



How higher education  
partnerships can help cities



## City wanted a PROS Plan

- City owned property, sell it or make it a park?
- Scope and budget beyond our ability
- Reached out to the Living City Year (LCY)
  - LCY staff helped develop the scope
  - Matched the project with appropriate classes and students
  - Cost \$60,000
  - Three separate classes over an entire school year



# 2019 PROS Plan



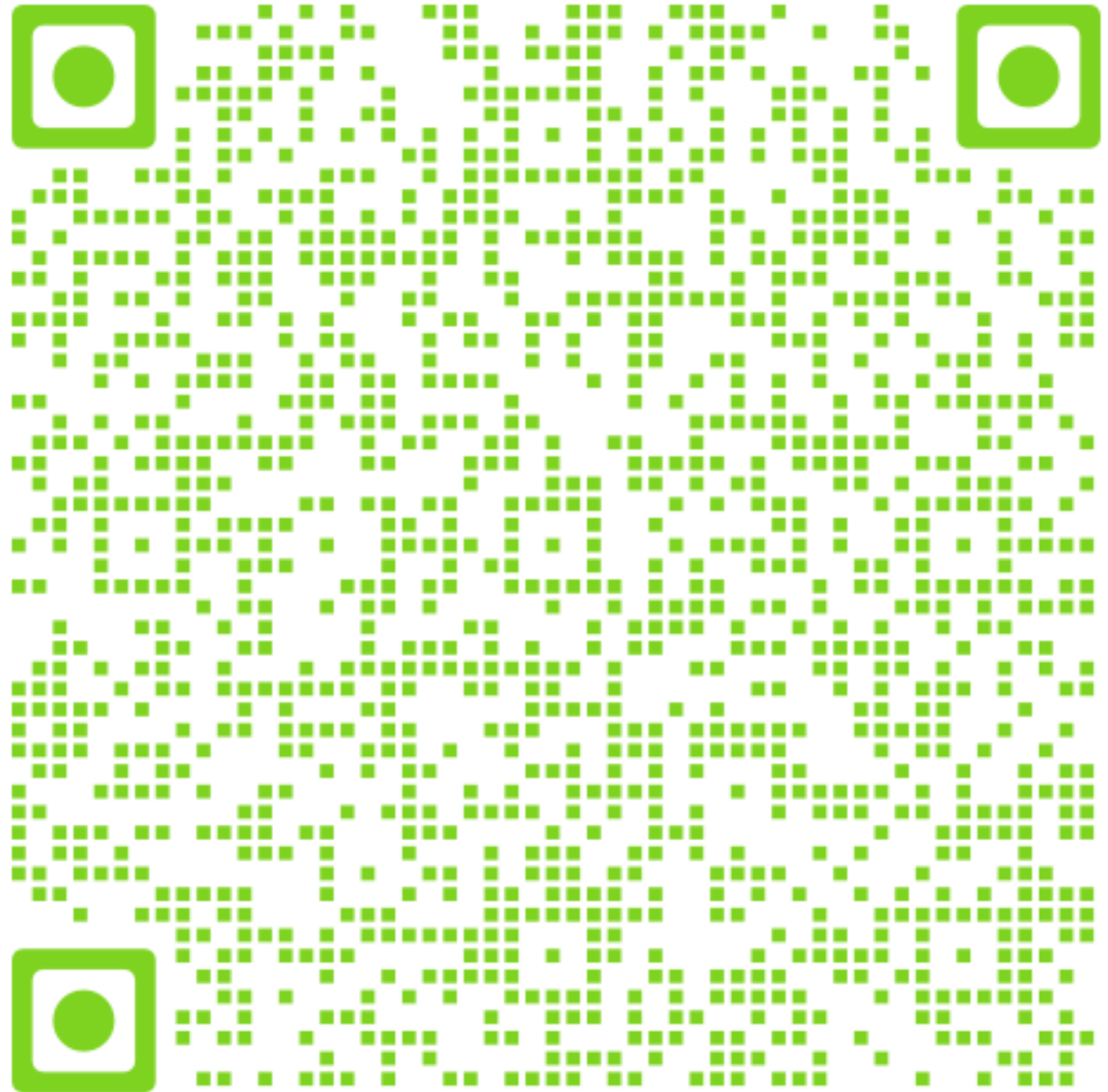






## Results

- City received a community engaged PROS plan
- Set policy direction as the city grows
- Identified the need for a new park and an idea of what that park should include





## Analysis of Comp Plan

- Professor from the Living City Year
- Students evaluated city's comp plan
- Provided recommendations for the 2024 Comp Plan Update
  
- Budget \$5,000



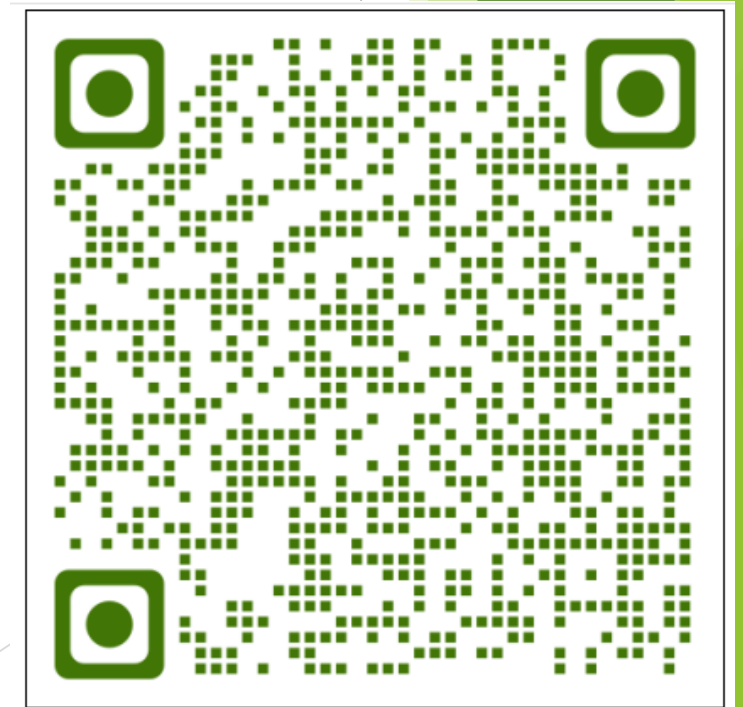
## Downtown Visioning

- City wanted a plan for downtown
- Strong desire for public engagement
- Formed a community/business board
- Three interns and a Professor were hired
  - The students/organized the program



## Results

- Ran city wide survey, 434 respondents
- Students developed
  - Written Plan
  - Social media posts
  - Presentation to council
- Budget \$18,000







# Storefront Studio: College of the Built Environment

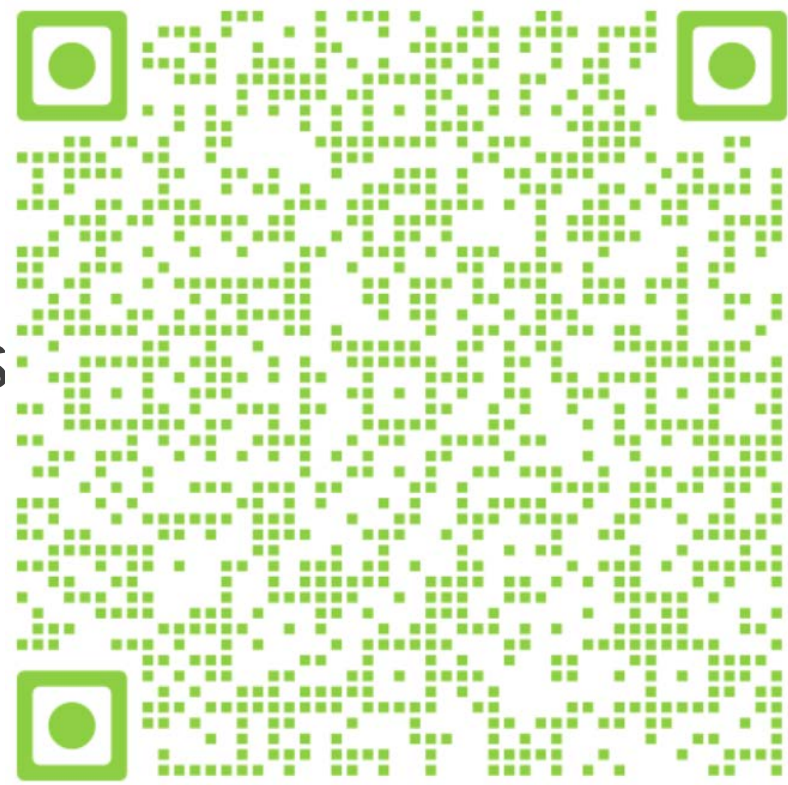
- Undergrad senior capstone
  - Entire quarter dedicated to this project
- Students held 3 open houses in Sultan's Downtown
- Budget \$3,500



# Storefront Studio

## *Results*

- Developed a book to assist business owners
- Garnered excitement around downtown
  - Many of the attendees were downtown business owners
- Façade Grant Program
  - City to utilize ARPA funds to providing a matching grant
- Several local improvement project ideas being considered for next year's budget



Limitations

Experience

Availability

Support



## Strengths

Public outreach

Creativity

Broad Skill Base



## Recommendations

- Establish relationship with local College or University
- Location matters
- Keep an open mind



## Recommendations

- Garner support from stakeholders
- Have a clear idea of what you want to accomplish
  - Agree on project deliverables at beginning
- Help students to succeed
  - Remember their limitations when providing support
  - Communicate





## Recommendations

- Staff needs to dedicate the time (especially early one)
- Designate a primary contact (and make sure they are responsive)
- Provide a list of useful contacts in your organization and community



## Recommendations

- DON'T LET THESE PROJECTS SIT ON THE SHELF



PROS Plan -> New Park on Sultan Basin Rd



Sultan Visioning -> Purchased Property



Storefront Studio -> Façade Grant







# Questions?

Andy Galuska email: [andy.galuska@ci.sultan.wa.us](mailto:andy.galuska@ci.sultan.wa.us)