

Focus on the Future!

Round One Community Engagement Summary |
Wabash County Comprehensive Plan

March 2021
IMAGINEONE85.ORG

DRAFT



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The following report provides an overview of Focus on the Future, the first round of public engagement in support of the Wabash County Comprehensive Plan. For questions on this report please contact the project manager for Imagine One 85, Kyle May, senior planner with planning NEXT, at kyle@planning-next.com.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This section introduces the purpose and background for the initial round of community engagement as part of the Imagine One 85 comprehensive planning effort for the communities of Wabash County.

1.1 Purpose

The Imagine One 85 Steering Committee hosted in-person and virtual workshops between November 2020 and March 2021. More than 250 people participated in a Focus on the Future discussion and, together, generated thousands of comments and ideas. Taking on the challenges posed by population decline, participants structured their comments as a response or solution. These ideas were wide-ranging, but clustered around several topics, including housing, jobs, education, and amenities.

The initial round of community and stakeholder engagement was designed to generate open comments on paths to improving the county's qualities of place, life, and opportunities. Respondents were primed on key conditions and trends before each workshop. This included the principle focus of the Imagine One 85 planning effort, the county's decreasing population. The input shared through round one will serve as a foundation for major elements of the plan including the community's vision, goals, and general direction. These elements will be tested back with the public during the second round of engagement.

This report provides an overview of the activities, themes, and conclusions from this first round of community and stakeholder engagement.

1.2 Overview

Imagine One 85 is a process to develop a comprehensive plan for the communities of Wabash County led by a coalition of leaders from all sectors, including the Community Foundation of Wabash County and Grow Wabash County.

A comprehensive plan is a broad, multi-topic policy statement that includes goals, strategies, and action recommendations (future policies, projects, or programs). These recommendations support the long-term, community-derived vision statement (where we – as a collection of communities – want to be in 20 years). While Northeast Indiana's 11-county region has consistently grown for four decades, Wabash County has not. A bold, comprehensive plan for the future is the best possible way to arrest—and reverse—our population decline.

The Comprehensive Plan will address a wide-ranging set of topics including land use, development, housing, transportation, fiscal conditions, economic development, parks, public health, education, and several others. The planning team has prepared a series of briefing memos in parallel with the opening round of engagement that present the critical findings across each of the 12 plan topics. These are available for review on the process website, www.imagineone85.org.

The process began in the fall of 2020 with regular convening of the project steering committee. This 19-member Committee is made up of elected and appointed officials from each of the county's communities and county government. In addition, an Outreach Team – consisting of more than 100 community members – have assisted the steering committee in spreading the word about the process and key community engagement opportunities. A multi-disciplinary consultant team led by Planning NEXT of Columbus, Ohio, is facilitating the process in close coordination with leadership from the Community Foundation of Wabash County (CFWC) and Grow Wabash County (GWC).

Imagine One 85 is an open and inclusive process. While ultimately adopted by town councils and county government, the plan is created by the communities of Wabash County. If you care about the future of our communities, you are invited to participate.



Figure 1: The Imagine One 85 Planning Process will take place over a 14-month period with multiple opportunities for the public to share and explore the plan.

Additional questions and answers ...

Why now? The population decline that spans decades is partly the result of little or no countywide planning. Communities, like businesses, cannot reach their potential without a deliberate and thoughtful blueprint.

How long will the process last? The plan will be completed this year with multiple opportunities for the community to participate and contribute.

Is this about school consolidation? No. Education—in all its forms—will be studied through the process because of its importance to our ability to attract population and our long-term survival as communities. There are, however, no pre-determined conclusions for this study.

Where can I go for more information? The process website, www.imagineone85.org.

1.3 Activities & Sources of Input

The first round of community engagement took place between November 2020 and March 2021. The phase was extended due to a postponement of the in-person workshop opportunities based on safety precautions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a response to the in-person limitations, the steering committee and planning team developed and deployed virtual engagement methods including Zoom-hosted workshops and a static online survey platform.

Stakeholder Interviews

The planning team hosted a series of stakeholder group and individual interviews throughout the engagement round. These interviews were not agenda driven like the community conversations but rather, facilitated by the planning team based on the organizing topic. A summary of these interviews is included in section 4. Groups included social service providers, leadership from small and large business, elected or appointed officials, etc.

In-Person Workshops

In-person workshops were re-scheduled and conducted the first week of March in locations across the county.

Roann

Monday, Mar. 1 –
6:00 PM
Roann Community
Center
105 N. Chippewa St.

Lagro

Tuesday, Mar. 2 –
6:30 PM
Lagro Town Hall
230 Buchanan St.

La Fontaine

Tuesday, Mar. 2 –
6:00 PM
The Learning Center
207 N Wabash Ave

Wabash

Wednesday, Mar. 3 –
6:00 PM
Honeywell Center,
Legacy Center
275 W Market St.

North

Manchester
Thursday, Mar. 4
Time 6:30 PM
Manchester
Community Schools
Admin
Building Auditorium
404 W. 9th St.

Virtual workshops and survey

Four virtual workshops were also held in November and December on the Zoom platform. During these hour-long sessions, participants received a brief presentation from the planning team followed by a live-polling and feedback period. These comments, as well as comments gathered through the static web survey, were databased by the planning team and are considered in this analysis.



Agenda and Prompts

Each meeting during the Focus on the Future round centered around a consistent set of prompts and discussions. Whenever possible, participants were also provided a background presentation from a member of the planning team. This priming information was intended to help place the process, share key findings related to conditions and trends, and lay out additional steps to come in the planning process.

The following are major prompts from the community survey. The results from these are summarized in section 2: Major Themes from the Focus on the Future Conversations and section 3: Results by Prompt. For verbatim responses, please refer to the document appendix.

Possible Outcomes Activity

- 1.a. What are the most important outcomes of Imagine One 85 that can impact population decline and make for better communities in the future? Choose three. (Multiple Choice)

OPTIONS:

- a. A diverse mix of employment industries
- b. Greater supply and variety of housing types and costs
- c. Well-funded and competitive education system
- d. A well-known county that is thought of positively regionally
- e. Vibrant cities and towns that are rich with retail and social offerings
- f. New partnerships formed across communities and sectors
- g. Increase in the quality and number of jobs

- h. Fiscally strong and resilient local government
 - i. Talented young people stay and are attracted to our communities
 - j. Something else?
- 1.b. If you said "Something else" what other outcome should we aspire to achieve? (Short Answer)
 2. Why did you select these outcomes? (Short Answer)
 3. Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why? (Short Answer)
 4. How will we achieve your priority outcomes? Do you have ideas or actions to achieve this? (Short Answer)
 5. How can we measure progress toward your priority outcomes? What is / are the indicator(s)? (Short Answer)

Qualities of Place Mapping Activity

1. Think about specific locations/places in your community or in Wabash County that this plan should address. Use the map application below to share your Strong places or Areas of Opportunity. (Use green and red dots to mark specific locations on the map that correspond to strong and opportunity places, respectively. Provide short answer comments on why)

2.1. MAJOR THEMES FROM THE FOCUS ON THE FUTURE CONVERSATIONS

The Focus on the Future engagement series elicited more than a thousand comments and ideas on how to improve the qualities of life, place, and opportunity across the communities of Wabash County. Whether participants convened online or in-person, each conversation began with a priming presentation on state of the county. The principle finding and the driving force behind Imagine One 85 is the slow decline in the county's population. With this and other helpful findings shared, the planning team engaged community members and key stakeholders in a discussion about the future.

The themes presented below represent particularly resonant responses from the first round of engagement. These statements are representative of the full collection of comments and were prepared by the planning team to provide a summary of the larger data set. They are not listed in priority order. Many of the ideas and comments from the public are interrelated; improvements in areas like housing, education, and jobs are connected to one another and are essential for population growth.

To address population decline, we will ...

Enrich our education system

Many respondents noted that the strength of local schools is a major factor when young families are deciding where to live. Diminishing enrollment levels contribute to limited academic and extracurricular activities, teacher retention, funding, and inter-district collaboration to strengthen the public schools. Respondents also recommended increasing access and affordability to early childhood education and quality childcare opportunities, significant factors in recruiting and retaining young families. A more robust public education system could attract young families, contributing to an increase in population and a decrease in average age.

Create more and higher paying jobs

Quality and well-paying jobs may encourage residents to stay in the County or entice non-residents to move in. Currently, a lack of diversity in job opportunities and wages contributes to out-migration of those seeking employment, particularly college graduates and other "talented young adults." Measures to attract new industries and employers would expand employment opportunities and offer young people more reasons to stay in or move to Wabash County.

Increase housing options and affordability

Housing availability and affordability are essential to attracting new residents to a community. Participants noted a lack of diversity in housing types, high housing costs, and aging housing stock as barriers to younger residents, renters, and first-time home buyers. Expanding the housing options in the County, including more affordable choices, will be key to attracting and retaining a younger demographic.

Expand and improve high-speed internet access

Internet access is essential for families, workers, and students. This was made clear by the pandemic and the related economic shutdowns. But as respondents indicated, many residents in the County lack access altogether or have poor, slow connections. In addition to the everyday conveniences that high-speed internet provides, it is necessary for many students to complete assignments and for the growing contingent of work-

from-home employees to perform their duties. Improving and expanding high-speed internet access would not only improve the lives of current residents, but it would also allow for people who work remotely to move into the County.

Create great places

Wabash County is home to beautiful natural features and historic charm. Some residents, however, feel that their communities are lacking in the types of amenities that draw in outsiders and retain locals. Suggestions for improvements include developing more outdoor recreation opportunities and gathering spaces, capitalizing on the riverfront, creating entertainment venues, and offering more community activities. Developing these kinds of amenities could encourage current residents to spend their leisure time within the County and give prospective residents another reason to make Wabash County their home.

Embrace diversity

For Wabash to grow in population, each resident or prospective resident should feel welcomed and included, regardless of race, ethnicity, age, or cultural background. Intentional efforts to include a more diverse group of community members will be integral to promoting population growth.

Strengthen our health and social support services

People want to live where they have access to the best health and social service opportunities. Struggling families are enabled to stay in an area if they have adequate support; families seeking a new home may be drawn to places that offer strong resources for healthy communities. Several residents expressed particular concern for mental health and addiction and recovery support. By strengthening these areas, the County would serve current residents and may create a more appealing community for those considering relocating to the County.

Broadcast our image

“Wabash County already has a lot to offer!” Some residents suggest that people would move to the County if they only knew how great it already is. By building or expanding the brand and extending the reach of marketing efforts, the County may be able to attract new residents from the Midwest and beyond.

Improve coordination and collaboration across our organizations and institutions

Working together is a key to promoting growth in the county. With a population of just over 30,000 people, the county could be more effective and efficient by consolidating certain services and sharing resources across different communities and organizations. There is an opportunity to learn from the successes of past and current collaborative efforts and to apply those principles in new ways. As institutions and organizations shift toward a more collective rather than individualistic mentality, the entire county will benefit.

Protect our natural features and develop outstanding new amenities

While Wabash County is already rich in natural amenities, it will be imperative to proactively preserve and improve upon the existing assets. These features include parks, trails, open spaces, riverfronts, and other greenspaces throughout the county. Participants noted, for example, that the Eel River is underutilized due to limited physical access and visibility; although it is beautiful and ideal for recreation activities, people have a difficult time accessing boat launches or even getting a nice view of the river, despite its proximity to downtown Manchester. Improving and increasing programming, access, and visibility to the natural features of the county could improve the quality of place for both residents and visitors alike.

Attract and retain young, talented individuals

Achieving sustained population growth will depend on bringing in new individuals from a younger demographic and retaining those who are already in the county. Young professionals and families could support other goals by bolstering local school enrollment, buying homes, starting new businesses, and contributing diversity. Manchester University is a great entry point for these types of individuals; prioritizing retaining these young people in the county could be a significant factor in reaching this end. Creating great places, providing engaging amenities, and offering diverse job opportunities could help attract this young talent.

Continue to grow a skilled workforce

A limiting factor in scaling up a community is the availability and skillset of the workforce. Every year, commuting time increases as employers cast a wider net for qualified employees. To address population decline, the county will need to grow and “skill-up” its workforce along with the population, providing employers with skilled workers and residents with more opportunities for professional development.

3. RESULTS BY PROMPT

The Focus on the Future events and online engagement activities asked respondents five main questions related to the most important outcomes of the Imagine One 85 process. The following section is organized by each of the questions and includes a representative sample of the responses. Themes or representative responses were derived by the Planning NEXT team after reading and categorizing the input. These statements are not organized by frequency and do not represent an order or hierarchy. They are representative responses to help the reader better understand the hundreds of comments received during round one. A full database of all responses is also available for reading and review.

3.1 (a) What are the most important outcomes of Imagine One 85 that can impact population decline and make for better communities in the future? Choose three.

TOTAL RESPONSES: 234

Participants were given ten options and asked to choose three. They did not rank their choices. The results are ranked in the table below, along with the number and percent of total votes.

Rank	Outcome	Votes	%
1	C. Well-funded and competitive education system	135	19%
2	I. Talented young people stay and are attracted to our communities	125	18%
3	G. Increase in the quality and number of jobs	93	13%
4	B. Greater supply and variety of housing types and costs	84	12%
5	A. A diverse mix of employment industries	82	12%
6	E. Vibrant cities and towns that are rich with retail and social offerings	75	11%
7	D. A well-known county that is thought of positively regionally	39	6%
8	F. New partnerships formed across communities and sectors	29	4%
9	J. Something else	17	2%
10	H. Fiscally strong and resilient local government	14	2%

3.1 (b) If you said "Something else" what other outcome should we aspire to achieve?

TOTAL RESPONSES: **83**

REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSES:

- Cultural and racial diversity
- Internet for everyone
- Amenities for young people and families
- Robust high quality early education and childcare
- Family resources for healthy communities
- Focus on gathering spaces
- Trail networks in all communities

Sample Quote

“Cultural diversity. Be a truly welcoming community.”

-Community Respondent

See Appendix (p. 1) for a full list of responses

3.2 Why did you select these outcomes?

TOTAL RESPONSES: **238**

REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSES:

- Jobs and education are two of the most important things for many young families
- People move out of the county for better jobs, more interesting activities, and cultural opportunities
- Wabash schools face several challenges
 - Teacher retention
 - Funding
 - Academic and extracurricular activities
 - Enrollment
 - Inter-district cooperation
- People of all ages need social and shopping options
- Families need housing options they can afford
 - Variety of housing types
 - Affordability of home ownership
 - Age of housing stock often makes owning difficult because of the cost of remodeling/improvements
- Industry and business are vital for new jobs
 - New jobs bring new residents
 - If new people come for jobs, they will need other incentives to stay (good education, amenities, housing, etc.)
- Gathering spaces help people to connect
- Reliable internet access is vital for people who work remotely and for students
- Quality and affordable early childhood education is essential
 - Childcare is also a major factor
- We need to market ourselves so that others can visit and take advantage of our beauty and history
- Welcome and encourage diversity
 - Not just in theory, but in practice
- The county needs to give young people a reason to stay

Sample Quote

“If there is a good education system, affordable homes, and a number of good jobs to choose from, people might consider moving back”

-Community Respondent

See Appendix (p. 5) for a full list of responses

3.3 Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?

TOTAL RESPONSES: **201**

REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSES:

- Schools
 - Manchester University
 - Ivy Tech
 - Three public school corporations
 - Heartland Career Center
- Local governments
- Civic groups
- County officials
- Educators
- Parents
- Manchester Alive
- Grow Wabash County
- Chambers of Commerce
- Agriculture community / small farmers
- Business community
 - Entrepreneurs
- Realtors and developers
- Investors
- Young Professionals of Wabash County
- Churches
- Not-for-profit organizations
 - Habitat for Humanity
- Honeywell Foundation
- Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership
- Mental health facilities
- Law enforcement
- Childcare agencies
- Students

Sample Quote

“Diverse set of individuals. Accurate reflection of actual population/stakeholders (and) residents”

-Community Respondent

See Appendix (p. 18) for a full list of responses

3.4 How will we achieve your priority outcomes? Do you have ideas or actions to achieve this?

TOTAL RESPONSES: **193**

REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSES:

- Community awareness through social media and public hearings
- Strengthen partnerships
 - Businesses and schools
 - Grow Wabash County
 - Visit Wabash County
 - Manchester University
- Collaboration among the school districts
- Tax incentives and credits
 - For investors
 - For businesses
 - For homeowners (improvements)
 - Neighborhood improvement program
- Zoning changes to enable housing and business
- Develop more single-family homes and townhomes
- Continue to include the community throughout the process
- Recruit new industries
 - Technology
 - Manufacturing
 - Warehousing
- Support agricultural education programs in the schools
- Transform large downtown retail into boutique shops, “maker spaces,” and apartments
- Establish a brand and market the county
- Have a permanent farmer’s market and food co-ops in smaller communities
- Contact government representatives to advocate for internet

Sample Quote

“Offer incentives to small businesses to train and attract young people to their employment. Offer incentives for trade school or training programs to draw people back to the area or into the area from other places”

-Community Respondent

See Appendix (p. 27) for a full list of responses

3.5 How can we measure progress toward your priority outcomes? What is / are the indicator(s)?

TOTAL RESPONSES: **190**

REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSES:

- Increase in number and diversity of people involved in the process
- Increase of people moving into the county
- Retaining young adults and MU graduates
- Increase in number and types of housing units
- Increase in number of people employed in higher paying jobs
- Number of training programs
- Number of businesses opened
- Increase in tax revenue
 - Income
 - Property
- New programming at schools
- Higher average wage
- Demonstrated cooperation of schools
- Increased home values
- Stabilization or increase in small farms
- Number of households with affordable high speed internet access
- Community morale
- Increased vehicular and pedestrian traffic
- Birth rates
- Number of amenities
- School enrollment and degree completion
- Median age of housing stock
- Increase in young leaders

Sample Quote

“Population age and size will be some indicator. Also, diversity of business and entertainment options growth will likely indicate (a) shift”

-Community Respondent

See Appendix (p. 37) for a full list of responses

3.6 Strong places and places with opportunity map and summary

Participants were invited to think about specific locations / places in their community or in Wabash County that the plan should address. They could then mark those places on a map (either on paper or online) and designate them as “Strong Places” or “Areas of Opportunity,” sharing why they marked each place. Participants were offered the following guidance in determining strong places and opportunity areas:

Strong places might be...

- Somewhere you take someone who is new to the community or visiting for the first time
- Places that are working well and reflect well on the community
- Places to be protected, maintained, or preserved for future generations
- Places that are simply unique to your community and help define its authentic character
- Places that represent good precedents that could be replicated elsewhere
- Or ... however you define it!

Opportunity Areas might include...

- Places that need to be improved or change to better serve the community
- Places that reflect poorly on the community and are at odds with its underlying character
- Places at risk or are threatened and need attention
- Places that have a significant untapped potential
- Or ... like with strong places, however you define it.

The composite results, summarized below, reveal both general qualities of strong and opportunity places and specific locations across the county to highlight or to improve. Strong places with a significant number of dots (eight or more) include a description and are indicated on the composite map. Opportunity areas with four to five dots or more also include a description and are indicated on the map.

TOTAL DOTS DROPPED: 739

STRONG PLACES SUMMARY

Strong may be places that are desirable to visit, reflect well on the community, or represent conditions you’d like to replicate. The Qualities of Strong Places section summarizes, at a high level, the unifying characteristics of the specific places that were identified. The list of strong places below is not exhaustive, but rather includes places that received at least two mentions by participants.

QUALITIES OF STRONG PLACES

- **Historic / rural charm** –The county is home to a range of historic buildings, structures, and bridges, offering a variety of character types from main streets to farmland.
- **Natural beauty** – Reservoirs, blue ways, forests, and waterfalls dot the County, providing scenic views and peaceful outdoor spaces in formal parks and informal greenspaces.
- **Opportunities for outdoor recreation** – From canoeing and kayaking the rivers to biking and hiking the trails, Wabash county has abundant options for actively enjoying the outdoors.
- **Gathering spaces** – People enjoy coming together in public spaces like the Honeywell Center, community downtowns and main streets, parks, and community centers like the YMCA.

- **Locally owned shops and restaurants** – Strong places in Wabash rely on local merchants, including coffee shops, restaurants, and antique shops.
- **Employment opportunities** – Excellent employers, like the Ford Meter Box, provide jobs and contribute to the strength of a community.
- **Quality housing and neighborhoods** – Beautiful old homes, tight-knit neighborhoods, and new housing additions make up some of the favorite places in Wabash.
- **Variety of activities** – Eagles Theater, the Honeywell Center, various community and recreation centers, museums, and parks supply varied entertainment and recreation options around the county.
- **Educational opportunities** – Strong places in the community are associated with learning, such as Manchester University, Ivy Tech, Heartland Career Center, libraries, and several the local schools.
- **Downtowns and main streets** – Residents enjoy the proximity and diversity of shops, walkability, and community gathering opportunities provided by the downtowns and main streets throughout the county.

STRONG PLACES

- North Manchester
 - **(A) Manchester University** – Manchester University brings culture, diversity, beauty, and high-quality education to the community.
 - **(B) Downtown / Main Street** – Historic buildings with beautiful facades, a walkable district, local shops and restaurants, and a variety of community activities make the downtown area of North Manchester a community favorite.
 - Kenapocomocha Coffee Shop
 - Eel River / Ogan’s Landing
 - Covered Bridge
 - North Manchester Center for History
 - North Manchester Public Library
 - Strauss Peabody Aquatic Center
 - MPS Egg Farms
- Roann
 - **(C) Roann Covered Bridge** – Adored for both its history and its beauty, the Roann Covered Bridge is a source of pride for residents and as an attraction for visitors.
 - Roann Historic District
- Lagro
 - Downtown / Main Street
 - River Walk
- La Fontaine
 - Downtown
- Wabash
 - **(D) Honeywell Center** – The Honeywell Center is a major asset for a community like Wabash, bringing in excellent programming and providing entertainment and cultural resources to locals and visitors alike.
 - **(E) Eagles Theater** – Recently renovated, the Eagles Theater is a source of pride and entertainment.
 - **(F) Charley Creek Gardens** – Natural beauty near the downtown area is a serene and peaceful place.
 - **(G) YMCA** – The local YMCA is a great resource for kids and adults, with many recreation and enrichment opportunities.

- **(H) Downtown Wabash** – History, walkability, local shops, and a concentration of activities like museums, theaters, and the library make downtown Wabash a destination within the community.
- **(I) River Walk and Trail** – The Wabash River Trail connects several communities and is currently under construction to expand the trail network in the county.
- Drive-in theater
- Field of Dreams Athletic Complex
- Ford Meter Box
- Honeywell Park and Pool
- Parkview Wabash Hospital
- Heartland Career / Learning Center
- Wabash Middle and High Schools
- Mi Pueblo’s Mexican Restaurant
- Ivy Tech
- Wabash City Park
- Wabash Carnegie Public Library
- Courthouse / Lincoln Monument
- Ford Theater
- Honeywell Golf Course
- Modoc’s Coffee Shop
- Friendship Hill Inclusive Playground
- Wabash County Historical Museum
- Paradise Spring Park
- White Rock Recreation
- Habanero Grill
- Friends Counseling Center
- **Unincorporated Areas**
 - **(J) Salamonie Reservoir & Forest** – Cherished for its beauty and abundant recreation amenities, the Salamonie area is a favorite among Wabash residents.
 - Hawkins Family Farm
 - River Ridge Farm
 - Stockdale Mill
 - Hanging Rock
 - Hathaway Preserve
 - Mississinewa Reservoir

[See Appendix \(p. 46\) for a full list of responses](#)

OPPORTUNITY AREAS SUMMARY

Opportunities may reflect negatively on the community, represent conditions you would like to see changed, or offer great potential for improvement. The Qualities of Opportunity Areas section summarizes, at a high level, the unifying characteristics of the specific places that were identified. The list of opportunity places below is not exhaustive, but rather includes places that received at least two mentions by participants.

QUALITIES OF OPPORTUNITY AREAS

- **Industrial sites** – Sites that are no longer in use take up valuable land, create environmental hazards, and are generally eyesores in a community. Underutilized industrial sites present opportunities for expanded industrial and economic growth or redevelopment strategies.
- **Redundant commercial areas** – Retail areas that are auto-oriented, like strip malls with large parking lots in front, are outdated and lack a sense of inviting community character. These spaces could be transformed through a variety of methods to become greater assets in the communities.
- **Underutilized natural amenities** – The presence of natural amenities does not guarantee that their value is maximized; some natural features, like the Eel River in particular, would benefit from improved access and views.
- **Storefronts in community centers / main streets** – Vacant storefronts detract from the intangible feel of a vibrant community and represent economic challenges. Filling them with strong local businesses would add great value to local places.
- **Failing infrastructure** – Crumbling sidewalks, missing crosswalks, and poor internet access are among the infrastructure challenges that detract from a strong community. Improving walkability and connectivity are good first steps toward transformation.
- **Outdated and neglected structures, store fronts, and housing** – Rundown buildings give the impression of a place that is uncared for and unvalued. Restoring such locations represents an opportunity to reinvest and strengthen the communities in Wabash.
- **Places that have potential draw for tourism** – Several locations throughout the county could likely draw tourists but are not currently meeting their full potential. Strategies to inform and promote about these places could be beneficial to the county.

OPPORTUNITY AREAS

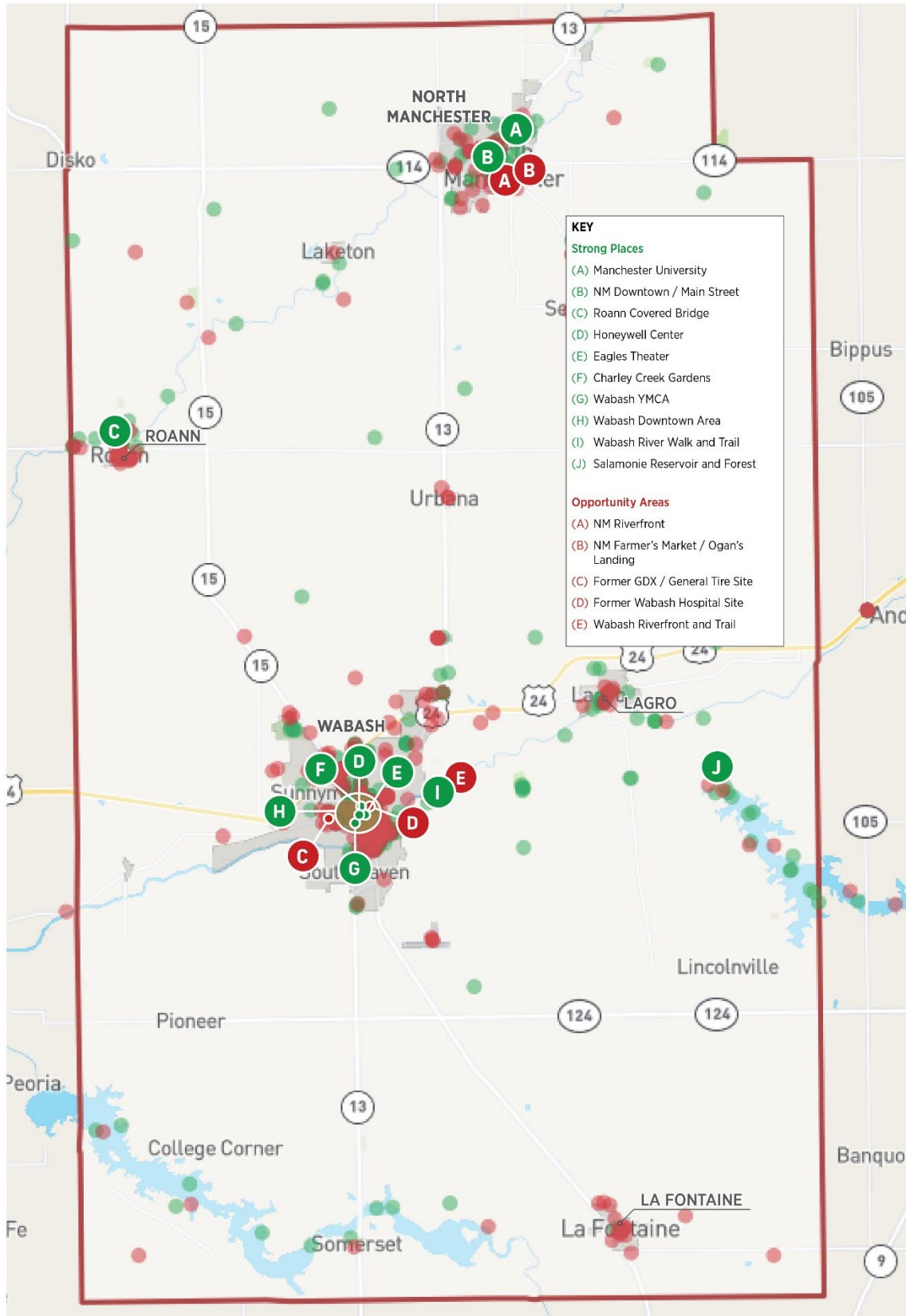
- North Manchester
 - **(A) River front** – The riverfront near downtown and Main Street is underutilized, and various opportunities exist to develop new businesses and attractions in the area.
 - **(B) Farmers Market / Ogen's Landing area** – Suggestions for improvement in this area near downtown include a covered pavilion, electric service, and restrooms.
 - Manchester University
 - Pond and wooded area near Strauss Provimi Street
 - Former Taco Bell location
 - West 9th St (for housing)
 - Downtown / Main Street
 - Industrial Park
- Roann
 - Downtown / Main Street
- Lagro
 - River / trail
 - The town in general
- LaFontaine
 - Fountain View Mobile Homes
 - Downtown
- Wabash

- **(C) Former GDX / General Tire Site** – Concerns about environmental hazards and being an eyesore make this site a prime target for redevelopment.
- **(D) Former hospital site** – When Parkview Wabash Hospital relocated to its new site, the former hospital was left vacant and is now a strategic location for reinvestment.
- **(E) Riverfront and trail** – Though residents appreciate the Wabash riverfront and trail, they also would like to see more development along the river, better access for boating, and extensions to the trail.
- Industrial Park north of 24
- Hampton Inn Out lots
- Area north of Walmart
- Land north of Honeywell Golf Course
- Wabash County Industrial Park
- Strip mall / Kroger
- Wabash Middle School
- Wabash City Park
- Eagles Theater
- East side of Wabash
- Wabash Municipal Airport
- Salamonie
- Bulldog Battery
- Unincorporated Areas
 - Urbana
 - Stockdale Mill
 - Northfield Jr / Sr High School

See Appendix (p. 68) for a full list of responses

Note: If you would like to review the full map read all comments,
please click this link to view the composite map.

<https://imagineone85.org/focuscompositemap/>



IMAGINE ONE 85
STRONG PLACES & OPPORTUNITY AREAS

- Wabash County
- US Highway
- State Highway
- Water
- Strong Places
- Opportunity Areas

3. STAKEHOLDER SUMMARIES

The planning team facilitated a series of stakeholder interviews in parallel with the public engagement workshops. The sessions were organized around topical or organizational themes and included between three and ten participants. Each interview lasted between 45 minutes and an hour and included an opportunity for follow-up comments via a web-based survey. The team conducted just under 20 interviews total. The following provides a summary of each of the groups, their organizing theme / organization, and key items shared during the session. The content of these sessions is also reflected in the overarching themes shared in section 1: Major Themes from the Focus on the Future Conversations.

OUTDOOR PURSUITS

Professionals and advocates for parks, trails, preservation, and open space.

Major themes from the discussion

- *The county's parks and natural areas are a real and unique asset.*
- *The past year especially, there is a real growth in enthusiasm for biking, canoeing, and kayaking as well as the use of the county's parks and recreational resources.*
- *Eel and Wabash Rivers are an especially rich asset that are only just now being discovered in terms of their value and opportunity; there is much more that can / should be done to capitalize on these.*
- *Maintenance of existing park infrastructure is important and is challenging with current staffing.*
- *Wildlife and the health of county ecosystems are a primary concern and opportunity (ex. migratory patterns for rare bird species).*

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS OF WABASH COUNTY

Network of young professionals connected through networking, philanthropic, educational, and community events.

Major themes from the discussion

- *Talent is THE driver of community health, growth, and vitality.*
- *The communities need to invest in themselves and ensure they're adding the right mix of amenities to attract and retain young and energetic residents. They've done good work on this already.*
- *Housing is a primary concern, both among prospective renters and owners. It is increasingly difficult to find quality housing in the community and, because of a lack of inventory, the prices are not that much cheaper than larger markets, especially for renters.*
- *Diversity, inclusion, and general levels of openness have improved, especially at the leadership level, but there is room to continue to grow. Openness is a prime enabler of growth.*
- *Leadership groups across the county should include more young people.*

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Students from local middle schools.

Major themes from the discussion

- *The county and its communities should consider young people when investing in new amenities.*
- *"Need more stuff for kids to do!"*

- *Building long-term connections between young people and their community starts with the experiences in middle school and high school.*
- *It is important to include young people in positions to help make decisions, especially when the decisions impact them.*

COMMUTERS

County workers who commute into the county for work.

Major themes from the discussion

- *Commuting direction for dual-income households is the primary factor when considering home location. Many households are commuting in different directions and it's rare for a household with two jobholders to both work in Wabash County.*
- *Housing is a critical factor when evaluating the county and its communities as places to raise a family. Costs are rising and there is limited stock when compared to commutable communities, especially toward Allen County.*
- *Quality-of-life amenities are not a limiting factor for the county, and the communities have a few attractive qualities / characteristics. It's difficult to compete with larger metropolitan areas when it comes to the variety of services and amenities.*
- *Making the communities more attractive for prospective residents would mean capitalizing the central assets of each of the communities. This includes the small-town charm, main street vibrancy, connection to nature, competitive schools, etc.*

HONEYWELL CENTER

Leadership from the Honeywell Center.

Major themes from the discussion

- *Honeywell has held a central role in downtown Wabash since the 1940's and the success of the Center and other nearby projects like the Eagles Theatre demonstrate the value and potential of these investments.*
- *The Center also provides important and unique programming (like the Arts Academy) that enhance cultural opportunities for students and residents.*
- *It's not clear whether the community is fully aware of how unique this amenity and these programs really are, especially for a community the size of Wabash.*
- *The Center can and should play a strong role in the storytelling aspects of the plan, or "why to move / live / invest in Wabash County."*

HUMAN RESOURCE PROFESSIONALS

Professionals representing companies from around the county. Several conversations took place with the group at various times.

Major themes from the discussion

- *Talented workers can go anywhere, and this can be a challenge with recruiting to the county, especially based on the distance to "big city" attractions.*

- *It's not just about recruiting the worker, but also the spouse. They may have a job or a specific idea about where they want to live / be. Therefore, it can be easier to pull in younger, less experienced individuals than to try and convince a couple.*
- *Housing, education, and amenities are the items couples are evaluating when they make the decision. The county's communities make a strong case and can (in most instances) land the jobholder, but they may lose out on the householder; the job is successfully filled, but the family lives elsewhere.*
- *There is a need for a cohesive recruitment package and a set of young recruiters. These peers can help share the advantages of the community and help the recruit picture themselves within the environment.*
- *Manchester University is a major advantage / talent engine for the county and its employers.*

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Representatives from some of the major employers in the County.

Major themes from the discussion

- *The County is a great place to start a business with significant legacy infrastructure, enormous proximate markets, and an engaged and supportive government / non-government policies.*
- *Connections to workforce are paramount. Employers are having to cast a wider and wider net each year to meet their needs. Turnover, especially among non-skilled jobs, is very high and can be upwards of 20%.*
- *Workforce is also becoming more diverse, but not necessarily translating to increased diversity within the communities themselves. Workers are commuting from farther afield.*
- *Workforce questions also affect business owners' decision on "where" to scale their operations.*

NON-PROFIT LEADERS & SOCIAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

Leadership from local organizations and programs. Several conversations took place with the group at various times.

Major themes from the discussion

- *Wabash County is a giving community, second highest levels of philanthropic activity among all Indiana counties. This is reflected in the plethora of non-profit organizations, programs, and social services.*
- *There are, however, high levels of need especially related to public health. Drug issues have increased dramatically and contributed to several connected issues like homelessness, domestic violence, chronic unemployment, hunger, child neglect, etc.*
- *There is a strong network of local and regional groups responding to needs in the county but there can be issues related to resources, redundancy, and collaboration.*
- *Given the size of the county, communication and collaboration are essential. Building stronger relationships across the services web will build a stronger system and help illuminate blind spots.*

NORTH MANCHESTER TOWN AND GOWN

Community and university leadership.

Major themes from the discussion

- *The town and university enjoy a strong and mutually beneficial relationship but there is room for growth and deepening of the connection.*

- *Leadership have had a strong working relationship built over years of collaboration; this is not always the case for students / faculty and the surrounding community. There is an opportunity to be more intentional with relationship building at all levels.*
- *Real projects include improving the physical connections between the university and the downtown (sidewalks and trails).*
- *University adds demographic diversity to the county and exposes cohorts of talented young people to the community. This is a real advantage and opportunity for North Manchester and the larger county.*
- *Transportation is a challenge, both within N. Manchester and around the region.*

KIWANIS WABASH CLUB

Club members convened twice during the Focus on the Future round.

Major themes from the discussion

- *Wabash County and its communities are great places to live and start a business, but there is also tremendous potential for new growth and investment.*
- *Limiting factors right now focus squarely on broadband internet. The pandemic has made remote work a real possibility for large portions of the workforce and the communities could and should benefit from this by attracting new residents, but connectivity will limit how we can take advantage.*
- *Housing is another important issue, and the communities need to continue to work hard to broaden their housing stock over time.*
- *Jobs are the central factor and without local opportunities, our growth potential will always be truncated.*

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY

Leadership from the university.

Major themes from the discussion

- *The University has and will continue to play a central community role in North Manchester and in the broader Wabash County community. There is a long history shared between the university and the community and the relationship has been mutually beneficial.*
- *The institution's students and faculty are younger and more diverse than the surrounding community. This infusion of youth and diversity are a benefit to the communities, and especially the more proximate North Manchester.*
- *There are opportunities to forge more physical and non-physical connections between the university and the surrounding communities. The quality of transportation options, appropriate attractions, and other factors get in the way. The relationship has room to grow with the benefits shared broadly.*
- *Talent capture can also improve. The communities greatly benefit from the students' four year "try out" of the places around the county, and through a more deliberate effort, more may be encouraged to stay, grow, and invest in the community long-term.*

PLAN COMMISSION OF WABASH

Members of the commission and related staff

Major themes from the discussion

- *There has been real progress in the city over the last ten years, evidenced by the re-emergence of downtown. Significant coordination and strategic planning of investments have helped the district become a strong central amenity once again. There is still a lot of growth potential.*
- *Housing is a primary concern. The city's stock is older and there has been very little built in the past three decades. Many homes require major re-modeling or repairs to maintain. The city can do a better job of streamlining this process for prospective buyers.*
- *The city should focus on "livability". Wabash offers many of the benefits of a small town (community connectedness, walkability, charm, etc.) with the connection a strong jobs market and lower costs of living. There are, however, many more investments the city can be making to enhance this.*
- *Internet access must improve to take advantage of the urban professional worker diaspora.*
- *Plan coordination is important. The city has completed several recent plans and studies for its various interests / departments. The comprehensive plan should seek to align and accent this work.*

PLAN COMMISSION NORTH MANCHESTER

Members of the commission and related staff

Major themes from the discussion

- *North Manchester is a strong, attractive, and giving community, but one with un-met potential. The city has several quite unique assets like the university, the Eel River, it's downtown, and recent new housing projects.*
- *This is a particularly giving/caring community as evidenced by its philanthropic energy and care providers. Places like the Peabody Retirement Community or Daniel's Place are extraordinarily unique especially for a community the size of the city.*
- *There is great potential for quality of place investments centering on the Eel River and Main Street. There should be a relationship between the two.*
- *The university poses a special opportunity. The relationship is strong, but the city community continue to build stronger connections, especially between the student body and residents. Improvements to sidewalks, considerations related to off-campus housing, and community programming are areas of interest.*
- *Housing plays an important role in community vitality and there has been very little new stock built in the past several decades. The city's newest subdivision is the first in 40 years and will add 34 units to the city's west side. There is significant demand, but the challenge has been connecting developers / builders with the potential projects. This is a shared challenge across the county.*

WABASH COUNTY ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION AND BZA

Members of the two bodies and related staff

Major themes from the discussion

- *The communities outside the city's play an important role in defining the character and feel of the county. They're also home a particularly productive side of the county's economy which includes*

farming, processing, and other agricultural pursuits. Mixed-in are the county's small towns (formally designated) and unincorporated hamlets. These have their own unique assets and challenges.

- *"Farmland" is not a monolith and there are important variations in types and quality. This should plan a role in zoning and development evaluations. Primary farmland is rare generally but found in abundance across the county.*
- *There are several rural issues that could be lifted-up through the process including tile drainage, rural sanitation, small town vitality, and others.*
- *There's an opportunity to better capitalize on the county's agricultural legacy and activity. The region's small farms and operations can be lifted through initiatives like agri-tourism and connections to the county's extension.*

4. APPENDIX

The following pages list all comments given during the first round of engagement and are organized by question. Most of the comments were typed and submitted directly by community members and are presented without edits to spelling, punctuation, grammar, or content.

Imagine One 85, Focus on the Future Community Workshops

Appendix

If you said "Something else" what other outcome should we aspire to achieve?

ID	Source	If you said "Something else" what other outcome should we aspire to achieve?
5	In-Person (paper)	Need new or older residents to get involved in projects
9	In-Person (paper)	Better phone and internet systems.
37	Online Only	Healthier Families...as they are the building block of a healthy society.
55	Online Only	Welcoming of diversity
98	Virtual Sessions	Chick fil a
99	Virtual Sessions	Cultural diversity
100	Virtual Sessions	spec industrial buildings
101	Virtual Sessions	Focus on gathering spaces
102	Virtual Sessions	More diversity
103	Virtual Sessions	High Quality, affordable childcare
104	Virtual Sessions	Develop riverfront parks and activities
105	Virtual Sessions	positive perception for current residents to help attract new
107	Virtual Sessions	Increased diversity of population
108	Virtual Sessions	Vibrant Arts in schools and communitiy
109	Virtual Sessions	More welcoming to immigrants
110	Virtual Sessions	Better internet in county
111	Virtual Sessions	More opportunities for young people to stay connected when they leave for college.
113	Virtual Sessions	Outdoor recreation destination (lifestyle)
114	Virtual Sessions	Training in music/ arts and opportunities to share
116	Virtual Sessions	Broadband connection for rural and cities and towns. 5G
120	Virtual Sessions	Trail networks in all communities
121	Virtual Sessions	Competitive living advantage
122	Virtual Sessions	internet for everyone
123	Virtual Sessions	More open to diversity
124	Virtual Sessions	Woulda put housing and internet next

3.1 (b) "Something Else"

ID	Source	If you said "Something else" what other outcome should we aspire to achieve?
125	Virtual Sessions	Become known as environmental leader: regenerative farming, organic crops, clean air and water
126	Virtual Sessions	More diverse recreational opportunities and eateries so people do not have to leave the county.
128	Virtual Sessions	Cultural diversity
129	Virtual Sessions	Substance abuse counseling and treatment
131	Virtual Sessions	Diverse entertainment opportunities
133	Virtual Sessions	Amenities for young people and families
134	Virtual Sessions	Robust high quality early education and childcare, and support for post secondary education
135	Virtual Sessions	quality childcare
137	Virtual Sessions	We need to have better housing options for the people that commute into Wabash for work. Better communication in our schools systems.
139	Virtual Sessions	Family resources for healthy communities
141	Virtual Sessions	Cultural and racial diversity
143	Virtual Sessions	Cultural diversity. Be a truly welcoming community.
144	Virtual Sessions	Political and cultural diversity
147	Virtual Sessions	Cultural Diversity
154	Virtual Sessions	Active community
157	Virtual Sessions	Diversity
158	Virtual Sessions	Need well paying jobs
162	Virtual Sessions	Healthy community/envirnment
163	Virtual Sessions	Opportunities to meet and socialize with other single people
165	Virtual Sessions	Everyone receives a living wage/income
167	Virtual Sessions	Destination marketing
168	Virtual Sessions	Continuing education
171	Virtual Sessions	Quality productive youth programming (sports, social, care, edu)
172	Virtual Sessions	Healthcare
174	Virtual Sessions	Funding and trainings for entrepreneurs to start business in our communities.

3.1 (b) "Something Else"

ID	Source	If you said "Something else" what other outcome should we aspire to achieve?
177	Virtual Sessions	Strong public transportation
180	Virtual Sessions	Quality childcare
182	Virtual Sessions	Long term success
183	Virtual Sessions	We are producing talented well educated young people, but there is lack of diverse employment in Wabash Co to retain them
185	Virtual Sessions	Diversity in population
186	Virtual Sessions	Cultural diversity
196	Virtual Sessions	More inclusive local government
197	Virtual Sessions	Future of Wabash County. Moving forward together. Unity.
198	Virtual Sessions	Quality of communal spaces. Where people gather.
200	Virtual Sessions	Opportunities
205	Virtual Sessions	Parks and trails
208	Virtual Sessions	No pverty
210	Virtual Sessions	Social support infrastructure
211	Virtual Sessions	More opportunities for students
213	Virtual Sessions	They are attainable.
214	Virtual Sessions	Racial and Cultural Diversity
215	Virtual Sessions	Outdoor venues like farmer's market pavilion, music/theater, ice rink, ropes course, gardens, pubs, and other places for people to gather
218	Virtual Sessions	People can't move here if no housing.
219	Virtual Sessions	Quantity of quality childcare
220	Virtual Sessions	Attractions for young families
221	Virtual Sessions	Connectivity
222	Virtual Sessions	More accessible child care
223	Virtual Sessions	Increase educational opportunities
224	Virtual Sessions	Integrated local governments
226	Virtual Sessions	Strong internet access
227	Virtual Sessions	Minority integration into the community.

3.1 (b) "Something Else"

ID	Source	If you said "Something else" what other outcome should we aspire to achieve?
228	Virtual Sessions	More things for our younger citizens
230	Virtual Sessions	Change "ignorant" midset
233	Virtual Sessions	Access to high speed for everyone
234	Virtual Sessions	Strong child care
236	Virtual Sessions	Reliable Youth 'net access
237	Virtual Sessions	Cutting edge schools
238	Virtual Sessions	Have shovel ready sites for business

Why did you select these outcomes?

ID	Source	Why did you select these outcomes?
1	In-Person (paper)	People need to have a reason to live here. Education is key, as well as cultural offerings and retail possibilities - use our natural resources to attract families.
2	In-Person (paper)	E. Attract more commerce G. New jobs would bring in younger people I. In the end it would increase the population
3	In-Person (paper)	More jobs for our young to keep them in our communities. More education for our kids locally. Hope for people to clean up their homes and have pride in the community.
4	In-Person (paper)	Roann is a VERY small community and very quiet. I would like to see more activities and get-togethers to unite the town. I am a senior.
5	In-Person (paper)	I would like to see a better view coming into town and a clean up by the old school. We would like to have people from different parts of the county to give tours of the Stockdale Mill and explore the fish ladder.
7	In-Person (paper)	Education is the only answer for Roann. The people that owned the land here are mostly dead. Use that land with knowledge and state funding to grow. Make this a safe haven for disabled vets. Where the school was, build a small nursing facility for vets. Students that plan for medicine or nursing for a career could be educated and provided a career to further themselves. It could be presented as a student's major in school. The vets facility would grow, they would have free housing and there would be an adequate turn over for students as they decided to "move on."
8	In-Person (paper)	In our small community, good affordable housing helps- we serve as a bedroom community for Wabash and Warsaw. Roann would welcome an industry type business. Keeping youth in the community.
9	In-Person (paper)	Towers in area are inadequate - drop calls constantly. Internet cannot get on line during the day.
11	In-Person (paper)	Seem to be the most important factors to me. Am not sure exactly why.
12	In-Person (paper)	I think letter C would be a good outcome because speaking from my perspective I would say that a good education system would be a very good message not just to the community but to surrounding areas to show them that we care about education.
14	In-Person (paper)	D. We don't need people to live and work here. That's ideal, but we need one or the other first as a baby step. F. Pooling resources is always better. I. Is the future of this county.
15	In-Person (paper)	Failure of school districts to unite or work together is sad. This is essential. Wide variety of housing for limited income personnel. Employment opportunities are the base.
16	In-Person (paper)	B. If people move in they need to find housing. C. Young families want and demand strong schools. G. More quality jobs with better pay will attract others to come here and will encourage our young people to stay.
17	In-Person (paper)	There is a housing shortage in Wabash County. Young adults / unemployed leave County for training. County needs more jobs that pay more than minimum wage - something other than fast food, service jobs
18	In-Person (paper)	C) Education will bring families to the area E) People want interesting and a variety of offerings when they visit F) Working successfully and sincerely across communities will contribute to success If these are accomplished, the other options should follow as a natural outcome.
19	In-Person (paper)	Without good paying jobs people will continue to leave the county. By cleaning up the small towns and investing in restoring and building in these small communities, people will come if the jobs are there.

3.2 Why

ID	Source	Why did you select these outcomes?
20	In-Person (paper)	B. My own family members moved to a nearby community due to lack of available housing in Wabash County. We need to encourage more development of housing options. G. Increase in quality good paying jobs - many Wabash County citizens work outside the County due to limited, low paying jobs in Wabash I. Talented young people to stay in our community - if there are good employment opportunities and housing options it will be a draw for young people
21	In-Person (paper)	We need housing for starter homes, low income and high income - redevelopment. People want to live in a place that has a positive community. If you can attract people to your town other opportunities will come. People want to live in a place that has options. State park, recreation.
23	In-Person (paper)	Need jobs and housing
24	Online Only	NA
25	Online Only	I believe that we must have a common goal for the county. Focus on many different jobs, such a technology, workforce development, manufacturing, retail must be coordinated. I believe you also need the right people to go and seek out these industries and attract them to our area. I believe with the ability to attract and form relationships with other government entities, non for profits, and businesses, we also need to make a conscious effort on place making. Social gathering spaces, social events, utilizing our river resource for a place of gathering, responsible development, and use of outdoor recreation is key. I believe the potential to come together as a tourism center, a cultural district is vital. However we cannot afford to be held back by the history or past. Embrace it, but we need to adapt the attractive to 21st century businesses and young professionals. By place making, you attract the businesses. Businesses don't make the town or city or county. Businesses come because it's a place where the owners and investors want to live, because of a promenade, and vibrant cultural district, and river trails. The businesses will come if we invest in ourselves and become attractive, not the other way around.
26	Online Only	They are the cornerstone of our communities future success
27	Online Only	They seems like the most pressing issues that could be solved. Greater housing supply, more people attracted to our community, vibrant communities to keep them happy.

3.2 Why

ID	Source	Why did you select these outcomes?
28	Online Only	<p>A. A healthy mix of business and industry, particularly those that have local ownership and/or those that import capital, would provide not only an economic engine locally but also provide talent from which the not-for-profit sector, government sector, and educational sector could draw capable volunteer leadership. This business/industry priority isn't just a generic "jobs" or "pay" issue, since county businesses today advertise many unfilled position at a spectrum of compensation levels. Rather, this should be viewed as an economic growth effort with the side benefit of talent attraction from which multiple community sectors could benefit.</p> <p>B. Housing is an identified issue locally. The company for whom I work recruits executive talent from time to time, and these individuals, without exception, find housing outside the Wabash city limits and often outside the County. Similarly, young people coming to work at this firm are often unable to find suitable rentals. As a consequence of the foregoing, these individuals center their personal lives outside of the community.</p> <p>By the way, amenities such as the extraordinary Honeywell Center help to attract visitors and retain residents, but by themselves, haven't proven to be a significant "recruiting" or "buy local" tool since such amenities are within convenient driving distance of nearby communities where housing exists in greater variety and numbers.</p> <p>C. When recruiting families to the local firm where I am employed, education is invariably part of the conversation. It's not necessarily the primary driver of a relocation decision -- we've found those to be personal circumstances/goals and housing availability -- but it's in the next tier. Some questions concern class availability; others are directed at extracurriculars, e.g. speech teams, show choirs, science clubs, and athletics. The toughest questions to address satisfactorily are those exploring the perceived non-cooperation of local educational bodies.</p>
29	Online Only	<p>First of all I am not a businessman, I know nothing about fundraising, and I have never been remotely near what I am going to propose, in any way. Second, I know my idea is going to be damn tough to pull off but I think the possibilities may be there. I suggest we need to get the existing businesses in Wabash county together, and likely individuals, establish some kind of financial pool or money in escrow, establish a group of qualified business people from within the county to make intelligent decisions, and start looking for an emerging technology to make Wabash County home for. It is a big risk, and would be sort of like the consortium of fifteen countries running the International Space Station, but it has been done and could be done again. We get some realistic businesses in the county connected with an emerging technology, and I think the county will turn around; and it will be good for everybody.</p>
30	Online Only	<p>We have to increase the quality of job offerings to attract professional to our town and provide a place for those newly employed to live, and we make them stay and engage with a vibrant downtown.</p>
31	Online Only	<p>Better employment options will both support the county economy and increase the draw to our county. Retaining and attracting young people to come and live and support the county will add to long term growth. And we have to have vibrant communities with activities to draw people.</p>
32	Online Only	<p>They keep the young families in town, which is critical to growth.</p>
33	Online Only	<p>Jobs and education are 2 of the most important things for many young families. People are tired of wasting precious family time traveling back and forth to work. Parents also want to be sure their kids get a great education.</p>
34	Online Only	<p>we need young people to choose our communities to live and work in Education/good schools is a draw for young people</p>

3.2 Why

ID	Source	Why did you select these outcomes?
35	Online Only	Based on my experience, the education system in Wabash is a major factor when families are deciding where to live after getting employment in the area. Additionally, the lack of employment industries limits the number of new jobs that attract employees outside of the Wabash area. Lastly, I feel there are a very limited number of opportunities for young talented people to either stay or move to our area. Lastly, I feel the local taxes are a big deterrent to outside people moving in.
36	Online Only	People leave here for better jobs and more interesting activities and culture. If you can correct those weaknesses, people may stay or come back.
37	Online Only	If families are not functioning well, nothing will function well as those families will be a drain on the economic and moral fabric of the community. This will require a collaborative work between government agencies, businesses, and the various faith communities in our county to investigate the broken aspects of divorce, single parents, delinquency, addictive behaviors and address those aspects in or to relieve the pressures working against a thriving and fully functional community.
38	Online Only	people need a reason to live here and without jobs, unless the perks are that much better, they will live where they can find work.
39	Online Only	Well-paying, interesting jobs will attract new people to the area and also will encourage our young people to stay. The last fifteen years I worked before I retired, I worked in Huntington County because the type of job I was performing paid much better over there. I also don't see a problem with people choosing to live in Wabash County and work outside the county. To get people to do that, we must have a good reputation in the area as a safe place with lots of fun things to do and places to go. One outcome you didn't list which might help is better internet in all corners and areas of the county.
40	Online Only	If these items are worked on everything else will fall in to place.
41	Online Only	People move out or kids don't come back because jobs they are seeing are not here and don't pay enough.
42	Online Only	These are areas where growing cities are excelling in and have used that advantage to attract people to move towards these population centers.
43	Online Only	Wabash is in need of schools that are funded appropriately so that there is increased teacher retention and student's can be challenged by academic and training offerings that are not currently in our community. Additionally, when there are increased employment options, the brain drain will slow down creating a need for increased and varying retail, entertainment, and other attractions that draw and keep younger families in our community.
44	Online Only	Earning a living and housing are essential if we want people to live in the county, however, people of all ages need social and shopping options. We already have great schools. Good government should be a given.
45	Online Only	Having jobs and vibrant communities will attract families.
46	Online Only	Families need housing they can afford. If they can afford their housing, their families and children are better equipped to handle life. A good education in a small town is ideal because people want the small town feel, but the big-town schools that are funded and offer more. Partnerships across communities are important in Wabash because if we travel within our county to provide for everyone instead of traveling outside of it -we all win.
47	Online Only	We have to keep and /or attract young folks and people who think outside of the box to start small businesses in our area.
48	Online Only	Important to me
49	Online Only	Jobs, housing, and social options are the core to a strong community. Wabash needs more housing OPTIONS in order to drive down the cost of housing; home ownership is out of reach for so many. Employment options need to increase; options for "jobs of the future," we need to attract a wider variety of business and industry to set up shop in Wabash County.

3.2 Why

ID	Source	Why did you select these outcomes?
50	Online Only	I think that these 3 choices are the foundation of your movement. We NEED them to build on.
51	Online Only	Keep young people here through jobs and affordable housing...it's a start, and will lead to progress in the other initiatives.
52	Online Only	Education is foremost for families. Young people staying create new families. Shops and social activities for all to enjoy and also bring in visitors.
53	Online Only	You need housing for jobs and you need jobs for housing. Education needs to be outstanding especially K-4 where children who have challenges can be helped and those challenges hopefully resolved.
54	Online Only	Without jobs, why would people stay or move here? Many people consider school districts when they choose to move to a new area. We need to have a well educated community. One area that has lost many jobs is agriculture. With fewer small family farms, consolidation into huge farm operations and giant tillage/harvesting equipment, fewer people are needed in this type of system. However, I believe there is a growth opportunity in producing more food for local consumption. More could be done than hosting a farmers market weekly in the summer.
55	Online Only	Jobs, education, diversity- looking to the future
56	Online Only	.
57	Online Only	Because if there's no room to grow or to expand. People will venture out in to other towns, or city's. That have more to offer. People need good quality paying jobs and opportunities to support families.
58	Online Only	I'm "big into" employment and education being "huge draws" for a community/county. I believe jobs attract people to the community/county... and having the best K-12 education in the area is HUGE. Parents will drive across district/county lines for a quality school system.
59	Online Only	<p>We have to be able to attract or maintain young talent. It appears the largest sector of people leaving are young people and the reason is for attracted opportunity elsewhere. If we expect to grow in population, we have to either keep what we produce or attract people to replace those leaving.</p> <p>Our housing supply is very limited and dated. The cost and process to buy and fix up a property is costly and not efficient as your market value doesn't keep up with your cost to improve. Even as we have seen an increase in new builds the last few years, we need to provide an area where multiple lots of affordable new builds can be completed. Improvement programs for neighborhoods could be another idea to champion homeowners to take pride in updating their properties as well. This was shown with downtown facade grants to buildings and neighbors jumped on board wanting to improve their building as well.</p> <p>We must better unify relationships and teamwork across communities and different sectors. Making a significant change to grow our communities will take all teamwork within Wabash County and surrounding counties.</p>
60	Online Only	These areas are more of an interest to me, not to say that the others are not important.
61	In-Person (electronic)	I live in Wabash County but work in a different county and would like to work closer to home. I'm also starting my family so schools are important to me.
62	In-Person (electronic)	Without jobs you won't have people who spend consistent money in the community. Hopefully young people will stay and grow their families here
63	In-Person (electronic)	Commerce brings visitors Jobs bring more residents Young people keep the population growing

3.2 Why

ID	Source	Why did you select these outcomes?
64	In-Person (electronic)	We need to keep our young adults in our communities. They are our future
65	In-Person (electronic)	Bringing younger people into and help run the community is key for growth
66	In-Person (electronic)	Young people are our future. We need families to have stable and quality jobs with income to grow young people into productive community members as adults. EDUCATION is the key to a better life. More opportunities to learn will produce community members to be able grow our community. We need the State of Indiana to adjust their funding to allow PUBIC schools to receive better funding. Private schools are given public money to run. Professional employment is lacking in our area. We need diversity to our job force. We could attract professionals from other areas of the country to be inspired to live in our community. We need to attract young families to stay or come back to live in Wabash County. We need a job force to provide opportunities for them to come back or to stay to raise a family.
67	In-Person (electronic)	Growth is focused around education and employment.
68	In-Person (electronic)	As my four children have grown and are looking for their place to land or have already, I'm most interested in how we can keep and get young people in our community!
69	In-Person (electronic)	There is a lack of those 3 and will improve the the growth the fastest. C. Already competitive but unfortunately it is for student enrollment for money. D & E. This is an emotion that is difficult to implement and will happen with growth. F. This will happen with the implementation of A, B, G. H. Smart spending on behalf of our county will help this. I. They are here but leave for A, B, & C
70	In-Person (electronic)	Local town governments and the city is great - county commissioners do a fine job, county council is way too political and only cares about unincorporated WC and seems to forget that the cities and towns are part of the community too.
71	In-Person (electronic)	Because well paying jobs that treat employees well breeds loyalty to the community and encourages living g in the county.
72	In-Person (electronic)	These are the things the county seems to lack.
73	In-Person (electronic)	Stronger schools attract people to live in a community. Diverse kinds of jobs and more job opportunities with good pay and a chance for advancement will bring people to the community and encourage our young people to stay.
74	In-Person (electronic)	I've found employment to be a primary driver against population decline.
75	In-Person (electronic)	I feel these are some of the important things a new family looking to move into the community may look at when making their decision. Or a collage graduate looking to settle down in the town he was raised.
76	In-Person (electronic)	If people know about our county, they might decide to live therefor our lovely quality of life. More jobs are important, but more and more young professionals can work remotely. So they could live here IF we had high speed Internet.
77	In-Person (electronic)	Good jobs are important
78	In-Person (electronic)	Education, quality jobs and positive place to be will drive the increase demand for the other outcomes. More demand will help diversify and build a more stable financial government along with opportunities for better housing.
79	In-Person (electronic)	I see these sectors as a priority to a vibrant community and attracting others to Wabash County.
80	In-Person (electronic)	The best and brightest out county produces need a reason to stay.

3.2 Why

ID	Source	Why did you select these outcomes?
81	In-Person (electronic)	I think housing quality is very poor in wabash County . There isn't very many quality places to rent. The job opportunities are there but the pay is very low for the cost of living here unless u work out of town. There is very little to do in wabash County for fun and excitement. There are plenty of outdoor opportunities but need some entertainment businesses. Id like to see small town living with at least some big city activities. Utilizing the drive in and Honeywell theater/gym for concerts or conventions would be a plus. You would need proper marketing to reach all surrounding areas to bring in the value of people to attend until more housing and population increases.
82	In-Person (electronic)	Create a place where educated people want to be good schools, vibrant cities, and good jobs, and people will come.
83	In-Person (electronic)	We moved to the area 2 years ago. We had a hard time finding a house and the one we did needs a lot work work updating and improving. More housing for upper middle class is needed. One of the reasons we moved here was that our kids had graduated. I wanted a school that had more academic and extracurricular activities than the Wabash schools offer. If MSD and Wabash city consolidated, they would save money and have a larger school system that could offer more options. More retail and social options will draw more young people and enhance the community. I selected this rather than the young person choice because I believe of you make the area more attractive and bring in jobs, the young people will come.
84	In-Person (electronic)	I believe if you can address these, the other things might come along naturally.
85	In-Person (electronic)	Quality education is often a draw to a community. Vibrant cities rich with retail and social offerings might attract a younger population. <u>New partnerships that involve collaborative efforts tend to be more innovative.</u>
86	In-Person (electronic)	LaFontaine has almost 0 jobs outside of family owned/operated places. There is nothing bringing a younger crowd and there is nothing keeping people from leaving.
87	In-Person (electronic)	Housing and education attract people to a location, a variety of employment opportunities will keep them here.
88	In-Person (electronic)	Jobs equal grown in any town or county. If you bring people into the county for work you have to be able to offer a strong educational system to support it.
89	In-Person (electronic)	Bringing back industry is vital for the reconstruction of our county. Building residential zones will only take you so far if major career paths are in places like Warsaw. The implementation of smart growth development policies will allow for this growth to take place in a more vibrant and community-oriented manner, and will incentivize more people to invest in and stay here.
90	In-Person (electronic)	All very important. Could only choose three.
91	In-Person (electronic)	Based on the data, need places for people to live and there is a deficit of housing. Jobs are obviously crucial, and need diversity of jobs, but when imagining the future of work, there is much done virtually, both in jobs and education; people may choose place based on quality of life.
92	Online Only	I chose these three outcomes because I want there to be more job opportunities and more reasonable housing costs. This would bring more people to our town.
93	Online Only	I selected that Wabash was well known regionally because that would attract tourists and more people to the area. I selected that Wabash had a diverse variety of employment industries because then more people could move because they could find a job. I selected that Wabash had a wide variety of houses and costs because more people could find what they're looking for and could afford it
94	Online Only	I selected these outcomes because Wabash doesn't have a lot of nice houses. We also don't have a lot of places to shop. Our town is very boring.
95	Online Only	If there is a good education system, affordable homes, and a number of good jobs to choose from, people might consider moving back.

3.2 Why

ID	Source	Why did you select these outcomes?
96	Online Only	I chose these outcomes because there needs to be more job opportunities to bring more people to Wabash and lowering to price of houses will bring more people as well.
97	Online Only	I selected these because I think Wabash's main problem is that the town isn't interesting enough for people to stick around. These options would make the town more exciting to live in.
98	Virtual Sessions	Just cuz
99	Virtual Sessions	Outcome I: Young professionals are such a key aspect of shaping the future. More needs to be done to make WC an appealing place to live and get involved. Wabash County needs to embrace change and they are currently injuring the county by avoiding it
100	Virtual Sessions	C. Education - we have declining numbers of enrollees in three of our four high schools and yet insist on being completely separate - and we form pacs to elect school board members instead of having a conversation Jobs - need to equip the community with the tools to attract diverse jobs with higher wages and train those workers
101	Virtual Sessions	Move-in ready housing and strong educational institutions (and amazing internet) are what I hear from younger people. Good gathering spaces help people get out and see each other across the spectrums.
102	Virtual Sessions	Stronger schools provide more opportunities for students and attract more families L. Youth are the community's future
103	Virtual Sessions	It's all about talent
104	Virtual Sessions	C Competitive public 21century education to attract young families, supply an able workforce, engage the region, raise incomes, advance diversity
105	Virtual Sessions	A+B+C= I
106	Virtual Sessions	Good schools lead to happier and more families and more jobs and more dollars in community which helps promote vibrant diversity in the economy and more folks excited to join it.
107	Virtual Sessions	They contribute to population growth
108	Virtual Sessions	Need to draw young families who will stay
109	Virtual Sessions	More people will come here if there are good job opportunities
110	Virtual Sessions	Promote great place to live. Beautiful, safe small town America. Place to raise children.
111	Virtual Sessions	I have kids in the school system, it's difficult to find local candidates for our job openings requiring more education and experience, I am a young person who left for a number of years and came back because of a job opportunity.
112	Virtual Sessions	Make raising a family a process that is community focused. Kids have a great appreciation for the arts and for community engagement.
113	Virtual Sessions	Outside people looking to move here laugh at 3 school districts and no available housing 3 school districts need to talk with each other and work together for all
114	Virtual Sessions	If people flee the cities right now because of Covid, come settle here.
115	Virtual Sessions	B. Known several people from all walks of life who would have loved to move here, but couldnt find an appropriate housing sokution
116	Virtual Sessions	If people are going to be able to work or go to school at a distant location but live in our county, 5G Internet is vital. County students in particular need good broadband. Workers won't come if they can connect.
118	Virtual Sessions	Education is important to families that are considering where they want to live. Keeping our talented, creative people here is our best chance for a strong future. Education is important to young families who are looking at where they want to live.

3.2 Why

ID	Source	Why did you select these outcomes?
120	Virtual Sessions	Education unlocks so many barriers to achieving the other qualities Outdoor gathering space and trail networks improve mental health
121	Virtual Sessions	People and employers select Wabash over all other regional cities.
123	Virtual Sessions	Personal experience and feedback from others
124	Virtual Sessions	These serve as a foundation for quantitative growth as well as qualitative growth They serve as foundation for quantitative and qualitative growth
125	Virtual Sessions	Need a healthy place for people to live: job, housing, education, clean environment attract people
126	Virtual Sessions	They are the largest gaps I see missing in a small town that is going against the trend of other small towns that are boarding up.
127	Virtual Sessions	Outcome A: people need to have good paying employment to draw them to the community. Without it, it is like trying to build a “field of dreams”. B. There is not much opportunity for housing. If it is available, it is usually not feasible for today’s standards. Fiscal responsibility is important. If you have elected officials that continually make poor choices like the mentality “if we build it they will come” the community will fail
128	Virtual Sessions	Jobs follow people so we need to focus more on what people want and need over corporations/businesses Lack of diversity can cause close-mindedness Wabash County is often seen as afraid of change. but change is necessary
129	Virtual Sessions	Consolidation of schools is key to improving education through diversity of offerings; strong well funded education is the key to strong diverse job offerings; strong workforce is key to more vibrant cities and towns and retailers will follow
130	Virtual Sessions	If we become a well-known county that is thought of positively regionally, the rest will come along.
131	Virtual Sessions	Need a good balance of opportunities
132	Virtual Sessions	In order to attract young families you must have housing stock and a quality school system.
133	Virtual Sessions	All other things on the list hinge on talent development and attraction
134	Virtual Sessions	To attract young families. Demonstrate early childhood education is available, and support for education is important to our community We must have quality schools and childcare and housing to attract young families
135	Virtual Sessions	B. Can't move here without housing or rental options I- HR Group, Young Professionals Group, Grow Wabash County, Community Foundation of Wabash County, Visit Wabash County, Realtors, Schools, front line employees (Disney approach) C: School Admin, Students themselves, Teachers, Employers, Gov, Grow Wabash County, Community Foundation, State, Regional partners, Heartland Career Center, Learn More Center, Ivy Tech, Manchester Univ
136	Virtual Sessions	We need more quality jobs, but we also need to sell our area as a great place to live. We need to have people from throughout Indiana visit and take advantage of our beauty and history.
137	Virtual Sessions	City and county government Focus group to help develop a plan Lots of media hype and billboards.
138	Virtual Sessions	Should reflect success of our work done with Imag185
139	Virtual Sessions	The cost and financial drain on community resources from unhealthy families struggling to live in community The need for a robust education in order to compete in the global marketplace
140	Virtual Sessions	They seem key to our future growth

3.2 Why

ID	Source	Why did you select these outcomes?
141	Virtual Sessions	I'd feel more welcomed if I saw more people that look like me. Also, if I raised my kids here the ones I picked would affect their future.
142	Virtual Sessions	Young families considering moving here want good schools/education. Vibrant cities make people want to live close and spend money at local shops and events
143	Virtual Sessions	Attract and retain young people. Although we see our selves as a welcoming community, in reality we are often only welcoming those who "look like us"
144	Virtual Sessions	I teach here, and want to raise a family here but my partner DOES NOT see quality in staying here. Diversity and employment options aren't great.
147	Virtual Sessions	Strengthen Community Foundation
149	Virtual Sessions	Seems that employment is key to population growth
150	Virtual Sessions	C - brings families and keep them in Wabash County to establish roots and connection. D - brings people to wabash county to explore and get to know our community
151	Virtual Sessions	Option B: Current renter and potential future buyer Option C: I am considering starting a family Option I: I want to connect with other young people and form a community
153	Virtual Sessions	Strong education and provide good paying and diverse market of jobs for those after higher education achieved
154	Virtual Sessions	Why would my kids want to stay here
155	Virtual Sessions	We miss out on talented young adults from the university because of the lack of push by university employees to sell our county as a place to stay after school. We won't become more progressive or diverse without this pipeline of young adults.
157	Virtual Sessions	Young people and good paying jobs are the future. Keeping people here or attracting them.
158	Virtual Sessions	Well paying jobs are needed to bring people as well as quality homes that the younger people are interested in living.
159	Virtual Sessions	Jobs bring workers and schools bring residents It's important for our communities to cooperate and form partnerships. Old rivalries are anathema to growth
160	Virtual Sessions	Need reasons to stay here
161	Virtual Sessions	People do not understand how bad our fragmented education system looks to those who might consider coming
162	Virtual Sessions	Makes community inviting. Keeps youth in county
163	Virtual Sessions	I'm committed to working locally and feel there are few options for educated people. I want to live here a long time. I'm rooted.
164	Virtual Sessions	You need to be able to see yourself here, living, working, engaged with the community and feel like you belong. More diversity, more opportunity means more people can see themselves here and our community grows.
165	Virtual Sessions	Young people being interested in staying will automatically produce benefits for all
166	Virtual Sessions	Mix of employment
167	Virtual Sessions	Successful towns need diverse housing, Value added and diverse employment
168	Virtual Sessions	Attracting young people - and raising families— is hope for future Mix of employment with a livable wage attracts welcomes wider population A. Town councils and anyone responsible for economic incentives to attract diverse businesses
169	Virtual Sessions	Without people/talent job opportunities won't come into the county

3.2 Why

ID	Source	Why did you select these outcomes?
170	Virtual Sessions	Must have good jobs Must have good jobs with liveable wages and chances to advance to attract new residents.
171	Virtual Sessions	We need fresh blood and new perspectives Find ways to deviate from “this is always how it’s been” with stale ideas
172	Virtual Sessions	Resiliency requires jobs, housing and education
173	Virtual Sessions	key to keeping young families here
174	Virtual Sessions	When you have a strong retail and social selection, you create a better quality of life, which attracts people.
177	Virtual Sessions	With an aging community/county we need a strong support system. We want retirees to age here. When they leave they take their investments and spending power with them.
178	Virtual Sessions	Lacking educational opportunities is detrimental to both attracting and keeping our population.
180	Virtual Sessions	Items that contribute to quality for all ages
184	Virtual Sessions	Attract younger generation
185	Virtual Sessions	Housing - Trying to recruit professionals is hard where we have no quality housing. Education - we have to get all our schools competitive and offering the best opportunities for our students.
186	Virtual Sessions	Businesses follow people and as our current workforce retires we'll need skilled people to fill those places
187	Virtual Sessions	Integration. Many of those items will be complimentary as we work through these goals. Housing, jobs, schools.
188	Virtual Sessions	Without housing, there is a huge barrier for people who do want to live here and cannot
190	Virtual Sessions	Must have housing and rentals for new talent
191	Virtual Sessions	Competitive schools attract young families, build talent, attract jobs, build community
193	Virtual Sessions	Keeping or drawing the younger professionals in the community is important
195	Virtual Sessions	Young families bring energy and attract other young families Business, industry, social orgs, and education will improve and expand when the talent they rely on are present.
196	Virtual Sessions	A good job with a competitive wage can solve a lot of problems; we need additional 21st century thought economy jobs and our schools and local Universities to prepare them; we need new and diverse housing We have housing needs at all levels from multi family to workforce to executive style
197	Virtual Sessions	Unity. Growth. Future
198	Virtual Sessions	Strength of relationship
199	Virtual Sessions	Quality education is a big draw. Being well thought of in the region will draw people to us.
200	Virtual Sessions	All great outcomes depend on inputs of education, talent, opportunity
201	Virtual Sessions	To me they are key to our future development
202	Virtual Sessions	Retaining and training young people is a positive way to grow the community and its assets.

3.2 Why

ID	Source	Why did you select these outcomes?
203	Virtual Sessions	Because youth is the future. Well funded competitive education would attract good parents.
204	Virtual Sessions	I believe that we need to have an attractive and vibrant city, to attract the jobs and the talent, which will increase housing opportunities and grow tax base
205	Virtual Sessions	Will improve population in the county Quality of life Improving outdoor opportunities is so important
206	Virtual Sessions	Crucial to reversing the population loss
208	Virtual Sessions	Done
209	Virtual Sessions	If we are attracting young talent we are likely doing a great many things right
211	Virtual Sessions	Need housing variety Quality of place
212	Virtual Sessions	Best way to sustain growth of population, economy, and quality of place
214	Virtual Sessions	We will not attract a new generation of Wabash residents unless we embrace major change
215	Virtual Sessions	Affordable, quality housing attracts young people. Great education attracts families. Attractive downtown living helps create a good vibe Education raises the level of Community engagement.
216	Virtual Sessions	Education and good jobs are key to keeping talent in community or attracting new members to our community
217	Virtual Sessions	Education, jobs and housing represent the major decisions about where to live
218	Virtual Sessions	A strong education system is the backbone for future success and for attracting people to the area.
219	Virtual Sessions	Quality schools attract and secure young families as residents
220	Virtual Sessions	These seemed important to attract and hold people-growth inducing
221	Virtual Sessions	Young people are essential to our county's future. Without an active countywide effort to attract and retain young people, the population will continue declining.
222	Virtual Sessions	Education opens opportunities and viewpoints Social interaction is key to community growth
224	Virtual Sessions	A good job solves a lot of issues / diversity in job offerings requiring higher skill sets vital to long term community growth / need strong intelligent schools to accomplish this / housing is a key driver for attraction of professionals & workforce Population growth is the largest long term threat to Wabash county We need people
225	Virtual Sessions	To build our community for future generations
226	Virtual Sessions	Education is the seed for the next and all future generations to come, stay and grow our population Jobs are key to support the population
227	Virtual Sessions	No good jobs, no growth.
228	Virtual Sessions	Because I want Roann to be a place a person would want to live
229	Virtual Sessions	Keeping and growing base employers is critical to the future of the county. Among the efforts should be a focus on quality sites, buildings, and workforce.
230	Virtual Sessions	There is no "one" answer. We need multiple priorities working together to be successful. We can't do everything so we need to focus on the most synergistic items to leverage the best outcome.

3.2 Why

ID	Source	Why did you select these outcomes?
231	Virtual Sessions	Education draws families to the community
232	Virtual Sessions	I was part of the school system and I know it needs to grow .
233	Virtual Sessions	Jobs motivate people to move
234	Virtual Sessions	A good education system, amenities, and job opportunities work together to attract and retain young people
235	Virtual Sessions	we need jobs to grow
236	Virtual Sessions	Can't advance without viable education level All Lead to growth
237	Virtual Sessions	Great schools and affordable daycare and housing attract
238	Virtual Sessions	Growth in communities is important Growth is key
239	Virtual Sessions	Education is the fundamental foundation of all growth.
240	Virtual Sessions	We need a strong marketing channel to raise awareness to NE Indiana of the things we already have to offer
241	Virtual Sessions	School Consolidation will be key for us to produce the strongest form of college and life ready students.
242	Virtual Sessions	Need for population growth

3.3 Who

Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
1	In-Person (paper)	Schools, realtors, government, foundations, civic groups, churches, Manchester Alive, Grow Wabash County
3	In-Person (paper)	County officials, educators, parents
4	In-Person (paper)	As many people and ideas we can come up with. All genders, all ages
5	In-Person (paper)	Would like the schools to be involved in Wabash County history.
7	In-Person (paper)	Town, government, and Wabash schools. (any town in this area)
8	In-Person (paper)	Roann has an active _____ club, community heritage group, and town board. State and government funding is used and needed.
9	In-Person (paper)	It's my understanding REMC is working on an internet system. I have signed up for it. You will not get new businesses or young people if they don't have access to high speed internet.
10	In-Person (paper)	I think individual leadership as local as possible - not "out of county" entities - fine for consultation, but if the local individuals don't lead, I don't think local people will buy-in. NM Chamber / Manchester Alive; Wabash Chamber / Main Street; school board members - not supts - they aren't local; diversify leadership - not dependent on Ford / Strauss / Krouse farms. Include them but don't exclude others
11	In-Person (paper)	Educators, government officials, and so many others
12	In-Person (paper)	All schools in the county, the access, City of Wabash
13	In-Person (paper)	Both ag and business communities
14	In-Person (paper)	Town of NM and Wabash bridging gap. GWC, Community Foundation, Wabash Marketplace, Visit Wabash Co., Manchester Alive, YP of Wabash Co.
15	In-Person (paper)	Businesses of all kinds, agriculture-farm land owners, school boards of all 3 sky school districts and home school groups and private schools, realtors and developers - housing.
16	In-Person (paper)	b. Investors who might develop housing areas. C. Consolidation in some form. At least combine the administrations - the 3 systems. G. Keep working to bring new manufacturing and business and help current ones to expand (Grow Wabash County)
17	In-Person (paper)	Organizations like Wabash Marketplace, Grow Wabash County, Habitat for Humanity, Town Governments, churches, realtors, county government, school administrators, Manchester College administrators
18	In-Person (paper)	Cross section of members across/throughout the county: town government, businesses, individuals, churches, not for profit organizations
19	In-Person (paper)	Local and state governments, local investors
20	In-Person (paper)	All Wabash County communities and leadership Ensure businesses are educated about financial resources available to grow their business
21	In-Person (paper)	This will take local people to support redevelopment projects. Investors who are willing to take risks on investments. Lending institutions that are able to lend on businesses such as restaurants and retail.
22	In-Person (paper)	Town and town people, businesses
23	In-Person (paper)	People and town of Lagro

3.3 Who

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
25	Online Only	I believe local investors, entrepreneurs, young professional representative, Grow Wabash County, Mayor, city department leaders, county commission, North Manchester, Manchester University and people like me.
26	Online Only	It's all about jobs, quality education, and keeping our people here (and attracting new ones). Partners - Grow Wabash County, Community Foundation, all school corporations, local governments, young professionals group, Honeywell Foundation, local universities (MU & Ivy Tech), Heartland Career Center
27	Online Only	Realtors to discuss housing needs. Colleges for recruitment of young people. Communities for quality of place.
28	Online Only	Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership and Grow Wabash County City and County government School boards and administration Invested individuals
29	Online Only	See A2 notes
30	Online Only	Obviously we need the economic development organizations heavily involved, but government needs to come alongside and make sure we have fertile ground to attract new employers. Other connected organizations such as education could also offer support.
34	Online Only	School administrators College administrators Parks and Rec Town Council Manchester Alive
35	Online Only	Leaders in the community, including education, business, and government sectors. I feel the key is to have a wide diversity of ages and background. I also think it is key to have businesses involved as I feel jobs are the key to getting people to Wabash.
36	Online Only	Local government probably (Ugh!), and all of the groups trying to make Wabash better, but who are skipping the essentials in favor of glossy facades.
37	Online Only	Churches, mental health facilities, Government agencies, business and banking, law enforcement-courts-probation. Childcare agencies. Professionals such as COMMUNIO.ORG
38	Online Only	local gov. in setting tax incentives, other local businesses that provide the support and environment companies need, and a work force population. (which came first, the jobs or the people. . .)
39	Online Only	The people who have been here and who plan to stay should be involved. The residents of the small communities need to make the decisions for their areas, not the leaders of the city of Wabash. My husband is a Manchester College graduate and I am a former employee of the college. Unfortunately, Manchester University faculty do not accurately represent the views of most Wabash County residents in my opinion. Your steering committee seems to be people who have pushed the hardest for consolidation of the schools. How about getting someone on there who sees the matter differently. How about getting some people with an open mind as to other solutions to problems Wabash may or may not have.
40	Online Only	Business people that work with the public every day. Businesses that want to network. Not school, not university. Real working people.
41	Online Only	Economically developed needs to seek companies looking to expand or grow and convince them we are atheist best spot
42	Online Only	School boards, local government, private businesses, community stakeholders, former residents of the county

3.3 Who

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
43	Online Only	Education leadership, strategic forward-thinking business leaders in differing sectors, representatives of towns that have a hand in developing properties, and our local economic development organizations (Grow Wabash Co, Wabash Marketplace, Manchester Alive, etc.). The reason that we need these groups in the same room is so that the multifaceted game plan to address our prioritize needs can be developed, divided, and conquered.
44	Online Only	Everyone needs to be involved, even if it's just being informed about what's going on. The Community Foundation is a great example of an organization that has great outcomes and that communicates with the community.
45	Online Only	County, each town/ city lead, Manchester Alive, Grow Wabash, Visit Wabash County, Wabash County Marketplace, Small business owners, larger business owners, school leaders, Wabash Community Foundations, Non Profit Leaders, etc.
46	Online Only	The public, not just the well-known and wealthy individuals.
47	Online Only	Not government! Forward thinking entrepreneurs who want a return on investment but not seeking to get rich , to invest in spaces for small businesses to get started.
48	Online Only	Community and elected officials
49	Online Only	Government officials, business and industry leaders, and local citizens.
50	Online Only	In my opinion I think we need more affordable and modern housing. The Lofts were a great start! We need investors and builders to make this happen.
51	Online Only	Chamber of commerce, community leaders, economic development.
52	Online Only	A strong school board with a clear vision/path to make our schools the best in the area. More local involvement with MU to help creat community with the college kids so they will stay. Continue to develop our beautiful downtown, including the river front by attracting businesses that reflect.
53	Online Only	school systems and local governments
54	Online Only	Does the Farm Bureau have a way to connect/list/promote small producers of fruits, vegetables, and meat/dairy? Do high school ag classes and 4H teach about small farming?
55	Online Only	Community leaders, students, representative community members
58	Online Only	re: employment -- community and county leaders MUST do active recruiting of corporations to locate their businesses in the area. A lot more CREATIVE THINKING is needed to bring jobs to Wabash County. SUCH A GREAT WORK FORCE -- SUCH A "LOW COST" LIVING AREA -- such a wonderful place for a corporation to have "committed employees" that want to work and live in a great area for a great company. I still think Honeywell should be contacted be build a "legacy factory" in the county that "helped start it all"... also, what about an ICE detention center, or more landfills in the county, or detention facilities... there's LOTS of available property. (I know, it can sound a bit crazy, but this is exactly the kind of "creative" thinking that folks in Wabash County need!) TV/film locations, etc... look at the Eagles, the drive-in -- these are RIPE for filming production!!! It's going to take real LEADERS in the county to step up and "see the vision"... Chamber of Commerce, city/county personnel, economic development personnel, Community Foundation visionaries -- the talent is THERE in Wabash County to make this happen -- it's just a matter of "getting the right people on the bus!" VET THEM before they join the team!
59	Online Only	It takes us all. We must have an organization or person to lead leaders and champion the hopeful outcomes. It is a continuous process and not just a timed campaign. A change this big for this community will take years. Each outcome will require different individuals. This can be segmented at that time

3.3 Who

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
60	Online Only	If the goal is to bring, or keep young adults "home", those individuals need input. What changes might be made in our county to attract and keep them? Might it be outdoor activity and adventure? Maybe more selections/types of social gathering places? Of course they need jobs too, but in this world of remote jobs, can the attraction be just where you live, and what there is to do?
63	In-Person (electronic)	Business owners Young entrepreneurs
64	In-Person (electronic)	Everyone. This will affect all ages
65	In-Person (electronic)	Everybody
66	In-Person (electronic)	Educators, professionals, and community members all need to come together to grow our community. State of Indiana needs to adjust their education funding for public schools so our schools can retain and hire excellent educators.
67	In-Person (electronic)	County and city leadership, parents
69	In-Person (electronic)	Business leaders willing to move, agricultural land owners for residential housing additions.
70	In-Person (electronic)	Local government; Indiana; grow Wabash county, community foundation
71	In-Person (electronic)	Businesses and local government.
73	In-Person (electronic)	A consolidated school system would help, or at least work together under one administration. Encouraging small companies that can work anywhere depends on city, county, and Grow Wabash County working together.
74	In-Person (electronic)	Local government deregulation and fiscal incentives, local businesses afforded opportunities to expand and innovate, entrepreneurs allowed to launch new businesses and endeavors because these three things work together to create jobs and career opportunities.
75	In-Person (electronic)	Local Government, business owners, talented persons with ideas
76	In-Person (electronic)	churches, town governments, Visit Wabash County, Honeywell Foundation
77	In-Person (electronic)	Local government and citizens
78	In-Person (electronic)	Educators (superintendents, Manchester University), Honeywell, Grow Wabash, City/County planners and the individuals that are the heart and soul of this county.
79	In-Person (electronic)	Everybody! Especially those who are concerned about the outcome of our community. MU, educators, Honeywell, EDG, CF, and leaders who are willing to dig in.
80	In-Person (electronic)	Leaders of the community, and more importantly the people they lead. It's one thing to have an idea it's another to get the regular folks engaged too.
81	In-Person (electronic)	All community leaders especially small business owners to be on board and not vote out new businesses.
82	In-Person (electronic)	Public School systems, private schools, early education representatives, Grow Wabash County, local Main Street organizations, businesses (including downtown mom and pops and larger industry), Indiana Landmarks
83	In-Person (electronic)	Perhaps we need a mandate from the state to encourage school consolidation. Taxpayers also need to know how much money is wasted with three small high schools. Wabash county has a beautiful river, woods, and natural areas.
84	In-Person (electronic)	Mayor, community leaders, school officials, development groups, community.
85	In-Person (electronic)	Educators and parents. Young adults who have a sense of what might draw others of the same age to the area.

3.3 Who

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
86	In-Person (electronic)	Younger generation. Currently the town is "ran" by the other generation that has a hard time letting other people become involved. They also turn down ideas brought to them that would appeal to the "younger" crowd that could bring new growing families to the community.
87	In-Person (electronic)	Local government, school leaders and community
88	In-Person (electronic)	Local & county government, and all of the school districts.
89	In-Person (electronic)	Aspiring business owners. They need to be the ones to take the initial step in creating new jobs for North Manchester.
90	In-Person (electronic)	County's tribal fathers. Those who influence public opinion and who have access to resources. Include outside consultants who have data to show us direction.
91	In-Person (electronic)	Government Community organizations Major institutions Philanthropists Business leaders <i>Somehow need organizers, marketers, leaders to create community support</i>
92	Online Only	The mayor has to approve to build the new businesses. Then, the business would have to be something people would buy from. The housing prices need to be a reasonable price for the house or people won't want to buy houses.
93	Online Only	Wabash would need plenty of funds to build more houses and buildings for new jobs.
94	Online Only	The people and the government need to help with the houses. If people would clean the houses and not trash them, they would still be nice. The government needs to rebuild those houses so we have more people living here.
95	Online Only	The city of Wabash needs to be involved. We need to lower housing prices, make better jobs available, and make our education system better.
96	Online Only	The government needs to approve to build new businesses. Then, the business has to be something people will buy from. Lowering the price of houses will bring more people to Wabash, which means more jobs.
97	Online Only	The government probably since they dictate what the town is.
99	Virtual Sessions	Manchester University
100	Virtual Sessions	Spec building/expansion of Ivy Tech and Heartland/ quality investments in schools Ed programs and CTE
101	Virtual Sessions	Town councils
102	Virtual Sessions	More young people on boards and involved in decision making to make them feel better connected
103	Virtual Sessions	Investors from government, business, education
104	Virtual Sessions	How to demonstrate what Southwest Allen Co schools have by comparison.
105	Virtual Sessions	I- TalentMindful, Growth Minded Citizens, Gov, Nonprofits, HR Prof, Schools, Business & Support Orgs, Tourism
106	Virtual Sessions	I. Community leaders and Economic development teams
108	Virtual Sessions	Creative out-of-the-box thinkers and investors
110	Virtual Sessions	Everyone needs to be involved not just City insiders.
112	Virtual Sessions	Local citizens

3.3 Who

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
113	Virtual Sessions	School administrators and boards
114	Virtual Sessions	Manchester University
115	Virtual Sessions	B. Realtors, business people, builders, zoning/goverment officials. Citizens, educators
116	Virtual Sessions	Education, Grow Wabash, City Town county Govt, Business
118	Virtual Sessions	The whole county
119	Virtual Sessions	Grow Wabash Cty and Community Foundation
120	Virtual Sessions	Outcome I: chamber and Main Street organizations, foundation, colleges, OCRA,
122	Virtual Sessions	Investors including the government, private individuals, banks, trust funds (College, Community Foundation)
123	Virtual Sessions	Key stakeholders in community, city officials, education leaders, economic development , youth
124	Virtual Sessions	Interested stakeholders
125	Virtual Sessions	Government, education, grass root activists ,community and business organizations
126	Virtual Sessions	All of us.
127	Virtual Sessions	Local officials that are over bringing jobs to Wabash
128	Virtual Sessions	People of all races, beliefs, sexualities, identities etc not the same people seen on every board/committee
129	Virtual Sessions	Schools,, state of Indians , local government, Grow Wabash County, Mainstreet groups, Community Foundatiion, local governments, cities towns
130	Virtual Sessions	All municipalities--elected and non-elected leaders (tribal chiefs)
131	Virtual Sessions	NFPs, Government, Planners, philanthropist, businesses
132	Virtual Sessions	Everyone!
133	Virtual Sessions	Cross sector group of educators and economic development
134	Virtual Sessions	Business leadership,
136	Virtual Sessions	Residents outside the city must be involved because they are the ones who will pay if property taxes are raised.
138	Virtual Sessions	Diverse sat of individuals. Accurate Reflection of actual population/stakeholders residents
139	Virtual Sessions	Judges, mayors, churches, youth and family services
140	Virtual Sessions	School boards, teachers, community leaders
141	Virtual Sessions	More collaboration and talking. I think mask is good example. City seems more on board than county.
142	Virtual Sessions	Downtown groups for outcome E

3.3 Who

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
143	Virtual Sessions	Leaders from each community in the county working together, utilizing not just the “old guard” in the count, but inviting new faces...thosei
144	Virtual Sessions	Local and state governments, and people not being afraid of new ideas when they vote.
146	Virtual Sessions	Consolidation of schools and resources ...
147	Virtual Sessions	C. Restructuring
149	Virtual Sessions	Local and state gvmt, land owners, community growth organizations
150	Virtual Sessions	Young people need to be involved 18-35. Those that live here, work here, and attend college. They’re the future of the community.
151	Virtual Sessions	Diverse range of interests
153	Virtual Sessions	Community and regional leaders, Business owners., school administrators
156	Virtual Sessions	schools, community groups, local businesses, community leaders
157	Virtual Sessions	Everyone is important. Especially the ones deciding on local politics and development decision.
158	Virtual Sessions	The entire community
159	Virtual Sessions	Increased income, turning the tide on population drop
161	Virtual Sessions	C. School boards need to work cooperatively not competitively
162	Virtual Sessions	Business leaders & educators
163	Virtual Sessions	Manchester University
164	Virtual Sessions	Someone who can rezone to provide more housing.
165	Virtual Sessions	Foundations willing and able to support those dreams to become reality
166	Virtual Sessions	David McFadden and other business Owners
167	Virtual Sessions	Everyone in community to attract outsiders!
169	Virtual Sessions	Business leaders, parents, education leadership
170	Virtual Sessions	Entire city,town, county governments
171	Virtual Sessions	Mayor, supts
172	Virtual Sessions	Government, business and community
173	Virtual Sessions	educators, the town, community organizations
174	Virtual Sessions	I would hope that every citizen would be involved. If not , leadership from all community organizations should be involved.
175	Virtual Sessions	Business owners and political officials

3.3 Who

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
176	Virtual Sessions	Community leaders who are knowledgeable and have had success in bringing ideas to life
177	Virtual Sessions	Government, non-profit, cultural groups.
178	Virtual Sessions	Our farmers who are currently finishing up harvest.
180	Virtual Sessions	Much has gone into this already. Extremely tough nut to crack. Little by little. Keep conversation growing CFWC is huge catalyst
181	Virtual Sessions	Churches and university and schools
182	Virtual Sessions	Business Owners. Local Government (Where Necessary). Community Members.
183	Virtual Sessions	Grow Wabash County
185	Virtual Sessions	Housing - city, county, GWC, developer
194	Virtual Sessions	schools and their "career"/scheduling counselors
195	Virtual Sessions	MU
196	Virtual Sessions	Young professionals; grow Wabash county; city of Wabash; town councils; workforce development; state of Indiana
197	Virtual Sessions	City and County working together. Not separate
198	Virtual Sessions	Communtiy Foundation
199	Virtual Sessions	Coallition of government (local and state), business leaders, tribal chiefs, those who hild the history, philanthropistssts
200	Virtual Sessions	Excellent educators, adventurous leaders, investors
201	Virtual Sessions	Baby steps towards increased collaboration in joint classes and other cooperative endeavors
202	Virtual Sessions	Anyone who is willing to help.
203	Virtual Sessions	Community Institutions (gov't, private, nonprofits, etc.)
204	Virtual Sessions	Local governments, Wabashmarketplace, grow Wabash county, visit Wabash county
205	Virtual Sessions	City/town councils , civic groups, public schools, university
207	Virtual Sessions	Young, diverse community members
208	Virtual Sessions	Courts and justice system
209	Virtual Sessions	People who can make housing happen
210	Virtual Sessions	Young professionals / residents
211	Virtual Sessions	Mayor, Economic Development Group,business leaders
212	Virtual Sessions	Broad demographic - inclusive committees

3.3 Who

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
213	Virtual Sessions	Business and governmental leaders. They are in positions of influence.
215	Virtual Sessions	School Admins, CFWC, town/city councils, Grow Wabash County and at large individuals
216	Virtual Sessions	School administrators/ community leaders
217	Virtual Sessions	Social services, government, individuals, universities, churches
219	Virtual Sessions	Parents, and leading county orgs to advocate for school funding
220	Virtual Sessions	All stakeholders especially community leaders
222	Virtual Sessions	Government
223	Virtual Sessions	Community, business and government leaders
224	Virtual Sessions	Grow Wabash Count, local government, HCC, Ivy Tech, state, schools, Community Foundation, Honeywell,
225	Virtual Sessions	Get the younger generation involved
226	Virtual Sessions	Schools, employers, parents, community Foundation
227	Virtual Sessions	Young leaders
228	Virtual Sessions	The complete community not just the 10%
229	Virtual Sessions	Economic and workforce developers, existing business community, elected and non-elected officials, etc.
230	Virtual Sessions	Everyone
231	Virtual Sessions	More young people involved in this planning process- this is their future
233	Virtual Sessions	Grow Wabash county, local governments, heartland career center, Manchester university
234	Virtual Sessions	As diverse a group as possible
235	Virtual Sessions	the whole county
236	Virtual Sessions	Entire or nearly entire population
238	Virtual Sessions	Grow Wabash, K12, Higher Ed, business owners
239	Virtual Sessions	Businesses abd Educational Partners
242	Virtual Sessions	People moving into Wabash

How will we achieve your priority outcomes? Do you have ideas or actions to achieve

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
1	In-Person (paper)	Community awareness of possibilities through social media and public hearings Better advertising via social media about realty options
3	In-Person (paper)	If we have people to work they will buy homes and stay in our county to live. Taxes will help get better salaries for teachers.
4	In-Person (paper)	Town meetings for the sole purpose of brainstorming. Maybe a carry-in to entice folks.
5	In-Person (paper)	Have students come to town and see what is available for them to do.
7	In-Person (paper)	There must be a lot of land here that is fallow. What happens to that land if no one claims it? After so many years who owns it? No one except the state. Have the state donate it back to the town and bring constructioners in to build. Again, the vets would be involved and it wouldn't cost Roann anything. Provide land and a safe and growing haven, and the government will return it. A win-win situation. Brings in government money, education, and a future for people moving here. And don't forget the seniors!
8	In-Person (paper)	Roann needs better internet so "working from home" is possible.
9	In-Person (paper)	Need more towers in the area. The Paw Paw Township library now has hot-spot available to check out.
10	In-Person (paper)	For young people, I have long felt Manchester U could play a greater role in developing a local-oriented entrepreneurial development program. Ivy Tech is OK but not suited for strong leadership development.
12	In-Person (paper)	Having all schools be on the same page and all trying to achieve the same outcome.
14	In-Person (paper)	Getting group of 10-20 investors together to buy up buildings and develop/flip them that utilizes all community resources available (GWC, County Gov., OCRA, etc.)
15	In-Person (paper)	Attracting employment opportunities. How do we get school boards to be willing to walk away from old ideas? - Obviously - not an answer.
16	In-Person (paper)	I wish I knew.
17	In-Person (paper)	This is achieved by focusing on a few of these areas to begin with and establish a committee/commission/board to focus on these areas. Posisble a board for each area.
18	In-Person (paper)	It is imperative that it include all communities and all communities must be viewed as valuable to the process
19	In-Person (paper)	Tax incentives for local investors for housing improvements in specific areas
21	In-Person (paper)	We need people who are willing to act on their ideas rather than talk about them. Most people are not willing to take risks alone. Need organizations to assist in researching available grants or loan options. Zoning to protect investors - proper zoning.
22	In-Person (paper)	Need to have people open new businesses. Little less talk, a lot more action
23	In-Person (paper)	need to get jobs here

3.4 How

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
25	Online Only	<p>Yes. We have to have incremental growth and strategic investment in our downtown, riverfront, creating a cultural district. We invest in attractions that not only serve a social and gathering purpose, but fuels further development that shows our entrepreneurs that the county and city and non for profits are there for development. I believe we send the right people to attract certain industries that would be utilized here such as more metal industry, orthopedic industry, retail. Continue to work with developers and reach out to more for development for more single family homes and townhomes in multiple communities. We make a more conscious effort in reaching out to Manchester University.</p> <p>We have to think of several groundbreaking projects, that really attracts visitors and business. This will then drive a better economy, then more citizens, a growing workforce, thereby increasing our tax base and further increasing the above in a cyclical way that will compound growth.</p> <p>We can utilize new development and areas of business into special taxation zones for further, cents on the dollar to help further fuel these projects.</p>
26	Online Only	<p>Better fund GWC to lead initiatives; invest money into our community currently sitting on Wall St as opposed to Main St; an honest effort at school collaboration/consolidation, which has not been tried; Arm the YP group with real funds to engage young professionals, employers, et al; growth at Heartland Career Center; local governments to enact additional funding mechanisms such as wheel tax to help pay for initiatives</p>
28	Online Only	<p>Success will eventually breed success, but it does take time to turn things around. Good things can happen when a few capable citizens put their heads together toward a common cause. There's no single solution; much would depend on the interests, talents, connections, etc. of those pursuing the outcomes.</p>
29	Online Only	<p>See A2 notes</p>
30	Online Only	<p>I feel like creating a vibrant downtown is vital. I would have liked to add a well funded education system because I believe new employers won't move to a town without a good education system in place. I believe a vibrant downtown and great education system could attract new employers and housing will come along to meet the new demand.</p>
34	Online Only	<p>Community forums for discussion continue to gather input from a bigger segment of the population</p>
35	Online Only	<p>As families make decisions on where to locate, I think the education system, cost and availability of housing, and job opportunities are key. We need to find a way to attract good employers with good paying jobs.</p>
36	Online Only	<p>Get some tech industries here, some innovative workplaces that attract educated people. Have activities and entertainment that appeals to people from ages 15-50. The kids are ok, and the old people. The rest of us have one coffee shop and a couple of funky thrift stores.</p>
37	Online Only	<p>Targeting financial drains on the community e.g. bank loan defaults, court costs, lost income and wages, educational impact... and collaborating to reach those families & individuals who need interventions and assistance in order to flourish and thus become a resource to the community rather than a drain on resources.</p>
38	Online Only	<p>aim small miss small. pick a narrow focus and knock it out of the park. then aim at the next. Too broad of an approach will not see much impact. Target local gov. to get jobs back and industry back, then work on the rest.</p>
39	Online Only	<p>The ag community is a big part of Wabash County. Involve land owning farmers in the discussions. Meetings should be open door and not taking place in the city offices without open discussion about the steering committee's desired outcomes. Support the ag education programs in the schools and try to bring ag related businesses to the county. Forget about Japan and focus on the Midwest. Try to bring people to Wabash who will appreciate the kind of community we are. Forget about trying to attract minimum wage jobs.</p>

3.4 How

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
41	Online Only	If there is a certain sector of companies we are looking at we have to get kids in high schools prepared for these jobs through Heartland. We send them to college we loose them. College is definitely not the secret to all our kids and definitely not what keeps them here.
42	Online Only	Community buy-in by the majority
43	Online Only	<p>I believe that a serious discussion regarding our county's education needs to be had. Three school districts in our meager populated community is a lot. Resources are not being maximized, competition is not fueled by improvement, but by pride and our county is impacted negatively. We have great schools and teachers, why not work together?</p> <p>We have great businesses in town with some being here for generations and others being smaller and bringing variety to our county. Using the wealth of knowledge from each sector alongside our economic growth cheerleaders at the same table can bring about a discussion on how to bring more jobs to current employers and attract differing employers. We have the transportation infrastructure down with 13/15/24 running through our county, we have people who need competitive work options, and we have academic pipelines (Manchester, Huntington, IWU) in close proximity to bring an educated and varied workforce to our community. What are we doing to bring them to the future of our community through incentives? I probably have more questions here than ideas and answers.</p>
44	Online Only	Wabash County had a history of achievement in efforts to improve various aspects including education, revitalization, and much more.
45	Online Only	We need to make achievable plans and accomplish them. Our communities need to see things happening so start with something smaller first and then reach for the larger goals. Make sure the community is involved... sometimes this is harder than we think! They want to voice online but not actually help. But if we make them feel needed and important we can pull them in.
46	Online Only	You need to listen to the people who make up the majority of the county. Working-class individuals who are struggling to stay ahead.
47	Online Only	I would like to see a large downtown retail space in North Manchester (Red Moon Building for example) be converted to small boutique shop spaces and possibly "maker" spaces. Small apartments could possibly be made upstairs. It could be a resource for someone wanting to start a small retail business but is daunted by the cost of rent in a full storefront.
48	Online Only	We need to promote our communities
49	Online Only	Wabash County needs to have a collaborated strategic plan: what is our vision, what is our mission, what are our objectives to reach our mission, and what are the action steps for each objective to move us toward our mission. Perhaps we need to hire experts in the fields of attracting business and industry, and in the fields of affordable housing, and small town planning, and experts in the fields of marketing and PR. Wabash County needs to advertise all around the Midwest to "recruit" new residents to the area. Wabash County needs to establish its "brand" and market that brand all around the Midwest
50	Online Only	I have no idea how to achieve this but maybe through tax incentives and credits.
52	Online Only	See above. Also, connect to other communities on the Eel River and utilize this natural resource to grow all communities along its shores.
53	Online Only	Government-private enterprise for housing and jobs. Extremely more focus on early childhood issues from daycare to 4th grade. Educationally, probably the most important time in a child's life to get them on track for success and minimize problems in years 8-12 and really throughout life.
54	Online Only	Having a site/building/old warehouse for a permanent farmer's market. Food co-ops in outlying towns to make access to fresh food easier.

3.4 How

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
55	Online Only	Having some common goals as a community to work toward, everyone contributing as they can.
58	Online Only	Everything you are doing is GREAT! "Keep doing what you are doing" and then don't sit on the results. There ARE visionaries in the county... I trust Patty Grant to "get all the folks together"... but there must be funding set aside to produce results. WHO IS COORDINATING ALL OF THIS? Is there a "one-stop shop" to process all the ideas and then FOLLOW-THROUGH???
59	Online Only	talent: discover where people are migrating to, then decide if we want to mirror or create new what is being offered there. housing: create neighborhood program for home occupied owners to want to enhance their dwellings. Create incentive to build new homes in certain designated areas. new relationships: find common ground with different groups who want the same or similar thing and champion them together to excite their sphere of influence to join in
60	Online Only	My interest in completing this survey, is mainly to encourage the use of the Eel River in Wabash County. It amazes me how many people on the river are not from Wabash County. You can paddle 20 miles on the Eel, just in the county! The launch sites have a lot to be desired. Putting in at the Liberty Mills launch is usually terribly muddy. Sometimes the concrete pad is the least desirable option. There is a launch at Ogden Landing in North Manchester, but it will only launch kayaks and canoes. Tubes and floats don't work well at this sight, because one doesn't have access to the water, except by jumping in. There is access to the river at the street department, but again, it is not easy to maneuver vehicles, and have easy access to the river. The easiest accesses to get in and out of the Eel are in Laketon and on State Road 15 at Bear Grass Creek. I feel that better river accommodations to begin the journey from Liberty Mills to Stockdale Mill (or somewhere along the way, like North Manchester) could increase "traffic" to our county. Availability of canoes, kayaks, food, snacks, drinks, and transportation might increase activity on the Eel River. And of course it is a real treasure and pleasure to float under the covered bridge! The Eel River is a beautiful trip, and this gem sits in our backyards.
63	In-Person (electronic)	Marketing
66	In-Person (electronic)	We need Indiana Government to change the public school funding to fully fund public schools. Offer incentives to small businesses to train and attract young people to their employment. Offer incentives for trade school or training programs to draw people back to the are or into the area from other places. Allow small business to offer employment incentives to attract quality employees such as sign on bonuses
67	In-Person (electronic)	Collaboration
69	In-Person (electronic)	There is probably more info than what I have to initiate the growth. I know there are leaders that are trying passionately to accomplish growth.
70	In-Person (electronic)	Better funding for community organizations; consolidation of schools
71	In-Person (electronic)	I believe people are willing to work, but they need jobs in order to do so. I believe it's a matter of bringing good paying jobs to our county.
73	In-Person (electronic)	We must continue to work on these things, talk about them, discuss them, search for them. No easy answer.
74	In-Person (electronic)	Deregulate as much as possible, and then some more. Offer tax incentives for business growth. Sponsor entrepreneurs and help them get off the ground, with networking, mentoring, and financial support.

3.4 How

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
75	In-Person (electronic)	I think the community leaders in the past few years have done very well at networking with/ and in addressing the job situations. To get a manufacturer or large business (warehousing, ect) to consider Wabash for their permanent location I am sure is trying and takes time.
76	In-Person (electronic)	As many people as possible must contact state and federal representative and prioritize high speed Internet for our entire country.
77	In-Person (electronic)	Focus on positive attributes of Wabash County
78	In-Person (electronic)	Connected education system (I.e., pre-K through university), creating local incentives to bring or create jobs in Wabash County, local incentives to drive connectivity amongst groups to drive the greater good, look at green initiatives which might attract visionaries to the area, analyze paths to bring technology firms to the area which would bring talent, create new housing zones around Lake Mississinewa to attract lake crowd or 2nd home purchases and make Salamonie a State Park.
79	In-Person (electronic)	A strong/progressive superintendent of Wabash, school collaboration, additional apartments as well as housing across the board, property tax incentives, business tax incentives, educational programming for families, highlighting trails, additional green space and hangout areas in all towns.
80	In-Person (electronic)	Doing this is a start. Acting out on some of these ideas is another.
81	In-Person (electronic)	Set up grants or tax breaks for entertainment businesses. Build quality townhouses/apartments close to shopping areas/ the college
82	In-Person (electronic)	Preserve historic buildings and put businesses in them. Improve residential offerings in historic neighborhoods, which are walkable to downtown amenities. Create school programs, including before/after/sick/snow day/summer care that is inclusive and enriching. Work with businesses to find what they need to succeed and grow.
83	In-Person (electronic)	We need to sell that and bring people in. That will lead to more restaurants. Outdoor activities will also bring young people.
84	In-Person (electronic)	Schools kept us from moving here sooner. Housing and neighborhoods may drive us out of the community. There are no move in ready homes for us. The grocery stores offer few choices encouraging us to shop out of town. How to fix, I'm not sure. Companies drive jobs, jobs drive revenue and revenue drives change. But I'm not sure we offer the housing and infrastructure to entice large new companies. I didn't offer much of a solution I'm afraid.
85	In-Person (electronic)	Target early education/literacy, especially to help with education.
86	In-Person (electronic)	I think bringing more businesses to town such as child clothing boutiques, icecream shop, mom & pop food place, would improve LaFontaine tremendously. We have nothing that brings people to us. There is nothing that screams, "hey let's make the trip to LaFontaine." Peru has east end that is always booming with business, wabash has the little shops, and Marion had more shopping. Sadly there are very little options building wise to put in one of these suggestions. Many of the buildings that are sitting empty would be great for these ideas but they will remain empty due to lack of interest in selling.
87	In-Person (electronic)	When we see growth in our local economies and population.
88	In-Person (electronic)	That's a fine line between offering tax cuts and special offers to bring in businesses, but you also can't put a huge tax burden on the tax payers.
89	In-Person (electronic)	I think the big thing is creating an environmentally clean community. That beauty will drive acknowledgement to business owners that North Manchester is a viable town to expand or create their businesses in.
90	In-Person (electronic)	Keep up the momentum.

3.4 How

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
91	In-Person (electronic)	Landowners, developers, and government leaders to create housing opportunities. Identify, develop, strengthen, and market the unique resources that improve quality of life (rivers, forests, outdoor activities, art, education). Focus on infrastructure that supports quality work and living: cellular service and high speed internet throughout the county, sidewalks, trails, river walks, bike trails, green spaces.
92	Online Only	We need more job opportunities like factories, schools, or the medical field. Also, house prices are really high and it is hard for people to buy houses. I think that if we lower the housing prices, people would move here for a cheaper price. Then, more people would be in our town, so we would have to add more businesses and factories.
93	Online Only	Wabash could host charities and fun activities to raise money.
94	Online Only	Most people think that our town is full of drug addicts. That makes our town not positive. The people need to stop doing drugs.
95	Online Only	I dont have any ideas as of this point, but the outcome is that hopefully people move back to Wabash.
96	Online Only	We can achieve these outcomes by lowering the price of houses to bring more people which will make the town have to bring more jobs.
97	Online Only	I think we should just add more places of interest around Wabash.
99	Virtual Sessions	Finding ways to bring more high- level jobs for people with bachelor's/masters degrees
100	Virtual Sessions	Schools, state government to force consolidation as locals will not get it done; for housing and jobs we need financial assistance
101	Virtual Sessions	Develop a housing committee to develop affordable downtown housing
102	Virtual Sessions	L. Young individuals and high school students in the commiunity...high school students may become inspired to come back and youth have energ
103	Virtual Sessions	Investment to build permanent support for education and workforce development
104	Virtual Sessions	The community has to first understand what a competitive Ed is, and then demand it through influence, advocacy and election s
105	Virtual Sessions	Easy to understand and accessible "live here" information with the why in focus
106	Virtual Sessions	It will take some key players taking a large financial risk to invest in what will be a long term return.
108	Virtual Sessions	This can't just be about profit. Other things have value.
110	Virtual Sessions	There needs to be a deeper respect for differing opinions on how to get "there". Understand the importance of the ag community in Wabash Co
112	Virtual Sessions	Ensure representation form each neighborhood and community.
113	Virtual Sessions	Partner to expand educational opportunities
114	Virtual Sessions	Offer community interest night classes on all kinds of areas
115	Virtual Sessions	B. I think conversations about how we address perceived and cresl barriers
116	Virtual Sessions	Provide specific programs (education), facilities (housing), and connections to the world (Internet).
118	Virtual Sessions	Consolidation would probably help
119	Virtual Sessions	I need more time to think

3.4 How

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
120	Virtual Sessions	Make sure childcare is available, improve eating out options, improve farmers market publicity, marketing of local schools
122	Virtual Sessions	Fund entrepreneurial ventures on a larger scale. Not just retail stores or pizza shops, but larger manufacturing employers
123	Virtual Sessions	New housing developments, increase in number of Wabash students attending MU
124	Virtual Sessions	Set up an appropriate rubric
125	Virtual Sessions	Disseminate information, educate, convene various groups,
126	Virtual Sessions	Residents might have to change their views of what they think small town USA is.
127	Virtual Sessions	Communication, positive PR, financial responsibility
128	Virtual Sessions	Connecting with Manchester University more
129	Virtual Sessions	Better fund GWC, school consolidation must come from the state as locals will not get it done
130	Virtual Sessions	Collaboration and paying attention to research. Use of consultants.
131	Virtual Sessions	All working together toward a common goal
132	Virtual Sessions	Achieve goals by working together.
133	Virtual Sessions	Major investments in housing, early education, careers to attract young families
134	Virtual Sessions	Informed voters to elect school and county officials to prioritize housing, early childhood education and eliminating barriers to post seco
136	Virtual Sessions	City leaders must stop trying to force their ideas down the throats of rural residents.
138	Virtual Sessions	Obtain interim feedback
139	Virtual Sessions	Engaging resources to identify problems that drain money and resources
140	Virtual Sessions	More across district cooperation
141	Virtual Sessions	H. City and County Government on 1 accord
142	Virtual Sessions	Helping new businesses and aiding in building renovations for historic buildings
143	Virtual Sessions	Involve new fresh faces in city/town government. Introduce transparency in leadership. This allows for honest conversations and new ideas
144	Virtual Sessions	People must see value in diversity. Our political reps don't need to help sow fear of movements like BLM.
147	Virtual Sessions	C. Community residents/Board
149	Virtual Sessions	Incentives for employers
150	Virtual Sessions	Stronger partnership with Manchester University and local city/county leaders (town/city leaders, Grow Wabash County, Visit Wabash County,)
151	Virtual Sessions	Outreach to sources of potential migrants

3.4 How

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
153	Virtual Sessions	Partnerships and collaboration across the board. Consolidate schools.
154	Virtual Sessions	Teachers and parents to help kids see the value in working in Wabash Creating Jobs that will continue to be around in the future. Remote job opportunities. Better WiFi
155	Virtual Sessions	University and community leaders need to establish more programming for university students to see Wabash Co. as more than just farmland
156	Virtual Sessions	set goals, create initiatives, get people involved, monitor progress, celebrate success
157	Virtual Sessions	Present and work with local community leaders and developers often and track progress.
158	Virtual Sessions	You need to go to all the communities in wabash county and solicit their leaders to encourage local talks possibly at church or in local com
159	Virtual Sessions	An honest assessment of our institutional structure and an acceptance of change
161	Virtual Sessions	May need the state to step in
162	Virtual Sessions	Population growth. Community attitude
163	Virtual Sessions	Have Human Resources really talk up our town! Help facilitate people finding housing here.
164	Virtual Sessions	Prorated tax abatement for individuals that purchase land zoned residentially or an existing home in city limits - inside the community.
165	Virtual Sessions	Young adults who come together to dream
166	Virtual Sessions	Special Task Force
167	Virtual Sessions	Engage the community
170	Virtual Sessions	work on lowering our taxes, back efforts on housing, services
172	Virtual Sessions	Expand housing, amenities and make us an exceedingly easy place for business
173	Virtual Sessions	agreement on K12 educational goals, funding early childhood education
174	Virtual Sessions	Small businesses growth, families coming to reside here from other cities.
175	Virtual Sessions	Excellent communication
179	Virtual Sessions	I don't know! I need someone experienced in this work to tell me.
180	Virtual Sessions	Community must grow to value education. Some still fear kids will leave if they learn beyond the limits of the county
181	Virtual Sessions	Involve these groups
182	Virtual Sessions	Let's incentivize non-residents to move into the area. ie: Attract remote workers to live here.
183	Virtual Sessions	Collaboration business new attraction to cluster strong employers we already have
185	Virtual Sessions	We are already working in this. 2 areas are being prepared for development
194	Virtual Sessions	provide concrete pathways for the students and talk to them about it. Are parents having conversations about the future with their HS kids

3.4 How

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
195	Virtual Sessions	We need to remove obstacles to access to enrollment and transferring credit from previous education, and create through-ways for learners.
196	Virtual Sessions	Legislative action to force consolidation; local government to be open to change; industry buy-in
197	Virtual Sessions	Attractiveness of our county. People WANT to move here to experience a great life
199	Virtual Sessions	Get everyone on the same page going the same direction
200	Virtual Sessions	world class education
201	Virtual Sessions	Teachers school boards and administrators trusted lay leaders
202	Virtual Sessions	Get the young people involved in the processes, and the local government and leadership.
204	Virtual Sessions	Increased income rates, decreased vacancy rates of homes and commercial properties, increased permits for both
205	Virtual Sessions	Public/private partnerships ; grant submissions to OCRA
207	Virtual Sessions	More sessions like this. More young professional networking opportunities.
208	Virtual Sessions	????
209	Virtual Sessions	Social opportunities, housing, jobs
210	Virtual Sessions	Share love of Wabash Co with peers. Connect with local youth to speak positively about community. Provide internships to youth.
211	Virtual Sessions	Coordinated groups working to common goals
212	Virtual Sessions	Investment, marketing, and broad participation
215	Virtual Sessions	An Ad hoc planning group to inspire and enable goals
216	Virtual Sessions	What we currently have is not giving our young people the quality of education they deserve
217	Virtual Sessions	Continued communication and team building
219	Virtual Sessions	Define competitive education, understand it and distribute promote the components to drive decision making. Demonstrate what is needed,
220	Virtual Sessions	Amplifying what we and others are doing in this activity
223	Virtual Sessions	Working together for common goals and objectives
224	Virtual Sessions	Better funding for organizations leading efforts; workforce education training, funding to impactful projects and setting politics aside
225	Virtual Sessions	We need to involve oinvolve our youth to keep here & grow county
226	Virtual Sessions	Inspire our youth so that they are motivated to stay on the path of life long learning
227	Virtual Sessions	Focus on three main objectives. Engaged businesses, strong education, young involved leaders
228	Virtual Sessions	By the way our citizens react to the changes

3.4 How

ID	Source	Who needs to be involved to achieve your priority outcomes and why?
229	Virtual Sessions	Inventory specific existing assets, identify gaps, close the gaps.
230	Virtual Sessions	Consistent action over time
231	Virtual Sessions	Each one of us needs to involve youth in all areas - educational decisions, volunteer activities., jobs
233	Virtual Sessions	Target people from here that have moved away
234	Virtual Sessions	Surveys, Population growth, school size, employment data
235	Virtual Sessions	offering tax breaks and making our community appealing
236	Virtual Sessions	Making everyone feel valued
237	Virtual Sessions	Schools need to mi
238	Virtual Sessions	Set goals assign and hold people accountable
239	Virtual Sessions	Partnerships
242	Virtual Sessions	Education

How can we measure progress toward your priority outcomes? What is / are the indicator(s)?

ID	Source	How can we measure progress toward your priority outcomes? What is / are the indicator(s)?
1	In-Person (paper)	# of people who are involved attendance at events # of people moving to the community
4	In-Person (paper)	Fundraisers to raise money to restore old buildings. Maybe to repurpose buildings for veterans, senior living, etc.
7	In-Person (paper)	This area is centralized to S. Bend, Indy, Fort Wayne. There are hospitals there for vets or families. Build a small clinic here so the service people don't have to travel so far for shots, meds, mental help. Help people with free housing and industries will follow. This is one of the best places on earth to raise a kid. The river is here for recreation and there is history. Offer all you can with funding, a safe place to live or farm. Please make it a town again, make it so you can walk anywhere safely.
8	In-Person (paper)	Our town has received State grants thanks to a strong leader in Bob Ferguson.
10	In-Person (paper)	I'm not so big on population growth - one reason we live here is because Wabash Co. is small and we like it that way. I would go to a slow, sustainable growth model based on retaining young adults and encouraging them to rear their families here.
12	In-Person (paper)	You can measure this by the number of kids that transfer schools because of maybe teaching abilities or even from bullying.
14	In-Person (paper)	Population increase. More MU students staying after grad. Small, incremental changes in right direction.
15	In-Person (paper)	This would be obvious - by growth.
16	In-Person (paper)	These would all be visible
17	In-Person (paper)	The areas that I have checked can be measured by number of training programs, increase in housing units, number of people employed in higher paying jobs
18	In-Person (paper)	If the process is successful, the population should begin to increase and the communities should see an increase in revenue.
20	In-Person (paper)	1. New and diverse housing options 2. New higher paying job opportunities 3. Increase or stabilization of population
21	In-Person (paper)	Visible change is easy to see.
22	In-Person (paper)	Amount of businesses that open and community involvement
23	In-Person (paper)	People moving to town and more businesses open
25	Online Only	You'll measure by vacancy rates of downtown businesses in all communities. Increased money flow from local taxes. The amount of traffic increase, both pedestrian and vehicle in main corridors. We will then see growth and building of new facilities, new industry, and with that demand new homes will be built, Single family and multi family units, and you will see the income tax and property tax collection increase
26	Online Only	growth in population; new jobs, investment, and higher wages; additional workers trained at HCC; new programming offered at local schools;
28	Online Only	Business/Industry -- employment numbers, imported capital and philanthropy, Housing -- apartment/rental counts, subdivision development, building permits, etc. Schools -- demonstrated cooperation of direct and ancillary leadership
29	Online Only	See A2 notes

3.5 Indicators

ID	Source	How can we measure progress toward your priority outcomes? What is / are the indicator(s)?
30	Online Only	Employment is the most obvious, but I would like to see it desegregated by employer and industry. Additionally, it would be great to study the demographics of those employed in Wabash County to see where they choose to live and why. The nominal wages of each job would begin to reveal the quality of our employment. We do not need more low paying jobs.
35	Online Only	Population growth is the goal, so that is the first measurement. Sub goals for me include unemployment numbers, job and employer growth, housing costs and availability, and increased educational opportunities.
36	Online Only	The population of 22-38 year olds. Are people staying/coming back when normally they would be elsewhere for better opportunities or interesting cultural atmospheres?
37	Online Only	Court records diminished in areas of restraining orders, divorce, addiction related arrests, parole records, defaulted loans, school disciplinary records, violent crime records, and hospital records of cases of suspected or confirmed abuses both physical and addiction related.
38	Online Only	Increase in job demand, new industries showing interest, and finally more business/jobs created
39	Online Only	You tell us how many leave each year, but you do not say how many people move in to Wabash County. The type of businesses and jobs we attract should be more about quality and less about quantity. Bringing in low paying, minimum wage jobs will only attract more people for the rest of the community to help support with free clinics, free education, and housing assistance. It seems to me an indicator that we are doing something right is the fact that Wabash County average income was the only one in the area to increase. I would also guess the average home value has increased because there are a lot of very nice estates that have sold in the last few years in this area.
41	Online Only	By jobs that come to the county and are filled with county residents not from other counties
42	Online Only	population increase, school enrollment, housing stock increase
43	Online Only	Goals, we must makes goals and prioritize our efforts to make them happen. We cannot be too widespread or we will continue to miss out and fall behind more. New businesses, more jobs, census indicators, and improved standings (enrollment, academic programming, teacher retention, etc.) in our schools will be ways to tally our progress. I'm sure our economic development groups have ways to measure where we are now and can use them to measure where we will be in time so there isn't a reason to reinvent that wheel. I do believe that more people need to pay more attention to what is being said and unselfishly work towards progress instead of merely hoping things will get better by doing the same stuff.
44	Online Only	Ultimately, it would be a stabilization of our population, and hopefully growth. The number of thriving small businesses and jobs would be indicators.
45	Online Only	SMART goals and follow up
46	Online Only	Who are you talking to? Is it just those people who are well known or are you getting into the public? If you're talking to people whose names you really don't know, you're heading in the right direction. If the same last names are on your calendars, then you're not doing the county the service it deserves
47	Online Only	not sure
48	Online Only	Wabash Visitors and Tourism Bureau does an excellent job of tracking outside interests

3.5 Indicators

ID	Source	How can we measure progress toward your priority outcomes? What is / are the indicator(s)?
49	Online Only	We need to measure: how many citizens rent vs own, the average county wage compared to state and national numbers, the skill sets required to work in current Wabash business and industry, the skill sets required to work in "jobs of the future," average cost of a home compared to regional and national levels, how much does it cost the average family to "live, work, and play" comparing Wabash to the regional and national average, what necessary public services are available in Wabash and what is the average cost compared to the regional and national numbers, what are the numbers of available work force in Wabash, how many available workers are working and how many are not and why not, what is crime like in Wabash, how much crime, what type of crime, what is a necessary prevailing wage to live an enjoyable life in Wabash compared to regional and national levels, what are the quality of life indicators in Wabash County compared to regional and national indicators, ...
50	Online Only	There are many ran down properties where nice duplexes or small apartments could be established.
52	Online Only	Home values is a big one. Other nuances are not as easy to measure, but activity/use downtown and at parks. Seeing people walk around (post pandemic) would be some positive indicators.
53	Online Only	Assessed value going up. Building permits up. Survey teachers yearly for their experiences. they will easily know.
54	Online Only	More people able to stay on or start small farms. Food is a basic human necessary. Why does so much of it have to come only from a grocery? I think people would rather buy locally more IF it could be more convenient for them.
55	Online Only	Keep some data on agreed upon goals from a point in time, moving forward
58	Online Only	The progress will be measurable by the number of actual businesses and/or families that choose to involve themselves with Wabash County (or a particular town)... ALL of the towns in Wabash County don't want to see "their death"... they WANT to see new families move into their communities... THIS is measurable. Additional businesses on Main Street IS measurable. Increased enrollments at schools ARE measurable. We can have "all the meetings in the world" but if we don't see an "increase in numbers in our outcomes," then we are not accomplishing our goals. Sorry for rattling, but I am impassioned about Wabash County.
59	Online Only	young talent/population growth - this can be tracked through survey of schools and college students and followup after graduation or skilled training. We can work with education platforms to recruit young talent. housing - this can be tracked through permits and or applied for grants relationships - some sort of measure of engagement of people or collaboration for projects.
60	Online Only	The improvement of access sites on the Eel River, could lead to a situation similar to the one on the Wabash River in Wabash. That seems to attract a lot of people to Wabash!
63	In-Person (electronic)	Population increase More commerce outlets More business opportunities
66	In-Person (electronic)	Businesses would report new employees to the imagine one 85 or community foundation. . Indicators of a positive change would include increase population. Young adults would be attracted to the area to live and work here.
67	In-Person (electronic)	Growth
69	In-Person (electronic)	Increase in residency, population, and increasing jobs/employment.

3.5 Indicators

ID	Source	How can we measure progress toward your priority outcomes? What is / are the indicator(s)?
71	In-Person (electronic)	Unemployment rates and rates of employees working within the county.
73	In-Person (electronic)	If school administration is combined, we will see the difference. We will know if a local company expands or a new company or business opens.
74	In-Person (electronic)	Number of new businesses launched and jobs created, capital spent by existing businesses to expand and add jobs, number of regulations eliminated vs new regulations.
75	In-Person (electronic)	Indicators would be the local economy, tax rates, real-estate needs.
76	In-Person (electronic)	The actual number of households who have affordable high speed Internet access throughout the county-all rural areas included. We have met several young families over the years who loved it here. but couldn't buy and live here due to lack of connectivity.
77	In-Person (electronic)	Surveys. What are the businesses that are thriving doing
78	In-Person (electronic)	Population growth, new jobs, community morale
79	In-Person (electronic)	Jobs, educational goals, population, community morale, state park visits, new businesses.
80	In-Person (electronic)	New ideas being acted on.
81	In-Person (electronic)	Less people traveling to fort wayne for things. Breaking ground on modern housing amenities
82	In-Person (electronic)	Schools have measures of best practices. Downtowns and businesses should measure new businesses/number of new employees/dollars invested in buildings/increase in pay.
83	In-Person (electronic)	Successful school consolidation for sure. The number of retail and restaurants is another.
84	In-Person (electronic)	Population increase, new companies moving here, increases housing starts, improvements in schools (I know schools are measured, but I'm not involved in specifics)
85	In-Person (electronic)	Track who moves to town and stays.
86	In-Person (electronic)	Population growth & more foot traffic throughout the town.
87	In-Person (electronic)	GDP, population, housing growth.
88	In-Person (electronic)	Measure the new jobs and businesses coming into the county vs what we had in the past. Measure the unemployment rate vs the past. Economic development takes time so a measurable growth isn't going to happen overnight so this has to be a long-term objective.
89	In-Person (electronic)	Track certain outcomes of this growth like GDP increases, alternative transportation and energy options, a sense of a vibrant community, as well as a healthy and environmentally clean town.
90	In-Person (electronic)	Investment in priorities, community support, measurable outcomes such as improved educational outcomes.
91	In-Person (electronic)	Population, educational outcomes, median income, diminished poverty indices
92	Online Only	You can measure the progress by seeing how many people live in our town to know when to bring in more jobs. The indicator is the people.
93	Online Only	We could have a set goal of money. Every time we reach a certain amount we could make an announcement to keep people excited.
94	Online Only	We need to put bigger businesses in the areas that have no stores.
95	Online Only	We can measure progress by how many people move back to Wabash.

3.5 Indicators

ID	Source	How can we measure progress toward your priority outcomes? What is / are the indicator(s)?
96	Online Only	We can measure the progress by looking at the population. If the population goes up, the job options need to go up. The indicator is the population.
97	Online Only	We will know if it's working if the population grows or stays steady over a period of time.
99	Virtual Sessions	Lowered median age, higher birth rate, open to necessary changes
100	Virtual Sessions	Investment, leads, dual credit courses, number of credits and certifications graduates leave with
101	Virtual Sessions	Units available and then rented/purchased by persons under 40
102	Virtual Sessions	Increase in young families moving here, increase in school enrollment, more youth coming to social and cultural events
103	Virtual Sessions	Rise in population, increase number of people who live AND work here, increase in high quality jobs
104	Virtual Sessions	Enrollment
105	Virtual Sessions	Population #, Poulation demographics, school enrollment, housing purchases, lenght of time job positions are filled
106	Virtual Sessions	Population age and size will be some indicator. Also diversity of business and entertainment options growth will likely indicate shift
108	Virtual Sessions	Ideas seem prevalent, funding less-so. Investors are key.
112	Virtual Sessions	Convince local leaders to actually listen and not assume they know what the solution is.
113	Virtual Sessions	People will want to raise families here
114	Virtual Sessions	Increase in visitors, move-backs
115	Virtual Sessions	Tracking housing inquiries vs. Landing people in housing. Avsilable housing versus occupancy
116	Virtual Sessions	Not total population growth but growth of younger generations.
118	Virtual Sessions	Success of the students who graduate from our high schools.
119	Virtual Sessions	More population. Measuring school enrollment, home sales, employment numbers
120	Virtual Sessions	Surveys, school and childcare enrollment
121	Virtual Sessions	Population and business growth
122	Virtual Sessions	increased GDP of the county, increased tax revenues, increased population, increased # of jobs/businesses
123	Virtual Sessions	By the numbers
124	Virtual Sessions	Continuous qualitative growth
125	Virtual Sessions	Numbers, new housing, new jobs, environmental monitors, trail and outdoor usage numbers
126	Virtual Sessions	When we start to reverse the population trend decline.
127	Virtual Sessions	New jobs

3.5 Indicators

ID	Source	How can we measure progress toward your priority outcomes? What is / are the indicator(s)?
128	Virtual Sessions	Number of people staying, how long people usually stay, amount of money going back into the county
129	Virtual Sessions	New investment, number of jobs, wages, philanthropy, retained jobs, young people involved in YP group, entrepreneurial starts
130	Virtual Sessions	Create a plan, assign tasks, hold feet to the fire.
131	Virtual Sessions	Each topic has its own data point. More quality housing. More people employed. Stable businesses. Strong safety net for those that are struy
132	Virtual Sessions	School enrollment, housing sales/stock.
133	Virtual Sessions	Rising value of housing stock, number of well-paying jobs, number of college degrees and certifications, number of amenities.
134	Virtual Sessions	How many graduates pursue workforce development opportunities, how many kids are in quality care.
136	Virtual Sessions	It seems many of the people involved in this session are planners and work for non profits. Need to hear from business owners.
138	Virtual Sessions	Define community with a rubric to make sure of accurate demogrphics
139	Virtual Sessions	Court systems, banking systems, government expenses to meet family needs
140	Virtual Sessions	Actual educational focus towards meeting actual county employment needs and anticipated future needs.
141	Virtual Sessions	Policies, procedures and laws. Example county and city smoking regulations same
142	Virtual Sessions	How many new businesses per year/how long businesses are in business/how many buildings renovated
143	Virtual Sessions	Involement!
144	Virtual Sessions	Look at a ballot, and see the trend in only electing republicans. Our county government is mostly conservative.
147	Virtual Sessions	C. Transfer/Enrollment data
149	Virtual Sessions	Jobs growth
150	Virtual Sessions	Enrollment in K-12 and the University.
151	Virtual Sessions	Retail traffic, demand for home construction
153	Virtual Sessions	Benchmarks set with specific outcomes in mind
154	Virtual Sessions	Young people move back after college
155	Virtual Sessions	Programming % of students who stay in wabash co. after graduation
156	Virtual Sessions	look for increased enrollment and achievement markers in schools; increased economic activity; more housing options; measure engagement
157	Virtual Sessions	New business and increase population
158	Virtual Sessions	To start measure the percent of people on these calls to future in person meetings.
159	Virtual Sessions	Leaders from business, education, government

3.5 Indicators

ID	Source	How can we measure progress toward your priority outcomes? What is / are the indicator(s)?
161	Virtual Sessions	College matriculation rates, employer feedback, increased opportunities for post high school technical training
162	Virtual Sessions	It is important to follow through with plan, not put finish project on the shelf
163	Virtual Sessions	How many faculty and staff live in North Manchester
164	Virtual Sessions	You can track % zoned housing/residential and balance the growth of that number with other economic zoning needs.
165	Virtual Sessions	Observe who is involved and expressing those dreams
166	Virtual Sessions	Number of new homes being built and growth in number of new students.
167	Virtual Sessions	New people trail that they came!
169	Virtual Sessions	Measure # people commuting in/out of county for work, track businesses/employment coming or going in/out of county
170	Virtual Sessions	increase in new residents, increase in new housing
172	Virtual Sessions	Population and job growth, average wage growth and folks from outside the county coming here to play or work
173	Virtual Sessions	increase in young family demographic
174	Virtual Sessions	Small business growth, new housing projects.
175	Virtual Sessions	By local population in future years, housing, job growth
176	Virtual Sessions	Involve the whole community, assign tasks to people who are engaged
177	Virtual Sessions	Strategic plan to make the county a good place to both grow up and age. A community for a lifetime.
180	Virtual Sessions	Ed attainment numbers are pretty easy to track. Also watch for greater cooperation between school districts
181	Virtual Sessions	Positive changes in outcomes
182	Virtual Sessions	Census. Tax Revenue. Anecdotal evidence.
183	Virtual Sessions	# job growth
185	Virtual Sessions	Deter number of houses in a certain price range. Track/count available houses quarterly in the level identified (especially as we start to b
190	Virtual Sessions	Median age of housing stock, units
194	Virtual Sessions	tracking graduates after HS and college to see if they return to the county
195	Virtual Sessions	Enrollment and certificate/degree completion at Heartland, Ivy Tech, and MU.
196	Virtual Sessions	Population increase
197	Virtual Sessions	Unification of all people. All moving to the greatness that we we can achieve together!
199	Virtual Sessions	Growth

3.5 Indicators

ID	Source	How can we measure progress toward your priority outcomes? What is / are the indicator(s)?
200	Virtual Sessions	Population rise, economic gains, educational attainment
201	Virtual Sessions	Wider Ed opportunities and tested outcomes
202	Virtual Sessions	Increase in local young leaders under 40
203	Virtual Sessions	Long-term studies of population, jobs, income, etc.
204	Virtual Sessions	Increase quality of life by arts and culture, trails and engaging activities. , increase different job sectors ,
205	Virtual Sessions	Increased number of trails and outdoor venues
207	Virtual Sessions	Increased population
208	Virtual Sessions	Rate of recidivism
209	Virtual Sessions	Population growth among young professionals
210	Virtual Sessions	Measure engagement activities. Mentions of Wabash Co (or locales) on LinkedIn and professional sites. Number internships
211	Virtual Sessions	Population numbers, retention rate, school enrollment numbers, housing availability,
212	Virtual Sessions	Census, economic indicators, citizen and tourist surveys
215	Virtual Sessions	Downtown apartments, school census up, new seasonal events for getting people out and together.
216	Virtual Sessions	School consolidation to strengthen or education system in county
217	Virtual Sessions	Surveys, state reports, census, establish metrics for measurement and tracking,
219	Virtual Sessions	Define the indicators of competitive ed, and demonstrate that we have them in WC, or not
220	Virtual Sessions	Constant assessment of our ongoing development across these areas
223	Virtual Sessions	Itemize list of measurable objectives such as population per age group, ethnicity etc. , housing starts, new business starts
224	Virtual Sessions	Increase in jobs; increase in graduates, number of students enrolled in school; students in
226	Virtual Sessions	Growing % of post secondary education achievement
227	Virtual Sessions	Population growth, increased personal income, education metrics.
228	Virtual Sessions	By having change and the people seeing the difference. Small and large
229	Virtual Sessions	Growth in Employment, GDP, Number of Business Entities., etc.
230	Virtual Sessions	population, per capita income, some regional reputation metric, a resident satisfaction metrix
231	Virtual Sessions	Population growth, increase in housing units
233	Virtual Sessions	Employment metrics (role and industry), wage metrics

3.5 Indicators

ID	Source	How can we measure progress toward your priority outcomes? What is / are the indicator(s)?
235	Virtual Sessions	number of jobs in the county
236	Virtual Sessions	Halt population decline and begin to see growth
237	Virtual Sessions	Tax base
238	Virtual Sessions	Getting the community involved and setting goals that can be measured and tracked
239	Virtual Sessions	Financial stability and Educational successes
242	Virtual Sessions	Putting individual agenda aside

3.6 Strong Places

Share your strong places that the plan should address.

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Neighbors pool	strong	I asked it because it is a nice little pool and a way to cool down in the summer
Salamonie Reservoir	strong	Boating, Fishing, Hiking, Biking, Camping, Outdoor sports, Beach, Swimming, Nature
13/24 drive in	strong	Unique\nHistorical\nEvents\nMust visit location. \nOffer lodging for after movie in Charlie Creek in with Groupon deal. \n
13-24 Drive In	strong	Great place for entertainment
2nd Street	strong	It's a beautiful street!
7th St --driving west --on a fall afternoon	strong	I take visitors down this street in the fall to see the beautiful and peaceful "arcade" of colorful trees. Other NM streets have brilliant tree colors too (East, Market, 3rd.) Great for videos!
950 Speakeasy	strong	New cafe opening 2021
Acres Hathaway Preserve	strong	Great for hikes and nature (forest baths).
Acres Land Trust	strong	Hiking and outdoor adventure trails\nHistory\nFamily events.
Acres land trust (Hathaway)	strong	Strong
Airbnb	strong	Very cool restoration
all Main Street shops	strong	Several new shops are going in, I love to shop local!
Ancient fish trap in the Eel River	strong	Incredible native American history here
Art colony	strong	Art colony
atge	strong	aega
Automated Egg Producers	strong	It's a great egg farm that employs about 100 people. The Lieutenant Governor visited here in 2019, and US Representative Jackie Walorski in 2017.
aweg	strong	awegaweg
Ball park	strong	Because its a popular place to go
Big City Paints	strong	It's a fairly well-known area that specializes in a market that works well locally.
Bike trails	strong	Great new option for the community to take advantage of the outdoors
Bike trails	strong	New bike trails are safe and fun. Also an opportunity to draw people for races and fun rides.

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Bowen center	strong	I marked this place because I've been inside a couple of times and I see that they have amazing hard workers.
Bridge	strong	Roann
Candlelite Village	strong	Safe, sought after, close-knit neighborhood. Strong sense of community with neighborhood activities, fundraisers and more. I live here and I think it's wonderful that there is a place like this to live in Wabash. Everyone takes pride in their home.
Center Court Barber Shop	strong	If you want the essence of Wabash and it's people. It's the guys at Center Court.
Central downtown	strong	I marked the central downtown area because I think that with a little more work it could become a strong place of historical interest.
Charley Creek Inn - Twenty	strong	Usually good food and fun atmosphere.
Charley Creek	strong	unique
Charley creek garden	strong	Beautiful and tranquil
Charley Creek Gardens	strong	Amazing place - kudos to the HWF for keeping this strong
Charley Creek Gardens	strong	This place is a nice place for people to go and socialize.
Charley Creek Inn	strong	Great food, good place to stay for out of town guest, great boutique shopping.
Charley Creek Inn	strong	Historical Hotel
Charlie Creek Gardens	strong	Scenic walk path, well kept, serene
Charlie Creek Gardens	strong	The garden area is beautiful and there are several nice older homes along Wabash street
Charlie Creek Gardens	strong	I marked this place because there is a lot of people that go there and it is a very nice place to visit.
Charlie Creek Inn and Gardens	strong	Gardens are pretty and relaxing. Inn is nice and has fun stores.
Church	strong	Because
Church	strong	Interesting
City of Wabash	strong	

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
City Park	strong	Has potential for improvement, but many nice things presently including frisbee golf, revamped picnic areas; some of the amenities are crumbling and needing updated. Summer programming for kids would be great, even refreshment stand like the old days, improved bathrooms for encouraging use of this great asset.
Class street and highway 24	strong	This area is the busy part of Wabash.
Court house	strong	It is our courthouse and we only have one.
Covered Bridge	strong	Our covered bridge is unique and attracts a handful of visitors. Personally, I don't get it, maybe I take it for granted because I grew up here.
Covered Bridge	strong	Visitors are always interested in seeing the covered bridge
Covered Bridge "country block" walk	strong	A one-mile "country block" walk from Main Street, Covered Bridge, and Market St. (with public parking on Main, if needed).
Di	strong	Uf
Down town	strong	It's the most important thing we have it what I believe our town is based on
Down town area	strong	Historic, well kept, variety of shops, and restaurants
downtown	strong	Honeywell Center, Wabash County Museum, Charley Creek Inn, Eagles Theater, overall revitalization effort
Downtown	strong	Many beautiful buildings under utilized for unique businesses
Downtown	strong	Our downtown is our strongest draw to tourists and attracts future residents. We need to support the businesses and I would like to close Miami St between Market and Canal to make a downtown gathering space for music and festivals.
downtown	strong	several buildings that could be used for maker spaces, boutique shops and co-work spaces
Downtown	strong	Shopping activity
Downtown area (Wabash)	strong	a lot of history
Downtown LaFontaine	strong	The downtown area has been upgraded by the town but only 2 businesses are open. We need the owners of the empty buildings to work with the town and see how those buildings can be used to make the town active again.
Downtown Wabash	strong	Great places to show people around for business places or housing spaces. Some open buildings lots of great places to eat.
Downtown Wabash	strong	It is beautifully developed, and full of vibrant businesses, restaurants, and community.

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
downtown wabash	strong	love First Fridays and shopping in local shops including Modoc's - beautiful downtown streets when lit up at night
Downtown Wabash	strong	Shopping and eating places. First Friday and Farmer Markets draw people into the city.
Downtown Wabash	strong	Whatever downtown Wabash does, other parts of Wabash County can replicate. \n\nCoffee shops, brewery, movie theatre...places for people to go and start/end their day with some fun. \n
Downtown Wabash	strong	Things to do, attractive, events like First Fridays and Farmers Market, restaurants, Modocs. Charlie Creek Inn and Honeywell Center impress out of towners.
Downtown Wabash shops	strong	I feel like people are drawn to our downtown.
Drive in	strong	Fun place in the summer
Drive in	strong	Not many left and it is a unique way to see a movie.
Drive-in Theater	strong	one of the few remaining drive-in theaters
Eagle's Theater	strong	This place was recently renovated, and it is very nice. I just went to a wedding here where the reception was in the ballroom. I've lived in Wabash my whole life, but I truly didn't feel like I was in Wabash when I was in the ballroom. It felt like I was in a big city somewhere. It's such a good place right now!
Eagles	strong	Greta place for young people to work, great social place
Eagles	strong	Newly renovated and increases our quality of life with a movie theatre, ballroom, and classrooms to teach innovative ideas to our youth.
Eagles Theater	strong	Another great part of the downtown area.
Eagles Theater	strong	Close, convenient, affordable, beautiful
Eagles Theater	strong	Historic, well revamped to original look, and different practical uses of building
Eagles theater	strong	It is a really nice place
Eagles Theater	strong	Renovated Theater and education/entertainment complex
Eagles Theater	strong	The only movie theater in town.
Eagles Theater	strong	This is a place where everyone can go and have a good time.
Eagles Theater	strong	Wonderful addition to the downtown entertainment and hospitality.

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Eagles theatre	strong	This shows that government and non for profit can make a difference and revitalize a landmark
Eagles Theatre	strong	I have many memories of going here with my family.
Eel River	strong	Eel River tourism is big - canoes, kayaks, boards
Eel River in Wabash County	strong	I feel that there is a need for better access to the river in North Manchester, so that visitors can float under the historic covered bridge. Better access allows for greater use of the river, and a possible development of visitor services, like boat rentals, transportation, and food. Wabash seems to have accomplished this with success!
Eel/Kenapocomocha River	strong	Place of beauty, wildlife, recreation
El Mez	strong	good food
Field of Dreams	strong	Great place for soccer, baseball, etc.
Field of Dreams	strong	Great YMCA owned facility for youth sports - baseball, softball, football, soccer, et al. Strong.
Field of Dreams	strong	Many people visit this place for sports events.
Field of Dreams	strong	Significant attraction for out-of-county families.
Field of Dreams Athletic Complex	strong	Large athletic complex draws participants from many surrounding communities
Fields	strong	Played lots of softball here in the summers
Football field	strong	Gives the community chance to do something
Ford Meter Bos	strong	This is a very good place for Wabash because this has a lot of job opportunities.
Ford Meter Box	strong	An outstanding company! I have 12 previous employment sites for comparison.
Ford Meter Box	strong	I chose this place because it has a lot of job opportunities. A lot of the people in Wabash work there. If it were to go out of business, the majority of the population would leave.
Ford Meter Box	strong	I marked this place because it has a lot of job opportunities. A lot of people work there wands if they left, the majority of Wabash's population would leave.
Ford Theater	strong	Gem of the City for Arts
Ford Theater	strong	I have dance recitals here, and also attend other shows that happen here.

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Ford Theater	strong	I know that a lot of people, especially kids and teens, enjoys the Ford Theater. It's a spot where the entertainment comes to you and you can have fun for a few hours. It's a great place.
Ford Theater	strong	It's a main source of entertainment.
Ford theatre	strong	
Friends Counseling Center	strong	FCC provides counseling by our highly qualified and dedicated therapist. FCC has five locations, with the main office in Wabash, Indiana. FCC also provides counseling services in Huntington, Kokomo, Marion, and Logansport, Indiana.
Friends Counseling Center	strong	A resource working to help individuals and families in crisis and distress to restore emotional and relational health.
Friendship Hill Inclusive Playground	strong	Great example of community collaboration to build an area for all ages and physical abilities to play together - this is the best of Wabash when we come together as one\n
Friendship Hill Inclusive Playground	strong	Such an asset to our community!
Golf course	strong	Activity
Golf Course	strong	We need more neighborhoods like the Gardens
Grow Wabash County	strong	Strong leader in our community - taking on housing, economic development, community development, et al - anchor institution that should be supported\n
GW Corp site	strong	Blight on city.
Habanero Grill	strong	Great locally owned restaurant.
Habanero Grill	strong	It has good food
Habenero Grill	strong	good food
Habenro Grill	strong	
Hanging Rock	strong	Hanging rock
Hanging Rock	strong	Hiking, viewpoint, scenery.
Hanging Rock	strong	It's a great place to take a look at nature and maybe even some pictures
Hanging Rock	strong	This place and the other Acres land trust places are incredible.
Hanging Rock National Natural Landmark	strong	This place is so cool! Wabash County has some great NATURE scenes and hiking areas.

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Hanna park	strong	I think that this place should have more there. There's only stuff like for little kids and a run down swing set. When I go there it smells like bad.
Harry's Old Kettle	strong	It's good
Harter's Grove	strong	A beautiful wooded area by the park and Peabody Retirement Community--and very accessible.
Hathaway Preserve	strong	Great hiking and creek stumping with kids.
Hathaway Preserve	strong	Such a refreshing place to visit and with such varied land formations! A wonderful walk in the woods, with waterfalls, and changing scenery in various seasons. A great place for repeat visits. A topographical treasure in Wabash County.
Hathaway Preserve	strong	This Acres preserve is a great walking area.
Hawkins Family Farm	strong	Great, locally sourced food, love the Pizza on the Farm Fridays during the summer. Owners are wonderful!
Hawkins Family Farm	strong	Local CSA, Pizza on the Farm--great local food options
Hawkins Family Farm	strong	This farm store and pizza venue is a wonderful gathering space in the out of doors. The farm grown vegetables add to our community "locally grown" options.
Hawkins Farm	strong	Great place that provides local produces, meats, cheese, and more to the community. Wonderful experience opportunity at Friday Night Pizza on the Farm during the summer. Great asset to the and region
Hdhe	strong	Hdhe
Hdhs	strong	Jdjd
Healthy hub	strong	My favorite place for breakfast with a super nice staff and owner
Heartland Career Center	strong	A great asset to Wabash, but it would be nice if the exterior could look a little shinier...not everything is about looks, but as a student, you want to feel proud to go here.
Heartland Career Center	strong	CTE place that is underutilized for adult education but great at secondary students. \n
Heartland Learning Center	strong	New adult certification training center coming 2022
Hi-Grade Egg Producers & Processors	strong	It's a great egg farm that employs almost 100 people.
Home	strong	I \nI live there
honey well park and pool	strong	Because of how many people go there, it is a very strong business financially

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Honeywell	strong	Because i really enjoy coming there to watch shows
Honeywell	strong	It brings in so much outside talent and tourism to our community.
Honeywell	strong	Top notch venue
Honeywell Centee	strong	This is an attraction that no community this size has and is to be coveted and protected, and exploited for the greater community due to the attractive power Jr. has
Honeywell Center	strong	\nOutstanding facility for arts and entertainment.
Honeywell Center	strong	Draws for many surrounding counties
Honeywell Center	strong	Good gathering spot, great access to entertainment and arts.
Honeywell Center	strong	Great entertainment opportunities and place to convene
Honeywell Center	strong	Great feature for a smaller community
Honeywell Center	strong	Honeywell center
Honeywell Center	strong	Iconic cultural center of Wabash
Honeywell Center	strong	Magnificent asset
Honeywell Center	strong	Need I say more - THE driver for tourism in Wabash County
Honeywell Center	strong	Quality of place. Vast majority of buyers are from outside Wabash County
Honeywell Center	strong	They bring in great shows! Also great local talent.
Honeywell Center	strong	They get pretty big music artists to perform there
Honeywell Center	strong	This is a strong place in the county because most big events happen here. They also recently renovated with cosmetic renovations. Thousands of people enjoy concerts, recitals, performances, pageants, etc. here.
Honeywell Center	strong	Wonderful for a community our size.
Honeywell Center	strong	This place is where a lot of things and shows happen. A lot of people go here.
Honeywell Center and Clark Gallery	strong	Theatrical performances and community art gallery. Outstanding cultural center and facilities for our region
Honeywell Golf Course	strong	Affordable, quality golf course.

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Honeywell Golf Course	strong	I marked this place because this is where I spend a lot of time. The golf course is one of my favorite places to go in Wabash county. The course has just been renovated and should be a highlighted spot in Wabash.
Honeywell Golf Course	strong	Nice golf course and housing addition
Honeywell Golf Course	strong	Great golfing experience.
Honeywell pool	strong	Because a lot of people come here
Honeywell pool	strong	Everyone can go here and have a good time.
Honeywell Pool	strong	Popular venue for kids and families, though could use some updating and more attractive outside appearance
Honeywell Pool	strong	This place is a place that can bring in money.
Honeywell Theater	strong	I marked this place because it is important that towns have places where people can perform or watch entertainment.
House	strong	My house
housing	strong	terrain and can be closely connected to city paths and easy access to US24.
INGUARD	strong	Parker Beauchamp is a thought leader in our community and a great philanthropist. INGUARD supports numerous efforts from the HWF and GWC and Manchester University to health food, recreation, and many others.
Intercultural center	strong	Wonderful, unique resource, gathering place
Interurban Ice Cream Shoppe in Lagro	strong	This is a gem right on the river walk in Lagro. Wonderful hotdogs and ice cream treats. great when visiting the Acres properties near Lagro too.
It's north Miami street	strong	I marked this because it has a lot of stuff to do down there.
Ivy Tech Community College	strong	I marked this place because I feel it is important that Wabash County has some after high school options.
Ivy Tech Wabash	strong	Great adult education center with strong leadership with Josn & WCS. Need to better integrate into Heartland at the new building
Jayden's pool	strong	My favorite pool
Kelly's ice cream	strong	Best ice cream ever for the best price
Kenapocamocha Coffee Shop	strong	A beautiful coffee shop in our historic district in a home with rich history. Offers both drinks and food. Has a wrap around porch for outside dining. This is not your average coffee shop you would find in another community.

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Kenapocomocha	strong	Great food. Great coffee. Great vibe! Friends and family from outside the county always make return trips here when they visit.
KenapocoMocha	strong	Local small town coffee shop full of charm and character. It connects many of the local farms to the community with a farm to food menu. It's a community gathering place. Local coffee shops are a highlight and stopping point for those going through a town.
Kenapocomocha Coffee Shop	strong	A great place to take guests! Historic charm, specialty coffees, contemporary food, community owned, and all-around goodness!
Kenapocomocha Coffee shop	strong	unique community supported coffee shop
Kenapocomocha Coffee Shop	strong	Unique place to bring friends for breakfast, lunch or a cup of coffee. The staff are amazing!
Kindy Farm near Liberty Mills	strong	This is another wonderful locally grown produce farm that provides our community with farm to fork food.
Kokiwaee ACRES land preserve	strong	(not sure the dot is in the right place) \n\nGood place for walking/hiking in the woods.
kokiwanee Preserve	strong	This Acres Preserve (Kokiwanni) is the best forest bathing/hiking area in Wabash County
Kroger	strong	It gets people the things they need for beneficial things.
Lafontaine	strong	I love the livability of LaFontaine!
Lagro boat ramp area	strong	It's a wonderful gathering place for the neighbors around Lagro.
Lagro Downtown	strong	Nice views of the Wabash river, more trails, and a great ice cream place.
Lagro Park	strong	by the community building and fire station - shows the small town environment
Lincoln Monument and Courthouse	strong	iconic for our city
M U	strong	excellent source for thoughts and ideas
Main Street	strong	Needs many more businesses. But new businesses have been good! (strong and opportunity)
Main Street	strong	prime for shops, businesses
Main View	strong	A place where a diversity of people gather
Manchester Alive: Main Street Chamber Alliance	strong	Important to our community as they focus on improving our vibrant community, pulling our community together for celebrations, promoting small businesses and much more!
Manchester Church of the Brethren	strong	Wonderful church community!

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Manchester College of Business	strong	Great business and accounting program - good opportunity for a more robust internship program for local business community\n
Manchester Public Library	strong	Great library.
Manchester U.	strong	We have a university in our community. We are not leveraging them enough to keep the educated and more innovative minds in our community.
Manchester Univeristy	strong	Young students, with potential to be young professionals that we can keep local
Manchester University	strong	Beautiful campus, community asset, historic significance, nation-wide network,
Manchester University	strong	First Peace Studies program in the nation, alumni discovered Acid Rain and Teflon. Early connections with MLK and Andrew Young. Andrew Young's wife, Jean, was a grad of MU. Lots of great contributions to the world.
Manchester University	strong	Higher education
Manchester University	strong	Manchester is a great, small, liberal arts school that brings in students from around Indiana and the US.
Manchester University	strong	Nice private college in a smaller community
Manchester University	strong	The culture, diversity, and beauty Manchester University provides the county is priceless.
Manchester University	strong	The Uni is an anchor of this Town. Unfortunately I think there is some animus between the Uni people and the community folks. This needs a concerted effort to be changed. Without the University this town likely would not even exist. The University helps to support the entire community during hard times and it is a huge asset that we need to all understand. Although the University should not be the be all and end all of community discussions, a strong path of communication needs to be established to bring the community and the university together in purpose to benefit everyone.
Manchester University	strong	Important source of culture and broad education and draw from outside of community
Manchester University	strong	It's nice to see Manchester University continue to grow.
Manchester University	strong	It's a wonderful university, but it is lacking a potentially valuable connection with the county.
Manchester University	strong	Wonderful asset for our small community/county. \nMU brings students from all over the state and the county. Many of these students leave with a connection to the community and want to stay/ return. There is also opportunity to here for the university to work more with the community.county in building and growing.

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Manchester University campus	strong	Campus is very attractive, well maintained, inviting place to walk, and offers many cultural programs available to the community. MU's rich educational history includes Peace Studies, is a place of global education and celebrates diversity, honors Andrew Cordier et al. and publicly flies the United Nations flag.
Market Street	strong	For people over 21, this is the place to go for great food, drinks, and fun atmosphere.
MCS Soccer Fields	strong	
MELC	strong	Great child care center
Mhm	strong	Because
Mi Pueblo	strong	an absolutely phenomenal mexican restaurant to introduce new members of the community to
Mi Pueblo	strong	Best Mexican food ever
Mi pueblo	strong	I love it
Mi Pueblo	strong	This is great restaurant that serves great Mexican food.
Mi Pueblo's	strong	Such a good restaurant. Eat here the most in Wabash county
Mi Pueblos	strong	It's a great Mexican restaurant to eat at, most people love to eat here and socialize with people
Middle school	strong	Its where i go to school, i found all my friends there.
Mill Street	strong	It's a beautiful street!
Missisinewa Reservoir	strong	Camping, water activities, hiking. A nice place just to drive and look at the sites.
Missisinewa Reservoir	strong	
Mississenewa Resorvoir	strong	Beautiful area. Nature preserves and recreational
Mississinewa Lake	strong	Another beautiful lake with boating, fishing, and hiking.
Mississinewa Lake	strong	Awesome lake with camping, beach, boating
Mississinewa Lake	strong	This is a place I go during the summer to boat and I love it!
Mississinewa Lake / Reservoir	strong	Very cool recreational opportunity - opportunity here is for a public access site in Wabash County, which doesn't currently exist for boating and swimming

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Modoc Coffee Shop	strong	It is a main source for the youth to hang out.
Modoc's	strong	Because its well known and is a good place to take someone new.
Modoc's Coffee Shop	strong	I think this is a strong place because it is the only coffee shop in the city of Wabash. They do takeout orders also, which has helped a lot during the pandemic.
Modocs	strong	good
Modocs	strong	It has good service and people.
Modocs	strong	It is clean and they have good beverages and good people and service.
Modoc's	strong	It's a great meeting place to meet people and have meaningful discussions
Modocs	strong	I marked this place because it is a locally owned coffee shop. It draws a lot of attention in town. This is a good place for people to visit.
Montessori School at WPC	strong	Great Montessori preschool.
MPS Egg Farms	strong	MPS Egg Farms moved their headquarters here in 2019!
MPS Egg Farms	strong	I'm a little biased, but this is a large business that recently relocated it's headquarters here from a nearby county.
Mr Dave's	strong	Classic fast food with quality ingredients and friendly service. Local business with downtown location.
MU	strong	interesting, pretty
Muesuem	strong	Popular place in Wabash
Museum	strong	Cultural resource
Museum	strong	It's the best museum around. Staff does a great job with displays.
My home	strong	It's beautiful
My house	strong	Bc i live here
My House	strong	Because it is beautiful! for these
My House	strong	Because it's my house...
My house	strong	Because its where i feel protected and its where i live.
My house	strong	It is the place I feel most comfortable

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
My house	strong	It's ,my house
My house	strong	Scenic place to live
My house	strong	Because it's my house
New Hospital	strong	Strong place
Ninja express	strong	Best sushi
NM public library	strong	So many activities for kids, feels vibrant
North Manchester	strong	Beautiful leaves in the fall
North Manchester	strong	Great resturants. Little shops. Active community.
North Manchester	strong	I live there
North Manchester	strong	It is my hometown (age 0-22)... and it may be the town where we retire in a few years...
North Manchester Center for History	strong	Great place for locals and visitors to learn the history of North Manchester.
North Manchester Center for History	strong	Great!
North Manchester Covered Bridge	strong	I take every visitor to North Manchester here! The #1 spot in NM. It is both historic and current, is architectural combined with nature, is a walkable location, and gives an incredible sense of place. Not many places in the world have a covered bridge--and we do!
North Manchester Covered Bridge	strong	Strong Cultural icon for the town
North Manchester Main Street	strong	beautiful building facades and a walkable downtown district
North Manchester Public Library	strong	An amazing family and community resource and ranks high in the state. Excellent community programming and outreach. \n Beautiful facilities and helpful staff.
North Wabash	strong	Additional businesses could go here. Downtown Wabash seems to be growing and has a lot of businesses, restaurants, etc
Not specified	strong	Places that show me our strong history and foundation woudl be Hanging Rock, Roann Bridge, Manchester University. Strong places in my view are the Honeywell Center, recreational areas like the Riverwalk, schools, local government, libraries, etc. Unsure where the opportunity areas are but am sure are there.

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Not specified	strong	We have so much to offer. Acres properties, 2 reservoirs areas and a hike/bike river trail for outdoor activities, great parks, the Honeywell Center, Eagles, Honeywell House for entertainment, a first class Y in Wabash and facility in N.M., Manchester University, M. Symphony
Not specified	strong	With COVID-19 restrictions, families are spending more time enjoying activities out-of-doors. Wabash County offers many opportunities for this - Eel River, Wabash River, Stockdale Dam, Salamonie Lake, Salamonie State Forest, Roann Covered Bridge area, playgrounds in many of the communities, Paradise Springs, Bike Trail from Wabash to Lagro, etc.
Ogan's Landing	strong	Farmers' Market! Yay! Local goodness, local farmers, local artisans, and excellent location. Love this place! Also, nice to have a park in this part of town, south of Main Street, for families and smaller children in this area. Also, river access from town.
Ogan's Landing	strong	My family loves to kayak the Eel river, nice place to put in and take out. I would mark the whole river if I could.
Old General Tire ground	strong	It's a blight. Time to do something about it.
Our current camp site, Future retirement cabin??	strong	We love it here. Hard to pack up for the winter and leave. I have started testing lavender plants to hopefully have a small lavender farm when I retire.
Paradise Spring	strong	I believe this place could be further developed to accommodate festivals and even concerts.
Paradise Spring	strong	Love the area for events like chili cook-off, etc.
Paradise spring	strong	Because i really enjoy walking here and riding bikes.
Paradise Spring Park	strong	A great set of trails connected to the riverwalk.
Paradise Springs	strong	Large gathering place
Paradise Springs	strong	Nice park area and festival location
Paradise Springs	strong	Outdoor activities Biking trails Park Chili cook off —opportunities for other similar community events
Paradise Springs	strong	Such a great park...not enough people know its history and that it's the birthplace of Wabash
Paradise Springs	strong	This place has some historical buildings on it. Its also a good place to walk.
Parkview	strong	Excellent healthcare locally with regional connection.
Parkview Hospital	strong	New facility is impressive to locals and visitors

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Parkview Hospital	strong	This is a strong place because it brings in money and helps people keep healthy.
Parkview Wabash Hospital	strong	It is very beneficial to the ill.
Parkview Wabash Hospital	strong	This is a very strong place because it was just built a few years ago! They also offer internships here for high school students.
Parkview Wabash hospital	strong	I marked this place because I like the view around it.
Pond	strong	My favorite place to swim in the summer.
Poole's Meat Market	strong	Has started selling produce and meat from more local Farmers...I bet this could be expanded with more Farm to Fork initiatives
public restrooms in Lagro	strong	Having public restrooms next to the river walk is a huge asset!\n
Reservoir	strong	Activities
Reservoir	strong	Activities
Reservoirs	strong	Great options to get people in the community
Rhinestones and Roses, Chillz	strong	Two fun new businesses are making it here, when it often feels like new retail and restaurants are doomed to fail. they show it can be done!
River	strong	River development awesome
River Access/Farmer's Market	strong	It would be great to make this more of a park with a pavillion for the farmer's market and some playground equipment. Plant trees.
River Ridge Farm	strong	Local, affordable organic produce
River trail	strong	Excellent outdoor activity.
River trail	strong	Strong asset of Wabash county
river walk	strong	so proud we have all the trails, campsite, bike paths, businesses along the River Walk
River Walk and Trail	strong	Beautiful outdoor biking and walking Space.
Riveridge Farm	strong	This family owned produce farm provides fresh greens year round. It's an unbelievable asset!
Roann	strong	Our whole town is a strong place - so much to say
Roann - Chippewa St	strong	Has a lot of history including the old log cabin

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Roann Covered Bridge	strong	Beautiful setting.
Roann Covered Bridge	strong	Historical. \nTourist. \nQR code with information or story of the history of the bridge. Fire that destroyed bridge. Reason it was built. \nPoint of interest.
Roann Covered Bridge	strong	If you are in Roann visiting the mill, you must stop for photos at the bridge.
Roann Covered Bridge	strong	Important cultural heritage for the community
Roann Covered Bridge	strong	Our community has a beautiful focal place.
Roann Covered Bridge	strong	This is a huge attraction from people across the state. It's a beautiful bridge, but could be an even greater attraction with places to sit, and a better place to load kayaks into the water
Roann Covered Bridge	strong	This bridge is basically what Roann is known for. A lot of things has happened to it like it was set on fire and rebuild but on the inside it still has some of the burnt structure.
Roann covered bridge	strong	We get off the River here when we go kayaking.
Roann Historic District	strong	Roann historic district is a big plus
Roann IN	strong	Small, quaint shops. Very active community. Great festival.
Roann Mill	strong	We have visitors from Florida last year. They loved the mill, dam, and fish ladder.
Ronan covered brige	strong	It is old and on the national register of historic places
Salamoni State Forest	strong	Beautiful scenery, trails, camping, nature
Salamonie	strong	It is beautiful and great for hiking and picnics.
Salamonie	strong	Nice place to visit for nature walks, birding, picnics. A nice place to take visitors.
Salamonie	strong	This is definitely a location that needs to be preserved for future generations. It's a great place to go and clear your head and get away from the business of life.
Salamonie Dam and Forest	strong	The outdoors adventurer's paradise. \n\nHiking, boating, kayaking, camping, fishing, etc.
Salamonie Lake	strong	Nice place to boat, fish, and hike.
Salamonie lake and dam	strong	Numerous trails and areas for people to swim
Salamonie Lake Campgrounds	strong	This is a very strong place! It has opportunity also because the marina could be updated to get better business. I love coming here in the summer.

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
salamonie reservoir	strong	Good place to run and hike on trails. Beautiful
Salamonie Reservoir	strong	Strong opportunities for recreation
Salamonie Reservoir	strong	Very pretty area. Water activities, hiking trails, camping, picnic.
Salomonie State Forest	strong	Walking trails, fishing, camping, family fun.
School	strong	Because its where i spend most of my time
School	strong	Its where i go to school
School	strong	This is where I am
Shabby Owl Antiques	strong	Unique items, prices are reasonable, owners are very pleasant
Somerset	strong	Great little community with homes on the reservoir.
Son Shine Greenhouse	strong	Excellent greenhouse & garden supply store.
South Elm Street	strong	Beautifully restored historic homes.
South Maple Street	strong	Neighborhood of beautiful historic homes
Southside Park	strong	This neighborhood park is refreshed and a great asset to the southside.
Stockdale Mill	strong	Historical interest. \nTourist location. \nPoint of interest. \nFocus on health. Could we look into the whole grain health benefits? Could this location produce a unique and healthy option for better living through our food choices
Stockdale Mill	strong	Roann is blessed by the Stockdale Mill. Roann is fortunate to have a wonderful antique shop.
Strauss Peabody Fitness Center	strong	This place is phenomonal and not enough people know about it. To have a facility of this caliber in such a small community is a huge asset and I am amazed that I don't see this being bragged on everywhere I see anything about North Manchester.
Strauss Veal Feeds	strong	Headquarters of the largest veal feed producer in the country! They expanded in 2020 and hired 4 more people.
Strauss-Peabody Aquatic and Fitness Facility	strong	strong local health facility for the community
Sunnyside Farms	strong	It's a 100% cage-free egg farm that employs about 80 people.
Test	strong	Test
Test	strong	Test test

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Test	strong	
test	strong	
test	strong	
The Arc Wabash County	strong	Nonprofit providing programs and services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1954. Social services are very important to a strong and growing community.
The Fried Egg	strong	This is the busiest breakfast place that quickly took Bob Evan's business. I think it's a very strong place because it's everyone's favorite breakfast place.
The Honeywell Foundation, aka The Honeywell Center	strong	The Honeywell Center provides enriching and engaging arts entertainment and education opportunities. The Center also offers a regional draw to Wabash and makes a significant economic contribution to the community by attracting people from outside our community.
The new hospital	strong	It was vital to build the new hospital and to grow this area.
The new housing addition	strong	It's really nice to see this new housing development go up here, I hope to see it continue to grow during this housing boom.
Theater	strong	Place that represents Wabash
Time Out Inn	strong	Fun atmosphere for younger crowd over 21.
Town Life Center	strong	Historic building, location of several non-profit organizations,
Very large place	strong	This place is really open and should be used.
Wabash Carnegie Library	strong	Great library.
Wabash Carnegie Public Library	strong	Outstanding library.
Wabash city park	strong	A good place for a playground
Wabash City Park	strong	Amazing location, well maintained
Wabash City Park	strong	A safe and a very good place to play
Wabash City Schools Admin	strong	Jason Callahan is a thought leader in education in the state of Indiana. We need to work with WCS and Jason more to strengthen all of our schools\n
Wabash County Historical Museum	strong	Exhibits are well done. An excellent place to take visitors.
Wabash County Historical Museum	strong	Great place - strong tie to local history, preserving the past - strong childrens programming and play area.

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Wabash County Historical Museum	strong	Great!
Wabash county Historical Museum	strong	It's a very nice place to see the history of Wabash County
Wabash County Historical Museum	strong	One of the top museums in the state
Wabash county history Museum	strong	A town the size again doesn't have a quality museum like this and must continue to thrive for cultural attractiveness to visitors, citizens and potential businesses.
Wabash County Museum	strong	Great for all ages
Wabash County Museum	strong	The Museum is a great asset to attract young families from throughout the region.
Wabash County Museum	strong	A treasure of information.
Wabash County Trails	strong	Excellent place to get exercise. Beautiful scenery.
Wabash County Visitor Center	strong	Helpful people that are dedicated to promoting Wabash
Wabash County YMCA	strong	Sports complex is a large attraction
Wabash County YMCA	strong	What an asset. Dean is a strong leader, they do a great job in youth sports and encouraging public health and wellness, and they should be supported\n
Wabash downtown and county historical places	strong	Wabash downtown is great compared to counties around us. We have many places in the county to showcase.
Wabash Friends Counseling	strong	A key location for family health
Wabash High and Middle School	strong	strong schools, strong leadership, and looking to the future to build a global citizen. \n
Wabash High School	strong	I marked this place because it is a great education system and I think more people need to see that.
Wabash Indiana	strong	This is where i live
Wabash Middle School	strong	I go to school here and I am very encouraged by my teachers.
Wabash Middle School	strong	It's a safe place for a lot of kids
Wabash middle school	strong	I marked this place because to me it feels very safe and I love being here. The teachers are amazing and the students are so fun to be around.
Wabash Museum	strong	This is actually a pretty populated place, and most people go here for first friday.
Wabash Museum	strong	The museum has the history of the town in it. If you visit this city, it's good to go and see the history of it.

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Wabash River Trail	strong	Incredible Asset!
Wabash River Trail	strong	New trail is popular attraction
Wabash River Trail	strong	Remarkable - opportunity is to continue to expand east and west with the Wabash River Trails group\n
Wabash River Walk	strong	Riverfront attraction
Wabash River Walk	strong	This Riverwalk is well maintained and a great family outing.
Wabash Riverfront	strong	I love the river and would love to see the development of river activities both free and paid to expand on this great amenity.
Wabash/Lagro River Walk	strong	a wonderful paved walking/biking trail between Wabash and Lagro; its such an asset!
Walmart	strong	Walmart is a location that offers groceries and all other amenities.
Warvel Park	strong	Central location within the community. Near schools, downtown, university, baseball park, Peabody Retirement, etc
Warvel Park	strong	Fun
Warvel Park	strong	Nice park, well maintained. Great outdoor space for gatherings
Warvel Park	strong	Nice variety in a community park for various ages and family groups. Nice sledding hill, too! (Dish sleds are best. ;-) Nice waterfall feature also. Kids park, pavilions for community fundraisers, near pool and school, etc. Overall, a real plus along Market Street "corridor."
Warvel Park	strong	Well-maintained park. Great for gatherings, children, taking in nature. The Harter's Grove nature trail is a wonderfully calming spot.
White Rock	strong	Potential, but the start up was hindered with Covid.
White Rock ice cream and canoeing	strong	Fun place to see river and have a treat. Canoeing trip is great way to see river and wild life.
White Rock Recreation	strong	Our family loves visiting White Rock Recreation as part of our adventures to the Wabash River Walk.
White Rock Recreation	strong	Strong addition to recreation, health, and wellness in the community. would like to see a N Manchester/Eel River version\n
White Rock Recreation	strong	This was my summer job and is a great place to go and get some ice cream in the summer. It has a great atmosphere and friendly workers.
White's Residential Services	strong	Focused on healing youth that are struggling with family, addictions, and mental health
YMCA	strong	A wonderful facility.

3.6 Strong Places

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
YMCA	strong	Because it helps youth stay active in sports during winter time and they offer activities for all ages, and have a wide variety of activities to do while you're there.
YMCA	strong	Fantastic organization.
Ymca	strong	Great resourceo
YMCA	strong	I marked this as strong point because a lot kid spend time here. Also adults like to exercise there. The YMCA also hold event and daycare services that help parents a lot.
YMCA	strong	I visit here a lot to workout and play tennis.
YMCA	strong	It is a beautifully maintained facility.
YMCA	strong	Nice big facility for a small town.
YMCA	strong	I marked this place because everyone can go there and be safe.

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Share your opportunity areas that the plan should address.

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
13-24 Drive Inn	opportunity	It brings a bunch of people to the county And they have fun take pictures post them, which then other people see it and want to stay here or come visit.
Ag field	opportunity	potential expansion of the Wabash Business Park
ag land	opportunity	great opportunity for future housing stock if the county plan commission would allow it\n
Ag land north of Honeywell Golf Course	opportunity	opportunity for housing development with proper zoning\n
Ag land north of Wal Mart	opportunity	Great opportunity for further retail development
Alber/200 land	opportunity	opportunity for medical development\n
All of "food alley"	opportunity	We need to make sure we keep this entire area going strong and continue to build it up and keep it growing.
Apartments/ entertainment	opportunity	This would be a great place for housing and some type of entertainment
Apartments/townhouse	opportunity	Be a great location for beautiful housing everyone that drives by can see. Easy access to wabash and main roads
Arc Light Business Park	opportunity	Great opportunity for mixed use commercial/retail/industrial development
Auto Salvage Yard	opportunity	looks bad from the road - opportunity to screen this potentially?
Automotive shop on Manchester Ave	opportunity	This place is an example as why we need better planning/zoning codes in Wabash. This type of building and business should not have been permitted in this location.
Bachelor Creek Church	opportunity	Key resource to families in this community
Backside of stores that face the river	opportunity	If I had enough money I would develop the backside of stores for shopping and dining next to the lovely river view.
Behind Main Street	opportunity	Possibility of a Riverwalk
Bike Path	opportunity	I love to ride my bike, 300 East is part the bike path in North Manchester. However, this road has become a major thoroughfare and heavily traveled. It is dangerous to ride a bike. I would love to see a dedicated bike/walking path in North Manchester.
Blank lot	opportunity	It's know just an open lot i hope its bought by the ymca and its used for Maybe a public dog park or a little garden.
Bradley Building	opportunity	Great redevelopment opportunity and glad it is underway.
Bradley Building	opportunity	Would love to see an affordable Italian restaurant downtown. (like Ziannos or Casa in FW)
Brandt's Harley Davidson	opportunity	parking lot oversized - great retail mini-strip mall location \n

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
broken or missing sidewalks around town	opportunity	Broken or missing sidewalks make it difficult for North Manchester to be a "walkable town." Uneven surfaces are dangerous for elderly and impossible for families with small children on trikes. Handicapper access is increasing, which is excellent. Improvements are being made and this helps. Sidewalks are key to quality of life for all ages.
bulldog battery	opportunity	not a good look down Wabash Street; listed on environmental sites as potential for environmental hazards
Bulldog Battery	opportunity	Good company but would be better moved out of downtown and to one of the business or industrial parks so this site could be redeveloped - acquisition of this site, remediation, and moving the You Store It facility and junk car lot would open up a new riverfront development
Cannonball lanes	opportunity	I marked this place as opportunity because i think we could make this place more entertaining for our generation by adding things to it. Better decorations, better food, making it a better atmosphere. This place has potential to become an awesome hangout place.
Cass St.	opportunity	This is where all the restaurants are we need new restaurants or more sit down restaurants.
Cass St. Dollar General Parking Lot	opportunity	Many of the spaces are out of business and empty
Cass Street	opportunity	The roads around here are terrible done and I hate driving through them.
Cass Street corridor	opportunity	shopping areas are run down and not well maintained or landscaped by property owners
cement pads on South Street where Invensys Controls used to be	opportunity	This is a huge unused space that could become a skate park, a street hockey area, or a roller rink, or housing lots. Or, the town could use it for some of the storage that should be moved from the Mill Street green space (just north of Ogan's landing)
Charley creak garden	opportunity	I picked this place because it is a beautiful place to walk and look at nature.
Charley Creek Garden Maze	opportunity	It is a hidden gem in our community.
Charley Creek Gardens	opportunity	This is a really nice place to go and has so much potential but doesnt get used
Chester Heights housing development	opportunity	There is a large space that will not be developed into housing and a circular path and other athletic options would fit well in this space
City Park	opportunity	City park could be upgraded
Community Building	opportunity	Update please!!!

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Community Pool	opportunity	Good amenity in the community but underutilized by the City Parks Department - tough to figure out hours when it is going to be open and for the money reinvested in it it seems to not open until June and closes in August - underutilized at best and not recognized as the asset it should be
Cross street in Roann	opportunity	I think we need a crosswalk (test)
Current space used for farmers market.	opportunity	It's the perfect location for a fabulous market like one of the covered mercados in Madrid, Spain,\neg., Mercado de San Miguel
D & B Auto	opportunity	This is such an eyesore to the south gateway into Wabash.
dangerous	opportunity	area
Dangerous Pedestrian crossing	opportunity	Busy pedestrian crossing with no protection of crosswalk or sidewalks for walkers
Downtown North Manchester	opportunity	I'd like to see the second and third stories of these buildings developed into apartments and the flat roofs be covered in solar panels to power them.
Downtown North Manchester	opportunity	This has opportunity to thrive even more with the proper investment and opportunities that would utilize the university and be attractive to those students
Downtown Nutrition	opportunity	This is a protein shake shop that has a lot of potential. They opened a little while ago and get a lot of business.
Downtown Wabash	opportunity	Often, it's older individuals that are walking the streets of Wabash. With investment targeted towards young people, Wabash could become a more vibrant downtown.
Downtown Wabash	opportunity	Businesses can open and become successful
Downtown Window front properties	opportunity	Boutiques, shopping, other things that could go in to bring business.
Downtown-behind business	opportunity	River frontage, recreational area
dumping area along the river at Parke Ave	opportunity	This is another river front area that should become a public area for walking along the river. Anything the town uses this for, could be placed at a spot away from our river!
E Maple St/Elm St Area	opportunity	This part of town seems to be petty-crime ridden. It would be great to see a focus on drug rehabilitation and its relation to petty crime in Wabash as well. Although it's a generally safe place to raise kids, it seems like crime has increased in recent years.
E Market St Housing Opportunity	opportunity	Opportunity to develop higher end housing development - urban feel with Grow Wabash County\n
E Market Street Houses	opportunity	Future housing

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Eagles	opportunity	Opportunities for professionals!!\nOpportunities for education!!!\nOpportunities for tourism!!!\nOpportunities for events!!!\nDraw people into our community to spend their money and to create the need for jobs!
Eagles Theater	opportunity	Eagles Theater will provide significant attraction to people outside our county and younger generations once programming can start after the pandemic.
Eagles theater	opportunity	This place has potential. Maybe amping it up a bit, playing a more diverse selection movies. Advertising this theater more. Making it a warm and welcoming place.
Eagles Theater	opportunity	They just remodeled and it looks great. There is a lot of potential.
Eagles theatre	opportunity	I marked this place because it will open soon and it will need staff.
East end of Wabash	opportunity	Some neat old homes, but not a safe neighborhood.
East Hill Street	opportunity	So many homes have potential in this area of town, but I wouldn't feel safe living there.
East Market Street	opportunity	New housing development close to downtown.
Eel River	opportunity	River trail, recreation spot
Eel River access	opportunity	Experience the Eel River by kayak or canoe. \nRiver trips for tourism\nEnd at covered bridge or stockdale mill.
Eel River on the South side of Main Street	opportunity	We have a beautiful water front in North Manchester that is unused.
empty lot on main street, access to north side of river	opportunity	empty lot among historic buildings. and street behind main street is not a public street but private property, somebody build an outdoor restaurant on the street, on the river.
empty storefronts along Main Street	opportunity	Various storefronts and in various sizes along Main Street are empty. A sign of economic decline? It would be nice to have additional "anchor" stores/businesses combined with smaller shops, to encourage a walkable and lively Main Street with more outdoor seating.
Empty(?)	opportunity	This area is a large spot of seemingly wasted land that could likely be used in the near future for more housing and/or business.
End of River Trail	opportunity	Great place to connect the parks and trail system to City Park
Everywhere downtown	opportunity	These stores downtown are too expensive and some people can't afford them. That's why I think we need to put more affordable stores in.
Falls avenue	opportunity	I marked it because its a nice town but it needs more sidewalks
Family Video	opportunity	It allows access to stuff like games, movies and so on.

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Farmer's market	opportunity	Expand to include canoe livery and gathering space by the river
farmers market area	opportunity	I think a covered pavilion with electric service and restrooms would be a great asset to the farmers market and open opportunities for use for other events. Of course the current pole buildings would need to be removed. The pavilion would have to have a river view.
Field North of Walmart	opportunity	Industrial opportunities
Fish & Wildlife Ramp	opportunity	Wabash River is enjoying tremendous growth, and this ramp is an important point of connection on the river.
Ford Theater	opportunity	It is inside of the Honeywell Center. I marked it because I always enjoy the plays and musicals they come up with, I even act in some of them. However, I feel as though it'd be even better if it did more than just in the summer, you know?
former factory	opportunity	utilized for storage only currently
Former Location of General Tire	opportunity	I grew up on this street and it's sad to see what it looks like now after General Tire/GDX was demolished. It used to be a vibrant community where many people would come and watch city fireworks, there were more businesses, and its current state definitely lowers the value of the homes on this street.
former Yarnelle's Lumber	opportunity	This burned down several years but is sitting vacant next to the Honeywell Center. Acquiring this to redevelop is a vital opportunity for the community
Foundry	opportunity	Eyesore and underutilized for industry along the railroad
Fountain View mobile homes	opportunity	This needs cleaned up and redeveloped - great opportunity for new modular homes
Gas Station / Parking Lot	opportunity	This old gas station (now parking lot) is such an eye sore. Everyone sees it, because this is where one stops to wait for the train. It probably can't become a new building since it was a gas station, but even a cleaned up parking lot would look nicer.
GDX - General Tire Site	opportunity	biggest eyesore in Wabash - city and Grow Wabash County leading a massive redevelopment effort however which should be supported by all
General Tire location	opportunity	Lots of areas around Wabash like this that are eyesores and leave a bad taste in your mouth
go kart track	opportunity	it's close to the highway and the town of wabash so it would bring attraction
Good Appliance	opportunity	This is a family business that has lots of potential to grow. It has that tight knit family feel that fits Wabash well. They sell & fix appliances, which is better for the environment than just buying new all the time.

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Granstaff-Hentgen Funeral Home	opportunity	I marked this place because this funeral home has been in Roann for years and its know around some places in indiana like Wabash, Manchester I believe.
green space on river bend on South Market	opportunity	this is property that should be part of our parks and rec. I know it's part of the 2015 plan for the town, that created a park in this area. we need to continue those plans!
green space on South Mill next to Ogan's Landing	opportunity	This space owned by the Town of North Manchester is now the space the Farmer's Market uses seasonally. With the addition of a large pavilion the market could be under roof for a more accessible market year round. The location next to the river is an excellent area for a river walk or gathering spaces along the river. Outdoor concerts, food trucks, weddings, etc could be held there.
Hampton Inn	opportunity	This is the site of the new Hampton Inn - there are two commercial outlots available here as well
Hampton Inn Outlots	opportunity	Great opportunity for retail development - gas station and restaurants\n
hanging rock	opportunity	There are so many people in this county who have never bern here. It, and the other natural areas, need better promotion for recreation and tourism
Heartland Career Center	opportunity	Improving the facade and general appearance of school would help make it a more attractive venue for students
Hill St. Historic District	opportunity	The historic district in Wabash is full of opportunities. While some homes on this street are well kept, there are others that are run down and not taken care of, but were obviously beautiful homes at some point. I'd love to see more projects taking place to revitalize our historic district of homes.
Historic Downtown	opportunity	Just as Wabash has done in the past five or so years, North Manchester greatly needs some investment in improving the Historic Downtown. Although it has begun in some instances we need additional funding as well as ordinances to make sure we maintain this district in a healthy way that promotes economic growth and continued development of diverse offerings.
Hogsback	opportunity	fix this bridge. This area is great for hiking and fishing and even has a boat ramp but isn't accessible since the road washed away from the bridge a few years ago.
Honeywell Center	opportunity	In a non-pandemic time, more people are drawn to the center from out of town than in town. Big attraction
Honeywell Gardens	opportunity	Expand new housing opportunity.
House	opportunity	dilapidated housing
Houses	opportunity	dilapidated housing
Housing Opportunity	opportunity	Additional housing development opportunity for rural living but close to an amenity\n

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Housing opportunity	opportunity	Town of North Manchester working to build new housing here and it should be universally supported
Ijamsville	opportunity	opportunity
Independent order of odd fellows cemetery	opportunity	It's by my house
Indiana fish and wildlife ramp	opportunity	This location is just outside of Wabash County, but it provides an important river access point for canoeing/kayaking. Many people from inside/outside the county use this access.
Industrial park expansion	opportunity	This parcel could easily join the existing industrial park and allow for future large scale development.
industrial zoned land	opportunity	could be a potential opportunity - located in an opportunity zone - underutilized
Industry	opportunity	Create attractive incentives for businesses to expand, move, or be created here.
Jewish Cemetery	opportunity	From a historical perspective, the Jewish population was significant in Wabash. The cemetery, for example, may be the oldest Jewish cemetery in Indiana. I think we may be missing an opportunity to attract present Jewish interest to our city as an historic attraction.
John Drock Memorial Bike and Skate Park	opportunity	There are a lot of things that the skatepark could use in order to make more people want to come to Wabash. There is a drug problem and I have even seen needles on the ground. This is terrible for the health of teens that come to the skatepark in order to hang out
Kellys Ice Cream	opportunity	It has a strong opportunity to succeed very well
key churches in our community	opportunity	resources for reaching broken families
Klare land	opportunity	opportunity for commercial development
Kroger	opportunity	More grocery store options and improve quality of stores.
Kroger	opportunity	Offerings should be expanded with options for pickup and delivery. Fresh fish, ready meals, and more produce needed.
Kroger Parking Lot	opportunity	This whole strip mall is just in terrible condition and not attractive...it needs some major updating. Unfortunately this is one of the first things people see if they are from out of town since it's right off 24.
La Fontaine Elementary	opportunity	Lots of potential to be a strong anchor in the southern part of the county.
LaFontaine	opportunity	The downtown is dying. Needs new things, shops and businesses. 218 is a straight shot to the I interstate and railroad is near as well. Could be a great place for a large industry to move in.

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
LaFontaine TIF District	opportunity	Opportunity for Agri-business ventures. one limitation is no access to natural gas
Lagro	opportunity	I think the Town Of LaGro may be an untapped gem. The historic Catholic Church, the access point to the river, hanging rock, the Old Canal Coffee I scream shop, a trailhead for the Wabash River Trail and new downtown restoration projects provide a baseline for a future interest.
Lagro	opportunity	Needs to have better enforcement of trash and decay over town. Many people have been investing and it's headed in the right direction. Just needs more enforcement of ordinances.
Lagro	opportunity	Things are developing in Lagro. It needs to have some housing Renovations and better town ordinances to improve the appearances of the Town.
Lagro Area	opportunity	Need restaurants and eateries. Develop the old two story homes into bed and breakfasts. Develop canoeing on the river. Develop bike and scooter rentals to sight see the area. Use the Locks and the Old Cabin to have a summer festival to teach history (arts and crafts) to attract school age as well as families. Pair with Wabash as well as to the East (Andrews/Huntington) to continue developing trails.
Lagro close to the river	opportunity	People have bought houses and are turning them into businesses and an air b&b
Lagro ice cream shop	opportunity	ice cream
Lagro Industrial Site	opportunity	Opportunity for redevelopment
Lagro Trail	opportunity	complete the trail to Wabash then east towards Huntington
Laketon	opportunity	opportunity
Laketon	opportunity	Urbana get a lot of traffic since it's on a major highway in the County. The 7 mile Mini Mart was a smashing success 10 years ago. \n\nThere is potential in this area.
Learn More Center	opportunity	Many people don't realize we have an amazing Adult Education center right here at IVY TECH. We don't only work on HSE's but collage and career readiness, life skills and life coaching.
Legacy Hospital site	opportunity	Housing opportunity
Limited Transport Services	opportunity	Lack of transportation options: No Uber, No Lyft, No Delivery Services
Little league baseball field	opportunity	It has an opportunity to gets kids more involved in sports
Lot by old WC Mills School	opportunity	This green space is used by many local sports teams. It is a significant amount of green space that has a lot of potential to better serve local youth sports leagues.

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Lynn's restaurant	opportunity	Good restaurant ran by a family. Struggling to find workers, need to keep these open
Main Street	opportunity	Update store fronts. \nImproved signs similar to downtown Wabash\nBanners or signs on telephone poles. \nFlowers for spring and summer maintained by town employees.\n
Main View	opportunity	Revive this important community gathering space.
Main View	opportunity	Food is and service is not consistent
Manchester Early Learning Center	opportunity	brand new high quality early learning center - under-utilized I think due to staffing restrictions and funding but the need for the community is severe\n
Manchester University	opportunity	Great institution - very insular however to their campus and to an extent the Town of North Manchester - not very integrated throughout the county and I am not sure everyone outside of North Manchester views them as being a "player" in the community - strong opportunity here\n
Manchester University	opportunity	Great local private college - not overly integrated into greater Wabash County outside of the town.
Manchester University	opportunity	Isolated, doesn't engage as much with the community as it could and should.
McCann Land	opportunity	Great opportunity for higher end housing development
Miami Street	opportunity	This should be made into a central gathering place, a promenade, with focus in outdoor seating, outdoor dining, gathering places, a fountain, that can be closed off to vehicles during First Fridays, or weekends, or special events. This could hold a temporary ice rink, a central Christmas tree, concerts. Potential is endless. This would be developed locally but with the same development such as The Landing in Fort Wayne.
Michigan Street	opportunity	It is where I grew up.
Mississenewa	opportunity	great reservoir. Having two top reservoirs should be a greater attraction
Modocs Coffee Shop	opportunity	My friends and I meet up here often and do school work or just talk, its a great place that will bring tourist in.
Morrett Commercial park	opportunity	Opportunity for new retail and commercial development.
Mr Dave's patio on Main Street	opportunity	This space is on the most public space in our downtown. If Mr Dave's could get a grant and private/public partnership to create a more welcoming space in that area, it would be a big asset. Add better seating, give the building a facelift, add public restrooms (managed by the town), keep the ally open to the parking lot behind it.
My boyfriends house	opportunity	This is a very safe place for me to get out of my house and feel relaxed for a bit.

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
My hometown	opportunity	We need help!! One small business starting in downtown. Most citizens know we need to do something, but where do we start? Many retired citizens live here. Many of the young families want our park to be better. Our community in general needs a face lift.
Neighborhoods	opportunity	There seem to be a LOT of houses that are run down and are rentals. How you entice landlords to correct this, I don't know
Nightlife	opportunity	Not many night life options for young adults
No Wayfinder	opportunity	Wayfinder to welcome and encourage travelers to stop in City of Wabash recommended
North Cass Street	opportunity	Redo the north entrance to the city. Add sidewalks, a roundabout or two to deter semi traffic. Add large sign like on south end.
North Manchester	opportunity	North Manchester can't seem to keep a Restaurant to save it's life. The Main View was a great place to eat until they closed this past year. Taco bell closed. Hardees closed. \n\nOpportunity for a great food place and lodging.
North Manchester Covered Bridge area	opportunity	This area could be improved and feel safer to walk around this area near the Covered Bridge. Perhaps a public picnic area (when not flooded)? \nPerhaps also develop some eating area with a vista of the bridge or a vista of the river? Here or somewhere in town?
north manchester industrial park	opportunity	industrial growth area\n
North Manchester Industrial Park	opportunity	Opportunity for industrial development - spec and shell buildings should be considered
Northfield High School	opportunity	Possible school consolidation.
Northfield High school	opportunity	Good school but could use more funding to allow for better classes for students
Northfield Schools	opportunity	Opportunity for consolidation of schools between MSD & Wabash City Schools\n
Not specified	opportunity	We need: shoe store, more diverse restaurants, a good bread bakery, dry cleaners. Develop the old General Tire site and the old hospital grounds.
Not specified	opportunity	I tend to see these projects as "Wabash-centered" rather than county-centered. North Manchester is not a little town compared to Wabash
Not specified	opportunity	One single consolidated high school
Not specified	opportunity	Opportunity areas are primarily the numerous vacant buildings in many of the towns in the County - many have been renovated and there is a need for businesses to occupy them.

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
NW corner of county around Roann	opportunity	Terrible internet service
NW Corner SR 114 & SR 13	opportunity	Strong opportunity for commerical/industrial development fo the town
O.J Neighbors woods/field	opportunity	possible residential site close to community, schools, and Field of Dreams complex
Ogan's Landing	opportunity	Ogan's Landing is a river access near downtown and the covered bridge
Old abandoned gas station	opportunity	eyesore
Old Building	opportunity	Eyesore in the heart of downtown
old country club vicinity	opportunity	possible home/condo sites east and northwest of old country club building
Old GDx	opportunity	This is a major eyesore and representation of a failed rust-belt economy. We should cleanup and expand the park if we can't get a university or employer.
Old GDx Building	opportunity	The place is an industrial waste area that many people are coming from 24. I know the place is toxic, but if there is a plan in place to do something with it this area can be put to good use. Maybe green energy location?
Old GDx factory site	opportunity	This is an eyesore, but potential place of growth. I would love to see an extension of the City Park, a small college campus with student housing, or industry that isn't ugly or smelly as it is adjacent to residential area.
Old GDx property	opportunity	Could be used for just about anything if the radiation is taken care of
Old General tire	opportunity	Ground for development. ie. Sports training/complex. Similar to the plex in FW.
Old General Tire Area	opportunity	An eye sore that needs to be developed into something else.
Old General Tire facility	opportunity	New residential and commercial development and cleans up a mess that exists today
Old General Tire location	opportunity	Right now an eyesore but with financial resources could be cleaned up and become a new housing area
Old General Tire property	opportunity	Can't we make a park, housing addition, trails, something?
Old Grocery	opportunity	Empty and sad and the space could be turned into something cool
Old Hospital	opportunity	Housing development
Old hospital grounds	opportunity	opportunity to add some additional housing. There's a huge need for high quality apartments and all ranges of housing
Old hospital grounds	opportunity	Now an empty space that will soon hopefully become affordable housing site(s).
Old Hospital location	opportunity	Needs to be developed into something.

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Old Mutual Bank	opportunity	Great place for coffee or smoothie; quick drink place with drivethrough
Old Next Marketing Building	opportunity	This factory is an eyesore to the neighborhood and could be used for new housing development.
Old railroad	opportunity	This could be a great hiking/running trail moving Southwest. Beautiful part of Roann
Old Red Restaurant	opportunity	Restaurant possibilities. Sits empty.
Old restaurant	opportunity	Former restaurant building in need of redevelopment
OLD Roann School	opportunity	Park\nBaseball\nNeeds updates to playground & equipment. \nOpen space can create a community garden Or community space to have picnics.\nRoann Baseball league
OLD Wabash County Hospital	opportunity	Promising opportunity to develop the area into something!!
Old Wabash Hospital site	opportunity	Develop single family homes in the 100-175k range with a pocket park.
Open space managed by town next to Ogan's Landing	opportunity	This would make an excellent spot for a Farmer's Market Pavilion and deck or platform seating along the Eel River.
Palm Drive (Fountainview)	opportunity	It's a place I think has room to grow much more than what it is now
Paper Mill	opportunity	This is an eyesore and super smelly and off putting. It's a black eye on a beautiful downtown and park area. Can the exhaust be scrubbed to remove the sulfur? Can we create a wall with a mural--stack some of those trailers and paint it!
Paradise Springs	opportunity	Strong Park - could use an ampitheatre to best utilize the space. Trail head for the River Walk as well
Paridise Spring	opportunity	Walking and festivals. The festivals are a huge attraction drawing people to Wabash
Parker House	opportunity	Beautiful historic home in need of repairs
Parkview Hospital Legacy Site	opportunity	Housing redevelopment opportunity
Peabody Mansion	opportunity	Beautiful and historic local landmark.
Peabody Mansion	opportunity	The time may come when it might be made into a unique tourist attraction for tours, weddings, special events.
pond and wooded area west of RR on Strauss Provimi	opportunity	This pond and wooded area would make a great walking path from the town out to the 9th street addition. The town should pursue purchasing this and adding it to our parks department. We need more wooded areas for walking.
Pond at old Peabody Chair Co	opportunity	This is one of the few wooded areas in town and is very close to the new Chester Heights development and could easily have a path connection for walking.

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
pony creek	opportunity	we need to make more walking trails along our creeks and rivers. This would be good area to connect with the covered bridge are and walk along the Eel, if the town could convert some of the town properties to public spaces.
Potential Roann Town Park	opportunity	A great spot for a town park for Roann\n
Prime Real Estate on River	opportunity	Junk yard like site right along the river in downtown
Rager Land South of Town Hall	opportunity	Great opportunity for a park for the Town of North Manchester to couple with a pedestrian bridge or ampitheatre as outlined in the town 2015 comp plan\n
Railroad track crossing on Main Street	opportunity	Always bumpy, frustrating and embarrassing to the town. It seems those from outside our town responsible for maintaining the tracks don't think our town matters. It's demoralizing daily. Meanwhile, our town's crew members work very hard for us.
Red Bridge Marina (Mississinewa Lake)	opportunity	I basically live on this lake in the summertime; I am here ALL THE TIME boating! It's one of my favorite places in the county and people travel from all over to boat/camp here. Many people in our county aren't even aware that this is here, though. I think that more marinas could be built here to improve the economic aspect of the lake. It has already accomplished the social aspect!!
Rhinestones and Roses	opportunity	I work here and it brings a bunch of people from out of town to come and visit.
Right to life facility	opportunity	ministering to unwanted pregnancy issues
River	opportunity	We can take advantage of the beautiful river to bring in people for canoeing, floating, and fishing.
River	opportunity	Missing opportunities for a river walk and development of river bank property downtown
River Bar	opportunity	Create a patio for outdoor dinning and drinks
river front property	opportunity	can be developed?
river front property at Water Treatment plant	opportunity	This large green space along the river is currently off limits to the public. The access to the river, would make it a great river walk area. The water plant could still be fenced off, but the green space and the river frontage should become public areas.
river south of main street	opportunity	recreation,
River Trail	opportunity	Continue to extend to Lagro and other communities
River Trail	opportunity	Connect university to downtown via river trail
River Walk	opportunity	I marked this place because it's great for exercise. At the same time I think we can make it feel safer after any flooding/ river rising in areas.
Riverfront	opportunity	Develop riverfront

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Roann	opportunity	i believe along the river in roann would present a great opportunity for a spot of entertainment
Roann	opportunity	We have the bridge, mill, restaurants, small businesses so there is a good foundation. Adding a park and better internet would be helpful for young families
Roann	opportunity	Diversify retail beyond antiques
Roann	opportunity	Some great architecture, lovely businesses, 2 restaurants, and a Carnegie Library
Roann	opportunity	It has a lot of open space.
Roann park	opportunity	Nice large park that is largely underutilized. Could be a great attraction for young families
Robin's Way	opportunity	Path from Timbercrest to 13, potential to link in to a larger path system within town (county). In North Manchester the sidewalks are well known to not be great, nearly everyone walks in the streets for recreation. A safe walking/biking path option would be a major improvement
Rundown Housing	opportunity	There are several houses that are an eye sore in this area.
Rural unnamed	opportunity	Opportunity
Salamonie Lake	opportunity	We need to take back land used by Army Corp for homes development along the lake. This has happened in other communities and I have the blueprint of how this was accomplished. This would attract investors in the area because of the coveted land along a body of water, and would only increase our property tax base.
Salamonie Reservoir, and State Forest	opportunity	These physical assets attract many people from outside our county, but it seems to me that there is untapped opportunity here.
Salamonie State forest	opportunity	great park for hiking, boating etc., but poorly marketed
Salamonie: Trails	opportunity	Trails are under utilized. This area is a strength, but I feel that only the water is utilized well.
Sale Barn	opportunity	Great potential to expand park into this area. Maybe get equipment like wabash's new park has.
Schools	opportunity	Consolidate the schools to provide more opportunities for our students!
Scout Hall	opportunity	Upgrade this building; it is used by a variety of groups.
SE corner of Wabash County	opportunity	Terrible internet service
Servia	opportunity	Opportunity

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Shopping Centers - North Side of Town	opportunity	Many store fronts sit empty on the north side of town. There has been a lot of focus on downtown and the north side has been neglected. Although it houses fast food restaurants and some other chain businesses, there are local businesses that could benefit from being on this bustling side of town (and many currently there already). I'd love to see this side of town revitalized as well.
Site of old recycling bins	opportunity	This empty lot has become an eyesore and the hang out for local stray cats. It should be a priority for development either as housing lots or commercial.
Skatepark	opportunity	A lot of bad kids go here
Small town charm	opportunity	Covered Bridge Antique shops
Somerset	opportunity	Location is perfect. A lot of travelers go through here on their way to the Mississinewa Reservoir.
south side of eel river west	opportunity	recreation
Stockdale Mill	opportunity	Culturally significant and maybe unknown in the county
Stockdale Mill	opportunity	Develop more historical and river front
Stockdale Mill	opportunity	Tours need to be given more often, give an opportunity for us to learn about our community's past.
Stockdale Mill & Roann covered bridge	opportunity	Interesting landmarks-first place we take out of town visitors
Storywalk	opportunity	Could use a paved path for storywalk for strollers
Strauss-Peabody Aquatic Facility	opportunity	Great gym and pool. Would like to see more variety in evening fitness/wellness classes.
Strip	opportunity	This old strip mall next to Kroger has certainly seen better days. While that can be said about much of Cass St, this is an area that a lot of people have to see because of its proximity to the grocery.
SW corner of county	opportunity	Terrible internet service
Taco Bell	opportunity	No more chili cheese burritos...
test	opportunity	dateta
test3	opportunity	test
The Access	opportunity	Street level ministries to youth and their families
The Access	opportunity	It is a place for youth to hang out in Wabash that very few people know about it. Adults there act as mentors and help kids with homework/life advice.
The Fried Egg	opportunity	It's a newer business compared to all the others on Cass St. On top of that, it's only open during breakfast times. Thus, not a lot of customers would be coming in than if it were open all day. On top of that, employees only get a few hours of pay. Due to the small amount of time the restaurant's open and all the other factors, not many are able to work there due to the small amount of employees needed.

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
The industrial area around the Brodbeck seeds location	opportunity	We need to continue to build up this area and expanding businesses. I love seeing this area grow.
The old Big R location	opportunity	We need to make sure we get another business in this location and it let this potential store front waste away.
The old Taco Bell location	opportunity	We need to repurpose this location for something else, the last thing Manchester needs is another failed business and another empty building.
The Salamonie Reservoir	opportunity	It is already a strong place that many people go, but we need to get youth more interesting in nature and hiking to great them into places like this.
The south side park	opportunity	It's a hot spot for drugs and if we put more love into it, it would create a place for teens/kids who live on south side to be able to hang out.
The storage units next to the new hotel	opportunity	This is an example of why we need better planning/zoning codes in Wabash. A storage unit next to a an upper scale (for Wabash) hotel is poor planning.
The strip area there	opportunity	I feel like if needs more work and looks kinda schetchy
Town Owned Park w River Access	opportunity	This entire area is totally under utilized. It's reation to Historic Downtown as well as it's position on the Eel River would make this a phantastic place to have a real investment in a small park venue. Community events like the Farmers Market, Outdoor Concerts, Community Cook Outs and so on could be hosted here. This reminds me of the area in Fort Wayne that has been recently invested in where they have a park, the kayak rental place, an outdoor pavillion and indoor options as well. Granted we are not Fort Wayne and will not be able to invest the same amount but I think something could be created here that would be beautiful and enjoyed by our community as well as enticing to surrounding communities visitors.
Troyer Memorial Library	opportunity	Long time community involvement. History of Mr. Troyer aka Corn King
Under the bridge	opportunity	there are a number of individuals struggling with mental health and addiction related issues that live under our bridges near the river
Urbana	opportunity	Potential industrial growth area
Urbana	opportunity	opportunity
US 24 Land	opportunity	Opportunity for commercial development\n
US 24 Land	opportunity	Opportunity for Commercial development\n

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
vacant lot	opportunity	Opportunity to expand White Rock and City beautification efforts, but it is privately owned and basically just has random used semi's for sale and is blocked off so no one can even park on it - adds nothing to the city and is a detractor \n
Vacant Lot - Bulldog Battery	opportunity	opportunity to redevelopment into a commercial outlot\n
vacant lumber warehouse	opportunity	great potential for providing a education & resources to low income/challenged families that are in this neighborhood and struggling
Village Pantry	opportunity	This place has a lot of bad people that stay around there.
Wabash Business Park	opportunity	We need to pursue a shell or spec building program in this park as new businesses are looking for space not sites
Wabash City Park	opportunity	could use some updating, though the disc golf course has become a popular attraction and is regarded as one of the better ones in the state
Wabash City Park	opportunity	Quality could be improved but people visits this spot often.
Wabash City Park	opportunity	Enjoying sports, nature, fun
Wabash County Airport	opportunity	We need new energy into the airport. I have heard from users that it needs to have better hangers, better service facilities and longer runway so it's able to be utilized by small jets. This is better use of funds than past projects. Having longer runway for jets will also provide businesses to be able to fly in directly to Wabash to check on their facilities easier.
Wabash County Courthouse	opportunity	Could be potential tourist attraction if renovated clock tower into a possible lookout over the City
Wabash County Industrial Pakr	opportunity	Opportunity for commercial and industrial development
Wabash County Industrial Park	opportunity	opportunity for commercial and industrial development\n
Wabash County Industrial Park	opportunity	Opportunity for future park expansion here. Difficult negotiations in the past however.
Wabash County Property	opportunity	Industrialize or create a new jail that will bring varied recovery/rehabilitative opportunities such as drug re-entry programs, Work Release for women, etc.
Wabash County Solid Waste Mgt	opportunity	Should offer curbside recycling; only 1 site in City of Wabash for recycling center
Wabash CrossFit	opportunity	An opportunity for our community to become stronger at any age.
Wabash Friends Church	opportunity	Key church to reach community families in need

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Wabash High School	opportunity	Potential consolidation of 3 high schools within about 5 miles would greatly offer more opportunities for students
Wabash Historical museum	opportunity	Because it could use some hands on kind of stuff.
Wabash Industrial Park	opportunity	Good open space for additional businesses. we could construct some spec buildings
Wabash middle school	opportunity	This is where I go to school
Wabash middle school	opportunity	It's full of opportunities
Wabash middle school	opportunity	Bc it's where I'm at
Wabash Municipal Airport	opportunity	Adding a longer runaway could potential attract more private jet traffic for fuel stops and could be attractive to potential businesses
Wabash Municipal Airport	opportunity	Good opportunities for development - extension of runway needed to be able to store small business jets there for insurance purposes\n
Wabash Parks Frisbee Golf	opportunity	The golf facility is short on promotion, and I don't feel that it is attracting the potential that it could
Wabash River	opportunity	We have a famous river and are finally starting to develop attractions around it...river walks, bike trails, canoeing. Overlooking restaurant would be a good addition
Wabash River Trail	opportunity	It is in it's infancy but this trail is promising. Where ever trails are built, they help spur economic development
Wabash riverfront	opportunity	I think this will be a great opportunity because it's a great worst place and if we want to bring in more towards the week and show people that this is a great place to live and possibly get more people to move in.
Wabash Riverfront	opportunity	We need to utilize our biggest assert. More development along the banks, for homes that can be built safely above the flood zone. Restaurants that overlook the river. More recreational attractions along the way like swings.
Wabash road	opportunity	I marked it because it could use some work
Wabash RV park	opportunity	provide a better place to camp than a lot with no trees that is next to the sewage treatment plant.
Wabash skate park	opportunity	I marked this place because i think it needs major help. It is very dirty because people have ruined it by throwing trash everywhere and by doing bad things at the park.
Walnut street	opportunity	This part of the street is creepy and dark. Making improvements would make this place a nicer place to walk around in. Walking to get to Hannah park isn't that fun.

3.6 Opportunity Areas

Location Name	Type	Why did you mark this place?
Was ash River Trails	opportunity	There are many trails developing around Indiana and the Wabash River Trail has the opportunity to connect. This holds a great opportunity for attracting outdoor exercise and recreation for many age groups.
waterfront	opportunity	Negotiate waterfront housing with DNR
waterfront part	opportunity	put in for kayak rentals? \npicnic benches, bird watching, fishing, wading?
Wayfinder	opportunity	Wayfinder to welcome and encourage travelers to stop in City of Wabash recommended
Wayfinder	opportunity	More signage to point downtown needed
West 9th	opportunity	Large area that is in beltline that is underutilized for housing
White building on corner	opportunity	Perfect place for mom/pop icecream joint that offered food. Sits empty now and has since I was little (I'm 29 now.)
wooded area between RR and Strauss Provimi Street	opportunity	this would be a good walking area in the woods which is complete with a water element. It could hook up with the new housing development walking trail along the RR. We need more wooded walking trails.
wooded area on South Mill on the river	opportunity	These 10 acres would make a wonderful walking path in the woods along the river. Easy access from Ogan's Landing as the trailhead.
YMCA	opportunity	Because i like going there
Zion evangelical Lutheran church	opportunity	The church is not strong in welcoming newcomers