



**VOICE VISIONING SESSION REPORT OUT  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2012  
5:30 P.M.  
IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE**



## What VOICE is About

VOICE brings together diverse members of our community in facilitator-led group discussions to draw out and capture everyone's ideas for the future. Together, we'll discuss our hopes and dreams for Evansville in a comfortable, open forum that's fun and inspiring, too. The sessions will allow respectful conversations to take place, and all voices to be heard, and every opinion to be documented and shared. VOICE will ensure that everyone in our community has the opportunity to take part in creating a desired future. Absolutely everyone.

## The VOICE Process

Leadership Evansville will facilitate discussion sessions each month starting on August 15 at easy-to-access public locations, such as Evansville Public Library System branches and Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation schools. The sessions will be advertised in neighborhood newsletters, the newspaper, television, radio and via the initiative's website: [www.evansvillevoice.com](http://www.evansvillevoice.com).

Comments from each session will be available to the participants and the public. A summary and detailed notes will be posted on the VOICE Web site within one week of the session.

Once all comments are collected, additional community sessions will occur to verify that the information collected truly represents participants' opinions.

Then, common themes and ideas will be grouped by topic area to serve guidance for those organizations, businesses, universities, individuals, and government bodies with interest in that topic to move forward with further research and planning toward common goals.



## VOICE SESSION SCHEDULE

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

GROUND RULES

THE POSITIVE IN OUR COMMUNITY

CARRY FORWARD & LEAVE BEHIND

VISION DRAWING & PRESENTATION

WRAP UP/ WHAT'S NEXT



### **LARGE GROUP OPENING- Lead Facilitator**

"One or two words describing why you are passionate about our community."



## LARGE GROUP OPENING- Lead Facilitator

“One or two words describing why you are passionate about our community.”

- great public universities
- smitty's tavern
- fall festival
- transportation
- positive
- growing
- libraries
- volunteers
- passion
- creative
- hard working
- walking trails
- parochial schools
- school system
- usi burdette park bike trail
- LE
- young professionals
- home
- welcoming
- opportunities to make a difference
- fill in housing
- lib
- parks
- universities
- greenway
- universities
- libraries
- greenway
- spankies pizza
- riverfront
- friendly people
- welcoming
- cultural amenities
- never meet a stranger
- great nonprofits
- fall festival
- hs sports
- bosse field
- ford center
- education
- riverfront
- fall festival
- wesselman woods
- libraries
- garvin park christmas lights
- shriners festival
- hs athletics
- art museum
- wesselman woods
- charities
- museums, cmoe
- arts
- diversity
- activities
- burdette park
- yen ching
- epo
- mesker park zoo
- fall festival
- howell wetlands
- turoni's

- sports
- turoni's
- community spirit
- positive
- out of the way dining venues
- diversity
- welcoming local businesses
- riverfront
- family oriented
- progressive
- diversity
- education
- churches





### **SMALL GROUP 1- SMALL GROUP FACILITATORS**

“In a preferred future, what would you carry forward and what would you leave behind?”

Small group 1 facilitator: Kim Moman

Small group 1 scribe: Nicky Tesh & Don Crankshaw

Small group 1 recorder: Jeanne Braun

#### **Small group 1 participants:**

Katie	Olson
Gisela	Bruner
Susan	Hardwick
Mary	Murphy
Pam	Martin
Jack	Vincent
Joe	Hostetler
Nolan	Hostetler
Ashley	Bland
Douglas	Sullivan
George	Meny
Judy	Beyer
Morgan	Maddox
Amber	Dodson

## Carry Forward

women's shelters  
student oriented/college environment  
school systems  
improvements to Mesker zoo rainforest  
riverfront  
mesker park zoo good for small children/  
CMOE  
high school athletics  
progressive nature/growth/growing ex.  
Stadium  
pigeon creek walkway; more walkways  
  
friendly  
focus on outdoor  
activities/greenway/USI trail  
elimination of stoplights on Lloyd  
amazing cultural opportunities ex  
museum  
riverfront activities  
tearing down old buildings ex Walmart  
hospitals- great  
helping the unemployed/career  
searchers  
  
improving the roadways  
  
shriners taking over Freedom Fest  
greenway  
work on houses in downtown area-  
remodeling houses in art district  
greyhound building and other historic  
buildings should be embraced  
  
more programs for recycling  
  
Pet emergency clinic  
swonder  
generous/charitable people-  
philanthropy  
keep moving forward  
more outreach agencies to help  
community

## Leave Behind

east side west side separation  
old buildings not in use/vacant  
  
crime  
  
Not embracing our past ex. LST  
placement  
downtown depressing- empty downtown  
no continuum of planning- not  
executed/tracked  
  
lack of focus on environment/recycling  
reputation of stoplights on 41  
were not proud enough of what we have  
accomplished- need to be more boastful  
businesses leaving our area  
  
mall  
  
tattered roads/potholes  
how long it takes for new things to  
happen  
bickering over stadium- compromise  
with Wesselmans; give part for  
greenland and part for ball fields  
  
drug use  
high school  
students/vandalizing/drinking/drugs  
negative elections- hard feelings- takes a  
while to get over/mudslinging  
reluctant to change/fear of change  
  
meth use





## **SMALL GROUP 2- SMALL GROUP FACILITATORS**

"In a preferred future, what would you carry forward and what would you leave behind?"

Small group 2 facilitator: Alisha Aman

Small group 2 scribe: Andy Herbertz & Makenzie Coulter

Small group 2 recorder: Jeff Gruszewski

Small group 2 participants:

Maggie	Couch
Bethany	Scruggs
Steven	Stump
Brandi	Holder
Raymundo	Rodriguez
Delanie	Lawrence
Michelle	VanCleave
Adam	Mane
Bill	Hardy
Kevin	Fikus
Dot	Berning
Lou Ann	Kuntzman
Heidi	Gregori Gahan

## Carry Forward

trails, greenway  
fall festival  
improving zoo  
greenspace, bike trails  
victory theatre  
initiatives to help people  
war on drugs  
celebrate recovery programs  
programs for at risk youth  
educational goals  
cleanliness and aesthetics of riverfront  
swonders, renovations for sports  
good hospitals  
EPO  
good colleges  
clean up initiatives  
Wesselman park and woods  
  
Gospel  
youth programs  
family activities  
revitalization of downtown  
opportunities for students to study abroad  
entrepreneurship  
renovation of neighborhoods  
art programs  
  
home improvements  
local sports  
things for kids to do  
recycling  
entrepreneurship  
small businesses  
small business incubators

## Leave Behind

smell of sewers  
barriers to education  
streets without sidewalks  
division between east and west sides  
dirty air  
homelessness  
meth and drug use  
stigma of people in recovery  
drug problems  
potholes  
financial hardship  
drug use  
litter  
litter  
child abuse  
dilapidated homes  
empty buildings  
dilapidated homes  
drug use, tobacco, alcohol  
empty buildings  
fees for family activities  
  
pollution  
generic ad copy  
stereotypes of older neighborhoods  
homelessness  
poverty  
economic issues  
slum lords  
  
too much electronics so kids go out to play





## LARGE GROUP CLOSING

Recap of "What elements have you drawn into your visions of Evansville's Preferred Future?"

### Group 1A

- more family engagement more love and acceptance, restore people, family counseling so people can truly get involved, more free activities for families
- bigger pools, renovate lloyd pool w/ diving board and race lanes, shopping flash mobs for small businesses, centers for homeless and have them help redo parks
- cleaner environment, better drivers,

### GROUP 1B

- Riley hospital, art gallery so people can create art and maybe take lessons, my church, big baseball field, phone company, trees
- riverfront is healthy with sparkling water, vibrant downtown with outdoor cafes and music, transportation with services running at all hours, diversity
- sports, support baseball/softball complex, expansion, attraction, big city atmosphere
- Trees, rivers, my favorite back yard with swing set - a place to meet people and have long conversations, after hustling and bustling you should end up with a great back yard to continue to relate to friends and family

### Group 1C

- more bicycle lanes, community center, schools with trees, sports park, factories on outskirts of town
- protect wesselman park, sound, lights, more roundabouts, good exercise, more trees
- children with parents, park setting, fountain, bike trails, joggers - expansion growth, health consciousness, people wanting to be part of our community

### Group 1D

- school with bell, chalkboards - kids - need afterschool activities, reading, parks, kids are the future
- neighbors sleeping in park at night, park band playing, all ages interacting, neighbors visiting in neighborhoods

### Group 2A

- fun for everyone in our family from little kids to grandparents to create memories
- city park - amazing, separated little kids and big kids
- outdoors - signs - no snakes, smoking, dogs welcome, help wanted and no cell phones
- diverse community getting along and understanding each others differences

### Group 2B

- kids involved in sports, riding bikes
- more life down by the river
- cleaner air, parks, walking
- Ivy Tech, bike trails, recycling, more hockey

### Group 2C

- replace old factories with new ones to create jobs, no trash, green electric busses, improve the zoo
- healthier community with trails, park scenes with people flocking to use, public transportation that people want to use
- St. Cloud MN has beautiful botanic garden, different themes, colors

## Group 2D

- recycling here and in princeton, nonprofits, cmoe
- neighborhoods, healthy, trees, worshipping together, seniors and everyone living all together, premiere health services, bike and running trails throughout city
- park, movies
- downtown revitalized, more fishing spots, recreational areas, likes smelling bread driving by lewis bakery



