

## **Attachment B: Draft Strategic Plan Framework Community Input**

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# **City of Lee's Summit**

## **Draft Strategic Plan Framework Community Input**

**June 2019**



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## Executive Summary

The Lee's Summit City Council held a retreat on April 5 and 6, 2019 to develop a draft strategic plan framework for the community. This framework included a draft vision statement and seven critical success factors, as outlined below.

### Vision

**A world-class community striving to ensure purposeful growth and quality of life for future generations**

### Critical Success Factors

*(Those things that must go well in order to achieve the vision)*

1. **Balanced Economic Development** – build an adaptable framework for continued growth in a changing environment

Outcomes to Achieve:

- Sustainable economy
- Successful residential and commercial community
- Local job base

2. **Strong Neighborhoods with Housing Choices** – maintain thriving, quality neighborhoods that connect a diversity of residents throughout the community

Outcomes to Achieve:

- Well-maintained, older residential structures and properties
- Social interaction between neighbors
- Neighborhoods with strong diversity of residential types
- Neighborhoods with strong diversity of residents

3. **Cultural and Recreational Amenities** – create a community that celebrates, welcomes, and supports cultural arts and recreation amenities

Outcomes to Achieve:

- Opportunities for cultural arts in existing entertainment venues
- Increased use of sidewalk and trail system for fitness and alternate transportation

- Completed sidewalk and trail system
- Ensure that recreation facilities have proper funding for maintenance and upgrades

**4. Inclusive Community Engagement** – create a healthy and balanced community for all voices

Outcomes to Achieve:

- Embrace and encourage the inclusion of all
- Inspire civic awareness and engagement
- Make citizen contributions and engagement impactful

**5. Community Health and Wellbeing** – support a healthy, happy community by improving healthy lifestyle choices and opportunities

Outcomes to Achieve:

- More physical activity and engagement in the community
- Celebrate healthy living
- People have choices to satisfy their spiritual, mental, physical needs
- Awareness of affordable options for healthy living
- Change the norms around mental health

**6. Collaborative Relations with Education Partners** – enhance and plan for educational opportunities to support economic development (ecosystem)

Outcomes to Achieve:

- Collaboration with the neighboring schools – public/private and higher education
- Educating students for public service
- Create economic development and education partnerships

**7. Proactive Infrastructure Development** – sustain and enhance City services to protect a high quality of life

Outcomes to Achieve:

- Resources and staffing needs linked to demand; efficient use of resources
- Plan to meet future demand
- Maintain accreditation and positive community relations

Following the retreat, feedback on this framework was sought through two community meetings and an online engagement website. Several key themes emerged regarding each element of the strategic plan framework, as outlined below. The full text of all comments received is included as an appendix to this report.

**Vision**

- Maintain a multi-generational focus
- Engage residents and businesses
- Build or enhance a unique identity for the community

**Critical Success Factors**

- Balanced Economic Development
  - Attract diverse types of businesses of varying sizes



- Support small, local businesses
- Enhance public transit options such as light rail or regional bus and train options
- Strong Neighborhoods with Housing Choices
  - Promote community maintenance through efforts such as code enforcement
  - Provide a variety of housing options
  - Program inclusive community events to promote a sense of community
- Cultural and Recreational Amenities
  - Provide a sense of community and high quality of life
  - Market programs and activities aggressively
  - Provide a performance venue and more community events
  - Develop and enhance trails and bicycle lanes
- Inclusive Community Engagement
  - Target communication to desired audiences
  - Create programming to provide more opportunities to engage
  - Improve communication through social media and increased access to information
- Community Health and Wellbeing
  - Protect public safety through improved mental health awareness and services
  - Provide training and education to improve perceptions around mental health
  - Provide infrastructure such as trails, sidewalks, or City facilities to encourage improved physical or mental health
- Collaborative Relations with Education Partners
  - Continue and expand current work with non-profit organizations
  - Partner with businesses to help local graduates with job placements or internships
  - Continue to strengthen existing education partnerships
- Proactive Infrastructure Development
  - Provide for core infrastructure and public safety
  - Develop long-term plans to prioritize emergent demands for services
  - Improve transportation by creating transit options and better managing public parking

A detailed summary of key themes that emerged from community feedback is provided in the following sections.

## Community Input

The City hosted two community meetings on April 24 and April 25, 2019 to gather feedback on the draft strategic framework developed by the City Council. On April 24<sup>th</sup>, 70 participants attended, and on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 45 participants attended. Michelle Ferguson of The Novak Consulting Group facilitated the sessions using a World Café methodology.

Community members were also able to participate in the strategic planning process through LS Ignite, an online engagement website. The online engagement website was established to provide a forum for feedback and discussion throughout the strategic planning process. The draft strategic plan framework was available on the engagement website for review and comment from April 18 through May 27, 2019. During that period, 54 online comments were submitted.

A series of questions was posed for each element of the strategic plan framework. Each element considered, the questions posed, and a summary of the feedback provided by the community is included below. The complete list of raw responses is included as Appendix A and B of this report.

## Vision Statement

**A world-class community striving to ensure purposeful growth and quality of life for future generations.**

Community meeting participants were provided the above draft vision statement. Across both community meetings, participants provided a total of 39 comments about the proposed vision statement. The first question asked of participants was how the vision statement reflects their hopes for the future of the City. The most frequently mentioned themes among the 39 responses are included in the below table.

**Table 1: Top Responses to the Question: How does this vision reflect your hope for the future of the City of Lee's Summit?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Serve Multiple Generations	6
Positive Reflection	4
Community Growth	3
Cultural Arts Development	3

Participants most often mentioned the impacts of the vision on different generations in the community. Participants questioned how the vision impacts future generations and whether the vision will motivate today's children to move back to the community after leaving. Other comments questioned how this vision can serve all ages to be a community attractive to multiple generations.

Many respondents had a positive reaction to the proposed vision, using words such as "vibrant" and "exciting" to describe their feelings about the draft vision statement. Other responses mentioned that the draft vision reflects their hope for the growth of the City and the expansion of cultural arts in the City.

Participants were also asked how Lee's Summit should distinguish itself as "world-class." Fifty-four responses were given, and common themes include the following:

**Table 2: Top Responses to the Question: How should we distinguish our community as “world-class” as the community grows?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Unique Identity	12
Economic Development	8
Education	6
Use Best Practices	5

Twelve comments referenced the need to establish or further develop a unique identity for Lee’s Summit. Other responses in this category suggested a need to more thoroughly develop and improve the marketing of the “Yours Truly” identity. Other comments focused on continued economic development efforts. Some of these responses referred to the need to continue to emphasize development or to ensure development is balanced. Other comments mentioned specific types of developments that should be pursued, such as dining, hotels, shopping, or an entertainment district. Other prominent themes included the need for continued support of a high-quality educational ecosystem and to identify peer communities using “best practices” and use them as models for Lee’s Summit.

Other less frequently mentioned ideas included the need to develop public transit options to better connect communities and neighborhoods, the need for parks and green spaces, and the need to be ambitious in setting high expectations for the future of the community.

The final question posed to community meeting participants regarding the vision sought specific actions that community members see as necessary to achieve the vision. A total of 49 participants provided responses to this question. The most frequently mentioned ideas are included in the following table.

**Table 3: Top Responses to the Question: What does the City need to do in order to achieve this vision for the future?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Community Engagement	10
Planning	9
Inclusiveness	5
Public Transportation	4

The need to engage community members, including individuals and businesses, was most frequently cited. This engagement included ideas to involve community members and businesses to solicit input or to gain support of City initiatives. Effective planning for future community growth, including diverse populations in engagement efforts and development of public transportation were additional topics frequently mentioned.

Support for economic development initiatives was another common theme among responses to this question, though this was mentioned less often than those themes already discussed.

Online participants were asked to consider the vision statement and actions required of the City to achieve it. Eight distinct comments were offered online in response to the vision. These comments mentioned a need to focus on serving the unique interests and needs of multiple generations, protecting the affordability of living in the community, providing public transportation, and improving accessibility to programs and events for residents who are deaf or hard of hearing. The need to celebrate the positive history and achievements of the community was also mentioned.

## Critical Success Factors

Community input was sought on the seven critical success factors identified by the City Council. These critical success factors were considered essential to being able to deliver the vision for the future of the community. Each of these critical success factors is listed below with the Council-provided description, the questions asked for each critical success factor, and a summary of community responses to those questions.

### Balanced Economic Development

**Build an adaptable framework for continued growth in a changing environment.**

To gain a better understanding of how the community considers balance in economic development, community meeting participants were asked what factors contribute to balanced economic development. The most frequent categories of responses are shown in the below table.

**Table 4: Top Responses to the Question: What contributes to balanced economic development?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Diversity of Businesses	10
Mix of Commercial/Residential Development	5
Large Business Development	3
Planning	3

A total of 43 comments were offered in response to this question. Most often mentioned was the idea to provide an array of business types, including manufacturing, retail, healthcare, and entertainment. The second most common category of comments related to maintaining a balance of residential and commercial development.

Additional categories of comments included emphasis for recruiting large businesses or corporations to Lee's Summit and ensuring that development is aligned with a comprehensive master plan and economic drivers. Other topics mentioned, though less frequently, included attracting and fostering small business growth, focusing on the growth of jobs with desirable wages, and growing a school-to-work employment pipeline.

Those who attended community meetings were also asked how the City can foster an environment where different types of businesses can prosper. A total of 37 community meeting participants provided ideas in response to this question. The most frequent responses by category are listed in the following table.

**Table 5: Top Responses to the Question: How can the City foster an environment where different types of businesses can prosper?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Small Business Support	5
Business Recruitment	5
Inclusiveness	4
Communication	4

Suggestions to provide more support to small businesses and actively recruit businesses either through the Economic Development Council or direct contact from the City were mentioned most frequently. Also mentioned was supporting the engagement of a diverse population to attract diverse businesses. Communication from the City to highlight or promote local businesses was also mentioned.

Less frequently mentioned were comments emphasizing a need to better promote the City to attract visitors who, in turn, would support local businesses. Effective zoning and business regulations were also mentioned.

The final question regarding balanced economic development asked participants to consider specific projects or initiatives to sustain a vibrant local economy. A total of 33 suggestions were offered in response to this question. The following table summarizes the categories of those responses.

**Table 6: Top Responses to the Question: Are there specific initiatives the City should consider that would contribute to a vibrant, sustainable local economy?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Public Transit	5
Economic Development	4
Infrastructure	4

Developing or expanding the availability of public transit, including light rail, regional bus, and train transportation, was cited most frequently. Other frequently mentioned topics included the need for continued economic development efforts and to improve or plan for infrastructure in the face of community growth.

Other categories of comments mentioned less frequently included ideas to attract high wage jobs and to better promote City opportunities for businesses through new programs or through partnerships such as that with the Economic Development Council.

Online participants were similarly asked how the City can contribute to balanced economic development and what initiatives could foster a sustainable local economy. Online participants contributed five comments on this topic. Those comments mentioned the need for apartment developments, higher wage employers, and the need to be competitive in the region to attract employers. Other comments suggested a reduced emphasis on retail development and the need to focus business recruitment efforts on larger businesses with higher wage jobs.

## Strong Neighborhoods with Housing Choices

Maintain thriving, quality neighborhoods that connect a diversity of residents throughout the community.

The first question asked of participants regarding neighborhoods was how thriving, quality neighborhoods should be defined in Lee's Summit. A summary of responses to this question can be found in the following table.

**Table 7: Top Responses to the Question: What defines thriving, quality neighborhoods?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Neighborhood Maintenance	11
Relationships	10
Amenities	9
Safety	7

Participants offered 71 thoughts on what defines thriving, quality neighborhoods. Most often they were defined as being clean and well-maintained. Closely behind neighborhood maintenance were comments on the value of relationships and connections among neighbors. Amenities such as parks and having a sense of safety also were mentioned often.

Other response categories mentioned less often were the attractiveness of the community, the presence and quality of infrastructure, and the proximity of quality schools.

Community meeting participants were asked to consider what type of residential developments are important to the future of the community. Forty-eight responses described these residential developments. The most common categories from among those responses are reflected in the following table.

**Table 8: Top Responses to the Question: What types of diverse residential development are important to maintaining thriving, quality neighborhoods in Lee's Summit?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Housing Diversity	16
Affordable Housing	9
Amenities	7

Most frequently, respondents referenced the need for a variety of housing types, including apartments, duplexes, triplexes, townhomes, gated communities, transitional, and senior housing. Also often mentioned was the need for local housing at price points considered affordable to the wages typically earned by residents. Finally, amenities such as sidewalks, parks, or nearby shopping were mentioned as important to neighborhoods.

Other considerations mentioned, though less frequently, included suggestions to provide mixed-use developments, provide renter support, maintain good schools, and to allow in-law suites or additions to existing residential properties.

Community meeting participants were asked what actions the City can take to foster diverse neighborhoods. A total of 38 comments were offered in response to this question. A summary of those responses is included in the following table.

**Table 9: Top Responses to the Question: What could the City do to celebrate and encourage diversity within neighborhoods?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Housing diversity	5
Community Events	4
Promote Diversity	4

The most common response category represents suggestions to foster diverse housing types. Other common suggestions included holding community events such as block parties or using the resources of the City to promote the value of diversity.

Other common suggestions to encourage residential diversity included ideas to redevelop aging neighborhoods, engage in effective planning efforts, or to do nothing and allow neighborhoods to evolve naturally.

Through the LS Ignites website, eight comments were received in response to the above questions. Half of these online comments referenced the need for home maintenance and strong code enforcement. Affordable housing and the consistent use of quality landscaping were also suggested. A specific activity suggested to support thriving neighborhoods was for the City to provide support and guidance to neighborhoods to help them in their efforts to create neighborhood organizations.

### **Cultural and Recreational Amenities**

**Create a community that celebrates, welcomes, and supports cultural and recreation amenities.**

The first aspect of cultural and recreational amenities considered was why these types of opportunities are important to the community. Fifty-four responses were provided. A summary of those responses more frequently provided is shown in the following table.

**Table 10: Top Responses to the Question: Why are cultural arts and recreation opportunities important to our City?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Sense of Community	14
Quality of Life	12
Attract Visitors, Residents	9
Support Development	6

Response Category	Number of Responses
Reflect Community Values	6

Respondents suggested that cultural and recreational opportunities provide settings in which residents can come together in common spaces for shared experiences. Comments often mentioned these events or programs as opportunities to connect with others to foster a sense of community. The second most frequently mentioned benefit was a general belief that cultural art and recreation opportunities improve the quality of life in the community. Others commented that cultural arts and recreation opportunities attract visitors and new residents, attract new businesses to the community, and help define the values of the community.

Participants were further asked how the City could better support existing programs of this nature. Fifty-four comments were offered in response to this question. Those suggestions most often mentioned are included in the below table.

**Table 11: Top Responses to the Question: How could currently available cultural arts and recreation programs in Lee's Summit be better supported?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Marketing	12
Events	9
Engagement	8
Financial Support	7

Respondents commented that the City could improve efforts to market available programs and activities. Others commented that the City could provide additional events such as art festivals or community races. Suggestions to better engage community groups were also commonly offered, as were comments to provide additional funding to cultural and recreation programming through increased sponsorships or City funding. Additional response categories mentioned the need for a public venue to provide cultural arts and recreation programming.

Community participants were also asked what, if any, specific opportunities they observed that could allow the City to support local cultural arts and recreation amenities. A total of 40 suggestions were offered in response to this question. The types of comments most frequently offered are summarized in the following table.

**Table 12: Top Responses to the Question: What opportunities do you see for the City to support local cultural arts and recreation amenities?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Performance Venue	8
Events	7
Marketing	5
Public Spaces	5



Response Category	Number of Responses
Financial Support	5
Trails and Bicycle Lanes	5

Most often, respondents suggested creating a performance venue dedicated to cultural arts events or programs. Responses also often suggested public events such as block parties, arts classes, and other family-friendly events. This was complemented by comments to better market and promote both events already in place, such as the Lee's Summit Symphony, and any new programs or events. Additional responses shared among the participants included ideas to create more public spaces to provide places for recreational opportunities to occur or to find new ways to provide additional financial support to cultural arts or recreational programs.

Those who participated online provided six comments in response to the critical success factor regarding cultural and recreational amenities. Five of these six comments mentioned the need to expand or maintain trails and bicycle lanes for recreational purposes. Bicycle lanes in roadways and on trails were particularly emphasized for the additional benefit of providing transportation alternatives.

Also mentioned, though less frequently, were ideas to better utilize partnerships with local schools or community organizations to display art by local artists or encourage the development of additional programming by those community groups. Developing Bailey Farm as an attraction, possibly through public and private partnerships, was also mentioned.

### **Inclusive Community Engagement**

**Create a healthy and balanced community for all voices.**

To better understand the community perspective on inclusive community engagement, community meeting participants were asked how that would look in Lee's Summit. Fifty-seven comments were offered to describe what inclusive community engagement should look like in the City. The themes most often mentioned in those responses are summarized in the following table.

**Table 13: Top Responses to the Question: What does inclusive community engagement look like in Lee's Summit?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Effective Communication	18
Diversity	14
Activities	13

Most frequently mentioned was the need for effective communication through multiple sources to inform the community on opportunities to be engaged with the City. Also often mentioned was the need to target varied groups of people through activities and amenities. Respondents also suggested hosting free events and activities to bring together young families, seniors, and others with varied interests.

Other topics mentioned, though less frequently, were suggestions to make available more volunteer opportunities with the City or to improve accessibility to City events or activities for those with unique needs such as physical limitations or low incomes.

Community meeting participants were also asked how the City can foster improved awareness and engagement from residents. A total of 45 suggestions were offered in response to this question. The most prevalent themes of those responses are summarized in the following table.

**Table 14: Top Responses to the Question: How can the City inspire civic awareness and engagement?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Targeted Communication	10
Programming	10
Accessibility	5
Events	5

The most frequent responses included suggestions to improve communication from the City by targeting specific audiences and by expanding the communication methods used by the City. There were also many suggestions regarding additional or innovative programming to provide expanded opportunities for engagement through volunteering or learning more about City government.

Also mentioned were suggestions to make engagement easier, such as for those with young children, or to hold more events such as town hall meetings. Additional suggestions mentioned less frequently focused on better promoting the success of current or prior City initiatives or targeting youth audiences for programming and outreach to inspire engagement at a young age.

To foster inclusive community engagement, community participants were asked for suggestions of new or innovative practices the City could use to engage the community. Respondents offered 34 suggestions for new ways to impactfully engage residents. The most frequently mentioned themes from among those responses are included in the following table.

**Table 15: Top Responses to the Question: Are there new or innovative practices the City could use to engage the community in an impactful way?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Communication	11
Programming	10
Inclusivity	5

Respondents again cited improved communication strategies as ways to better engage the community. Specific suggestions within this category included use of social media, improved navigability of the City website, or communication strategies such as creating a “clearinghouse” of City information easily accessible to residents. Also mentioned were suggestions for City programming to improve community understanding of City services and operations. Five responses also spoke directly to identifying under-represented populations within the City, such as young people, low income residents, or residents with disabilities, and finding ways to include those populations in engagement efforts. Engaging community groups such as homeowners’ associations (HOAs) or the chamber of commerce and providing volunteer opportunities were suggestions also mentioned.

Online participants submitted ten comments regarding how the City could inspire civic awareness and engagement. Comments suggested developing a local newspaper, doing more to advertise the history of the City, creating a "Citizen of the Month" program, better celebrating local military veterans and fraternal organizations, and increasing the number of districts from four to six. Other comments emphasized the need for the City to respond to residents or groups who reach out to the City, either through public comments or other means.

## Community Health and Wellbeing

**Support a healthy, happy community by improving healthy lifestyle choices and opportunities.**

To better understand how the community perceives the impacts of health and wellbeing on the community, participants were asked why healthy living and mental health are important to Lee's Summit. A total of 40 comments were offered in response to this question. A summary of those comments by topic is shown in the following table.

**Table 16: Top Responses to the Question: Why are healthy living and mental health important to Lee's Summit?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Public Safety	10
Economic Benefits	7
Youth Support	6
Quality of Life	5

The most often cited reason to support community health and wellbeing was the improved public safety impacts of healthy communities with lower rates of addiction or mental health crises. The second most cited benefit to healthy living was the economic benefit healthier communities realize through both improved productivity and reduced demand for emergency services. Respondents also mentioned positive impacts on young people in the community and the improved quality of life realized through healthy living and mental health.

Other topics mentioned included the need to address barriers to healthy living, such as the high cost to maintain healthy living or the stigma of mental illness. It was also mentioned that healthy communities can foster a sense of community and positively transform communities.

When asked what actions the community could take to impact perceptions of mental health, community meeting participants provided 58 comments and suggestions. The themes that emerged most often from those comments and suggestions are listed in the following table.

**Table 17: Top Responses to the Question: What actions can the community take to impact perceptions of mental health?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Training and Education	20
Accessibility of Services	10
Community Partnerships	8

Respondents suggested offering training and education to community members on topics of mental health. These comments included references to public education on mental health symptoms and training on intervention strategies to teachers and first responders. Second to training and education efforts were comments regarding the need for improved accessibility of mental health services or care facilities. Partnering with schools or faith-based groups to impact perceptions of mental health was also cited.

Other themes that emerged from comments offered in response to this question were suggestions to provide direct services such as homeless assistance or respite care and to engage in outreach through state legislative advocacy.

Community meeting participants were asked more generally what opportunities exist for Lee's Summit to foster healthy living. A total of 64 comments and suggestions were provided in response to this question. A summary of the themes that emerged most frequently from those responses is provided in the following table.

**Table 18: Top Responses to the Question: What opportunities exist for Lee's Summit to foster healthy living?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Infrastructure and Facility Development	19
Programming	10
Communication	9
Community Partnerships	6

The most frequently mentioned suggestions involved developing infrastructure such as sidewalks or bike pathways and facilities such as community gardens. Additional suggestions included the development of programs that produce healthy outcomes such as educational classes, community gardens, food donation programs, or community walks and other physical activities. Other common themes to foster healthy living included communication about existing or emerging health-oriented programs and events and to leverage partnerships such as those with Pro Deo or Lee's Summit Cares.

Other suggestions included providing recreational opportunities through the Parks and Recreation Department and fostering healthy living through environmental awareness and protection.

The online engagement website received only two comments on this topic. One comment echoed prior comments regarding trail maintenance and expansion to positively impact community health. The second comment mentioned the need for accessible mental health services and support to mental health service providers to positively impact community safety and local families.

### **Collaborative Relations with Education Partners**

#### **Enhance and plan for educational opportunities to support economic development.**

Community meeting participants were asked to identify what strong partnerships they see in the community today. A total of 49 responses were offered. The types of partnerships identified in those responses most frequently are summarized in the following table.

**Table 19: Top Responses to the Question: What strong partnerships exist in the community today?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Non-Profit Organizations	17
Schools	14
Business Groups	10

Most often mentioned were the number and variety of community-based non-profit organizations. Many of these were listed by name, such as Pro Deo, Lee's Summit Social Services, and ReDiscover. The second-most often referenced type of partnership available in the community today was that of school partnerships. Several comments referenced the strong partnerships that exist between the City and business groups such as the Chamber, Economic Development Council, and Velocity. Partnerships with other governmental entities in the region were also mentioned.

Community participants were also asked how business and education systems could collaborate to support economic development in the community. Forty-four suggestions were offered in response to this question. The themes that emerged from these responses most frequently are listed in the following table.

**Table 20: Top Responses to the Question: How can businesses and education systems collaborate to support economic development?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Job Placement	8
Internships	6
Communication	5
Targeted Programming	5
Vocational/Technical Training	4

Respondents indicated that businesses and education systems could better collaborate to connect students with local employers. It was also suggested that education systems and businesses should connect to identify and place interns in local businesses. Other comments suggested working to maintain open communication between education systems and businesses, working with businesses to identify specific types of educational programs needed to better prepare the workforce, and providing vocation/technical training for non-college bound students.

Community meeting participants were also asked what partnerships could be strengthened. When asked this question, 37 ideas and suggestions were provided. The most common categories of responses provided are listed in the following table.

**Table 21: Top Responses to the Question: What partnerships should the City seek to strengthen and leverage that would benefit the community?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Targeted City Programming	7

Response Category	Number of Responses
Education	7
Non-Profit Organizations	6
Businesses	5

Respondents proposed the development or expansion of City programs and activities that target specific audiences such as youth or senior populations. Equally prevalent were suggestions for enhanced education system partnerships. Also mentioned were opportunities to enhance partnerships with non-profit organizations and business organizations such as the Economic Development Council or Chamber of Commerce. Enhanced partnership opportunities with local schools or across a variety of industries were topics also mentioned.

Online participants provided two comments regarding strong educational partnerships that already exist in the community and potential partnerships the City should seek to strengthen or benefit the community. These comments suggested improving partnerships with the business community. Other listed opportunities suggested working to identify a trade school for local students who are not college-bound and to identify partnerships to better project and prepare for future school growth.

### **Proactive Infrastructure Development**

**Sustain and enhance City services to protect a high quality of life.**

Community participants were asked what City services are most important to protecting a high quality of life. A total of 72 comments and ideas were offered in response to this question. The most frequent categories of responses to this question are listed in the following table.

**Table 22: Top Responses to the Question: What City services are most important to protecting a high quality of life?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
City Infrastructure	18
Public Safety	15
Solid Waste Management	6
Community Maintenance	5
Community Beautification	5

Respondents mentioned City infrastructure maintenance most frequently as the most important factor in protecting a high quality of life. Specific examples included water and sewer services, pothole and curb repair, road maintenance, sidewalk maintenance, and stormwater management. The second-most mentioned issue was public safety. These suggestions prominently included mentions of police and fire services as well as the need for well-lit neighborhoods and animal control services. Solid waste management services, including recycling services, maintaining the community through efforts such as code enforcement, and providing attractive landscaping and corridors were also frequently mentioned.

Respondents also provided multiple responses regarding the need for public transportation options, protection of parks and green spaces, and effective communication from the City as important to protecting a high quality of life.

Community meeting participants were asked how the City should consider current and future demands for services as the City continues to grow. Respondents provided 48 responses to this question in community meetings. The most common themes that emerged from those responses are included in the following table.

**Table 23: Top Responses to the Question: How should the City evaluate current and future demands for services as the City grows?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Planning	11
Community Engagement	7
Population Changes	5

Respondents emphasized the need for effective, long-term planning in light of future demands for services. Continued opportunities for community engagement and feedback was the second-most frequent response, followed by calls to follow demographic and population changes as indicators of community priorities and needs.

Also cited were suggestions to engage in effective communication strategies to enhance community feedback. These suggestions included ideas to leverage social media or resources such as the LS Connect application.

Participants were asked what specific infrastructure initiatives the City should pursue to secure its future. Respondents offered 62 ideas and suggestions in response to this question. The most frequently mentioned categories of responses are listed in the following table.

**Table 24: Top Responses to the Question: Are there specific infrastructure initiatives the City should pursue in order to secure its future?**

Response Category	Number of Responses
Transportation Improvements	13
Green Spaces and Parks	6
Economic Development	5
Water and Sewer Management	5

Improvements to transportation were most frequently mentioned as needed infrastructure initiatives. This category included responses about providing mass transit options and improved public parking management. Additional response categories frequently mentioned addressed providing parks and green spaces, maintaining a focus on economic development, and effectively managing water and sewer services.

Other topics often mentioned included road and intersection expansion or improvements, effective long-range planning regarding infrastructure needs, and a desire to preserve the downtown area through additional investments.

Online participants offered 13 comments and suggestions in response to questions regarding what City services are most important to protecting a high quality of life and specific infrastructure initiatives the City should pursue. These comments emphasized public safety, street maintenance, environmental initiatives, and the application of technology through Smart City initiatives. Additional comments suggested the need for strategic plans in each City department, the expansion of curbs through more areas of the City, further development of the Municipal Airport, and the development of a parks-and-boulevard system like Kansas City.

### **Community Idea Board**

The online engagement website also featured a "Community Idea Board." This idea board allowed participants to provide ideas for what they would like to see improved and what opportunities they see for the community. This idea board received four new ideas submitted since the publication of the draft strategic framework. These ideas included two suggestions to improve and beautify the intersection at 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and US Highway 50 through improved landscaping, installation of protected sidewalks, implementation of bike lanes, and infrastructure improvements. Another idea suggested updating City branding away from "Yours Truly." The last idea submitted suggested installing an indoor skydiving feature at Longview Farm and further developing the area as an outdoor performance venue and hands-on, interactive arts center.

The full text of all new comments submitted on the Community Idea Board since the draft strategic plan framework was published is included in Appendix B. This includes comments related to the strategic plan elements as well as comments and discussion on previously submitted community comments.



## Appendix A: Lee's Summit Community Meeting Comments

### Vision Statement

**A world-class community striving to ensure purposeful growth and quality of life for future generations.**

How does this Vision reflect your hope for the future of the City of Lee's Summit?

- What about now, today's generation?
- Light rail to boost tourism
  - And busses, trolleys
- Desire for children to move back through opportunities
- Who are our competitors? How do you attract people from other suburbs, states?
- Growth, job opportunities, small town feeling but bigger amenities, good schools
- Supportive of vision
- How will decisions made now impact future generations?
- It's all about execution, less about hope
  - Strategic master plan to recruit business so that people live, work, spend in LS
  - That accelerates growth trend, otherwise depends on cyclical rooftop growth
- Vibrant
- Exciting
- Jobs
- Need current opportunities to foster future growth
- Not sure that world class is measurable, specific
- Like focus on intentional growth
- Instead of "striving" change to "continuing" to ensure purposeful
- Collaboration of LSR-7 with all the community
- Make sure people want to move here because of the schools
- Develop cultural arts and promote LS as a healthy community, "livable" (1 checkmark)
- Incorporate a faith-based community
- Be accepting of all world cultures, languages
- Don't we already do this? Let's continue.
- Build on downtown
- A generational community
- All ages, all people
- Welcoming community
- Needs a plan to (within incentives) repurpose and redevelopment of current
  - Ex. Strip malls
- Planning/Vision to build City amenities and resources to better attract everyone
- Diverse housing types
- Walkability
- Mixed use development
- What is "purposeful growth"? Define a population goal
- Best practices of other cities – what works/does not work?
- What does our future generation value?
- Diverse business growth
- Cultural Arts Center/performance venue

How should we distinguish our community as “world-class” as the community grows?

- Provide resources for lower economic families
- Define identity – what makes LS special?
- Upgrade our lower economic areas
- Hold landlords accountable
- Continue to focus on education
  - College level also
- Roads
- Healthcare
- Infrastructure
- What are we measuring ourselves against?
- Economically stable
- Hotels
- Dining
- Shopping
- Entertainment
- Collaboration
  - i.e. “MIC”
- Education ecosystem
- Schools (1 checkmark)
- Maintain downtown character
- High expectations
- Education
- Safe
- Highlight inclusion
- Branding (simple)
  - Beyond City effort
  - Leverage partners to speak as one, not in silos
  - Find synergy
- Green space/parks
- Lakes
- Entertainment district
- Park district
- How do we market that we are and are growing as world class?
- Capitalize on our “Yours Truly”
- Education for kids to learn multi-cultural aspects
- Using tech affective/usable
- Smart City
- Prepare our children to be world class
- Better promote what we already have in LS
- Keep growing new businesses
- Learn from other “best practices” communities (1 checkmark)
- Decent branding
- A clear, strong identity (1 checkmark)
- Keep our unique culture/atmosphere (1 checkmark)
- Sustainability

- Balance between business, large and small
- Support innovation and experimentation in land development
- "Lee's Summit – a world class community"
- Not be afraid to upgrade (1 checkmark)
- Transportation
- Connecting our various communities and neighborhoods together. (1 checkmark)
- Identify models
- Benchmarking
- Further investment in fine arts
- What attributes define "world class"?
- Local newspaper
- Everything you need is in LS – why leave?
- Keep community money in community
- Community involvement in master planning
  - Especially church land

What does the City need to do in order to achieve this vision for the future?

- How do we improve engagement, communication, participation of all demographics?
- More participation from untapped demographics
- Schools
- Parks
- Business community
- Should be a community of problem solvers
- Skilled workforce
- Support array of business opportunities
  - Privately held business, vocational careers
  - Job ready – desirable and plentiful
- Opportunities for children to move back
- Quality, diverse housing
- Public Information Office accountable for engaging community
- College level education spectrum
- Housing – rental/affordable
- Transportation
- Higher income jobs
- Safe
- Consider all social classes
- Don't lose character of downtown (destination)
- Invest in the vision/strategy through winning community org groups by utilizing collective horsepower of community
  - City spearheads but does not "do"
- Community calendar for events and activities
- Merge communication with current outlets
- Infrastructure
- Transportation
- Define world Class
- Speed of development from concept to execution

- Community means interacting with people – distributed information
- To continue involvement of each citizen in the community
- Lack of public transportation → enhance transportation
- Promote our culture and push for more of what we are lacking
- Kids growing in diversity
- Smartgrowth.org
- Minimize our carbon footprint (1 checkmark)
- Comprehensive plan
- Smoother/easier process for growth and developer
- Treat developers with respect. Use common sense.
- More deliberate land use planning
- Community involvement in master planning
  - Especially church land
- Open to all voices from our City
- Continue citizen engagement – more than just these meetings
- Public vote on development incentives
- Promote social capital building
- Focus on public transportation
- Strategic plan
- Clear objectives/measurable goals (1 checkmark)
- Define core values (1 checkmark)
- Open to new ideas (1 checkmark)
- Adequate staff and manage growth
- Increase taxes (to comparable cities)
- Take your time, listen, do it right

## Critical Success Factors

### Balanced Economic Development

**Build an adaptable framework for continued growth in a changing environment.**

What contributes to balanced economic development?

- Attract small, medium privately held business (1 checkmark)
- Consider ways to attract small businesses
  - Tax incentive/benefits
- Commercial vs. residential
  - Get to 75% business tax base
- Attracting diverse businesses (1 checkmark)
  - And owned by diverse people/groups
- Marketplace demand starts first
- Work, live and “play” in our community
- Manufacturing
- Healthcare professionals
- Entertainment
- Vibrant downtown
- Entrepreneurs

- Aligning development with economic drivers
- Need a conference center/expo center to attract economic groups/drivers
- Is it a thriving community and growing?
- High paying employment locally
- Target new areas/options
  - Airport areas
  - Unexploited areas/markets
- Restaurants, churches, shopping
- E-Commerce
- Restaurant retail in different areas of town
  - i.e. I-50 corridor
- Variety of businesses
  - i.e. retail, manufacturing, healthcare, entertainment
- Comprehensive master plan
  - Updating
- Why don't we have more industrial?
- Need more large to mid-size businesses
- Diverse – mix of
  - i.e. manufacturing, tech, professional, etc.
- Do LS jobs provide salaries to afford to live in LS
- Careful with TIFFs
  - And CIDs
- Partner with large companies in surrounding areas to employees living here
- Available housing
- Relationship with Cerner for employees living
- Focus on jobs > average Jackson County wage
- Education and workforce partnerships
- Good balance of corporate and residential property tax income
- Keep good balance but continue to grow on that
- The arts
- Need to identify what we do not have
- Good mix of all sizes of businesses (public and private)
- Create pipelines from school to work
- Replace manufacturing jobs we lost, then pay a better salary than service jobs like restaurants
- Creating and protecting “place”, lifestyle that attracts talent which will attract employers
- Clean corporate partners in technology
- Knowledgeable and visionary leadership
- Group did not like the term “balanced” – who defines what that is?

How can the City foster an environment where different types of businesses can prosper?

- More lodging
- Highlighting education and talent already here in LS
- Get the word out
  - Marketing/branding
- E-Commerce
  - Corporate

- Facilitate connectivity to attract business
- Fiber infrastructure
- Enhance current EDC momentum
- City Hall soliciting businesses to our City (2 checkmarks)
- Support and nurture startups and entrepreneurs
- Having the EDC ask businesses what they need from LS to locate here (1 checkmark)
  - Restaurants, shopping, churches
- Celebrate non-profits
- Creating more office space to accommodate small business
- Development 101
- Eliminate penalties for shopping in certain areas
  - Parking tickets, Tips
- Centralized distribution of information about local businesses
  - Better flow of info online
- LS is a prime location – promote the City
- Zoning – Do we really need a bank on every corner?
- Better transportation to other parts of surrounding areas
- Encourage diversity of population
  - Patrons, customers
  - Include, for example, millennials
- Purposeful regulations that are specifically focused
- Live videos
- Live interviews
- Present a good image
  - Stability
  - Positive leaders
- Ease of obtaining permits, “hoops” (1 checkmark)
- Pro-small business versus just chasing big opportunities
- Not be over-reliant on tax breaks, instead lower tax base for all
- Diverse population of residents
- Community engagement in City’s master plan and zoning of businesses
- Be open
- Continue development center activities and connections
- Warm and welcoming City Council
- Recalibrate our zoning commission to make things easy
- Availability of central source of what the City has to offer

Are there specific initiatives the City should consider that would contribute to a vibrant, sustainable local economy?

- Continue Ignite
  - Most of these forums come and go
  - “Momentum”
- Light rail
- Strategic planning

- Katy Trail
- Public transportation
- Annual Lee's Summit showcase of what the City offers
- High end employers
- Infrastructure proposal to submit to small businesses
- Master plan for
  - Land development
  - Traffic
  - Architectural design
- Align planning commission strategy with current economic drivers
  - Additional offices in downtown
  - Affordable housing
- Focus districts such as entertainment and farmers market to receive more city money
- Promote existing prosperity
- Careful with retail
- Combined Chamber – EDC/City for true outward reach
- Support an ecosystem for business, professionals, skilled workers, service organizations
- Walkability
- Maximize public health initiatives
- Airport
  - Bring in other companies
- The arts
- Affordable housing
- Citywide WiFi
- More local jobs (1 checkmark)
- Expand local and regional transit (bus, train)
- Livable streets
- Mixed use communities (1 checkmark)
- Incentives to attract businesses
- Improve infrastructure and unimproved areas
- Business park?
  - Corporate Woods type
- Bring future generations (H.S. and College aged) to these round-table talks
- Use space wisely
- Infrastructure must be scaled before growth
- Support the LSEDC
- Engage with KCADC

### **Strong Neighborhoods with Housing Choices**

**Maintain thriving, quality neighborhoods that connect a diversity of residents throughout the community.**

What defines thriving, quality neighborhoods?

- Upkeep

- Well maintained
- Public median beautification
- Knowing your neighbors (1 checkmark)
- Swimming pools
- Active HOA/community
- Lighting
- Safe walkways/sidewalks
- No abandoned vehicles/boats/items
- Landscaping – good, maintained (1 checkmark)
  - Native
  - Weed free
- Well maintained parks
- Churches, schools, playgrounds, etc.
- Good communication
- Parks and trails
- Strong, well-run neighborhood school
- Community policing (visible)
- Stable property values (1 checkmark)
- Tree canopy
- Police/City working together to ensure safety
- Green space
- Friendliness/respect
- Neighborhood watch
- Livable
- Likeness
- Economic
- Maintain quality residences
- Community
- City officials that will enforce City codes, ordinances to protect quality of life throughout the City
  - Privacy fences crowd sidewalks
- Place people want to live
- You know your neighbors
- Quality of home, landscaping, etc.
- Walkability, sidewalks, bike paths
- Safety
- Culture of neighborhood
- Neighborhood destinations
- Connectivity
- Closeness to work/entertainment
- Mixed use
- Diversity
- Local commitment by developers
- Enforce littering laws



- Diverse housing and development types
- Cleaner community
- HOA Council or way for HOA reps to meet regularly with City or within the City
  - City should have an active list
- Public safety support/response
- Schools close by
- Access to parks/amenities
- Front porches instead of decks on the back
- Neighbor comradery
- Sidewalks
- Sidewalks – walkability
- Citywide trash (1 checkmark)
  - Too many trash trucks around
- Parks close by
- Access to parks
- Caring for each other
- Aesthetics
- Code enforcement
- Home ownership
- Public spaces
- Maintaining properties
- Well kept
- Good amenities
- Good schools
- Create app
- Neighborhood meet and greet
- New people moving in
- Stability
- Opportunities for neighbors to connect

What types of diverse residential development are important to maintaining thriving, quality neighborhoods in Lee's Summit?

- Housing that is affordable (1 checkmark)
- Affordable senior living
  - Single-level living for seniors and accessibility
- Diversity (1 checkmark)
  - Rental/Apartments
  - Condos
  - Townhomes
  - Houses
- Mixed use developments
- Equal opportunity housing for different social classes
- Realistic, affordable housing
- Resistance to rentals as neighbors

- Duplexes, triplexes
- Houses for young couples/families
- Different price points
- Planned communities with variety of price points
- Housing that people employed in LS can live in
- "Renter Rights" enforced
- Restrict outside homeowners to tighter restrictions
- Green spaces
- Starter home vs. affordable needs to be examined and discussed
- Quality apartments
- Affordable quality residential
- All levels of housing, low to high-end
- Mixed use
- Kid in apart to school ratio
- Safe neighborhoods
- Quality streets, sidewalks, parks
- Destinations
- Amenities
- Good schools
- Variety and mid-range living
  - Townhomes
  - Small walkup apartments
- Affordability
- Walk accessible activities
- In-law housing being allowed
- Housing for young adults to live while getting training or in college
- More options for developer incentives
- Mixed income housing development
- Grocery stores (downtown)
- Strategic placement gas stations
- Starter home
- Retirement housing
- Revitalization of aging neighborhoods
- In-law suites or flats
- Transitional
- City neighborhood code enforcement
- Walkable
- Maintenance provided
- Mixed housing types
- Gated communities
- HOA vs. Non-HOA balance

What could the City do to celebrate and encourage diversity within neighborhoods?

- What is diversity in this context?
- Neighborhood block party?
- Need to focus on encouraging before celebrating
- Advertising and education are needed
- Promote diversity
- All citizens follow rules
- Invite newcomers to LS to participate in an orientation to LS
  - Get citizens involved in LS rather than seek services and resources in KS or neighboring communities
- Improved transportation capacity
- Best of class educational resources
  - Excellent standards
- There is a presumption that there is a barrier here. Is there?
  - Challenge mindset
- Encourage diverse participation in community groups
- Neighborhood centered community events
- Maybe not cities role (1 checkmark)
- Let neighborhoods develop naturally
- Continue promoting senior housing options
- Equality of regional types of housing
  - Ex – N, S, E, W L.S.
- Planned (balance) development in schools, senior housing, business and recreation
- Adopt a Highway
- Start at young age
- Stronger enforcement of residential codes
- Planning neighborhoods around schools
- Neighborhood watches
- Sponsor police engagement
  - Kids with cops
- Strategic land use
- More availability of affordable houses
- Mixed housing types and prices to have mix of ages/life states and incomes
- Tiny home communities for veterans
- Small home improvement loan program
- Help neighborhood associations form
- More redevelopment in existing neighborhoods
- Increased public transportation
- Get rid of stigma of multi-family housing
- Range of types of homes, more “middle”
- Neighborhood competitions
- Block parties
- Creative destruction (Remove old neighborhoods and replace)

- Incentives for improving decaying housing stock

## **Cultural and Recreational Amenities**

**Create a community that celebrates, welcomes, and supports cultural and recreation amenities.**

Why are cultural arts and recreation amenities important to our City?

- Attracts more people (1 checkmark)
- Increases property value
- Spur development
- Legacy/Theater/Symphony brings community together
- Community values
- Real estate
- Pride
- Basketball courts
- Tourism
- Attractions available to outsiders
- Improves quality of life
- Low cost is a plus
- Well-rounded city
- Excellent park system
- Livable streets
- Supports businesses (1 checkmark)
- Good for kids and families
- Developing future talent (1 checkmark)
- Social opportunities (1 checkmark)
- Important to develop culture in young people
- Draws people to visit and live in community (1 checkmark)
- Develops sense of community pride
- Health
- Community can rally behind
- Connects with and learns from history
- Community pride
- Connection
- Reflection of our community values
- Establishes our identity
- Make people want to be here and stay here
- Critical to our quality of life (1 checkmark)
- External economic influx
- Fosters unity/creativity
- Develops safety for youths
- Introduces young people to arts
- Keeps our money/taxes here
- Create a real interest by educating people about what art really is (all types of art)

- Intergenerational connection
- Sense of community
- Legacy
- Brings in people from other communities
- Potential future residents
- Provides more positive and less negative opportunities
- Provides business opportunities
- Allows people to connect
- Good for us
- Balanced mental health
- Our culture, celebrate who we are
- Better people, more well-rounded

How could currently available cultural arts and recreation programs in Lee's Summit be better supported?

- Promote tourism to the LS Museum
- Youth sports accessible
- Encourage creative competitions
- Continue funding for LS Arts Council
- Participation
- Need larger venue (1 checkmark)
- Be able to bring in your own water/food to Legacy, because mothers couldn't bring in food
- Better promoting of current programs (1 checkmark)
  - Facebook/social media
- +1% budgeted to arts
- Employ grants funding
- Art gallery/museums
- Intra-city connected bike/run trails
- Katy Trails
- Take advantage of grant/state opportunities
- Continued participation
- 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays
- Bands at downtown Howard Station
- Summit Theater
- LS Historical Museum
- Downtown Days
- Arts Festival
  - Especially student art
- Various marketing strategies
- Variety of cultural opportunities
- Support by businesses (sponsorships)
- Involvement of faith groups
  - Unity Village plans?
- Some programming involving local LS citizens (children)

- Recreational LS “Corporate Challenge”
- LS involvement in trails/events/races
- How is it currently supported?
- Work with churches or Lee’s Summit ministry to announce family friendly activities
- Billboards
- LS App/web (1 checkmark)
  - Awareness
- Collaboration between existing groups
- Community calendar
- Signage in public spaces (1 checkmark)
- City funded position to help grant searches and funding sources
- Multiple additional pickleball, splash pads in southern and norther parts of LS
- More funding
- Pamphlet
  - Activities in Lee’s Summit for adults and for kids
- Better awareness of what we currently have (1 checkmark)
- Increased sponsorship
- Better collaborative partnership between arts community/City and schools
- Awareness of communication for multi-generations and cultures
- Add Cultural Arts Council to City of L.S. as a P.S.A.
- Community map
- Amphitheatre
- Better and more parking
- Communication of Cultural Arts Center at Longview College
- Hours of History Museum need to be expanded (1 checkmark)
  - And better awareness

What opportunities do you see for the City to support local cultural arts and recreation amenities?

- LS Cares programs
- Publicity of events
  - Siloed
  - No cross promotions
- Have the school district more involved with cultural arts, musical, fine arts
  - Collaboration
  - Partnerships, encourage more use of school district properties
  - Theater, etc.
- More public display of artists
- Public live/work spaces
- Get the downtown feel to other parts of the City
- Better branding of things like LS Symphony
- Develop entertainment district
- More programming for young children
  - 0 years – 3 years
- 2020 multi-cultural programs

- Priority of inclusive events
- Would like to see big names perform in LS
  - Venue?
- City funding?
- City →community volunteers
- City marketing/promotion events
- Strategic planning – more City recreational/cultural sites
- LS City performing arts center and cultural arts center
  - Needs to happen
  - Slated for downtown already?
  - Partner with local businesses?
- Support for City-wide, neighborhood-based events/activities (potlucks, garage sales, etc.)
- Block parties
- Public meeting space
- Create something similar to Independence City Market (2 checkmarks)
- Small performance space
  - Don't need large performance space (HS auditorium, John Knox Village, etc. is enough)
- Better transportation
  - To take advantage of getting people to events
- Bring back concerts at City Hall instead of Legacy
- Downtown performance space (3 checkmarks)
- Look at underutilized private/public space
- Social media
- Kid and family-friendly events
- Proactive support and voice for all of our arts community
- Expand role of cultural arts position
- Collaboration with schools and libraries
- Art scholarships
- Art activities and classes
- Financial and promotional support for the arts
- Look for funding sources
  - Bed Tax?
  - Earmarked for arts
  - Block grants

## **Inclusive Community Engagement**

**Create a healthy and balanced community for all voices.**

What does inclusive community engagement look like in Lee's Summit?

- Representative makeup for hiring and general representation
- Collaborative information
- Demographic opportunity
- Highlight opportunity for engagement
- Everyone's voice is heard

- Citizens are accepting of each other's P.O.V.s and culture
- Ensure continued handicapped accessibility
- Make people aware of how they can be involved
- User-friendly website (1 checkmark)
  - Better organization
  - Better engagement
  - Better promotion
- Multiple languages
- Multiple formats/media
- Closed caption for City meetings
- Be inclusive to groups here in Lee's Summit
- More engagement of various groups
  - Encourage inclusion of all
- Multiple ages
- Don't rely on a single platform to communicate
- Variety of activities
  - Something for all ages and interests
  - Opportunities at all times
  - Get and keep attention
  - Town hall (1 checkmark)
- Town hall meetings
- Community boards (1 checkmark)
- Say "resident" and not "citizen"
- Leadership academy
- Police citizen ride-along/academy
  - Market opportunities
- Feel welcome, valued, accepted
- Meaningful participation/response
- Everyone is accepted – cultural, economic, race, religious background
- Invitation to participate
- Voter literacy for adults and kids
- Become a "welcoming city" through Welcoming America
- Engaging our special needs population
  - Fostering inclusive environments
  - Accessibility (transportation)
- Low income
  - Accessibility to digital media
  - Housing
  - Inaccessible school opportunities
- More social interactions – small, informal events
- Volunteer opportunities
- Opportunities for senior citizens
  - Housing
  - Accessibility



- Events
- Transportation
- Services
- Something for everyone
- Affordability
- Community Theatre
- Free events (possibly)
- Income producing and revenue generating activities
- Knowledge of events and transportation to event
- Take events around the City, specifically north and south L.S.
- Katy Trail connect to more parts of town
  - i.e. LS Loop
- Need to explore who is not included
- Need community calendar (1 checkmark)
- Chances to give voice to community activities
- Activities for younger audience (millennials)
- Family-friendly activities
- LS visitors' app – what's happening in LS (1 checkmark)
- Transportation – bike lanes, public options, Amtrak stops, trolley
- Places for kids/teens to hang out
  - Maybe Harris park or other community center
- Education for free activities
- Events for senior citizens
- Public forums and comment opportunities need to be better promoted
- Add public meetings to LS App
  - Council debrief
  - Community events
  - Public hearings

How can the City inspire civic awareness and engagement?

- Defining and sharing positive outcomes
- Videos that show how the City operates
- Develop a way for citizens to give feedback
- City-wide art events throughout year
- Promote civic involvement at schools to engage parents
- Civic Academy
  - Publicize this
- Advertise Town Halls and B.O.E. meetings through social media, radio
- Incentivize participation
- Provide feedback to recognize good activity
- Publicizing outcomes
- Start young
- Make it easier for families to get involved (1 checkmark)
- Public banners

- Monthly calendar of community events
- Public information sources
  - How do you get information out?
- Go where people are (1 checkmark)
- Increase community awareness of areas in need
- Variety of communication methods
- Clubs, faith
- Hosting town hall type events
  - Variety of times/days
  - Community center/event monthly on specific subject (1 checkmark)
  - Ongoing “chat” or media/tech platform
- Website improvements
- Empty nester engagement (1 checkmark)
- Know your neighbors/event (1 checkmark)
- Outreach to citizen group and/or feature citizen group
- City promote neighborhood groups – neighborhood liaison
- Community “watch” programs
- Helping neighbors
- “Community Cares”
- Youth councils
- Resident civic academies
- Heavy involvement in local schools teaching civics
- Encouraging volunteering
- Meeting people where they are
  - Church, civic club, work, etc.
- Coffee with Council
- City government 101
- Food
- Support strong network of community organizations
- LS360, Ignite, etc. does not have to be limited to a dedicated in between, host regular meetings
- Communication
  - Social media
  - Local papers
  - Newsletters
  - Use local churches as avenue for communicating to a “new” group of people. Form a group from churches to keep them informed.
  - Engage high schools in local government issues
  - Parks Department
  - Neighborhood newsletters
  - Community app
  - Events for new community members
  - Volunteer opportunities
  - Advertising what is going on
  - Appreciate and acknowledge people who are involved
- Better ties between churches and the community

- Feel like time has a purpose or outcome

Are there new or innovative practices the City could use to engage the community in an impactful way?

- Outband
- Include all populations
- Every 3 to 6 meetings the City invited new residents to an orientation program
- Engage community businesses in welcoming new residents
- City Department Fair
- Share what departments cover
- Educate citizens seeking answers
- Reach out and provide information to and through local organizations and businesses (Boy Scouts, daycares, etc.)
- Social media
- Set up subdivisions to have Welcome Wagons
- To use social media in a broad way to publicize events, Parks and Rec and civic events and feedback
- City clearinghouse
- Provide places for people to volunteer/serve proactively
- Interactive ways to take part with City government, City Council meetings remotely
  - Public Comments
- LS City "orientation" for community opportunities
  - All newcomers
  - Maybe old-timers, too
- Listing local services, healthcare
  - Coupons?
  - Day at Legacy, plumber, restaurant
- Have childcare and food at City events
- Welcome wagons
- Raffle and "free" City swag
- Chamber of Commerce engagement
- Recurring special project panels made up of citizens, short-term, one issue focused
  - City Council or Department directed or citizen requested
  - Various issues, problems
  - Citizens provide recommendations
  - Assigned by district
- Improve City website
  - Make it easier to navigate
- Chamber interaction with employers
  - Training opportunities
- Have reps on Council representing people who aren't always included:
  - Young people
  - Lower income
  - People with disabilities, etc.
- Electronic billboards
- Video announcements via social media, 60 seconds or less

- Instagram, Facebook
- NextDoor
- Keep current with neighborhood HOAs
  - Police and Fire Departments as ambassadors
- LS App – have a game in app for younger audience
  - “Did you know” facts
- Identify gaps – who is not being reached?
- Find ways to reach difficult population
- Get at-risk individuals/low-income people plugged into training and development opportunities
- Community job board/web links to job and training opportunity

## **Community Health and Wellbeing**

**Support a healthy, happy community by improving healthy lifestyle choices and opportunities.**

Why is healthy living and mental health important to Lee's Summit?

- Healthy communities = growing communities
- Healthy = cheaper (1 checkmark)
- Education of healthy creates systemic change
- Cost of emergency services/unhealthy living
- Lower crime (1 checkmark)
- Lower addiction/substance abuse issues (1 checkmark)
- More cohesive community
- Feel safe walking at night
- School safety, community safety
- Fosters understanding
- High levels of mental health and physical health lead to a better community
- Contributes to a sense of well being
- Good health is good for the economy
- Focus on mental health as community can break cycles of ill health
- It costs money to be healthy
- Food choices
- Remove the stigma of mental health issues
- Academic success for kids
- Affects quality of citizens and schools
- Makes our community safer (1 checkmark)
- Economic benefit to healthy citizens
- Continue to expand facilities to accommodate growing community
- Promotes early intervention
- Reduces violence and crime (1 checkmark)
- Quality of life (2 checkmarks)
- Encourage new business (1 checkmark)
- More mental health for kids (1 checkmark)
- Unhealthy people are expensive

- Early education in healthy living and lifestyles promotes positive thinking and lifestyles as adults
- Healthy kids learn better
- More productive
- Education at young age

What actions can the community take to impact perceptions of mental health?

- More school/community collaboration (1 checkmark)
- Faith based collaboration
- Educational forums (1 checkmark)
- Easy access to emergency mental health services (1 checkmark)
  - Ex: crisis hotlines
- First responder training (1 checkmark)
- Access to affordable mental health care
  - Equitable pay for mental health professionals
- Engage and educate community in social determinative health to identify people at risk
  - Food, mental health, etc.
  - Isolation, transport
- Support programs that already exist to address, don't reinvent the wheel
- Educate parents and teachers for warning signs/treatment options for suicide and mental health issues
  - For adolescent ages
- Suicide prevention and education/resources
- Grow awareness
- Services are available and accessible
- Better triage/risk factors
- Support for first responders and stress of dealing with emergencies (1 checkmark)
- Eliminate/reduce stigma for those seeking help (1 checkmark)
- Teach kids in school how to deal with stress, etc. (1 checkmark)
- Community debate of fluoride in water supply
- Impacts of 5G
- Increase access of mental health facilities
  - Youth
- Stigma of causes of mental health
- Outreach to community partners needed
- Training for police/teachers to deal with mental health crisis
- Increase "mental health first aid" course opportunities
- Address opioid crisis
- Social workers/nurses in every building of school district
- Do not legalize marijuana
- Discover Health for LS residents
- Education for drug and alcohol abuse
- Partner with mental health providers to educate
- Mental health service easy access in schools
- Respite care

- Education
- More facilities
- Access to care
- Active outreach (1 checkmark)
- Non-profit involvement
- Access current program in schools
- Partnership with schools
- Programs in school to facilitate conversation so kids can be open
- Homeless assistance
- Program to rebuild a person to find work that need improvement
- Clearing house for services
  - One stop shop
  - What is available
- Advocacy at state level
  - Coordinated program
- Need more positive stories
  - Typically only hear negative outcomes
- City promote mental health programs for first responders and publicize
- Promote employer wellness programs
- Community mental health training
- Youth homeless shelter
- More accessible mental health care
- Acknowledge homeless population in L.S.
- Educate citizens on what “homeless” looks like
- Communicate about what is available

What opportunities exist for Lee's Summit to foster healthy living?

- Livable streets
- Growing awareness of what we have available
- Focus groups to identify gaps
- Adequate healthcare for ALL
  - Access and treatment
- “Walkability”
- Mixed us community to foster “neighborhood” feeling without driving
- Work closely with schools
  - “See something/say something”
- Artistic opportunities have never been better
- Elderly lunches – more nutritious
- Community gardens
  - Publicize, promote
- Food pantries with healthy choices for those who need help
- Organic grocery stores
- Outstanding recreation facilities
- Improve school lunches

- Longview community center
- Parks Department is key
- Bike rails – not just highway shoulder, secure from car traffic (1 checkmark)
- Biking, hiking (1 checkmark)
- Promote community walks/physical activities
- Education for health
- Continue livable streets program
- Possible vaping restriction
- “Make the healthy choice the easy choice”
- They do exist, communication is not convenient
- Pro Deo
- LS Cares
- Parks and Rec programs encourage health
- Better/healthier food options in schools
- Expand the Farmers Market (1 checkmark)
  - Build the new one
- Health clinic partnerships and communication
- Food coops
- Community gardens
- Collaborate with churches and other organizations
- Education for youth
- Volunteerism at young age
- Making walkability with sidewalks and roads (2 checkmarks)
- Transportation re-done – narrow
- Ability to walk more – for example 291 not walkable
- Public transportation (1 checkmark)
- Shrink street lanes
- Accommodate pedestrians more
- Trash streams – we have resource recovery park – away from landfills. Keep trash off street and roads – bud need place to put it
- Contract trash service to decrease trash trucks in neighborhoods, less emissions.
- Education streamlined through City.
- Help environment
- Water resources – keep streams safe
- Access to arts
- Clearing house for services to help connect people
- Awareness of opportunities
- Seniors teaching younger audience
- Parks and Rec programs
- Driving safety programs
- Bring back Safety Town
- Teen Youth Center (Pro Deo)
- Community Garden

- Donation of produce
- Neighborhood Gardens
  - Education/life skills classes
- Pocket parks
- Environmental consciousness

### **Collaborative Relations with Education Partners**

**Enhance and plan for educational opportunities to support economic development.**

What strong partnerships exist in the community today?

- ReDiscover
- Stronger PTA (Head PTA at LSR7 level)
- Partners In Education (PIE) (1 checkmark)
- Coldwater – backpacks
- Chamber (1 checkmark)
  - “Welcome” packets
- Optimist
- LS Educational Foundation
- Lions Club
- Rotary
- EDC
- City government
- Local businesses
- Pro Deo (2 checkmarks)
- Velocity (1 checkmark)
- LS Social Services Ministerial Alliance (faith-based org)
- UCM/LSSD/MCC/Longview CC
- Civic roundtable
- All great groups but need more collaboration between them
- The existing UCM partnership
- L.S. school district administration is very accessible
- Symphony
- Park system
- Surrounding school districts
- Lee's Summit Cares
- LS Social Services
- Pro Deo
- Re Discover
- Coldwater
- Business Roundtable
- Summit Technology
- Career Fair and “How to job hunt”
- Educate parents on value of Tech/non 4-year career opportunities



- Career Pathways Advisory Team
- Partnership in Education (P.I.E.)
- Chamber of Commerce
  - Education Committee
- UCM
- MCC-Longview
- EDC
- Public and private school options
- Supportive Business Partners
- Downtown Main Street
- Crisis Intervention
- Hospitals
- Need: Local "211" hotline similar to United Way

How can businesses and education systems collaborate to support economic development?

- Adult ed
- Community opportunities
- More communication
- Citywide job fair with local businesses and the high schools
- Job skills
- Community job placement portal
  - Schools and business
- Have schools order supplies/services from local businesses first
- Increase Vo-Tech resources (2 checkmarks)
  - Not everyone needs 4-year college
- Increase internship/externships and awareness of (1 checkmark)
  - Way to list opportunities
- Talent retention/incentives
- Improve communication of success and awareness of programs with MCC and the business community
- Better marketing of available programs
- Higher local talent
  - Hire?
- Collaborate R7 School District with local businesses
  - What are their needs and how can the schools teach/train for success in the business world
- School district could initiate working with local businesses for internships (LS does this)
- The need for performance/arts center that schools and professionals use
- Small business mentorships (LS does this)
- Dual credit for students (LS does this)
- More training opportunities for youth: cooking, accounting, trades, self sufficiency
- Seem over-reliant on chrome books – emphasize group work that is needed in job sector
- Service learning that ties to academics and practical life skills
- Teacher externships

- Apprenticeships
- Internships
- Provide expertise and resources
- Ease of connections between schools and existing and prospective employers
- Schools communicate capacity issues
- Support social-emotional learning
- Don't pigeon hold
- Need basic social skills
- Conversations
- Broaden thinking of career path to include varied jobs that have basic skills in common
- Teacher compensation needs to be competitive
- Ties to grow civic engagement
- Understanding of opportunities to learn about public sector jobs
  - Support second language learning to expand job opportunities
- Training students for workforce
  - Career Days
  - Collaboration with businesses
  - Interviews with HS students onsite
- Paradigm shift back to career-based opportunities
  - Mentors
  - Establishing a network for mentoring, etc.
- For HS graduates without a plan or housing to have a place to live and a job to go to
- Focus on non-traditional job paths
  - School district engagement in this process
  - District education on current career opportunities as an alternative to college
- Increased internship opportunities for non-college bound students (1 checkmark)

What partnerships should the City seek to strengthen and leverage that would benefit the community?

- Early childhood literacy
- Parents as Teachers (need to market)
- Partner with training centers
- Partner with Community Services League
- Transitional training
- MCC
- Improve social services safety net
  - Build into schools
- Work to engage the family unit
  - Affordable "family" housing
- Pro Deo (1 checkmark)
- Mentorships with City officials and other businesses
- Blue Devils Youth Sports and Mentorship
- Leverage public service agreements
- Work with Ministerial Alliance
- School district

- More transparency
- MCC (Longview)
- R.E. Developers – build schools within the residential neighborhood
- After school programs for students (K-12)
- Elderly daycare
- Business Roundtable
- Summit Technology
- Career Fair and “How to job hunt”
- Educated parents on value of Tech/non 4-year career opportunities
- Career Pathways Advisory Team
- Chamber initiative
  - Mentoring
- EDC
- Trade Associations
- Starts with EDC:
  - EDC encourages partnerships with new businesses between schools, students, and their businesses
- Use existing partnership to add education about levels of trade
- Businesses strengthen comm. of what they need
- Sponsors to provide classes of field experts to teach
- LS School District
- Public service and safety
- Rotary
- VFW
- Inclusiveness
- Life skills within schools already to help kids to move into jobs in the community
- Create a sustainable scholarship between similar industries: law, banking, builders, etc.
  - Each contributes “X” amount of money to create scholarships

## **Proactive Infrastructure Development**

**Sustain and enhance City services to protect a high quality of life.**

What City services are most important to protecting a high quality of life?

- Fluoride water additive in purchased KCMO/Independence inventory
  - Have City discussion forum to address risks
- 5G signal generator towers (1 checkmark)
  - Zones – technology district
- Communication
- Marketing
  - Invest in PR and diverse communication strategies
- Public safety (1 checkmark)
- Water/sewer
- Attractive/focus corridors
- Well lit neighborhoods

- Good streets/landscaping
- Entertainment districts (mixed use)
- Parks and trails – green space
- Health facilities
- Connect different neighborhoods to feel like Lee's Summit is one community
- Hospitals and clinics
- Oversight of existing homes/quality
- Sewer and wastewater
- Clean, neat highway corridors
- Exit ramp beautification corridors
  - Public/Private partnerships to accomplish
- Police (1 checkmark)
  - Recruitment, pay, benefits (1 checkmark)
- Fire (1 checkmark)
  - Recruitment, pay, benefits (1 checkmark)
- Water/sewer (1 checkmark)
- Snow removal
- Roads (1 checkmark)
- Lighting
- Code Enforcement (1 checkmark)
- Schools
- Parks and Rec
- City-provided trash/recycling (1 checkmark)
- Community policing
- Community support of fire, police
  - Feel they are supported by community
- Fiscally strong/responsible
- Stay ahead of curve
- Economic development
- Public transportation
  - Tie to metro
- Incentivizing recycling – reward
- Public Works
- “Bike Lanes”
- Transit
- Walkable streets
- Public safety
- Animal control
- Public transportation
- Network of neighborhood associations
- Waste management/recycling
- Beautification
- Arts

- Codes enforcement
- Pot holes, curbing repair (1 checkmark)
- Sidewalks and maintain sidewalks
- Road maintenance
- Quality road maintenance
- Storm water management (1 checkmark)
- Affordable healthcare
- Police
- Fire
- Parks and rec
- "Well-trained" Planning Commission who understand their job
- Recycling
- Doe better job of controlling storm and sewer and trash run-off (1 checkmark)
- Trash control on streets and lakes

How should the City evaluate current and future demands for services as the City grows?

- Well in advance
- Mater plan with broad input
- City sales tax becoming excessive
- Encourage "Innovation District" development to attract more tax base and higher paying jobs (1 checkmark)
- Demographic changes as percentage
- Plan for long-term
- Protect property owners' investment
- Economics
- Encourage participation in the census by having an aggressive complete count committee
- Voter literacy and civic engagement
- Community survey (like Johnson County does)
- 5 to 7 year planning creates minor adjustments rather than complete overhaul
- Communication opportunity for private citizens to file/enforce codes
  - Proactive enforcement
- Listen with effective communication tool
  - Answer the Qs
- Response Rate
- Projecting land use (1 checkmark)
  - Prepare for future growth with road system
- Zoning
- Population growth and migration (smart growth)
- Outside consultants
  - i.e. MARC
- Master plan
- Use the census data
- Broader vision – look at metro growth

- Study other communities
- Thoughtful development for upcoming RLDS land
  - Mixed use
  - Connectivity and usable streets
- Public input of capital improvements
- Track growth patterns
- Tie services to building permits and planning
- Planning – for future development
- Truck routes for deliveries downtown (1 checkmark)
  - Too much truck traffic
- Community engagement and education (1 checkmark)
- Retrofit – making communities walkable
- Technology
- LS Connect App
- NextDoor App
- Level of service standards
- Prioritize and then budget to achieve what is desired
  - Focus on necessities not amenities
- EDC
- Evaluate whether goals were achieved in last Master Plan
- More community involvement
- Ensure staff is in place at City level to be proactive vs reactive
- Make infrastructure expansion flexible for future growth or shrinkage
- Use metrics from City services
- District town halls (quarterly)
- Research other (peer) cities

Are there specific infrastructure initiatives the City should pursue in order to secure its future?

- Reinvest in older neighborhoods to maintain home values vs. just concentrating on outer edge new development (1 checkmark)
- All street names spelled consistently
  - Stop multiple streets with the same name, name stuff differently
- Strategic approach to future land development
- Incentives for businesses to come to town
- Economic plan to ensure services can survive when City is fully developed
- Subsidized housing
- Entertainment district
- 50 Highway corridor becoming a bottleneck
  - Collaborate with MoDOT, cost-sharing focus
  - Longer ramps, more use of outer roads through better access
- Proactive green infrastructure
- Dunning is my hero
- Rain gardens
- 310 retention
- Lea McKeighan Park is done well

- Jack Stack, Price Chopper done poorly
- Get us the workflow and to the right person
- Major intersection improvements up north
- “Smart City”
- Any matching funds available
  - State, Federal
- C.I.D.
- Connectivity and usable streets
- Public transportation within L.S. and surrounding areas (1 checkmark)
- Amtrak – Downtown- back and forth (1 checkmark)
- Smart growth
- Preserving downtown (1 checkmark)
- Work with our surrounding cities to promote roads, beautification, etc.
- Widen LS Road to 70
- Light rail/street car
- Ride share
- New developments – developer pays for infrastructure
- Require greenspace, sidewalks in new developments
- Improve 3<sup>rd</sup> Street from Downtown to 350
- Impact fees from developers
- Create 501c3 to create a place for donors to fund projects with tax deduction
- Public transportation plan
- North and south recycling for public
- Expansion of Police and Fire
- No minimum parking requirements
- Technology needs
- Storm water issues addressed (1 checkmark)
- Strategic green infrastructure plan
- Address crumbling infrastructure (1 checkmark)
  - i.e. roads, bridges
- Deal with littering fines and awareness
- Streets and highways
- Utility services – sewer, streets, etc.
- Parks and public spaces
- Sidewalks and trails (expand and maintain)
- Learn how to use TIFFs and tax credits
- Regional sanitary sewer expansion
- Gain state representative’s support re: MODOT
- Low impact storm water management
- Invest in downtown
- Bike paths
- Public parking garages (1 checkmark)
  - Less lots
- Better signage for public parking
- Better material choices – concrete vs. asphalt
- Comprehensive infrastructure plan re: PRI

- Build a plan for federal dollars
- Sustainable workplan with MODOT (understanding of partnership with MODOT)



## Appendix B: Lee's Summit Online Comments

### Vision Statement

**A world-class community striving to ensure purposeful growth and quality of life for future generations.**

How does this vision reflect your hope for the future of Lee's Summit? When you think about the proposed vision, what does the City do in order to achieve it?

- "...striving to ensure purposeful growth..."- I would prefer "striving to CONTINUE purposeful growth...". That would indicate a sense of history, current accomplishments (at any time), in addition to future strategy. (2 "Agrees" votes)
- "striving to ensure" sounds passive. "dedicated to purposeful growth" sounds stronger and more focused. Also might suggest "creating a positive quality of life". (4 "Agrees" votes)
- I completely agree!
- Don't like it at all. Anyways, future generations can't afford to live here; they are leaving. (1 "Agrees" votes, 2 "Disagrees" votes)
- Lee's Summit is very affordable compared to most cities around the country. However, the city needs to do more to keep younger generations from moving away, like implementing transit, bike lanes, and more urban development. (1 "Agrees" votes, 1 "Disagrees" votes)
- ALL generations. We just had the community for all ages program certified. Let's continue that idea with the vision statement.
- How about "A world-class community ensuring purposeful growth and positive quality of life for future generations."
- There's a lot to like about LS, but there are some things that really annoy me too. 1. Low walkability: Complete sidewalks and make sure existing sidewalks are kept clean. (Look at the weeds at the intersection of Blue Parkway and Todd George!) Provide means to cross 291 safely. I could walk to downtown LS, but I live east of 291 and won't try to cross it. 2. Bus service: Do you realize the city provides no way for NON-drivers to get to downtown KC in the A.M.? There's a big express bus at Chipman and 350, but the Oats bus doesn't start running early enough to connect with it. Like it or not, there are some services people need to be able to get to outside of LS, such as medical services at St. Luke's. I'd like to see bus service extended in some way to alleviate this problem. Also, while the Oats door-to-door service is great for some things, I really miss being able to use a normal city bus that runs by on a set schedule and takes a set route to all the main attractions, such as Legacy Park Community Center, shopping, and Longview Community College. 3. Accessibility: I'm functionally hard of hearing and sometimes want sign language interpreters. I'd be interested in participating in some events, such as cultural attractions or community center classes. But I don't because of communication issues."

### Balanced Economic Development

**Build an adaptable framework for continued growth in a changing environment.**

In your view, what contributes to balanced economic development, and what specific initiatives should the City consider to cultivate a vibrant, sustainable local economy?

- I'm excited by the prospect of quality apartments downtown and hope they bring additional spark to downtown. That is one of the few TIF'd projects I've been excited about--for that reason (increased business/jobs downtown). The city really needs to work much harder on bringing in jobs that pay salaries that support the housing and businesses we have and desire in our community. Most of the notable, recent projects have been low-wage retail jobs (and they were

highly TIF'd). We need to develop/attract more middle/upper-middle/upper income jobs to support a vibrant economic community. This should be done working with neighboring communities as well, as solid, well-paying, career jobs within a few miles will still be very beneficial to the city. Cheap fuel costs allow residents to live in LS and commute to those jobs in Lenexa/Olathe/Overland Park/KC--and they do, by the tens of thousands (as the rush hour traffic clearly shows). If future fuel prices rise, it will make living in Lee's Summit much less attractive. However, if there are local jobs (not necessarily just in LS proper; Blue Springs/Lake Lottawana/NE Belton/W Grandview/SE Kansas City/etc. are all close enough to have positive impact on Lees Summit--unlike jobs in Olathe/Lenexa/Overland Park/etc.) it will make Lees Summit a more attractive place to live, shop, etc. (5 "Agrees" votes)

- Agree, we do not need more retail development in LS, especially TIF'd retail, except in some very small and targeted areas. Online shopping is claiming dozens of traditional retail victims every year, and we already have strip malls and retail sites that are looking forlorn, and will get worse. Balance should also refer to 'growing our own'. LS has some start up businesses that could become our next big employer, so emphasis should not be totally on what we can attract from the outside. (4 "Agrees" votes)
- Pretty broad statements with not much emphasis compared to the other sections of the plan. Why isn't LSMO more competitive with OVPK KS when it comes to getting major employers and businesses. It is pretty sad that the largest employers in Lee's Summit are the city government and the school district. There should be more emphasis on getting major private employers in Lee's Summit.
- First, the city needs to agree on a definition of "Balanced Economic Development". After that, consult the community to see if citizens agree that balanced economic development will be good for the city.
- What does it take to attract larger, more middle/upper middle income jobs? We have the schools, we have the recreation, we have the housing, we have an airport, we have land. We don't have speculative office spaces ready to go; we don't have proactive recruitment of these jobs. Actively find out how all the other cities are getting these jobs and compete. (2 "Agrees" votes)

### **Strong Neighborhoods with Housing Choices**

**Maintain thriving, quality neighborhoods that connect a diversity of residents throughout the community.**

What defines a quality, thriving neighborhood to you? What types of diverse residential development are important to maintaining such a neighborhood, and what specific initiatives should the City take to encourage diversity?

- Thriving, quality neighborhoods: strong code enforcement underpins the 'quality' aspect. As neighborhoods age, those areas not well maintained will decline in value and the neighborhood spirals downward. Went to HS in the Ruskin Heights area. Used to be a strong area, now crime ridden and poorly maintained homes is a common sight. Don't want LS going that route. Not sure what diverse residential developments means. Think single family OWNED homes is the only way to have strong neighborhoods, as the residents are invested in their homes and community. National avg turnover rate for rentals is 54% - people moving in and out doesn't build community. (2 "Agrees" votes)
  - I agree with this. I live in downtown and some homes are kept up, and others (especially rentals) are not maintained. Not to say that all renters are the problem, because some do a great job with home upkeep. I also see elderly people who need assistance with maintenance of their property. It will take stronger code enforcement to show

- improvement (although I've never seen a home that looks like it needs to be condemned) to get the marginal properties up to a more acceptable level. (1 "Agrees" vote)
- PROactive Code enforcement. That means having a plan to drive through and inspect every neighborhood street (perhaps twice or three times a year). That also means tracking and mapping the progress, so that you can tell how long it has been - and making that tracking map public.
  - Thriving neighborhoods require advocacy at the neighborhood level. Glendale AZ has a vibrant city assisted neighborhood organization program. City providing guidance to organized neighborhoods, they develop capital improvements to take to the city for consideration and financial assistance. This is a very effective citizen organization system resulting in tangible city financial assistance to organized neighborhoods. The city has a neighborhood organization staff person to assist neighborhoods. Also, there is a need for analyzing the fiscal, budget asses valuation strategy to be sure that the fiscal budget impacts of apartments pay their own way in regard to their residents need for city services. Yes there are retail sales but what are the infrastructure and service needs? especially on the school district. It is an axiom in city planning that there is a ideal balance between apartments and single family owned homes.
  - Thriving neighborhoods embody the concept of hospitality and welcome. A key aspect for seeking diversity and inclusion is advocating for affordable housing. There are many who work in Lee's Summit who cannot afford to live here. As a faith leader in the community, I believe it is our responsibility to develop more affordable housing that isn't cordoned off from other residents. (1 "Agrees" vote)
  - A quality, thriving neighborhood must present a uniform attractive appearance. No properties that are improperly maintained, etc.
  - All neighborhoods with attractive landscaping, grass, appropriate plants. And all neighborhoods should have appropriate trees that are maintained, and replaced in case of disease, etc.
  - Affordable housing, single family, high quality, diverse... how? Where? When projects come to the city that begin to address these issues, residents nearby always object. Not in my backyard. Where in this city can the be affordable (lower pricepoints) diverse housing be that is not segregated from existing populations yet not in someone's backyard? The citizens need to come forward that have answers. Years ago, LS had true starter home subdivisions go in at the edges of current developments. What does it take in the real estate / construction business for that to happen again? Will the current citizenry support it? Rentals are so high already. Ownership for young people is difficult. Really difficult subject that needs high level of effort put into it.

## **Cultural and Recreational Amenities**

**Create a community that celebrates, welcomes, and supports cultural and recreation amenities.**

Why are cultural arts and recreation amenities important to you, and what can the City do to support local arts, culture, and recreation amenities?

- There has been progress in making the city more accessible by alternative transportation (such as cycling, with increasing consideration for cycling lanes, pedestrian crossings on 291 Hwy, etc.). Those efforts certainly need to be continued. With the apartments downtown, consideration needs to be given to improving bicycle accommodations in that area--and specifically connecting to the new JCPR trail heading into KC and the KATY trail. Currently, it is difficult (if not dangerous) to ride into KCMO (Plaza, South KC, etc.), as there are few direct routes--and those that exist have high speed traffic with no shoulders. Maintenance on the trails needs to be performed to ensure they remain safe and free of dangerous obstacles (e.g., the trail along the south side of Colbern

Rd from Todd George eastbound has places where the pavement dips deeply next to concrete structures; cross-trail drainage that creates dangerously slick conditions, etc.). Understand that the trails should not be considered only as "recreational amenities" but, also as part of the transportation infrastructure. Increasingly, people are willing to bike (or even walk) to local businesses--having safe routes is a significant "selling point" for the community. The trails through Johnson County, KS are well regarded and greatly increase the appeal of that area. (2 "Agrees" votes)

- I agree completely. I am a bicycle transportation activist and I bike to work every day. Lee's Summit needs bike lanes and road diet improvements to make bicycling a safe mode of transportation and recreation.
- The published outcomes include "Increased use of sidewalk and trail system for fitness and alternate transportation". City ordinances include provisions that make it illegal to use motorized bicycles anywhere for transportation, and those ordinances should be deleted. Other ordinances that ban playing ball on streets and sidewalks should be revised to express the need to not disrupt other uses of the streets, and to express the responsibility of parents to assure that children are behaving correctly, rather than simply banning behaviors (and use of motorized equipment) completely. (2 "Agrees" votes)
  - I agree. We need bike lanes, transit, and more sidewalks to improve alternative transportation.
- Bicycle lanes and education of road rules. Designated bike lanes on the wide sidewalks too. Bikers must observe traffic laws too. Motorized bikes and scooters must be allowed with whatever regulations necessary for their safe use. Parks and rec has been excellent.
- For many years I have heard about someday developing Bailey Farm. Not much has been accomplished. The Parks and Rec tax should be used for this and possibly Public/Private Partnerships. I've always had to make the trek to Kansas for good entertainment in this kind of venue. Deanna Rose is incredible there. I think Jon Ellis might have some ideas. Hands on classes and experiences to explore gardening and farm life. A new city market could be there and event space. Done properly and with vision could be excellent!!

## **Inclusive Community Engagement**

**Create a healthy and balanced community for all voices.**

What does inclusive community engagement look like in Lee's Summit, and how can the City inspire civic awareness and engagement?

- "how can the City inspire civic awareness and engagement?" - FEEDBACK. Actively communicate TO citizens and organizations that benefit and engage with the City. Publicly acknowledge the contributions of boards, committees, commissions, etc. etc. Publicly recognize the contributions of fraternal and other organizations. Do all of that for individual citizens who are engaged, and that will inspire more citizens to be aware and engaged. (2 "Agrees" votes)
- I believe inclusive engagement means actively listening to the concerns of citizens. Not just those with power or influence, but voices at the margin as well. I think it is important to include protections and advocacy for citizens within our community who might be at risk for a variety reasons based on gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, etc. When the city publicly states we are a welcoming and inclusive community, then we must follow that with action and support. (1 "Agrees" vote)

- I suggest that the City select, and publicize, an "Ordinary Citizen of the Month" who has been particularly effective on a citizen board/committee/commission. This would have the benefit of publicizing the citizen committees, as well as publicizing the city.
- The City needs a real newspaper. So, the city should "partner" with one of the two local newspapers. I suspect that the Lee's Summit Tribune would be the most appropriate, because it seems to be more interested in actually publishing news about the city than does the Journal (which mostly just repeats KC Star articles). (1 "Agrees" vote)
- How about celebrating military families, veterans, etc. Also, the various fraternal organizations within the city. (1 "Agrees" vote)
- Actively advertise and celebrate the history of the City. (2 "Agrees" votes)
- Perhaps the city is big enough to increase the number of districts from 4 to 6? Less constituents per councilmember for more intimate representation? Regularly scheduled and advertised town halls in each district. Publish (more widely) agenda items for city meetings to reach more affected citizens sooner. Most people feel that by the time public input happens, it's already a done deal. Fair or not, that is the perception.
- I went to a Memorial Day service at the cemetery and only a handful of people showed up. I'd love to see more awareness/celebration of the military.
- And "actively listening" means REPLYING, and engaging in dialog to understand the concerns. Not just passively listening or just saying "thank you for your comment". The final answer may or may not be what the citizen desires - but at least communicate it to the citizen.
- For community engagement, it needs to be a lot easier to find (search for) documents on the city's website. Before the "new website", there was a way to find historical documents from boards, commissions, etc. (like, for instance, LS360). That has now disappeared, but should be brought back as a capability for reference by the community. Also, with the new website, news articles (and probably other things) have expiration dates, and the website is re-indexed every night, so when articles are expired, they are no longer available to be found. So, if I remember an article from last year, and want to find it again, it's gone. That doesn't facilitate community engagement.

## **Community Health and Wellbeing**

### **Support a healthy, happy community by improving healthy lifestyle choices and opportunities.**

Why is healthy living and mental health important to Lee's Summit, and what opportunities exist for Lee's Summit to impact mental health and foster healthy living?

- My comments under the "Recreational Amenities" section about trails definitely apply to this area as well-supporting the ability of residents to walk/bike to local businesses and work safely is a significant way to support the health and well-being of residents. (2 "Agrees" votes)
- Community mental health support helps everything including reducing crime/violence, more family stability for children. Support for caregivers is lacking everywhere. Affordable help for families with children needing mental health support should be a high priority. Great investment for the health of any city.

## **Collaborative Relations with Education Partners**

### **Enhance and plan for educational opportunities to support economic development.**

What strong education partnerships exist in the community today, and what partnerships should the City seek to strengthen and leverage that would benefit the community?

- This area should garner tremendous focus, especially given the population age breakdown in the consulting firm's summary (large population base here), so why not foster collaboration early on that fuels other areas like economic development, arts, impacts the housing, workers staying local, civic awareness, etc., if they are involved at an early age. Snapshot Example: In school, currently, the kids go to Blue Springs on a day of economic and business learning. Why not leverage the economic weight of LS to do the same (Chamber, Business Partnerships - great community visibility for them - or similar).
- City residential growth affects the schools. Business growth affects school funding. Schools affect economic development. More collaboration between LSEDC and LSR7 regarding future growth. Does the city's comprehensive plan need to address future school growth as well? Should it? Could it? We need trade schools. Skilled trades are hurting for people. We have kids that aren't interested in college or aren't suited for it. Where do they go? How can they afford to live in LS? We need hardworking self-sufficient neighbors to keep our neighborhoods interesting and diverse, not just full of commuters to Johnson county. (1 "Agrees" vote)

### **Proactive Infrastructure Development**

#### **Sustain and enhance City services to protect a high quality of life.**

In your view, what City services are most important to protecting a high quality of life? Are there specific infrastructure initiatives that the City should pursue in order to secure its future?

- Working with Google Fiber to bring truly high-speed access to information was a key example of a great move--it also had the benefit of magically cutting prices by competitors and causing them to dramatically improve their own services (AT&T, which was sitting fat & happy with slow, twisted pair has had to suddenly start bringing high speed fiber so they have a competitive offering). Ensuring that the city keeps future trends, such as this in mind, to prevent the city from being beholden to entrenched interests that are more interested in preserving their strangleholds on profit than in improving infrastructure are important. This applies to many forms of business as things change...electricity (wind, solar, etc.), transportation (Lyft/Uber/Bird/etc.), overnight hospitality (AirBnb, etc.). Along more traditional lines, ensuring the streets and other facilities are maintained is important. From poorly maintained roads to things such as a plethora of non-functional street lights point to concerns about the vibrancy and viability of the community. A more difficult issue involves ensuring that the local businesses do their part to maintain their facilities--several local property owners have let their parking lots, internal/private streets, etc. fall into significant disrepair--which reflects poorly on the community (some are bad enough that I worry about damaging my vehicle; let alone what would happen on a bicycle). (2 "Agrees" votes)
- Keeping our community looking clean and in repair is very important in projecting a high quality of life in LS. This includes roads, curbs, sidewalks, medians, bike lanes that are cleared of debris and kept up. (1 "Agrees" vote)
- Nice goal: what are the metrics to get there? Seems to require an understanding of the long term capital needs of the city which includes: aging older neighborhoods and aging commercial centers whose retail sales tax production and assessed valuation are declining. (1 "Agrees" vote)
- Lead the region in being a "Smart City" - with all that involves. "a city that incorporates information and communication technologies (ICT) to enhance the quality and performance of urban services such as energy, transportation and utilities in order to reduce resource consumption, wastage and overall costs. The overarching aim of a smart city is to enhance the quality of living for its citizens through smart technology.
  - Becoming a green / LEED city would be good too.



- Make sure that "infrastructure" is understood to include Public Safety (Police and Fire) (1 "Agrees" vote)
- A high quality of life includes environmental services. Citizens desire recycling options, access to household hazardous waste services, trash disposal and yard waste services. The City should leverage access to the future trash transfer station in return for discounted residential trash service. We should add services at the Resource Recovery Park. We could reduce costs, increase services, save on street maintenance costs, fund an education coordinator, and improve safety and the environment, all without any cost to the general fund. The Council should explore options by creating an environmental commission to research and make recommendations. (1 "Agrees" vote)
- While I appreciate that it may be understood that high quality of life means a safe place live but I'd like that be front and center in our discussions. In order for us to have a safe place we need more neighborhood patrols from police which means increasing their numbers. As business opportunities grow it is important that the city encourages private security to be employed for parking lots and such so police are not over burdened. A safe place to live means supporting families that have fallen on hard times. We need excellent social services. We need to be helping neighbors and neighborhoods we social services partnering with churches and nonprofits. We need weekend hours for social services so we are always available to those in need, not just 9-5 Monday-Friday. The police need to be able to identify families in need and get them help from other services and agencies. We need more Community/Student Resource officers at high schools to interact with students and assist where necessary. I think the payback here would be tremendous. Keeping kids safe and helping them.
- Infrastructure should be priority one for any city government. Without it nothing else makes sense. Take care of the basics before the extras. A city as wealthy as LS has no excuse for not funding infrastructure. Older areas need addressing. Safety first. Finish sidewalk system - some areas are terrible. Road maintenance needs to be ready for the bad seasons like this last winter. Too many days with really bad side streets. Other cities did much better. Expand roads PRIOR to getting congested. Create cross streets and thru streets in SW area before development comes. "
- To me, one of the biggest eyesores is the lack of curbing in the city. I don't understand that 6' wide patch of grass between the sidewalk and the street. People park on it and it becomes a rutted, muddy mess. Also, without curbs, rain gathers in ditches, which is a mosquito breeding ground.
- The City needs to continue the development of the Lee's Summit Municipal Airport aggressively. The addition of aircraft related business will attract corporations that will utilize the airport facilities and locate here. Marketing our central location in the US and our easy access to Kansas City area businesses will be a plus.
- I'm not sure what category this goes in - it's neighborhoods, health, quality of life, etc. The City needs a plan for a parks-and-boulevard system, similar to the one that Kansas City has had since 1893 (the George Kessler plan). This would include long-term plans for the lakes, boulevards with trees, livable streets, and of course the Parks. The attractiveness of the city.
- Every City Department should have a Strategic Plan. That includes all of the departments at AND below the Assistant City Manager level.

## Community Ideas Board

What would you like to see improved? What opportunities can you think of?

- Comment response to "My husband and I wish LS had more paved bicycle/walking trails like the ones in Overland Park. "
  - We just rode the Rock Island trail from Hartman Park a couple of weeks ago. It was amazing! Please work with KCMO or whoever to extend to the Longview bike trail and the Little Blue Trace bike trail. Please consider that "bike trails" on city streets are far from safe for family bike rides. They aren't very scenic nor safely usable for many riders who want a leisurely ride. Also work to connect many of the smaller bike trails already in place.
- Comment response to "Start up perishable food rescue program through "uber for food rescue" app platform. Volunteer and educational opportunities. See link."
  - Great idea; I fully support this. There is WAY too much food waste!!!!!! Too many homeless and too many that just don't have access to good food. Seems like it would be very little overhead costs.
- Comment response to "Less focus on retail, housing and density/apartments, and more focus on bringing employment opportunities to LS."
  - It would seem with the land mass size of LS the development of targeting employers would be higher on the list. In agreement in growing the healthcare footprint and expanding from there.
- Comment response to "improved streetscapes along 3rd between 50/291. Its the entrance to our cute downtown, should show you're entering some place special. "
  - Whole City shouldnt necessarily be taxed for downtown improvements. Use CID already in place downtown to cover these improvements. Would look very Nice! Martin City has improved their downtown area with beautiful lampposts and eyecatching landscaping/flowering baskets(same company does as the gorgeous Plaza in KC.
- Comment response to "Downtown Farmers Market Pavilion"
  - Would be Nice but needs public/private partnerships!! Needs done creatively and only done if done correctly!
- Comment response to "Performing Arts Center"
  - The Public Already was promised an Art meeting place in downtown LS. UNFORTUNATELY it wasnt handled properly by City. There was money obligated for it But never got done. Remember they proposed using Arnold Hall plus surrounding area!! Wasnt done Well. How can We Trust a second time. Seems to have Fallen through the cracks!
- Comment response to "Community gardens and orchards to promote healthy activity and more local organic food choices."
  - Yes this is True!! Need more closer in Town and at area schools! Anybody ever been to Kansas City Community Gardens? Way Nicer and way better facilities. Need to get Grants from Federal Government if still available. Michelle Obama was into this Big Time. Watch online Videos how it helps kids to eat more healthy vegetables and Fruit when they help grow it and see their peers eating. Big Difference!
- Comment response to "Community gardens and orchards to promote healthy activity and more local organic food choices."
  - Few years ago was Talk about doing Bailey Farm like the wonderful Deanne Rose Farm in South O.P. I think this should be a priority by our Parks Department. We passed a Sales



tax 23 yrs ago to fund Big Projects like this! Im sure it needs a public/private partnership. Maybe Mr. Ellis. New Farmer's Market could be located here since Not enough room downtown.

- Comment response to "Community gardens and orchards to promote healthy activity and more local organic food choices."
  - <https://www.opkansas.org/things-to-see-and-do/deanna-rose-childrens-farmstead/>
- Comment response to "Promote Physical Activity"
  - New Jackson County trail great for this! Walking and Biking! Not sure why its. Closed right now. My guess is mud erosion. Not Sure. Agree with kids not walking on Street but they should be walking in Easement area. Big Mistake by LS in allowing SUMMIT FALLS to not have sidewalks in Their Neighborhood! People/kids Walk in Street (dangerous) What were they thinking(City Counsel).
- Comment response to "Partner with county to develop campgrounds and waterfront areas into exciting places to spend time with family. Cabins, yurts, water feature"
  - Yes would be great for Residents and would draw others to area to spend money in our town! Would be way to expensive and I doubt government could make it viable. Another Public/Private Partnership would be necessary to make it financially sound and a Successful endeavor. Example: when government is involved a hammer costs \$200 (or whatever the figure was). Ideal location would be by Paragon Star where Trail head will be going in shortly. Soccer Families etc.. could camp or stay in cabin/yurt by games and entertainment and Katy Trail once its Finished..
- Comment response to "Fix highway 291"
  - Have to agree its Not Nice at all. Is this MO Dot? Looks like it probably is because its so unkept. Just looks like other areas that are theirs. 3rd and ward for example. Right past jack stack after crossing bridge. That median has never had anything done to it since it was built!! All weeds. Never mow it! Just put lemon verbena in these median areas that you don't want or cant afford to maintain. It smells wonderful and curbs will keep it curtailed. No mowing necessary !!
  - Wide sidewalks and Birds for rental. Make it Fun to get out and spend time and energy. Few bike rentals and pedal driven Chinese Style canopy ( have to be cute)for Rent or driven by taxi driver for those not able to have Stamina to do in Hot Weather. Might not work on 291. It would need a major change to make it pretty!! Trees. Shady places to rest. Then stop for shopping and Ice Cream or dinner.
- Comment response to "We need to preserve what is left of our historic buildings in the downtown and neighborhoods."
  - Needs Uniqueness. Eclectic vib. Better Store Fronts! To Plain. I like traditional and classical but not square and plain signage.
- Comment response to "Make our city as energy efficient and sustainable as possible beginning with grant assistance to provide solar power to lower income homes"
  - Only if Financially viable? Has to make sense with a budget or Taxes would be twice what they are now if all these great ideas would happen to get done. Everything needs a REAL pricetag and voted on by taxpayers of City after truth in lending type statement is revealed to us. We all have Champagne Tastes on a Beer Budget! I don't mind paying fair taxes but you have to be careful or everybody will move if Taxes are out of Control! Like Californians and New Yorkers! Go to Texas and Florida where No State Tax.
- Comment response to "Please help fix View High Drive. Potholes are horrible!"

- Houses near 470 are Hickman Mills School district. Not sure where line ends and begins. Obviously golf course and Longview college is Jackson County. Maybe 3 jurisdictions in that area. I do know since David Gale went under and Sold New Longview The City made agreement with somebody to Mow round abouts right in main areas of New Longview businesses. In front of Big Barn and Bank. Not Sure how taxpayers got on Hook to pay to mow but we did. I hope the city made good business decision and gets paid what the true cost of mowing that area . We should be paid back by Tiff or Cid. Good question for district 2 counsel members Trish Carlyle and Craig Faith.
- Comment response to "Open Houses with City Council Members"
  - Current system doesn't work well. Many times council members don't return calls in timely manner. Has happened to me many times over last 30 yrs. Some are too busy for their duties. I've heard Mayor say his job done properly is NOT PART-TIME. CHANGES need made at Some point. I know 2 Councilmembers that do hold regular meetings with their constituents. 2 more do it on rare occasion. Should be part of Job description!!
- Comment response to "Maintenance Free Community"
  - Maintenance Free is VERY EXPENSIVE!! You have to be able to afford that. Should Never be taxpayer funded!! Maybe somebody could figure a way to make it MORE affordable. Such as have people on welfare work for their government help. It takes very special people to make that kind of program successful. Usually needs to be an ex-con that has turned their Life around due to Spirituality. Has to be encouraging and inspirational program to work and Help people be Inspired to change for the better. Check out DOE FUND IN NEW YORK.
- Comment response to "We need to preserve what is left of our historic buildings in the downtown and neighborhoods."
  - City Hall could use some work. Looks like cement/brick work wasn't up to Par. Some bricks are discolored from running cement color. Did we get reimbursed for this Shoddy Work. I remember there was similar problem with New Townhomes and that Brick job. Remember some deal about reimbursement from owner or Contractor. Lets get quality work in our City that lasts. Deals and contracts that are good for us if there are over runs and not on time. Incentive taken away if Not on time. Good Negotiation and Talented informed Negotiators!!
- Comment response to "Urban Development "
  - This sounds like Downton Main Street organization wrote this. I happen to agree but most people in that downtown area won't agree. They will be afraid it will be too crowded. Traffic. Schools. Most people don't like change. Has to be done Smartly and with much Thought and extreme listening skills by downtown house owners and surrounding neighborhood So you make lives better Not Just make developers money and the ESTABLISHMENT in LS Happy because they will gain in money to their business and More Tax money for council to Spend. Attitude and caring what the homeowners concerns are about . Trying to sincerely address and allay those concerns. Not brushing them off for your Own Gain. Everybody needs to Win. A Win/Win situation. The Methodist Church proposal sounds Great but as we all know the devil is in the details!! Don't give away Too Much but I do understand Some Projects are Special. Creative negotiation is Key.
- Comment response to "My husband and I wish LS had more paved bicycle/walking trails like the ones in Overland Park. "

- Longview to my knowledge already has Horse Trails. Also Blue and Grey Park in Lone Jack/Buckner Tarsney area is exceptionally nice. Not many people have horses in LS unless they own their own land to ride on.
- Comment response to "My husband and I wish LS had more paved bicycle/walking trails like the ones in Overland Park. "
  - My experience with bike riders in district 2 for last 30 years is they don't want to ride on asphalt bike paths. They want the road. I think its a safety issue. Just like motorcycles people don't see them when they are turning. Bikes need to obey stop signs and Stop lights just like cars.
- Comment response to "improved streetscapes along 3rd between 50/291. Its the entrance to our cute downtown, should show you're entering some place special. "
  - What would be necessary shopping? Grocery Store? No room for that in downtown. Hire someone or learn to shop for groceries on line at Local Hyvee is best solution. They deliver. Or buy from online Walmart they deliver free with \$50 purchase I believe. Or Schwann Truck. Most senior developments require meal purchase from their kitchens/restaurants.
- Comment response to "More Evergreen trees to make our city prettier around 50 highway! Driving down 50 you cannot tell how pretty our city is."
  - Like David Gales subdivisions. Looks classy and well maintained. Can't say that about Most of our City. Businesses don't maintain good landscaping practices. Will do whatever City will allow them to get away with. Lots of Weeds and dead trees or unsuitable landscaping requirements. Example: O'Reilly at 3rd and Ward those dinky alberta spruce should never have been Satisfactory. Many leave dead trees and dead rose bushes with weeds growing everywhere for months if Not Years. I think somebody needs to be in charge of this in our City. Needs to be proactive not reactive to complaints. Not neighborhoods just all businesses and even mo-dot and LS property. Maybe partner with Scouts or Schools to maintain mo dot and city property on weekly basis just like its a house being maintained. Or drug court or Judge ordered for community service.
- Comment response to "A trolley car on the weekends to downtown from the bus parking lot on 50 hwy."
  - Probably not financially viable. Now working in Downtown KC i understand. But to play you have to Pay. I think it would cost too much to recoup the drivers salary/ Insurance and bus and gas plus maintenance. They would have to charge \$40 to get to Zoo and Plaza etc... No one would pay that. Uber would be Cheaper .
- Comment response to "More Sidewalks and Bicycle Infrastructure"
  - That's Mo Dot. They have No Money they (MO) spent gas tax that's we were told was for bridges and roads on Something else. They told an untruth and we wont Vote to give them more GAS TAX because they have proven themselves to be untrustworthy!!
- Comment response to "Parks & Recreation Facilities"
  - In my opinion Legacy Center shouldn't have been built in Timbuktu. Location. Location. Location. Soccer and Ball fields are good. Not center that far out. You have 24 hr fitness on 291 north. That should be 5 minutes. Community centers aren't Free.
- Comment response to "Maybe, have a resident appreciation day."
  - No. Not a big enough City to pay for that. Maybe offer place to bring. Kcmo has been a wreck all winter with limbs and couches sitting at sidewalks for Months. So Trashy. Trash pickup takes yard waste in huge brn paper bags. Cut up small manageable lengths and

put in bags. Or rent uhaul trailer or home depot truck to take to Missouri Organics by Stadium. 470 and Raytown road might take limbs. Its kcmo so not for sure.

- Comment response to "Partner with county to develop campgrounds and waterfront areas into exciting places to spend time with family. Cabins, yurts, water feature"
  - I know the campgrounds are run by Jackson County and not the city of LS. I am not sure of their budget constraints, I'm sure there is never enough money! I wonder how we can petition recreational partnerships with businesses?
- Comment response to "Attainable Housing"
  - I think diversity in housing is important. We need lower to upper-range rent rates, as well as affordable homes to purchase. I think anything under \$200,000 for a FT Home Buyer is reasonable. But when we were looking, I would've loved more options even around \$150,000.
- Comment response to "A trolley car on the weekends to downtown from the bus parking lot on 50 hwy."
  - Trolley to downtown LS would probably work if you made it interesting enough. Have to be Nice and Fun also so people want their Children to experience it. Have to be paid by downtown cid. Not enough would pay to ride. Unless it was Super Fancy or served food or something kids beg their parents for being on board or given with donation of \$5. Or school promotion so school got 70% of money for PTA etc...
- Comment response to "FREE co-working or socializing spaces with Wifi and Cafe"
  - Just make 1/3 of Libraries for this purpose. Change the rules in that part of Library or get Churches to agree to this kind of set up. Sell coffee.smoothies. quality concession style food to pay for 1-2 employees a shift. No horse play etc...
- Comment response to "We need a long-term environmental policy. it should include an advisory commission to discuss recycling, solar energy, green initiatives."
  - Discuss all you want but has to make sense financially. Discuss longterm goals and dream on. Im not interested in breaking the bank because certain people are extremists and think we need to get rid of airplanes. Gas. Cows and Retrofit all buildings in next 10 yrs. Way unrealistic !
- Comment response to "Attainable Housing"
  - What in your opinion is attainable for first time homebuyers?
- Comment response to "Would love to see more eclectic restaurants instead of chains. Create a different experience than the other cities close by."
  - Probably only way to get them to flock here is some kind of incentive. Offer them something O.P doesn't offer. Free rent for 6 months. No taxes for 6 months. Be creative. What do we have that they really really want.
- Comment response to "BYU Missouri"
  - Good idea but my guess is they want the investment Cash they have patiently waited many years for.
- Comment response to "We need designated bike lanes everywhere."
  - Yes!! We sure do. I bike to work everyday and I would like my commute to be safer and see more people commuting by bicycle as well. If Overland Park and Kansas City can put in bike lanes, so can Lee's Summit.
- Comment response to "We need a long-term environmental policy. it should include an advisory commission to discuss recycling, solar energy, green initiatives."
  - Solar energy will 100% save the city money. We need to move away from fossil fuels as soon as possible.

- Comment response to "Fix highway 291"
  - 291 is the perfect place to have bus routes. We need to create a transit system in Lee's Summit. 291 also needs protected sidewalks, bike lanes, and maybe even a slower speed limit to make it safer. We don't need people driving 50 miles per hour through the middle of a suburban city.
- Improve 50 Highway and 3rd Street Intersection. This intersection needs protected sidewalks, bike lanes, and infrastructure improvements to make it more inviting and safe. Since MoDot does not have money, the city should help MoDot fund improvements. I bike to work almost every day through this intersection and I know other people that walk and bike through here as well.
- Comment response to "Maintain and Upgrade Your Ride KC Commuter Support Instead of Cutting It"
  - I agree. I was disappointed they reduced service times. The only way to get people on transit is to make it more convenient and efficient. The city needs to add at least 4 or 5 more times that it runs in the morning and evening. The city and businesses need to promote taking the bus and companies need to give discounts to their employees.
- Change "Yours Truly". The first time I saw the sign on 470 coming home, I thought the slogan was uptight & rude! What it says to me is, just pass on through & don't stop in. Saying "Yours Truly" before entering into our city is saying to our potential visitors, "Goodbye" before they even get here!!
- Beautify intersection of 3rd & 50 hwy; new islands & landscaping. More mowing roadsides, ex., between 50 hwy and Blue Pkwy. Looking shabby. Yours Truly looking pretty shabby
- Indoor Skydiving at Longview Farm. The barns at Longview Farm have the perfect set up with the silos on the ends to create an indoor skydiving center. Use of the area as a public space for events such as concerts and festivals would be awesome. It could be another Starlight, or even a permanent location for the farmers market. It could be a hands-on arts center, kind of like Science City, only with creative projects for kids and adults. Local businesses could be a part of it too. Pottery, painting, photography, music and dance studios, and many more could participate and profit while enhancing the community.