



Visioning Meeting Notes– 5/17/22

Michael Conwell welcomed group. Consultants gave power point presentation about comprehensive planning, public input, and visioning. Residents moved from table to table to complete a visioning board activity and list their visions by planning element. Steering Committee members summarized comments they heard at each table and below is list of comments:

Reminder to check out article in *Akron Beacon* from Sat.

PARKS / REC/ NATURAL SPACES

No trail connection that cuts through residents' yards – Towpath to State Park. Council applied for grant; State wants more connection.

Fewer tax burdening amenities

Multi-purpose parks – kayaking increasing in popularity; tangle with anglers.

Residents like open, natural feel of parks; not forced-feeling green space

Keep lots big, open

Parks serve community demographics well

Mayor: what if parks served seniors better, in conjunction w/more senior housing for increased/longer tax base?

INFRASTRUCTURE

Upkeep of roads

Not a lot of discussion about broadband (no pic)

No paying to tie into city water that needs to be paid for (fluoride, too)

Some want improved water (quality)

Concern about faulty septic systems and sewage going into lake

Housing along lake is old and have old septic systems that are costly to fix/replace



Need to know what plans are for extension of waterlines and sanitary sewer services since their expansion will dictate growth

Some question Health Dept septic inspections (required by law to make annual inspections of septic systems)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Property uses – Lazy L good example

Reduce empty buildings

Retain small businesses

Coffee shop

TRANSPORTATION

Busier roads now – maintenance should keep up; deal with increased traffic

Discussion about bigger retail at Manchester driving up traffic

Manchester corridor must be looked at now before more unplanned growth occurs. More sidewalks needed near commercial areas, need to look at land uses, signage, possible access roads, streetscape, etc.

South Main and Comet is a dangerous intersection

Manchester to Towpath trail spur

Other connections to Towpath needed for better access

CURRENT/FUTURE LAND USES

Comet/Manchester – green stickers (due to green space?)

High density and senior not wanted BUT

As people age, less maintenance-heavy facilities for aging population are desired

Localized water/sewer treatment

No vacant buildings

AGRICULTURE



Lots of green dots

What is ag? Need better description small family farm vs commercial farming

One red – chicken coop; not desirable (but NF residents do have chickens!)

Preserve large lots for hobby farming

Marketing for city is always large plots of land. Must be what people like. Work towards preserving that.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Fire department

Lots of ambiguity for Tudor and pickleball, some comments that they do not like to see trees removed for pickleball court (also may be a loud activity) or additional development on Tudor property.

HOUSING

SF homes on acreage is most desired

Zoning to clean up homes' frontage- should present better, more picturesque

No ginormous houses

Zoning, zoning

Questionable quality of Akron schools chasing people to outlying areas such as New Franklin

Pricing of NF housing stock a bit more reasonable than Medina County

OTHER

NF has no identity. Having four school districts is a problem.

Only outlying areas are agricultural but mostly for large lot single family housing. Need to check if farming is a truly economic activity within NF