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"Helping Christian Leaders Change the World"

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# Leading City Transformation

*Dr. Jay Gary*  
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## What Nehemiah teaches us...



We must focus on the Walls, not just the Temple




## Three premises have guided me

- The pursuit of God is also the pursuit of a whole and healthy community for future generations.
- Our calling as Christians to seek the 'City of God' is realized as we build the 'Good City' as citizens.
- Transforming ministry for the 21st century will require both church growth and community health.



## I was the lead organizer of the Springs 2000 Commission

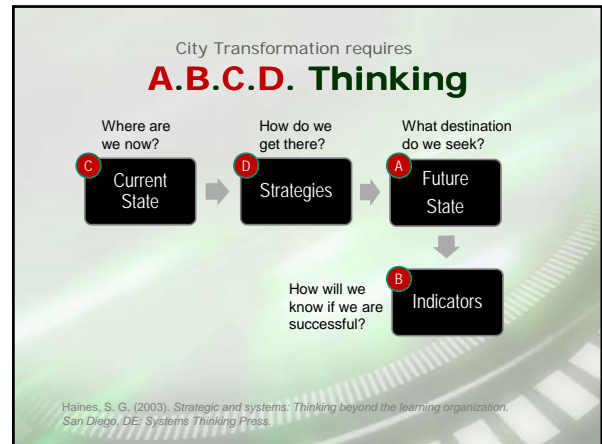
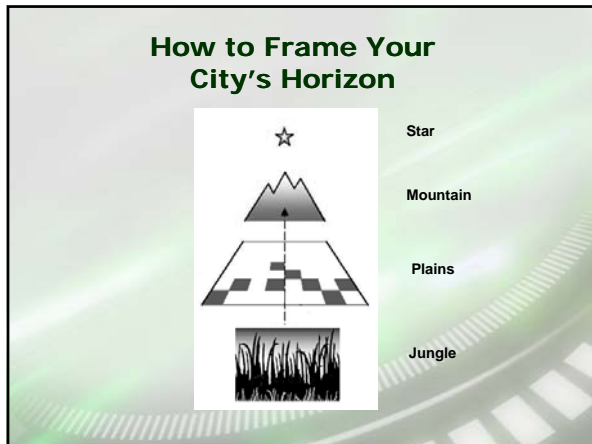
- In 1998 we obtained an official resolution from our city council declaring 1999 to 2001 as the "Pikes Peak Millennial Season."
- We then invited 70 Commission members to serve as our blue-ribbon advisors.
- Our task was to help our city "Remember the past, celebrate the present, imagine the future."
- We moved through 3 phases: exploration, preparation, and then commemoration.
- We sponsored over 100 special events and 200 community improvement projects.
- We did this by putting 300 stakeholders to work in 'action teams' for 18 months.
- We ended by opening letters from a century chest from 1901 and sealed one for 2101.

## Every city transformation effort has 6 core elements

- 1. CORE VISION:** stakeholders expand vision and develop a brand name which unlocks civic pride and calls forth innovation.
- 2. COMMISSIONS:** organizers use blue-ribbon Commissions to harness the energies of the private sector to reach the whole community.
- 3. COMMUNICATIONS:** They involve chambers of trade, tourism & cultural organizations to develop a unified public relations strategy
- 4. SPONSORS:** they create formulas and strategy to secure official sponsors for their season.
- 5. EVENTS:** they call for creativity for quality proposals from existing organizations, attractions & festivals.
- 6. PRODUCTS:** they develop licensing and merchandising strategies which generate revenue from official products.







- What does it mean for us to enter a new decade?
- What new dreams do we have?
- How is God leading others?

(A) Future State

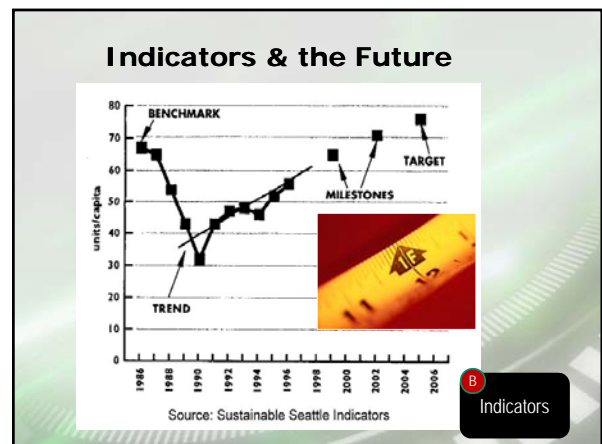


### How do we measure city transformation?

ENVIRONM	CULTURAL	ECONOMIC
Oil & gas reserve life	Poverty	Premature mortality
Energy use intensity	Income distribution	Infant mortality
Agricultural sustainab.	Unemployment	Obesity
Timber sustainability	Underemployment	Suicide
Forest fragmentation	Paid work time	Drug use (youth)
Parks & wilderness	Household work	Auto crashes
Fish & wildlife	Parenting & eldercare	Divorce
Wetlands & Peatlands	Free time	Crime
Water quality	Volunteerism	Problem gambling
Air quality	Commuting time	Voter participation
Greenhouse gas emis.	Life expectancy	Educational attainm.
Carbon budget deficit		
Hazardous waste		
Landfill waste		
Ecological footprint		
		Economic growth
		Economic diversity
		Trade
		Disposable income
		Weekly wage rate
		Personal expenditures
		Transportation expend.
		Taxes
		Savings rate
		Household debt
		Public infrastructure
		Household infrastruct.

Sustainablemeasures.com

(B) Indicators



### Sustainable Seattle '98

Improving	Declining
Air Quality	Health Care Expenses
Unemployment	Work for Basic Needs
Volunteer Involvement	Children in Poverty
Housing Affordability	Energy Use

### Form Action Teams

- Identify a sector of the city and key leaders in that sector.
- Recruit leaders to commit to bring a team of leaders from their area of influence to commission gatherings
- Convene four gatherings of leaders over a specified time frame.
- Share 'current state' research of indicators.
- Explore problems and develop action plans

C  
Current State

D  
Strategies

### Action Teams Transform Cities

C  
Current State

D  
Strategies

A  
Future State

### Summary

1. God calls us to focus on the Walls, not just the Temple.
2. There are 6 core elements of model city transformation programs: core vision, commissions, communications, sponsors, events & products.
3. Successful committees become Commissions.
  - use A-B-C-D thinking to define horizons
  - they create quality of life reports w/ indicators
  - they put action teams to work to solve problems

### Comment & Question

1. Through this session I learned that....
2. One question I still have is ....

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