



A Grander Vision for the Heartland

Grow Grand Island Committee Meeting

Date * Time * Location: May 11 th @ 4pm – City Library	Recommendation Number and Name: 5.14 Strengthening Neighborhoods
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Attending:
 Joe Cook, Steve Lamken, Cory Schmidt, Steve Fosselman, Michelle Fitzke, Dan Brosz, Wendy McCarty, Jon Rosenlund, Amanda Jensen, Linna Dee Donaldson, Nicki Stoltenberg

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	WHEN
Welcome & Introductions -What is the favorite think about your neighborhood?	Centrally located, peaceful, lots of children, close to bike path, low traffic, close to parks	
Brief History of GGI and GV	<p>Grow Grand Island was the initiative that was led by the Chamber, CVB and EDC, as well as 30+ business and community leaders from Grand Island. They came together to further enhance the community’s economic and business development efforts. The strategy was developed to help elevate the community’s competitiveness for new jobs and investment.</p> <p>Collectively, the plan produced 5 pillars (Existing Business; Entrepreneurs; Image; Workforce; Community Assets) which represent the foundation of our community.</p> <p>The Grander Vision was a grass roots effort that was managed by the City and lead by over 40 community volunteers. The goal was to build upon the HV efforts and to develop a united vision for Hall Co. that would set the stage for the future of our region. A comprehensive community outreach campaign was held and we heard from several 1000s of people through a bi-lingual survey and bi-lingual web site, stakeholder discussions, focus groups, open houses, etc. In November of 2014, we announced 26 recommendations under the categories of LIVE, WORK, PLAY, LEARN, and UNITE.</p> <p>Through the months of January & February, the EDC, CVB, Chamber, the City of Grand Island and the County of Hall, worked to merge both plans together.</p>	

	<p>As a result, we have an Implementation Grid that contains approx. 35 recommendations. These recommendations reorganized by the five pillars original Grow Grand Island pillars; incorporating all of the High & Medium Action Steps from the Grand Vision plan.</p>	
<p>Review GGI Recommendation 5.14</p>	<p>This is the consultants, drafted recommendation, as well as the goals/objectives. It will be our job to edit, change, remove, add, and prioritize, etc., as to how it fits best with OUR community.</p> <p>Encourage neighborhood associations to enhance community safety, host community activities/ festivals, and reduce crime.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct neighborhood assessments to help identify neighborhood strengths, weaknesses, & opportunities; • Encourage follow-through & provide support for the implementation of action steps that develop as a result of the neighborhood assessments; • Train residents in the use of crime reduction strategies, such as the formation of neighborhood watch or block groups; • Strengthen the relationship between neighborhoods & emergency responders; • Develop a process by which neighborhood groups can help local governments prioritize local infrastructure projects, such as roadway improvements, sidewalk installation, upgrade to catch basins and other items. 	
<p>Group Discussions</p>	<p>Strengths & Opportunities: What gives you the most pride? What could be our neighborhoods greatest strength in the future? What opportunities do our neighborhoods offer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Private home ownership -Home ownership in a variety of price ranges -The City's infrastructure (municipal utilities) are in great shape -Clean streets -Good access to emergency & medical services -Small town pride -Close to schools & mall -Should develop more neighborhood nights out -Several young families in 'my' neighborhood -Lots of opportunity when West Faidley is complete -Strong neighborhoods surrounding our schools <p>Key Issues & Concerns: What concerns do you have most about your neighborhood? What is the biggest issue in the future? Are we missing any opportunities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -language barriers -some rental properties are substandard -paved streets (alleys & sidewalks) -losing canopy in some neighborhoods 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-perception of high crime-dark city; more street lights-train noise-feedlot on west-side of town-need another parking ramp downtown-more middle-class housing (\$140-\$180,000 range)-better utilize CDBG grants for neighborhood revitalization-no hike/bike trail close-by-have to cross a major highway in my neighborhood; not safe for children to walk/bike anywhere	
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Next meeting, web site info., other notes, etc.:

Volunteer Hours: 6