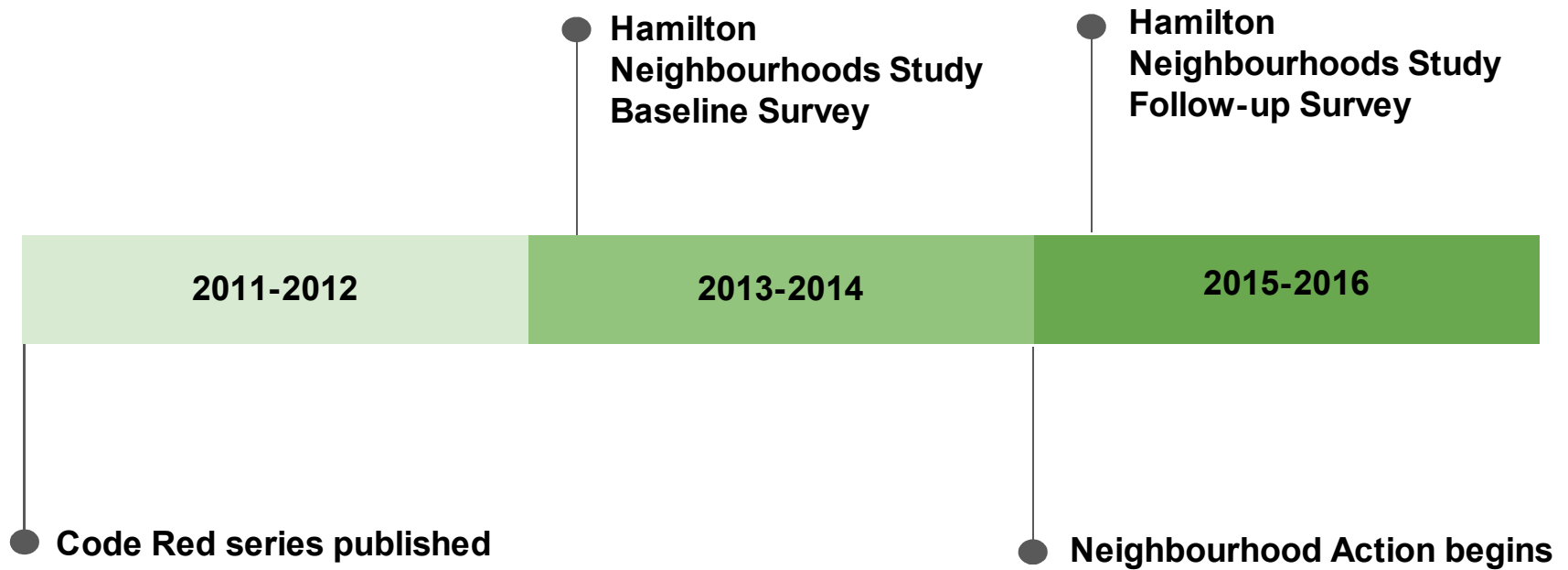


Figure 2: Neighbourhoods included in the Hamilton Neighbourhoods Study.

How was the study conducted?



How was the study conducted?

NAS Group

- n = 1,800
- 300 from each of the 6 study neighbourhoods

Benchmark Group

- n = 300
- do not live in NAS neighbourhoods
- similar socio-economic status to average resident of NAS neighbourhood

Progress Observed So Far

Overall, **39%** of NAS residents, compared to only **23%** of residents in the benchmark group, agreed that “Over the past two years [since the implementation of the NAS], I think my neighbourhood has gotten better to live in as a whole.”

Progress Observed So Far

		% of residents who agree (follow-up)		% improvement	
		% of residents who agree (baseline)			
neighbourhood satisfaction and pride	I am satisfied with my neighbourhood as a whole.	82%	86%	+4%	✓
	Living in this neighbourhood gives me a sense of pride.	67%	70%	+3%	✓
social cohesion	People in my neighbourhood can be trusted.	71%	76%	+5%	✓
	People in my neighbourhood share the same values.	59%	64%	+5%	✓

Progress Observed So Far

		% of residents who agree (follow-up)		% improvement	
		% of residents who agree (baseline)			
social capital	My neighbourhood continually looks for solutions to problems rather than being satisfied with the way things are.	54%	59%	+5%	✓
	I have influence over what my neighbourhood is like.	40%	44%	+4%	✓
City-neighbourhood relations	Residents are invited to be involved in decision-making in my neighbourhood.	53%	62%	+9%	✓
	The City is responsive to residents' inquiries, input, and/or requests.	56%	56%	+0	x

Future Priorities for the NAS

1

Improved Community Engagement

33% of NAS residents know that there is a plan for their neighbourhood created by fellow residents and that planning team meetings happen on a monthly basis.

Barriers to participation mentioned by residents:

- busy with work
- health reasons/mobility concerns
- lack of awareness of neighbourhood planning teams
- lack of childcare at meetings
- poor accessibility/transit options to attend meetings
- language barriers
- feelings of exclusion and marginalization

Future Priorities for the NAS

2

Affordable Housing

	Beasley	Keith	McQueston	Rolston	Stinson	Stipley	NAS Overall	Benchmark Group
Affordability is the #1 reason why I moved to this neighbourhood.	31%	47%	39%	13%	37%	35%	34%	18%
Housing costs account for >30% of my household income.	41%	56%	57%	26%	55%	44%	45%	35%

Future Priorities for the NAS

3

Education, Job Creation, and Economic Development

At the time of the follow-up survey:

- 35% of NAS survey participants have a high school diploma or less
- 20% of NAS survey participants report being unemployed
- 41% of NAS survey participants report household incomes of <\$30,000/year

Future Priorities for the NAS

4

Health

	NAS Overall			
	Time 1	Time 2	Change	Progress
In general, compared to other people my age, I rate my health as fair or poor.	27%	25%	-2%	✓
I do not have a regular medical doctor.	13%	7%	-6%	✓
At some point in the past year, I worried that there would not be enough to eat due to lack of money.	23%	20%	-3%	✓

In Summary

Progress Observed So Far	Future Priorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• neighbourhood satisfaction and pride• social cohesion• social capital• City-neighbourhood relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• community engagement• affordable housing• education, job creation, and economic development• health

NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION EVALUATION 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Carla Borstad Klassen

Kayonne Christy

November 6th, 2017

NAE: WHO WE ARE

- **Neighbourhood Action Evaluation Team:**

- Dr. Sarah Wakefield, Principal Investigator
- Carla Borstad Klassen, Research Officer
 - Kayonne Christy, Research Assistant
 - Robyn Ocean, Research Assistant
 - Melanie Pothier, Research Assistant
 - Shruti Ramesh, Research Assistant
- Nishan Zewge-Abubaker, Research Assistant

- *The Neighbourhood Action Evaluation (NAE) is led by the University of Toronto, and funded by the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) and the Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)..*

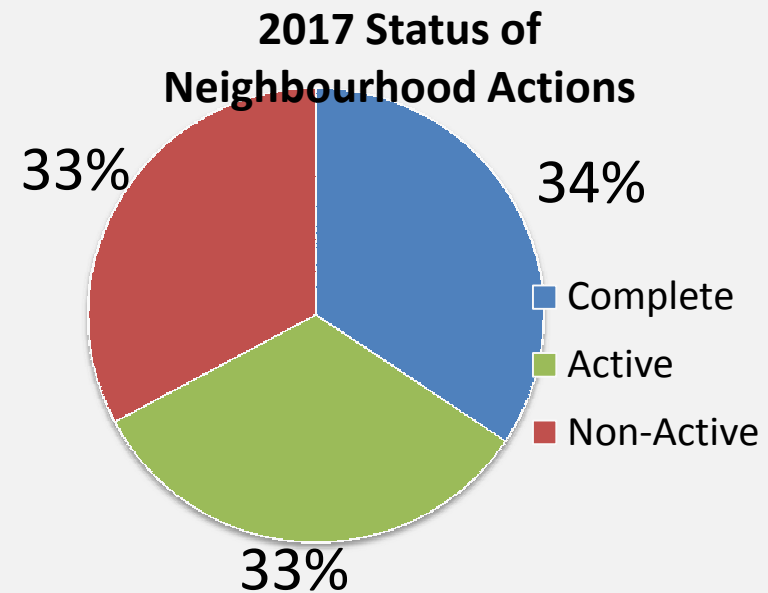
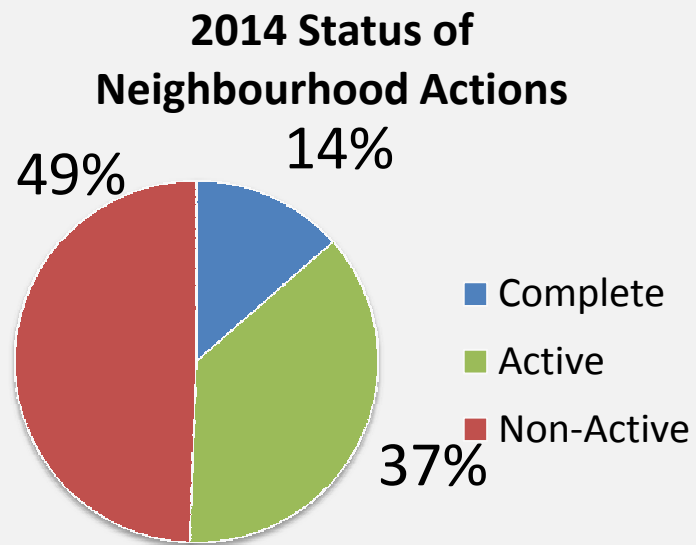
NAE: WHAT WE DO

- **Evaluate NAS Planning and Implementation**
 - How is the NAS being implemented?
 - How is the NAS evolving over time?
 - What challenges and opportunities do stakeholders face in working towards their goals?

EVALUATION COMPONENTS

- “progress tracking” through **focus groups** (annual)
- in-depth semi-structured **interviews** with resident leaders, CDs, City staff, and other key stakeholders (n=116)
- **Observation** at monthly Planning Team meetings

TRACKING UPDATE



MAJOR THEMES

- **Residents are celebrating**
- **Community Developers are invaluable**
- **Inclusive neighbourhood planning remains a challenge**
- **Concerns about displacement are growing**
- **Planning Teams need consistent, accessible meeting space**
- **Decision-making matters**

THANK YOU

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f: Neighbourhood Action Evaluation - Hamilton



(RE)IMAGINING

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION STRATEGY

NAS (re)Imagine
Project Update

Presented to City of
Hamilton Emergency
and Community
Services Committee

November 6, 2017

**Resident
Researcher
Phase I Summary**

Presented by:
Brenda Duke
Al Karsten
Tina Dort

**Phase II Progress &
Plans**

Presented by:
Mel Walther



Our Research Team

Residents

- PJ Encinas - Sherman Resident, involved community member
- Brenda Duke - GALA Resident, Founder of Beautiful Alleys
- Steve Rowe - Keith Hub Resident, community activist
- Al Karsten - Rolston planning team member
- Monika Ciolek - McQuesten Resident, performance artist
- Bernadette Arthur - Jamesville Resident, ABCD educator
- Tina Dort - Stinson Treasurer, activist

Each played a key role in gathering input from
neighbourhood residents



Our Research Team

Phase I Consultant Community Researchers

- Shahad - Masters of Global Health; Programme Coordinator for the Neighbourhood Leadership Institute
- Sam - Masters student in Strategic Foresight and Innovation at OCAD; Prolific Writer
- Lorraine - Masters of Social Work; Past with Neighbourhood Leadership Institute
- Mel - PhD Student; Masters of Environmental Studies (Urban Planning); Environmental Planner; Editor Sherman Hub News



Why review the NAS now?

NAS work is important to our communities – need to reflect & build on what we've learned

Confront challenges and address things that aren't working so well

Respond to changing conditions/new opportunities - encourage evolution of the NAS

IT'S TIME!!!



Draft Phase I Report

- The report is a draft/organic, living document
- Draft report was built from:
 - History of the NAS
 - Literature review
 - Input from community (includes residents, service providers, City staff)



Existing NAS Mission, Vision, Values

Vision: Vibrant, healthy and inclusive neighbourhoods built on opportunity and trust by and engaged community

Mission: Mobilize, encourage, and support Hamilton residents and community partners to work together for positive neighbourhood change

Principles/Values: Equity; Integrity; Innovation; Asset-Based; Collaborative; Inspiring & Fun





The Guiding Principles

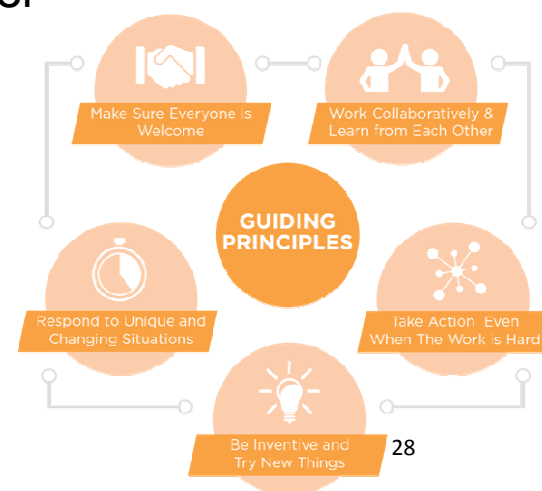
Welcoming – Make sure everyone is welcome

Collaborative – Work together and learn from each other

Responsive – React to unique and changing situations

Inventive – Be creative and try new things

Complexity – Take action even when work is hard





NAS Essential Elements

- NAS Neighbourhoods
- Planning Teams
- Small Grants
- Ongoing Learning and Training
- Neighbourhood Action Plans
- Neighbourhood Projects & Events
- Community Developers
- City-led Initiatives
- Evaluation and Reflection
- Clear and Responsive Partnership Structure





Reflections

- Our reflections on working together
- Why is this project important?
- Gathering feedback
- Sharing what we learned with others
- It's a start....



Moving to Phase II

- Incorporating the learning & knowledge from Phase I, building on the findings and themes

Phase One



Phase Two



(RE)IMAGINING

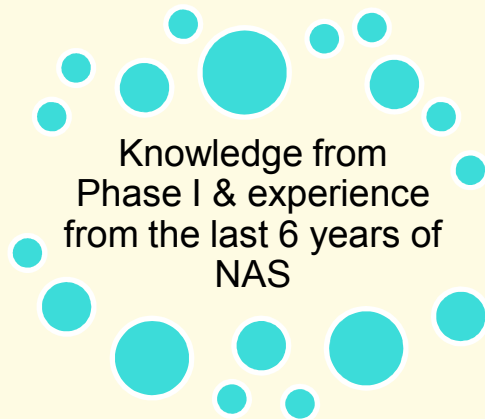
THE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION STRATEGY

PHASE II UPDATE

NOVEMBER 6, 2017

Moving to Phase II

Where are we Now?



Conceptual
Framework



Translate concepts to
practical recommendations

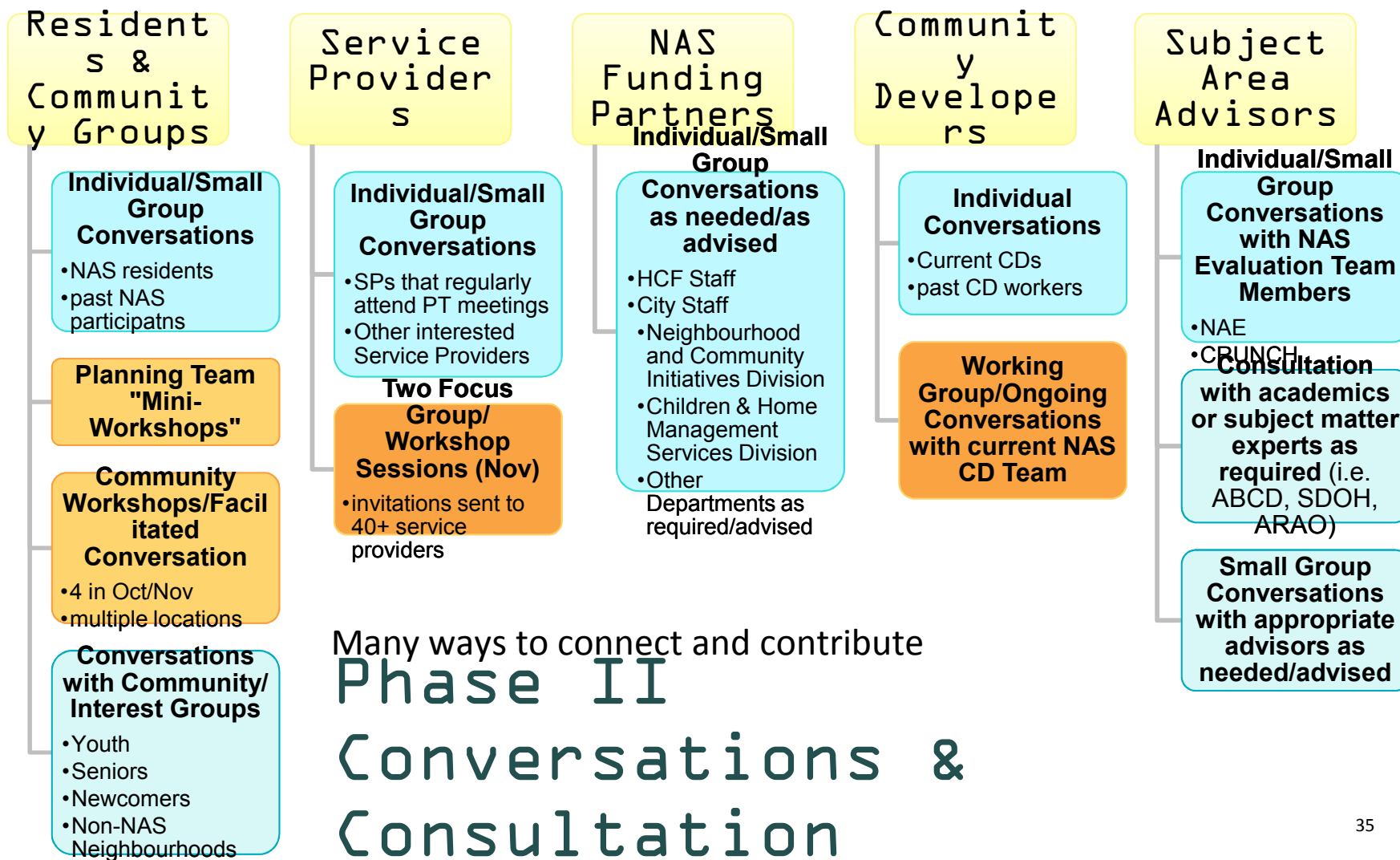


Next Generation
NAS

How are we doing this?

Phase II Processes

- Guided by learning & values uncovered in Phase I
- Modelling & exploring new ways of working together
- Complex but theoretically robust - drawing on insights from:
 - common methods of consultation/planning
 - community-based participatory research
 - strengths/asset-based processes
 - inspiration from co-design/co-production
 - design-thinking for policymaking



What is the Focus of Phase II Conversations?

Phase I identified 6 themes that we are using broadly to shape conversations and consultation materials.

1. What is the NAS?
2. The Importance of Emergence and Grassroots Efforts
3. Inclusivity, Equity, Access
4. Roles of actors and Relationship building
5. Governance and Power
6. Communication

The collected themes lead to topics for discussion, questions to ask, or objectives to consider





Structuring Conversations about Operational Adjustments



Detailed discussions about the essential elements of the strategy

General discussions about governance structure, relationships, and overall operational model



Next Steps

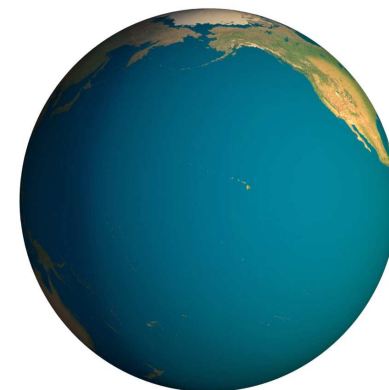
- Finish conversations & consultation December
- Analyze Phase II findings
- Review & update Phase I draft conceptual framework
- Prepare comprehensive report covering Phase I and II with proposed operational updates



And why are we doing all this?

Why is this exciting?

- Looking closely at elements that aren't working perfectly yet - challenging ourselves to respond
- Learning better processes for working together
- Cities everywhere are seeking new ways to respond to increasingly complex policy challenges, we are contributing new ideas for collaborative city-building – and sharing these with others



THANK YOU

(RE)IMAGINING

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION STRATEGY

