

Visioneering Wichita – Invitation to Dream

What needs our immediate attention to move forward?
Input from Young Professionals of Wichita ~ February 12, 2009

Group Report Out:

- Communication
- River improvement
- Personal responsibility to talk about our community
- Walkability
- Parks/Recreation
- Wichita – branding
- Connect dots downtown
- Downtown – let's make it nice
- Move WSU downtown
- Free parking downtown
- Family stability issues – collaborate/best practices
- Beautify community
- Expand center city
- More consistent/solid elected leadership
- Entertainment
- Caring for families
- Re-educate our own citizens
- Workforce/Jobs collaboration
- Involvement Center/where people can find out what's going on

Individual Comment Cards

	category	comment
1	communication	Get the word out more on how to express our opinions.
2	communication	Communication
3	community calendar	Destination for local events, one place to look, website or magazine etc.
4	community calendar	Citywide calendar for all events & anything going on (combine Chamber, GWCVB, sports, etc.)
5	community calendar	One stop shopping for entertainment events in Wichita.
6	community calendar	Community calendar
7	community calendar	Website/publication that allows people to see whole picture of live music and arts. Now there are papers, magazines, bandsintown.com, Adam Hartke on Facebook, etc, etc. Like larger city free pubs.
8	community calendar	One source for all activities in the city → it's hard to find out what's going on
9	community calendar	Social website listing all Wichita events (current & upcoming) e.g. eventful.com
10	community calendar	Central website or calendar with all events. Fractured.

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- 11 downtown Expand downtown development to surpass other comparable cities with concentration on beautification and improvement in the arts and recreation. → more support & city-wide campaign to provide city much more extensively - invest more \$
- 12 downtown More green space downtown, downtown development
- 13 downtown A walkable, aesthetically pleasing downtown with more class - a office space & recreational opportunities.
- 14 downtown Downtown development = perception of vibrant community.
- 15 downtown Revitalize downtown → more people; easier access → move WSU downtown to get 15,000 people down there every day & offer free parking to eliminate a barrier to downtown.
- 16 downtown Downtown living - making a downtown neighborhood.
- 17 downtown Downtown revitalization. Entertainment district.
- 18 downtown Making downtown more "convenient".
- 19 downtown Fill in downtown between Century II, Old Town & Hyatt.
- 20 downtown "Fill in downtown"
- 21 downtown Arena neighborhood redevelopment.
- 22 downtown Seating adjustments at INTRUST arena?
- 23 downtown Parking for arena?
- 24 downtown Downtown redevelopment.
- 25 downtown Comprehensive plan for downtown, encompassing not only businesses, but also recreation & living opportunities. Waterwalk, Old Town, arena all seem to have had separate plans for downtown.
- 26 downtown Develop more downtown living - maybe condos with younger group in mind - go green with building - lower price points downtown.
- 27 downtown Promote the INTRUST Arena
- 28 downtown Downtown development.
- 29 downtown Waterwalk - put it on the water, utilize the river.
- 30 downtown Continue to develop downtown as the "core" of our community.
- 31 downtown Downtown liveliness - want to be able to go downtown & see people walking around - shops, bars, restaurants, art.
- 32 downtown Downtown grocery store/upscale.
- 33 downtown More downtown cafes not in Old Town.
- 34 downtown Affordable downtown apartments/housing.
- 35 downtown Downtown YMCA.
- 36 downtown Retail stores in downtown.
- 37 downtown Re-engineer plans for Waterwalk (I just went to San Antonio river walk - beautiful!)
- 38 downtown Continued revitalization of downtown.
- 39 economic Consensus on city driven economic development projects that meet the need and requests of citizens - realistic.
development

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- 40 economic Creating incentives for economic development.
- 41 development
- 41 economic Support for economic development.
- 42 development
- 42 economic High paying career/development opportunities outside of aerospace.
- 43 development
- 43 economic Job growth.
- 44 development
- 44 economic Increased job growth in alternative areas (not aerospace). Need to move past the layoffs & recession.
- 45 development
- 45 economic Job growth.
- 46 development
- 46 economic Workforce Development - there are good jobs in Wichita, people just don't know about them or aren't prepared to accept them (due to lack of skills,etc.)
- 47 development
- 47 economic Higher paying jobs - keeping people involved in securing them.
- 48 development
- 48 economic Recruit different industry → white collar jobs.
- 49 education Pre-K education.
- 50 education Increased high school graduation.
- 51 education More education workshops in jr. highs & high schools on career paths.
- 52 education Promoting/packaging educational workshops, seminars, classes to the Hispanic community. (English classes, GED, computer, etc.)
- 53 education Higher education standards.
- 54 education Better programs to give all K-12 kids a higher standard of education, i.e. - summer programs & after school help. Also inexpensive sport programs.
- 55 education Resource education - people need to know how to access state/non-profit resources.
- 56 entertainment Comparable entertainment venue to that of Power & Light district in KC.
- 57 entertainment Downtown/entertainment - conveniences, soccer, tennis
- 58 entertainment Entertainment district in Old Town/Grocery Store/Nail/Tanning Salon
- 59 entertainment Better weekend entertainment (concerts, shows, etc.)
- 60 entertainment Shopping
- 61 entertainment Entertainment events
- 62 entertainment Shopping
- 63 entertainment Downtown sports fields i.e.: (soccer) sports complex.
- 64 entertainment Connecting and enhancing entertainment, recreation, shopping, etc. in downtown Wichita. (including the river)
- 65 entertainment Power and Light (Our Version)
- 66 entertainment Power and Light

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- 67 entertainment Arena district - secondary means of entertainment in the area (other than Old Town).
- 68 entertainment High-end night clubs catering to Young Professionals & business (in-towners & out-of-towners)
- 69 entertainment River walk (in the river) - restaurants, entertainment
- 70 general Attractive architecture - arena is, Waterwalk is not (so far)
- 71 general Better airport.
- 72 general More direct flights.
- 73 image "Re-education" or "eye opener" to existing long term residents that this is a great place to live.
- 74 image Create a Wichita brand → people not from here don't know what Wichita is about or anything about it.
- 75 image Young people should take a "pay-it-forward" approach. When they hear someone complain "there isn't anything to do in Wichita" make it personal, point to, show them or invite them to do things.
- 76 image How do we get people past small town mentality of not wanting to change?
- 77 image Blue collar reputation.
- 78 image Grass roots, guerrilla marketing from individuals to individuals. When we are talking one-on-one to people in Wichita, esp. young people., what comes out of our mouth should support this vision.
- 79 image We have to keep the market strong for arts & culture by actually going -- again with the grassroots, personal responsibility for "being in charge we ant to see."
- 80 image Further develop sense of pride and ownership in community schools.
- 81 image Better marketing of our area → consensus among community about goals for growth/expansion.
- 82 image Pessimistic attitude of community (outside & internal view negative)
- 83 image "Small Town" feel - define our community
- 84 image Don't keep Wichita our best kept secret.
- 85 image Focus on items/good projects that are already started - Waterwalk, downtown revitalization, arena, road projects, USD 259 school bond.
- 86 image Reaching out to new professionals entering the community. Make them want to stay here.
- 87 image Improved communication! What is there to do? Make new residents feel welcome.
- 88 leadership I agree with following up with a project to make sure it is completed.
- 89 leadership Completing projects.
- 90 leadership Leadership - YPs.
- 91 leadership Follow-thru → If we start something - let's see it through to the finish (like we're doing with the plan). Less "lip service" from politicians, more action.
- 92 leadership Follow-thru on promises
- 93 leadership Concern please finish a project - Waterwalk, Kellogg, etc.
- 94 leadership Updates on city/county projects. Job trends.

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- 95 parks/recreation Dog park
- 96 parks/recreation Bike/running paths - safe environment.
- 97 parks/recreation Dog parks.
- 98 parks/recreation Dog park!
- 99 parks/recreation East side baseball/softball complex.
- 100 parks/recreation Improved parks and recreation (including a dog park)
- 101 parks/recreation Recreation
- 102 parks/recreation Arts/recreation.
- 103 parks/recreation Dog-friendly areas.
- 104 parks/recreation Expand parks and interconnect via safe bike trails.
- 105 parks/recreation Nature trails around Wichita.
- 106 parks/recreation Provide more recreation around the river - provide information on cleanliness of the river water to boost confidence.
- 107 parks/recreation More parks in the new developing areas of Wichita.
- 108 parks/recreation Outdoor recreation connections throughout Wichita (adjoining parks with bike paths).
- 109 parks/recreation Dog park.
- 110 parks/recreation Dog parks!
- 111 quality of life A clearer focus on catering to the outside of work needs of Wichita's young professional.
- 112 quality of life Family stability: measure group/religious in town that have lower divorces/out-of-wedlock births & see if the ideas can be transferred, use them as benchmarks.
- 113 quality of life Paramount importance of public safety → unsafe areas make people want to leave → less traffic enforcement to increase crime patrols.
- 114 quality of life Increase code enforcement/beautify core areas & neighborhoods.
- 115 quality of life Homeless people → more regulation, less crime, felling safer!
- 116 quality of life I believe if lots of parents work 2nd shift, especially in the manufacturing industry in Wichita, there are not a lot of parenting/discipline to children at home. May explain high drop-out and teenage pregnancy rates. Encourage manufacturers to be more compassionate toward parents with children living in the home. Most 1st shifters are there by seniority so more are older.
- 117 quality of life More free family activities (free zoo, art/science museum, etc.). Better, safer parks. I used to live in St. Louis & there was always a nice, free place to go to on the weekend.
- 118 quality of life Green mindedness.
- 119 quality of life Outdoor spaces & beautification.
- 120 quality of life Tolerance of many different lifestyles.
- 121 quality of life Public safety - crime does not seem to be dropping, but if it is, the community isn't aware.

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- 122 quality of life Community-wide "green" campaign.
- 123 quality of life Domestic violence education/awareness @ grade/middle school age level.
- 124 quality of life Recycling.
- 125 quality of life Street, sewer, water, power infrastructure.
- 126 quality of life Keeping building/businesses open. Example - Boat House, WWW World, Joyland, 21st Maize bowling alley
- 127 quality of life We need to connect our community with the opportunities there are to volunteer/get involved with the MSA. People say I wish I would have known, I would have helped. Let's get them in the know.
- 128 quality of life More money to social services → local: state needs to invest → affects "family stability".
- 129 quality of life People clean up streets or roads - that will help with pollution. Could be volunteer or community service projects.
- 130 quality of life Promoting areas like NOMAR to encourage embracing diversity.
- 131 quality of life Reach out to community - Welcome Wagon.
- 132 quality of life Assimilation opportunities - Welcome Wagon.
- 133 river Recreation & access to river. Beautify it, build on it.
- 134 river Open recreation for Arkansas River.
- 135 river Have more river activities (boating, cruises, show/dinner cruises, mini tours); children activities, learn how to canoe/sail; have more appreciation.
- 136 river River improvement.
- 137 river Developing Arkansas River - canoeing & attractions.
- 138 river Make use of the river, use for restaurants but first it has to be cleaned up.
- 139 river Clean up the river.
- 140 river Clean up the river - then we can make it enjoyable for people to use.
- 141 river Use of the river - open up for use - clean it up.
- 142 transportation Mass transportation.
- 143 transportation Better public transportation at night.
- 144 transportation Public transportation
- 145 transportation Trails & pathways, including along streets for transportation purposes.
- 146 transportation Pedestrian friendly/multimodal transportation.
- 147 transportation More space for road bike riding.
- 148 walkability Walkable areas.
- 149 walkability More paths for walking & more variety for outdoor activities.
- 150 walkability Walkable areas - connecting Wichita.