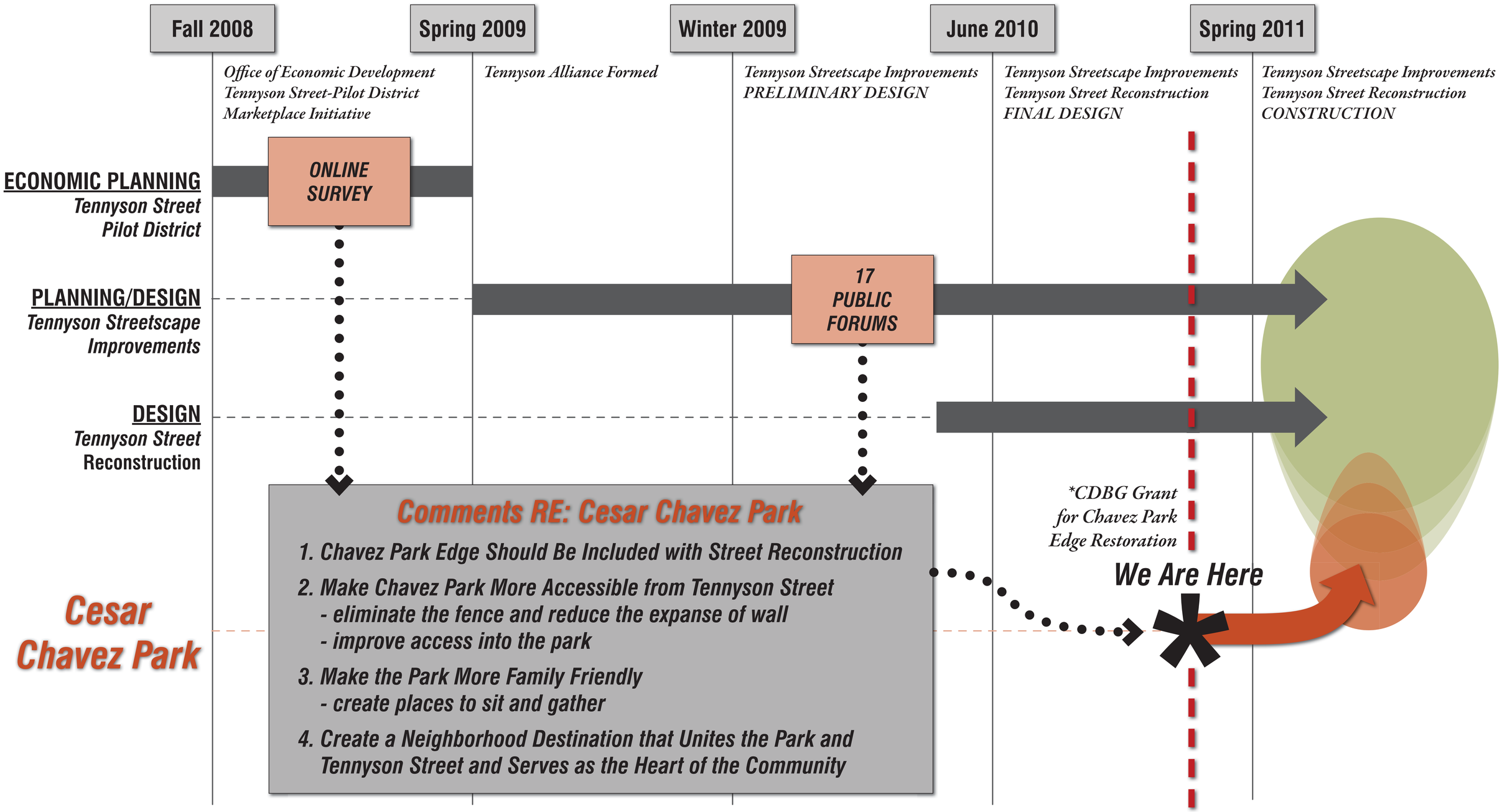How did we get here?