

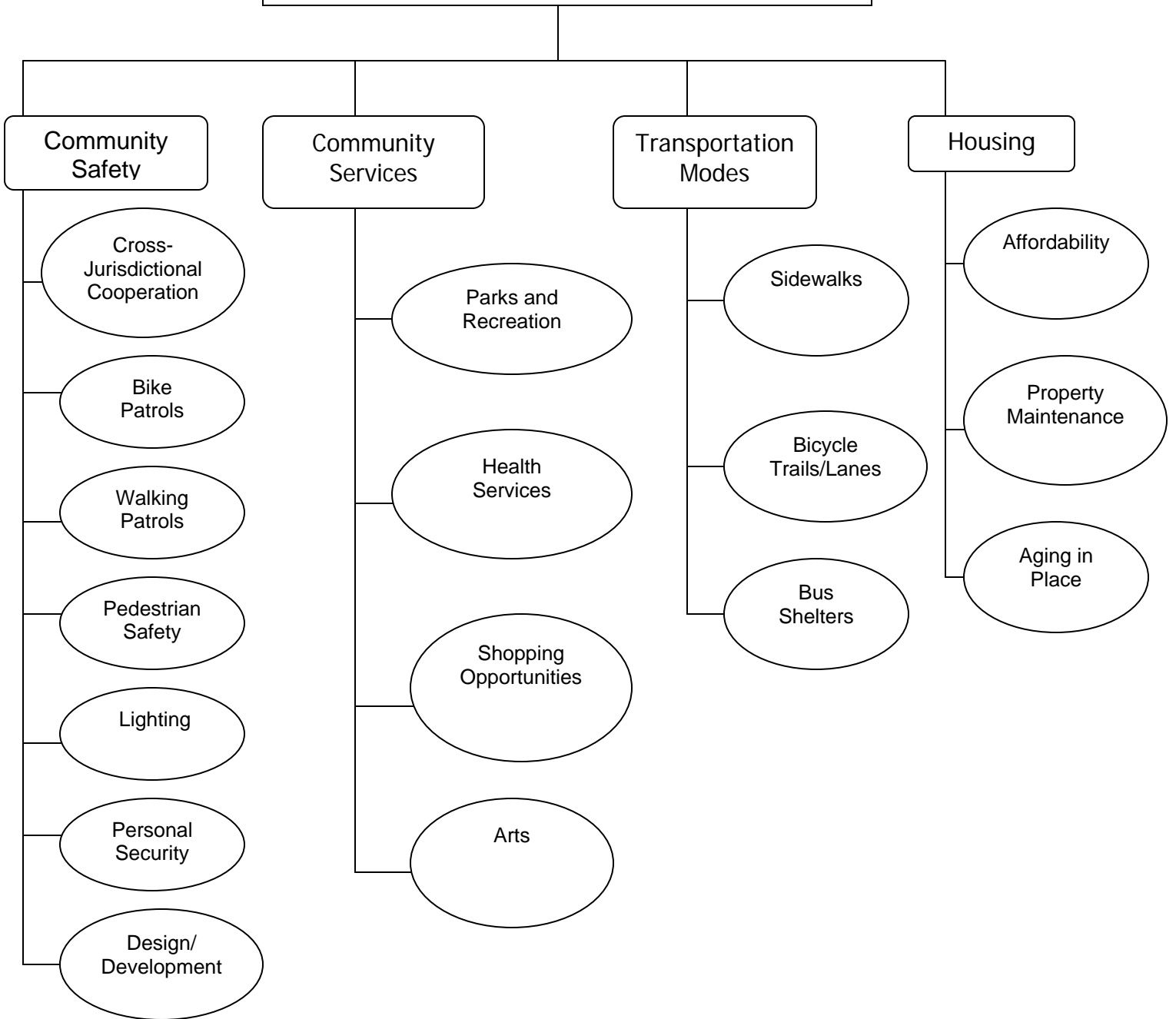
Worksession

Agenda Item #	2
Meeting Date	July 7, 2008
Prepared By	Barbara B. Matthews City Manager
Approved By	

Discussion Item	Identification of Council Priorities
Background	<p>A general election was held in November 2007, and a new Council subsequently took office. On January 31, 2008 and February 11, 2008, the Council held worksessions to discuss the establishment of priorities for their term of office.</p> <p>In preparation for the February 11 worksession, staff drafted some possible priority areas for the Council's consideration. The areas reflect the community feedback received through the resident survey process, as well as comments from the Council discussion on January 31. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability • Livable Community • Engaged, Responsive, and Service-Oriented Organization <p>Outlines reflecting some of the programmatic elements that are components of each of these policy areas are included for the Council's reference.</p> <p>During the prior discussions of policy priorities, there appeared to be interest on the part of the Council in developing a strategic plan for the City that would provide a road map for the future. The City Manager's proposed budget for FY 2009 included funding (\$60,000) to retain a consultant to facilitate a community-wide strategic planning process. The proposed allocation was reduced by \$25,000, with this amount being allocated as grant funding for the Community Indicators project.</p> <p>Should time permit, the Council may wish to discuss whether or not it wishes to proceed with the development of a strategic plan for the City and, if so, the process by which it should be developed. Based on the comments made during the FY 2009 budget process, there appeared to be differing ideas on how a strategic planning effort might be structured.</p>
Policy	The City Council is the policymaking making body for the City of Takoma Park and establishes organizational priorities through direction given to the City Manager.
Fiscal Impact	None—Discussion Only
Attachments	Outline for Possible Council Priority Areas
Recommendation	Staff recommends that the City Council consider the information prepared by staff, discuss other policy areas of interest, and reach consensus on the priorities to be pursued. As part of this discussion, staff suggests that the Council also agree on the objectives to be achieved through the City's efforts.
Special Consideration	

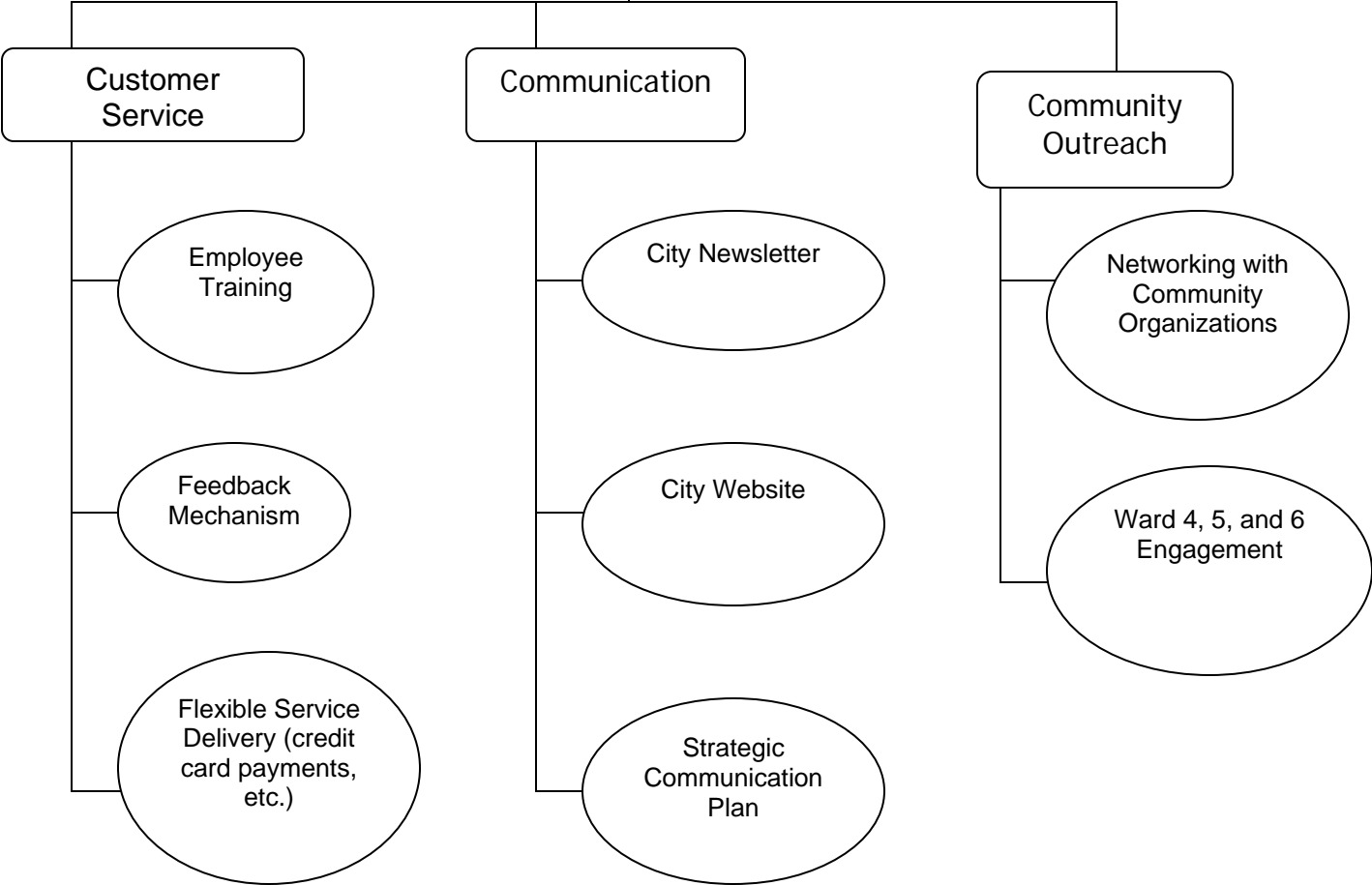
Livable Community

Work in partnership with City residents, the business community, schools, and other governmental agencies to build a more livable Takoma Park.



Engaged, Responsive, and Service-Oriented Organization

Enhance the responsiveness and the provision of City services through engagement with the community.



Sustainability

Work in partnership with City residents, the business community, and other governmental agencies to build a more sustainable Takoma Park.

