



Project Outreach Postcard Summary

Chamber of Commerce Meeting – Springfield Comprehensive Plan

The City of Springfield provided Project Outreach Postcards at the monthly Springfield Chamber of Commerce meeting for those who could not attend the workshop. The postcards allowed these individuals to provide feedback regarding Springfield and the creation of the new Comprehensive Plan, *Forward SGF*. Input from the 48 cards collected will help to guide the planning process and will be directly reflected in the vision, goals, recommendations, and policies of the final *Forward SGF* plan.

NOTE ON SUMMARY CONTEXT

The following is a summary of the thoughts, comments, and opinions received in the workshop. Some comments were shared with the entire group, while others were recorded privately on worksheets. The items identified in this summary are not recommendations or observations of the consultant, but rather represent feedback and comments received from those who participated in the workshop.

Each postcard contains three unfinished statements meant to be completed by the individual filling it out. Provided below are the responses organized by statement and categorized by topic.

I believe the most important issue facing Springfield is...

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Poverty (8)
- Drugs (5)
- Crime (4)
- Homelessness (3)
- Senior health care
- Mental health
- Food insecurity
- Access to public programs

COMMUNITY CHARACTER AND IDENTITY

- Lack of diversity/inclusion (8)
- Rehab of historic elements

TRANSPORTATION

- Pedestrian and bicycle connectivity
- Road infrastructure
- Traffic

JOBS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- New job growth (2)
- Workforce development (2)

- Retaining young talent (2)
- Low wages (2)
- Lack of manufacturing
- Keep the economy growing

LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

- Lack of convention center (3)
- Connect North and South
- Application of development
- Building codes
- Redevelopment
- Lack of sports complex
- Development roadblocks

EDUCATION

- Maintaining graduation rates
- Continuing great education
- Low income students

CITY LEADERSHIP, SERVICES, AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- Growth (2)
- Engaging the community
- Not enough funding

NATURAL RESOURCES, PARKS, AND OPEN SPACE

- Trail system gaps
- Preserving natural amenities

I think Springfield's greatest asset is...

COMMUNITY CHARACTER AND IDENTITY

- People (7)
- Collaboration (5)
- Charitable (4)
- Family-friendly (2)
- God-driven community
- Youth
- Leadership
- Unique talents
- Work ethic

NATURAL RESOURCES, PARKS, AND OPEN SPACE

- Outdoors (11)
- Trails (4)
- Parks (3)

AMENITIES AND SERVICES

- Higher education (6)
- Entertainment
- Restaurants

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Bass Pro (2)
- Small businesses
- Rebirth of Downtown
- Balanced economy

QUALITY OF LIFE

- Location (6)
- Cost of living (2)
- Safe
- Clean

If I could improve one thing in Springfield it would be...

LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

- Convention center (6)
- Northwest Springfield (2)
- Permit process/predevelopment review (2)
- Sports facilities (2)
- Rehab of derelict properties
- Support redevelopment
- IDEA Commons area

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Drugs (2)
- Homelessness (2)
- Poverty
- Crime

TRANSPORTATION

- Transportation (2)
- Public transportation
- Traffic
- Access to Downtown/university area

NATURAL RESOURCES, PARKS, AND OPEN SPACE

- Complete trail network (4)

COMMUNITY CHARACTER AND IDENTITY

- Increase diversity (2)
- More family-friendly amenities
- Energy

JOBS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- More entertainment (2)
- Higher paying jobs (2)
- Support local small business