



RECOVERY THEMES

CITIZEN PREFERENCES AND COMMENTS

COMMUNITY MEETING 2
COLLEGE HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1:00-3:00 P.M. AND 5:30-7:30 P.M.
AUGUST 16, 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO:

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Community Meeting 2 – August 16, 2011



College Heights Christian Church
Tuesday, August 16, 2011
1:00-3:00 p.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m.

The following input was collected from citizens attending the Citizens Advisory Recovery Team (CART) community meeting at College Heights Christian Church, August 16, 2011.

The meeting featured display boards based on the public comments collected from the July 12, 2011 community meeting. CART and supporting sector groups analyzed and condensed the comments into groups of prevailing issues and opportunities. These recovery themes were presented at five stations:

- Economic Development
- Schools + Community Facilities
- Housing + Neighborhoods
- Infrastructure + Environment
- Post-Disaster Community Vision

Attendees were asked to review the condensed themes and indicate their top preferences (using colored dots) for recovery opportunities and community vision statements.

Additional comments made during the community meeting are included at the end of this document. Comments were transcribed as written without correction for grammar, spelling etc.

The summary tables present the recovery opportunity statements followed by the number of times a particular statement received a colored dot (identified as a preferred statement) and the overall percentage of support that statement received. The tables simply reflect the level of interest for a particular recovery opportunity based on the preferences of those attending the meeting.

The citizen input collected at the meeting will help CART craft a community vision for recovery, provide direction on recovery priorities, develop recovery goals for each sector and shape the considerations presented to City Council.

Each open house session was followed by a panel discussion and featured representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, American Institute of Architects, Missouri Housing Development Commission and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Discussion topics were based on the themes identified from public comments including: neighborhood design, energy efficiency in rebuilding and sustainable communities. The panel discussion was recorded and will be made available online at the CART Web site at: www.JoplinAreaCART.com.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – RECOVERY OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities	Count of Dots	Additional Comments
Financial Support and Incentives:		
There needs to be additional financial resources to support existing business in their recovery.	46	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Even if they have insurance so they can build back better – not the same.
OR		
There needs to be additional financial resources to encourage new small businesses to start-up and/or locate in the Joplin/Duquesne area.	78	
Incentives/financial support should only be used for locally-owned firms.	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enable Dillons to stay in mid-town.
OR		
Incentives/financial support should be used to encourage existing firms to expand and attract new companies to the area.	98	
New areas for current and future commercial/office/retail growth:		
Main Street from 15 th to 34 th	124	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Think about artist studio apt 1500 Main East Side also 1400 East Side. (3 dots) Develop 20th as a cross town business boulevard between Range Line & Main – centralized in the City. Zone Connecticut from 15th - 32nd Commercial.
20th Street from Duquesne Road to Maiden Lane.	58	
26th Street from Main Street to Maiden Lane.	45	
St. John's property on 26th and Maiden Lane.	54	
New business construction (office, retail, commercial) should be:		
Similar to current construction.	11	
OR		
More attractive and higher quality.	125	

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Opportunities	Count of Dots	Additional Comments
More attractive may mean:		
Buildings pushed back from streets with lots of parking in front.	19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More attractive to mean that elevation plans must be approved by the City, and comply with guidelines which describe materials and design which are visually pleasing in style. • For restaurants especially on Main allow for patio seating in front. (7 dots)
OR		
Building closer to street, with all/most parking in back.	85	
More green space and landscaping around building.	79	
More green space and landscaping in and screening parking area.	84	
No metal building look.	84	
Similar or consistent appearance in defined areas (i.e., brick fronts on Main, or higher level of landscaping on 20th.)	109	
Commercial building construction (office, retail, service) should be:		
Required to have storm shelters for employees and visitors.	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bury gymnasiums and multi-purpose buildings at schools. • I believe no business should be allowed to operate unless there is some storm shelter for all employees and customers. To chicken out and merely “encourage” it will be a moral failing and could eventually result in the unnecessary <u>death</u> of Joplin residents.
OR		
Encouraged to have storm shelters for employees and visitors.	87	
Required to be built for energy efficiency.	41	

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Opportunities	Count of Dots	Additional Comments
OR		
Encouraged to be built for energy efficiency.	76	
If required to have storm shelters, there should be financial or tax incentives to help with the additional cost.	36	
If required to be energy efficient, there should be financial or tax incentives to help with the additional cost.	60	
Should mixed-use development be allowed:		
On 20th Street.	94	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widen 26th enough for mixed development – like the right top picture. (2 dots) • Re-zone 26th Street at and around Main Street for commercial and entertainment use and as one of several pods or local business centers. Widen 26thSt. From Main St. east to Connecticut and from maiden Lane west to Schiffendecker to create a main thorough fare across Joplin from west end of the City to Connecticut (almost the west end).
On Main Street.	104	
On 26th Street.	59	
OR businesses and housing should be kept completely separate.	20	



SCHOOLS +COMMUNITY FACILITIES – RECOVERY OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities	Count of Dots	Percent of Dots
Locate storm shelters in schools and other public buildings.	29	8%
Schools to have state-of-the-art learning environments and more educational opportunities.	73	19%
More facilities that are shared by schools and the community.	40	10%
Expand and enhance the park system by developing a variety of facilities.	52	14%
Provide a system of trails and greenways that connect parks.	60	16%
Improve and diversify the storm warning system.	21	5%
More facilities to have special events, community gatherings and arts/cultural opportunities.	107	28%



HOUSING + NEIGHBORHOODS – RECOVERY OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities	Count of Dots	Percent of Dots
Redefine what affordable housing means. It does not just mean government subsidized housing; it also now means that homeowners/renters cannot afford the residences they were previously in due to the cost of rebuilding.	28	8%
Make new housing/neighborhood more attractive in terms of both initial construction and design, but also with maintenance through code enforcement.	59	16%
Increase connectivity between neighborhoods and other land uses such as schools, retail establishments, etc.	53	15%
Ensure that neighborhoods have a mix of housing with different styles, sizes, costs, etc.	19	5%
Build homes that are accessible to all residents including those in different stages of life or those with special needs.	23	6%
Plan neighborhoods with a blend of housing, retail, open space, transportation options, etc.	70	19%
Prevent clustering of multifamily housing by spreading developments throughout the community and ensure their design fits seamlessly into the neighborhoods.	27	7%
Incorporate green and sustainable building techniques to increase energy efficiency within the community for generations to come.	85	23%



INFRASTRUCTURE + ENVIRONMENT – RECOVERY OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities	Count of Dots	Percent of Dots
Parks/green spaces - north to south along Joplin Branch to Range Line.	17	4%
Neighborhood parks to the west with connectivity to the east.	8	2%
Diversity of themes of neighborhood parks (i.e., dog park, memorial, gardens, etc.).	32	7%
Plant trees conducive to purpose and most suitable for areas.	34	8%
Redbud trees all along designated streets as form of memorial (i.e., along 20th Street).	5	1%
Improve recycling across city.	44	10%
Fiber-optic network.	32	7%
Improve community preparedness for severe weather (i.e., National Weather Service's Stormready Program, text alerts, etc).	5	1%
Underground Utilities.	62	14%
Incorporate stormwater management/ best practices into neighborhoods (i.e., raingardens, permeable pavement and pavers, grassed swales, green parking design, vegetated roofs, etc.).	28	6%
Access management of main thoroughfares to improve traffic flow (i.e., outer roads like Geneva St. 20th to 26th), cross access through parking lots and adjoining properties (Office Depot to Applebee's to Bread Store to US Bank to traffic light at 32nd and Arizona), commercial subdivision within zoning codes.	21	5%
Improve public transportation (i.e., expand trolley routes and increase hours of service).	30	7%

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Opportunities	Count of Dots	Percent of Dots
Make neighborhoods more walker-friendly (i.e., ADA compliant sidewalks, street furniture, well-lit streets, etc.).	47.5	11%
Make commercial areas more walker-friendly with safe and easy connectivity (i.e., ADA compliant sidewalks, connections via tunnels, bridges, etc.).	34	8%
Identify bike corridors/routes to accommodate bicycle as part of alternative mode of transportation.	36.5	8%
Expand and connect trail system to tornado affected area.	9	2%



POST-DISASTER COMMUNITY VISION STATEMENTS

Opportunities	August 16		*August 18		Total	Percent of Total
	Count of Dots	Percent of Dots	Count of Dots	Percent of Dots		
A community that attracts new jobs, creative businesses and supports a vibrant downtown.	80	25%	139	22%	219	23%
A bicycle- and pedestrian-friendly place to live with sidewalks, paths, bike lanes and greenways connecting different areas of town.	39	12%	113.5	18%	152.5	16%
A place where you can move, get a good-paying job, and be proud to a raise family.	15	5%	91.5	15%	106.5	11%
Strong and innovative schools that provide a dynamic learning environment.	38	12%	70	11%	108	11%
A stronger, smarter, and more energy-efficient community.	29	9%	57	9%	86	9%
Neighborhood villages with parks, sidewalks, schools, and shopping.	50	16%	93	15%	143	15%
Healthy and active community.	17	5%	32	5%	49	5%
A resilient community with an effective storm system, and safe places for people to take shelter.	4	1%	24	4%	28	3%
Strong infrastructure that is not only resistant to storms but contributes positively to the community's beauty.	42	13%	11	2%	53	6%
*Reflects input collected at the LTCR display table during Third Thursday on August 18, 2011						



ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

SCHOOLS + COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- Two high schools will double the costs for administration, teachers, supplies, custodial, buildings, parking.
- Equipment for all sports, music programs.
- Please do include thinking about the role of public libraries. JPL is on the brink of making some strategic changes, yet is taking a huge tax hit (like schools).
- Community facilities should be built to double as shelters = multipurpose .
- Jacque Gage Library Director. Signed up to serve on committee but was never contacted.
- Suggestion: Purchase land to the east of Cunningham Park (at least to Annie Baxter or Porter Avenue) Cunningham is the oldest and busiest park in the city, but its activities are jammed too close together in a tiny area-It should be enlarged considerably.
- Suggestion: Buy land in central Joplin, near Main Street. Build civic center with most important buildings on this land, instead of in the gully north of first street between Main Street and the railroad tracks. The land where buildings have been destroyed would not be so crowded and would be easier to see. Renovate former Union State as Arts gallery or history museum Whichever wants it.
- Suggestion: Re-zone 26th Street at and around Main Street for commercial and entertainment use and as one of several pods or local business centers. Widen 26th Street east to Connecticut and from Maiden Lane west to Schifferdecker and create a main thoroughfare from the west end of the city to Connecticut (almost the east end).
- Please reconsider 2 High Schools. Reusing our existing is the way to go. Memorial is a building Building. Ask Joplin RVIII teachers—their answers may surprise you.
- One high school = one Joplin.
- Larger public library and more library parking.
- Increasing the events in Joplin and surrounding will help the community by giving the younger people something to do. There isn't a lot of events based in Joplin.
- More after school programs + activities.
- Amphitheatre.
- I see that people are choosing upgrades over basic safety. I guess they all think we will never have another deadly storm in Joplin?
- Very concerned K-12 will advance beyond MSSU with respect to educational level and equipment, causing academically bright high school graduates to leave the area and region.
- "Bury" gymnasium and multipurpose bldgs. at schools.



ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

HOUSING + NEIGHBORHOODS

- Encourage changes to development codes that restrict [L.I.D. – or – L.U.D] shared driveways.
- Require buffers between commercial single family and multi family residences.
- Require adequate off-street parking for commercial and multi-family residences.
- I live in a small town so I don't have to live in or near multifamily dwellings scattering apartments/rental units in single family areas defeats the neighborhood concept we need to revive.
- Purchase land to the east of Cunningham Park (at least to Annie Baxler of Porter avenue). Cunningham is the oldest and busiest park in the city, but its activities are jammed to [sic] close together in a tiny, cramped, area. It should be enlarged considerably.



ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

INFRASTRUCTURE + ENVIRONMENT

- Need a higher capacity Civil Defense & Emergency notification, backbone architecture to reach ALL communities of interest /effect.
- Ironical that you are urging people to plant native trees AND proposing non-native trees as a memorial- Do your research!
- Lots of Parks is good , connectivity of green matters little.
- Encourage school district to provide shade trees and benches so parents can watch children play on school grounds, make playgrounds into neighborhood parks.
- Make the railroad crossing at 15th and 20th Streets an overpass as connected to a viaduct (similar to Connecticut). An overpass would provide more access to Dillows, other businesses and churches. A viaduct would require more street space.
- Have an over the road crossing on busier street. (2 dots)
- Enlarge library + increase library parking.
- Bicycles and sidewalks do not mix. Bicycles should be on road and have their own lane. Sidewalks for walking/running, we need both.
- Eliminate semi trailers in city.
- Build environmentally, efficient sites & buildings TO LEED STANDARDS...LEED itself is expensive and not economically sustainable.
- Viaducts over 15th and 20th Street for railroad tracks, 20th street could become more of a desirable avenue.



ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

POST-DISASTER COMMUNITY VISION

- A lot of these are similar to each other. I think that is a good thing – it shows consensus.
- Buy land in devastated central Joplin, near Main Street. Build civic center with important buildings on this land, instead of in the gully north of First Street and the railroad tracks. This new location would not be so crowded and would be easier to see. Renovate Union station as arts gallery or history museum, whoever wants it.
- Including a strong and innovative university.
- A Green City in the destroyed area.
- Many of us may see the end of carbon fuels in our lifetimes. We need bike and walking paths to businesses, churches, and other sites.

*The following comments were collected at the LTCR display table during Third Thursday on August 18, 2011

- Public transportation connecting places (school, houses, shopping).
- Multi-use community center
- No cookie cutter houses