



**VOICE VISIONING SESSION REPORT OUT
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2013
SIGNATURE SCHOOL**



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

Leadership Evansville has facilitated discussion sessions 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 have been advertised in neighborhood newsletters, the newspaper, television, radio and via the initiative's website: 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 FLOWER MAN BOOK

CARRY FORWARD & LEAVE BEHIND

VISION DRAWING & PRESENTATION

WRAP UP/ WHAT'S NEXT



LARGE GROUP OPENING- Lead Facilitator
THE FLOWER MAN BOOK

telephone: 812.589.3682 email: voice@evansvillevoice.com website: www.evansvillevoice.com



LARGE GROUP OPENING- Lead Facilitator

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

Positive Statements

diversity
signature
downtown
Scholtskey's
wesselman woods
community
library
universities
country side
swonder
recycling program
wesselman woods
greenway
Lloyd expressway
st hospital park
4h
riverfront
giving
public radio
Gracie's
friendliness

humane society
preservation
museums
acceptance
frog follies
fitness programs
kids kingdom
people
LST
participation
golf courses
teen court
history
family
nut club
races
community
Garvin park
family
family friendly
museums
victory

Cmoe
teen advisory council
half marathon
art shows
franklin street
parks
new mayors contributions
victory
fall festival
Easter seals
ambition
innovation
willingness to change
expanded greenway
museums
faith
history
usi
education
penny lane
opportunity



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

GROUP 1:

Facilitator: Matt Hanka

Scribes: Ashley Polen & Marsha Salee

Recorder: Tricia Tieken



Leave Behind

Fear of the unknown
Shredded flags
Prejudice
Stray animals
bullying in schools
state of biking paths
hunger
parking violations
broken homes
children falling behind in school
pollution
tolerance
pollution
division of east/west side schools
homelessness
subpar road conditions
poor road conditions
pollution
division of east/west side schools
discrimination
domestic violence
drug problem
close-mindedness
empty building
pollution
achievement gap
sigma of mental illness

Carry Forward

arts and schools
Beauty of main street
Flowers and plants
more human societies
preservation of the Reitz home
small business being awesome
economic opportunity
downtown markets
new traditions
quality
recycle
education
social acceptance
maintenance and upkeep of parks
arts in the community/expansion in schools
freedom of expression
continuation of parks
youth programs
green energy
restoration
education
more healthy eats
educational opportunities
downtown revitalization
renovation
bike paths
more education
more middle school options
keeping the LST in town

alcohol abuse
gang/violent activities

education for special needs children
youth activities
more wheelchair ramps
long walkways
expansion of foreign language offerings
improving public transportation
more reading programs

oversized classrooms

appreciation of the education system

wal-marts
fighting/violence

opportunities for youth employment

poverty

artistic opportunity
fun

dangerous infrastructure
verbal abuse in the home
immense funding for high school
sports

water fountains of Hawaiian punch



CREATING EVANSVILLE'S FUTURE

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

GROUP 2:

Facilitator: Marilyn Brenton

Scribes: Patrick Seib & Kathy Oeth

Recorder: Meghan Seibert



Leave behind

hatred
close-mindedness
cultural inequality
close-mindedness
homophobia
water pollution
racism
bad environmental factors
stoplights on Lloyd
"obese city"
stereotypes
drug problems
stubbornness
child neglect
old buildings
unhealthy lifestyles
litter
stereotypes
ignorance
name-calling/bullying
families breaking apart
mediocrity
selfishness
poverty
trash
stagnation
neglected buildings
fast food restaurants

unhealthy lifestyles

pollution in river

lack of biking trails
excuses
gangs

Carry Forward

humor
artisans
more nature, green space
arts
openness
prosperity of Ohio river
quality education
cleaner environment
better family atmosphere
multiculturalism
equality
historical monument up keeping
healthy Evansville initiatives
teen youth organizations
downtown school buildings
sustainable business
inclusiveness
forgiveness
improving housing
hard work
Ronald McDonald house
educational opportunities
opportunities for youth
open-mindedness
free Wi-Fi
passion for innovation
walk able lifestyles
community events
family owned businesses
tristate food bank
more volunteering in community
social programs
berry plastics
learning, museums, sciences
sports facilities
homelessness aide
responsibility
community collaboration

high gas prices	conservative energy
	food programs for kids
	women and children aide
wasted space	afterschool programs
	appreciation for local history
	arts district
	more graduate professional programs
	libraries
reckless driving	
	growing YMCA
	using old buildings instead of building new
vacant buildings	ones
	culture
	recycling to the county
	international awareness
	educational opportunities like sig
meth problem	
	genealogical research
depression	inspiration



CREATING EVANSVILLE'S FUTURE

LARGE GROUP CLOSING

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

Group 1

- signs for no bullying, reitz home museum, no child abuse, people throwing away trash
- wesselman woods expands, underground power cables,
- no more obesity, more fitness, school with happy face because the students want to be at the school, astronaut for job exploration
- trees for increasing green spaces, parrots for expanding our zoos and wildlife organizations, clean water and river, less bipolar climate, increased public transit
- free fruit punch dispensers, no smoking, love, people using their turn signals, community one
- extension of keep Evansville beautiful, SIG continues to grow and get better

GROUP 2

- nice row of houses, revamped houses, community gardens, houses with handicap accessible and nice, affordable elderly care.
- main street arts, brick road of downtown remains, love to see horses, cars and that used to be downtown along the river
- bike paths with glass over the top so you could ride year round, phone booths
- happy fields with kids playing soccer, trees, people on bikes, birds

- bike paths around the entire city so you don't have to drive, kayaking, organic food store, SIG school, free clinics
- nursing homes, people helping each other, kids reading to elderly, singing, cooking

Group 3

- SIG parking, SIG, more parks and trees, outdoor amphitheater
- 4 year medical school
- people smiling
- jobs, no more hate, no drugs, subway, public transit
- improving facilities for the elderly and mental health, family shops downtown, theatre, animal shelters
-

Group 4

- school- peace in the schools and giving teachers more respect, going to more localized stores and restaurants,
- fresh market and on main street, groceries on main street, planetarium at the museums
- international university in town, more intelligence and diversity, welcome to Evansville sign in multiple languages, more people
- people, clouds, museums,
- basketball, kids not playing in the street, more people downtown
- schools, markets, parks, trades downtown, monument of Mrs. Hitchcock, Mayor Winnecke, clean river

Group 5

- intellectual center with research, science, math, historical and its connected to the new medical center were getting, trees
- performing arts, cultural awareness
- singing lessons, all faiths and get along, nice parks where people are playing soccer, diversity, public water fountains, solar powered car, statue of Mrs. Hitchcock
- SIG is in the sky, "education is at the end of the rainbow", America, happy
- arts is more connected

Group 6

- better night life for all, kid friendly zone, diversity, no drugs, people of all races getting along, zoo
- continuation of Berry Plastics, women shelter, animal shelter
- multilingual park, no stoplights on the Lloyd
- no air pollution, clean river, recycling
- people sitting under tree enjoying wireless internet outside, renovating old buildings, good, cheap food at local grocery
- habitat for humanity, ford center

Group 7

- better night life for all, kid friendly zone, diversity, no drugs, people of all races getting along, zoo
- continuation of Berry Plastics, women shelter, animal shelter
- multilingual park, no stoplights on the Lloyd
- no air pollution, clean river, recycling
- people sitting under tree enjoying wireless internet outside, renovating old buildings, good, cheap food at local grocery
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Group 8

- historic house still preserved, habitat for humanity
- old homes being renovated, library, school, people hanging out by trees and parks
- clean river, reopening canals, sidewalks with old buildings restored with boutiques, café, art, night life, museums, trees, homes with porches, farmers market
- people walking instead of driving, people can walk everywhere
- people can walk easily, more local stores, local coffee, local produce
- thriving SIG school, beautiful river, greenway throughout city, new and improved zoo, no billboards
- recycling drop-offs around the city
- SIG elementary school



