



VOICE HEALTHY GREEN SPACE FLOWER POT SUMMARY REPORT

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2013
VECTREN



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 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

VOICE brought together diverse members of the community to discuss their dreams for Evansville in an open, positive forum. The facilitation was led in such a way that respectful conversations occurred, all voices heard and visions documented, ensuring that the entire community had the opportunity to take part in creating a desired future. Through the facilitated process, we compiled all the visions to look for common themes to build collaborative strategic actions.

A summary and detailed notes from each session are available to the participants and the public via www.evansvillevoice.com.

Once all visions were collected, additional community sessions, referred to as Big Action Meetings (BAM) were held to verify that the information collected truly represents participants' visions and reveal the top themes that were captured from 32 visioning sessions. These top themes are Healthy Green Space, City Core and Experiences.

Any interested citizen and stakeholder are invited to participate in these themed meetings to move forward with further research and planning toward common goals and strategic actions.



VOICE SESSION SCHEDULE

Welcome & Instructions

Recap and Brief History of VOICE

Small Group Breakout

Main themes in Healthy Green Space

Sign up

Wrap up/ What's next



LARGE GROUP OPENING- Lead Facilitator
Welcome & Brief History of VOICE



Collaboration through Abundance

"When looking at the list of current items we currently have in healthy green space, is there anything missing? What new ideas do you have? When looking at the new items and the current list from the first Healthy Green Space meeting, what would be your top three items you want to start and participate in?"

Facilitator: Donna Sanders

Scribes: James Cox

Recorder: Jeff Gruszewski



Current List from the first Healthy Green Space meeting at Old National Bank 10/15/13

Community garden at Patchwork Central

Pocket gardens near UE

Larry Miller's Rose Garden

Bicentennial Park

Community garden

Roberts Park

Master Gardener gardens

Trails Coalition

Flower garden at Sunset Park

National Food day at Bicentennial Park -
Annually in October

2040 green infrastructure

Zoo - ongoing

Community gardens in Jacobsville

Regional foods council Welborn Baptist
Foundation

Parrett St. walkway replanted

Sports complex by Goebbel field with
walkway

Welborn Walk Evansville pamphlets

Comprehensive plan for city - Mt.

Auburn nature trail

Wesselman- Howell wetlands

Tepe Park Litter Critters

Flowers at Tepe Park

Recycling teams at schools

Gateway at Helfrich Park

Greenhouse at Cynthiana Heights
School

Pay what you want lunches at River City
Food Co-op

Walking group

Alms garden at church

Neighborhood plantings near Harrison
HS

Large garden - vegetables donated to
church

Better lighting on Greenway

Yoga on the Marchand Bridge

New things that were added to this list that have happened since the 10/15/13 meeting:

More trashcans on river and walkway

Visitor Welcome Signs

Sewer Problems

Increase Lighting in Historic District

Increase Community Gardens

Connect sunrise park to angel mounds

New playground equipment in Sheridan Park

Trails coalition - create active transportation
network

What is missing from this list?

- Walking health path in Newburgh, Epworth
- Farmers markets
- Greenway
- Skinny streets - reduce from 4 lanes to 3 lanes/bike lanes
- Skinny streets 2, reduce 4 lane roads to add parking
- Walkway from state hospital grounds to Roberts park/Wesselman
- Bike racks near restaurants and other facilities
- Recreational programs for seniors
- Bridges to wellness
- Tri-state rock city box city
- Angel mounds - cross country course for city schools
- River city rambles walking group 5 and 10 K and smaller walks
- Wildflower planting at 57 and 41
- Birth education
- Mass transit improvements? Pockets of people?
- Garvin park
- Bike rentals by greenway
- Johns St. and the MLK by the Lloyd planting/gateway
- Pigeon creek canoe
- Burdette park
- Road diet
- Road diet
- City project
- Bicycle friendly community
- KEB
- EVV birth network
- YMCA
- ICAN
- LLL - leleche league

What new ideas do you have to add to the list?

- Bike racks on buses
- Street beautification - planting wildflowers in medians
- More blooming things throughout the city
- Plant bank
- Riverfront activities, live music, c
- Canoe/paddle boat rental at river
- Multiuse paths - state hospital
- More walkable places to connect people to parks
- Close roads inside of parks where people could bike and walk
- Fountains in parks
- Restripe streets
- More frugal spending
- Food hub for local food - year long farmers market
- Urban orchards
- 10 ft. wide to qualify currently

If you had to pick three (3) things from the combined lists to start with, what would they be?

Community garden

Plant bank

Greenway

Skinny streets

Roberts park/state hospital larger park

Greenway

Greenhouses at schools

School greenhouses

Trails coalition

Greenway

Community gardens

Bike racks and trails

Urban orchard

Roberts park

Bicentennial park

Bicentennial park

Bicentennial park

Riverfront projects/development

Community gardens

Community gardens

Roberts park

School greenhouse

Food hub

Food hub

Walking and biking trails

Walking and bike trails

Walking and bike trails

Walking and bike trails

Walking and bike trails

Food hub

Walking groups

Flowers

Flowers





Collaboration through Abundance

“When looking at the list of current items we currently have in our city core, is there anything missing? What new ideas do you have? When looking at the new items and the current list from the first City Core meeting, what would be your top three items you want to start and participate in?”

Facilitator: Jean Reising
Scribes: Timothy Weir
Recorder: Nate Hahn



Current List from the first Healthy Green Space meeting at Old National Bank 10/15/13

Community garden at Patchwork Central

Pocket gardens near UE

Larry Miller's Rose Garden

Bicentennial Park

Community garden

Roberts Park

Master Gardener gardens

Trails Coalition

Flower garden at Sunset Park

National Food day at Bicentennial Park -
Annually in October

2040 green infrastructure

Zoo - ongoing

Community gardens in Jacobsville

Regional foods council Welborn Baptist
Foundation

Parrett St. walkway replanted

Sports complex by Goebbel field with
walkway

Welborn Walk Evansville pamphlets

Comprehensive plan for city - Mt.

Auburn nature trail

Wesselman- Howell wetlands

Tepe Park Litter Critters

Flowers at Tepe Park

Recycling teams at schools

Gateway at Helfrich Park

Greenhouse at Cynthiana Heights
School

Pay what you want lunches at River City
Food Co-op

Walking group

Alms garden at church

Neighborhood plantings near Harrison
HS

Large garden - vegetables donated to
church

Better lighting on Greenway

Yoga on the Marchand Bridge

New things that were added to this list that have happened since the 10/15/13 meeting:

More trashcans on river and walkway

Visitor Welcome Signs

Sewer Problems

Increase Lighting in Historic District

Increase Community Gardens

Connect sunrise park to angel mounds

New playground equipment in Sheridan Park

Trails coalition - create active transportation
network

What is missing from this list?

- Hoop house at Culver Learning Center
- Energize Evansville
- Clean Evansville Initiative
- Airport Gateway Welcome Sign
- Friday Farmers Market
- Bicycle Trails being created and Bicycle Friendly Community certification
- Boat Ramp on Pigeon Creek

What new ideas do you have to add to the list?

- Close Downtown to cars on Sunday
- Open Streets Festival
- Howell Park Shelter House needs renovation
- Restrooms on paths and parks get winterized too early and open too late
- Food Hub by Urban Seeds - educational food programs with farmers
- Edible Landscaping throughout community
- Accessibility to Green spaces - sometimes not easy or safe to get to by bike
- Directional signs to green spaces and trails
- Get cars out of Garvin Park or find way to make it safe for bicycles and pedestrians
- Urban Orchard by Urban Seeds
- Need more events in Green spaces
- Policies need to encourage community individuals and groups can use our green and public spaces
- Central location to list activities, initiatives and resources
- Waterfront Park at front door of our river - near Mulzer
- Diamond and First Avenue needs clean up
- Need colorful flowers and plantings in medians and in parks to augment green spaces
- Businesses on walkway have contest for container gardens and hanging pots - examples Chicago and Washington DC
- City zoning and ordinances to set aside green space in new residential and commercial developments
- Ordinances addressing vacated plots of land
- Bicentennial Park - exercise trail

If you had to pick three (3) things from the combined lists to start with, what would they be?

Recycling team at schools
Walking space and events
Flowers
Edible landscaping
More bike and walking
Biking
Roberts park

Zoning to encourage usage
Energize Evansville

Bicentennial park
Biking
Energize Evansville

Increase lighting in historic district
Biking spacing and events
Access to green space
Urban orchard
All landscaping ideas
Walking
Connect sunset park to Angel
Mounds
Restrooms

Directional signs
Flower pot competition

Roberts park
Flower
Adopt a spot

Flowers
Outdoor gym
Less vehicle traffic
Flower competition
Local ordinances
Edible landscaping
Ordinances

Safe access to
spaces
Community gardens
Increase lighting in
historic district

Community gardens
Diamond and first
Flower competition





Collaboration through Abundance

"When looking at the list of current items we currently have in our city core, is there anything missing? What new ideas do you have? When looking at the new items and the current list from the first City Core meeting, what would be your top three items you want to start and participate in?"

Facilitator: Makenzie Coulter
Scribes: Lavonia Lewis
Recorder: Meghan Seibert



Current List from the first Healthy Green Space meeting at Old National Bank 10/15/13

Community garden at Patchwork Central

Pocket gardens near UE

Larry Miller's Rose Garden

Bicentennial Park

Community garden

Roberts Park

Master Gardener gardens

Trails Coalition

Flower garden at Sunset Park

National Food day at Bicentennial Park -
Annually in October

2040 green infrastructure

Zoo - ongoing

Community gardens in Jacobsville

Regional foods council Welborn Baptist
Foundation

Parrett St. walkway replanted

Sports complex by Goebbel field with
walkway

Welborn Walk Evansville pamphlets

Comprehensive plan for city - Mt.

Auburn nature trail

Wesselman- Howell wetlands

Tepe Park Litter Critters

Flowers at Tepe Park

Recycling teams at schools

Gateway at Helfrich Park

Greenhouse at Cynthiana Heights
School

Pay what you want lunches at River City
Food Co-op

Walking group

Alms garden at church

Neighborhood plantings near Harrison
HS

Large garden - vegetables donated to
church

Better lighting on Greenway

Yoga on the Marchand Bridge

New things that were added to this list that have happened since the 10/15/13 meeting:

More trashcans on river and walkway

Visitor Welcome Signs

Sewer Problems

Increase Lighting in Historic District

Increase Community Gardens

Connect sunrise park to angel mounds

New playground equipment in Sheridan Park

Trails coalition - create active transportation
network

What is missing from this list?

- Big with farm to table project in CA, just moved here- River City Coop & Urban Seeds---- no ideas yet
- Master gardener- wildflower society- interested in making parks more sustainable
- Nothing new
- Nothing
- EATC- mayor has appointed a task force for a bicycle friendly designation
- Community garden at Howell park, improvement to Jacobsville's community park, skinny streets to increase walkability
- Evansville parks foundation- help fund projects & parks, trails, like to see more people using the parks. Put in nature trail at first ave, help fund green way, fundraising and funding
- Deaconess is doing a green park that they own on Garfield "nature escape"
- Welborn Baptist foundation- complete streets
- Outdoor recreation therapy, does mediation at the riverfront for last 11 years, her daughter's classroom is discussing environment and what our nature needs, Mrs. Specks in second grade
- Sidewalks, bike trails
- Gateway near airport with native planting by statue

What new ideas do you have to add to the list?

- Urban seeds is creating a food-hub that connects local sustainable farmers to the community. Over \$1billion leaves the state of IN from farming, they want to create a year-round farmers, market includes cooking classes as well
- Sees that parks are left with high maintenance, and we lack vision of what we want it to be. People don't know what it takes to maintain the parks. What do you want to accomplish?
- Set some goals for tree planting
- Greening streets and public space, increasing greens in public streets and parking lots
- Planting of trees, maintaining the trees so they stay healthy
- Green roofs (Cedar Hall as a bench mark), 30% more trees downtown
- If we have trees we are cooling the temperature down, when it is hot during the summer, native trees too
- Bring temperature down if we green the streets, patios, parks, roofs, etc....
- Plant more milkweed for monarch butterflies
- Using the spaces that we have
- Portable sprinklers and fans to cool areas down during warm months



If you had to pick three (3) things from the combined lists to start with, what would they be?

- Urban seeds, bicycle friendly, recycling teams at schools
- Planning, more native plants, vision for green areas
- Roberts park, community gardens, 2040 green infrastructure
- Roberts park, trails coalition- transportation network, increase community gardens
- Roberts park, trails coalition, connect angel mounds to sunset
- Skinny/ complete green streets, trails coalition, increase community gardens
- Roberts park, trails coalition, community gardens
- 2040 green infrastructure, connect sunrise park to angel mounds, green roofs in downtown
- Green house at Cynthia Heights, more kids groups at schools, education on being close to nature itself
- Roberts park
- Roberts park, green complete streets, trails coalition active transportation network
- Community garden, recycling teams at schools





LARGE GROUP CLOSING

Top topics emerged| Sign up to one or every topic| What's next

When looking at the topics from the first Healthy Green Space meeting and the topics discussed today, Leadership Evansville and volunteers found the synergies and most discussed topics to move forward in the project planning process.

Note: This is how we are going to choose where to get started. It doesn't mean we aren't going to focus on the other things on the list or that those things aren't important, we just have to pick a place to start.

**Complete Streets
Park Planning
Green Space/ Healthy Experiences
Community Gardens
Beautification
Bike/ Walk paths and trails
Zoning/ Ordinance**

**Next Healthy Green Space meeting:
January 9, 2014
Wesselman Nature Society
8:30 a.m.**