

## MINUTES OF A MEETING

Thursday, September 29, 2011 – 4:30 p.m.  
County Administration Building – Room 200

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CALL TO ORDER

The Citizens Visioning Committee met in regular session on the date and time first shown above, and was called to order by Darcie White, Clarion Associates. Serving as secretary for the meeting, Melissa D. McChesney. A roster of those Committee Members in attendance is appended hereto as Exhibit 1.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JUNE 23, 2011

**MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING CONDUCTED JUNE 23, 2011; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

NEW BUSINESS

## I. COMMUNITY OUTREACH SUMMARY

The Community Outreach events included the Speakers Bureau, online forums, and interactive focus group meetings with County employees. The online forums had a total of 340 responses and closed September 30. The community outreach summary is appended hereto as Exhibit 2, online workshop results as Exhibit 3, and Speakers Bureau comments as Exhibit 4.

## II. DISCUSSION: RECOMMENDED REVISIONS TO REPORT

The visioning committee reviewed the draft report. A red-line version of the final report would be provided at the October meeting.

## III. DISCUSSION: PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Discussion focused on narrowing the recommended actions, prioritizing items to complete in the next year, and listing top priorities. The committee decided to remove the priority recommendations section.

## IV. DISCUSSION: TRACKING OUR PROGRESS

Discussion focused on how the County would monitor the outcomes of the report and track its progress the next ten years.

## V. FUTURE BUSINESS

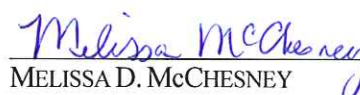
The next regular meeting of the Citizens Visioning Committee will be Thursday, October 27, 2011, at 4:30 p.m. at the County Administration Building in Room 200 located at 111 S. Cherry Street, Olathe.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be presented, the meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

  
MELISSA D. McCHESNEY

**Citizens Visioning Committee**

**Attendance Roster**

**September 29, 2011**

**4:30 p.m.**

Gary Anderson  
Mike Armstrong  
Michael Boehm  
Harriet Duff  
Megan England  
Mark Greene  
Ellen Hanson  
Charles Jean-Baptiste

Larry Meeker  
Tom Raby  
Rod Richardson  
Blake Schreck  
Arthur Smith  
Mary Tearney  
Joe Waters  
Ron Wimmer



# Community Outreach Summary

SEPTEMBER 22, 2011

## Background

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This document summarizes the results of the various community outreach activities conducted by the Citizens Visioning Committee (CVC) during August and September 2011 to seek input on the committee's draft recommendations—as contained in the Johnson County 2030: Living Our Vision report (Review Draft: July 2011). Key components of the outreach process included:

- **Speakers Bureau Forums**—CVC members presented the draft recommendations to and sought input from numerous community members and stakeholders representing a broad range of interest groups. Forums or small group meetings were conducted as follows:
  - Northeast Johnson County Chamber, August 16
  - Lenexa Rotary, August 19
  - Johnson County Planning and Zoning Commission, August 23
  - Human Services Agencies, August 24
  - Chamber President's Council, August 25
  - Overland Park Rotary, August 29
  - Western Johnson County Rotary, August 31
  - Johnson County Rotary, September 1
  - Johnson/Wyandotte County Council of Mayors, September 7
  - League of Women Voters, September 10
  - El Centro, September 12
  - Overland Park Chamber, September 13
  - Cosmopolitan International of Johnson County, September 15
  - Young Rotarians of Overland Park, September 7
  - Overland Park South Rotary, September 21

Attendance at the forums ranged in number from a handful to more than fifty, for an estimated total of well over 100 combined participants (not all participants signed in). Two additional forums are currently scheduled: NAACP, October 1 and DeSoto Rotary, October 7.

- **Online Community Workshop**— an Online Community Workshop was hosted on the project website ([www.johnsoncountyvision2030.com](http://www.johnsoncountyvision2030.com)) for the duration of the outreach period to provide additional opportunities for input on the committee's draft recommendations.
- **Community Forums (2)**—two Community Forums were held in early September to provide an opportunity for citizens to learn about the committee's draft recommendations, ask questions of committee members, and to provide their input.

Participants in the above activities were asked to provide input on two key questions: 1) What are your priorities in each area? and 2) Is there something you think is missing from the draft recommendations?

Feedback on these questions was recorded using a 2-page comment form along with a parallel online survey (non-scientific) that was included as part of the Online Community Workshop. Additionally, verbal feedback and questions from participants was recorded during the Community Forums and the Speakers Bureau forums. Over 300 formal responses were recorded through the Online Community Workshop and the comment forms collected during or after the Speakers Bureau Forums.

## Feedback Summary

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This summary represents a synthesis of feedback received during the combined community outreach efforts and will be considered by the CVC as they work to refine the draft vision document over the coming months. Feedback is organized as follows:

- **General Comments**—this section highlights common themes that emerged from open-ended comments provided during the Speakers Bureau Forums, Community Forums, and Online Community Workshop.
- **Theme-Specific Feedback**—these sections convey input received regarding the prioritization of the recommended actions related to each theme as well as any common themes that emerged from responses as to what was “missing” as part of the Online Community Workshop and comment form.

Each section also includes a set of recommended revisions/discussion items as a starting point for the based on the input received for the committee’s consideration.

### GENERAL COMMENTS

#### Common Themes:

- Poverty is not really addressed – or separation of class—more focus on changing demographics
- Concerns for the aging – needed amenities, transportation, affordable housing
- More emphasis on reinvestment in aging infrastructure, sustainable development, waste reduction
- Need for a new courthouse has been previously studied and should be addressed
- Define “evidence-based” outcomes, plans, programs
- Need to improve communication about county services and what the county actually does
- Opportunities for consolidation of functions and services should be emphasized (government, schools, etc.)
- Not clear why health and human services was combined with law enforcement? Both are major issues on their own.
- Not clear why libraries are included with ‘A Culturally Rich and Active Community’ when they also serve an important role in education and workforce development
- Transportation should be more strongly addressed
- Report is not consistent in its recommendations for continued funding of different activities—lack of specificity in a particular area may be interpreted as lack of support (e.g., libraries).
- Reinforce challenges we will face in achieving the vision

#### Recommended Revisions/Discussion Items:

- Consider adding explanation of relationship between individual topics and themes in the ‘How is this Document Structured?’ section—there seemed to be some confusion about where different topics (e.g., housing, libraries) were addressed in the report.
- Add explanation of evidence-based outcomes (applies to different sections, need to determine where it would be most appropriate)
- Consider adding language to A Safe, Healthy, and Caring Community section (either at the guiding principle or recommended action level) to generally support courthouse issue while maintaining the report’s non-project specific emphasis, for example: Johnson County government will provide

facilities that accommodate the core functions of County Government, encourage productivity, and reflect the high standards it expects from its employees

- Discuss other common themes noted above to determine committee's preferred approach.

## ECONOMIC VITALITY

### Priority Actions:

Recommended actions were ranked by participants in the following order of priority. (1 = Highest priority, 3 = Lowest priority)

1. Continue to play a supportive role in area economic development efforts (61.6%)
2. Explore the creation of an organization focused on promoting workforce development (51.7%)
3. Encourage workforce diversity (57.2%)

### Common Themes:

- Importance of education and training for quality jobs offering livable incomes
- Importance of having quality jobs available in Johnson County
- Team with existing schools (Johnson County Community College, KU) and businesses for job training
- Play a leading role in areas economic development efforts, not just supportive
- Concern about being able to support an additional organization – could the county support other organizations that already do this?
- Clarify definition of workforce diversity

### Recommended Revisions/Discussion Items:

- Common themes outlined above are all addressed within guiding principles and actions currently,
- Add reference to libraries under EV-A2, related to partnerships.

## EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

### Priority Actions:

Recommended actions were ranked by participants in the following order of priority. (1 = Highest priority, 3 = Lowest priority)

1. Coordinate legislative initiatives related to maintaining state funding (47.7%)
2. Collaborate on opportunities to support and enhance educational funding (46.6%)
3. Conduct periodic education summits (71.6%)

### Common Themes:

- Importance of great public education – it attracts and retains quality residents, creates a strong workforce thus creating a stronger economy, encourages businesses to invest here, etc.
- Quality education is not just a result of proper funding, quality teachers, curriculum, etc. is also vital
- Provide education for specific trades (mechanic, plumbing, masonry, etc.) and for specific needs like special education and early education
- Not only is it important to have funding but it is also imperative that the funding is used efficiently and appropriately

- Involve businesses in educational funding and partnerships – field trips, etc.
- Is this a county role?

**Recommended Revisions/Discussion Items:**

- Strengthen higher education and early education references as appropriate in guiding principles and recommended actions to reinforce linkages between education and Economic Vitality and A Safe, Healthy and Caring Community
- Consider adding brief explanation in challenges and opportunities section re: higher education and Pre-K to reinforce above. Importance of these aspects stated in vision, but not addressed here.
- Add reference to libraries in ED-P2: Build New and Expanded Partnerships

**A SAFE, HEALTHY, AND CARING COMMUNITY**

**Priority Actions:**

Recommended actions were ranked by participants in the following order of priority. (1 = Highest priority, 7 = Lowest priority)

1. Support high quality public safety and emergency services (47.7%)
2. Promote high levels of coordination among public safety agencies and other service providers (24.1%)
3. Maintain an active role in social, health, and human service programs (20.4%)
4. Enhance efforts related to prevention and early intervention (18.9%)
5. Implement best practices in advancing technology and evidence-based programs (24.9%)
6. Allocate resources based on evidence-based outcomes (23.6%)
7. Aggressively pursue grant opportunities (33.7%)

**Recommended Revisions/Discussion Items:**

- Emphasis on the importance of public safety
- Avoid duplication of services, consolidate services where possible and work with the cities
- Affordable housing helps with diversity and inclusiveness
- Clarify recommended action #4

**Recommended Revisions/Discussion Items:**

Potential refinements for consideration:

- page 22 Public safety bullet: While crime rates are relatively low, reduced resources for other services may lead to public safety concerns.
- page 24 HS-A3, insert word "especially" after -- County government should continue to maintain an active role in social, health and human service programs, especially when demonstrated.....
- page 24 HS-A4 Emphasis should be on evidence-based programs; technology is one of the tools. "Implement Evidenced-Based Programs"
- Support investment in advancing technology and data-driven decision making in the areas of criminal justice, public safety and social, health, and human services in order to identify and implement the evidenced-based programs with greatest potential for our community.
- Page 24 HS- A7 insert language Aggressively pursue grant opportunities to implement evidenced-based programs and leverage..... With county funds, sustain programs originally funded by grants when proven to be effective and to provide a high return on investment.

- A6 - rewrite: **Headline: Allocate Resources Based on Outcomes.** I believe this was intended to be more about resource reinvestment. The language should be about assessing how resources are allocated and making adjustments if data shows that "bigger bang" is available from different investments. "When possible, use data from outcomes and best practice research to determine if resources are allocated to provide a high return on investment. Reallocate resources to achieve the greatest long-term return."

## A SUSTAINABLE PATTERN OF GROWTH

### Priority Actions:

Recommended actions were ranked by participants in the following order of priority. (1 = Highest priority, 6 = Lowest priority)

1. Adapt land use and transportation policies to meet the needs of a changing population (45.9%)
2. Invest in multi-modal transportation (22.8%)
3. Evaluate current sewer financing structure (24.4%)
4. Explore the creation of a range of conservation tools (28.1%)
5. Promote coordinated growth in unincorporated areas (20.6%)
6. Lead by example with regards to sustainability initiatives (21.4%)

### Common Themes:

- Housing diversity is not emphasized enough (aging population, workforce housing)
- More emphasis on better transit options for all ages – including bike paths, light rail, and other creative options that fit Johnson County's needs (like door to door transport for the elderly)
- More emphasis on reinvestment in established areas – utilize vacant buildings and already developed lands
- Coordinated growth should be emphasized

### Recommended Revisions/Discussion Items:

- Consider adding a recommended action related to reinvestment in established areas of the county to strengthen the linkage between the guiding principles and recommended actions. For example SG-P2 emphasizes need to concentrate growth in incorporated and underutilized areas, but recommended actions do not address specifically. The same could be said about SG-P3: Balance New Investment with Reinvestment—it is somewhat implied, but not addressed directly in actions. (e.g., support incentives, repair/replacement of aging infrastructure, review of county fee structures, and other steps to support reinvestment)

## EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT

### Priority Actions:

Recommended actions were ranked by participants in the following order of priority. (1 = Highest priority, 7 = Lowest priority)

1. Promote an open and transparent process (26.6%)
2. Evaluate and implement the most efficient means of providing programs and services based on evidence-based practices (25.5%)
3. Strengthen the voice of Johnson County government and the community within the region (16.9%)

4. Encourage civic engagement (18.3%)
5. Establish a review schedule to track the implementation of the vision plan (20.1%)
6. Convene a process to review current levels of government (19.8%)
7. Develop and support leadership that reflects the diversity of the county (23.7%)

**Common Themes:**

- Should we guarantee an open and transparent process or just promote it?
- Not only create the process to meet about consolidating services but actually make it a recommended action

**Recommended Revisions/Discussion Items:**

- Discuss common themes to determine if adjustments are needed.

**A CULTURALLY RICH AND ACTIVE COMMUNITY**

**Priority Actions:**

Recommended actions were ranked by participants in the following order of priority. (1 = Highest priority, 5 = Lowest priority)

1. Support programs and services that are inclusive and accessible (31.1%)
2. Identify new ways to engage all sectors of the community (26.4%)
3. Develop a flexible model for library services (26.2%)
4. Encourage the identification of broad-based sustainable funding mechanisms for the arts (26.6%)
5. Identify new funding options to support increased access to parks and recreation ( )

**Common Themes:**

- Libraries also relate to other themes – they support education for all ages, need stronger language to support the libraries financially
- Support new museum
- While nice to have, the topics addressed as part of this theme overall should have a lower priority compared to the others – people are more concerned with basic needs, employment, homelessness, etc.

**Recommended Revisions/Discussion Items:**

- Need to discuss whether clarification of first three recommended actions related to funding for various programs (e.g., varying levels of specificity) is needed.

**GENERAL FEEDBACK**

Overall, how well does the draft Vision Report reflect your vision for Johnson County?

- Very well (9%)
- **Well (43.5%)**
- Neutral (34.9%)
- Somewhat (9.4%)
- Not very well (3.2%)

**WHAT IS YOUR OCCUPATION?**

72.6% Government  
16.3% Other  
4.2% Private Business  
3.1% Retired  
2.1% Non-profit  
1.0% Education  
0.3% Student  
0.3% Elected Official

**WHERE DO YOU LIVE?**

27.3% Overland Park

25.7% Olathe

8.8% Unincorporated Johnson County

8.0% Lenexa

7.2% Shawnee

6.4% Gardner

4% Leawood

3.2% Prairie Village

All others locations were under 3%

**1. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority? (1 = Highest priority, 3 = Lowest priority)**

	1	2	3	Rating Average	Response Count
Continue to play a supportive role in area economic development efforts	<b>61.6% (188)</b>	22.3% (68)	16.1% (49)	1.54	305
Explore the creation of an organization focused on promoting workforce development	27.4% (80)	<b>51.7% (151)</b>	20.9% (61)	1.93	292
Encourage workforce diversity	13.8% (43)	28.9% (90)	<b>57.2% (178)</b>	2.43	311

Is there something you think is missing in this area? (If yes, please explain.) 31

<b>answered question</b>	<b>326</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>8</b>

**2. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority? (1 = Highest priority, 3 = Lowest priority)**

	1	2	3	Rating Average	Response Count
Conduct periodic education summits	13.3% (38)	15.1% (43)	<b>71.6% (204)</b>	2.58	285
Collaborate on opportunities to support and enhance educational funding	40.5% (119)	<b>46.6% (137)</b>	12.9% (38)	1.72	294
Coordinate legislative initiatives related to maintaining state funding	<b>47.7% (143)</b>	38.3% (115)	14.0% (42)	1.66	300
Is there something you think is missing in this area? (If yes, please explain.)					41
<b>answered question</b>					<b>314</b>
<b>skipped question</b>					<b>20</b>

**3. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority? (1 = Highest priority, 7 = Lowest priority)**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Rating Average	Response Count
Support high quality public safety and emergency services	<b>47.7%</b> <b>(136)</b>	15.1% (43)	13.0% (37)	7.4% (21)	5.3% (15)	5.6% (16)	6.0% (17)	2.48	285
Enhance efforts related to prevention and early intervention	14.7% (42)	17.8% (51)	<b>18.9%</b> <b>(54)</b>	14.3% (41)	15.7% (45)	8.7% (25)	9.8% (28)	3.64	286
Maintain an active role in social, health, and human service programs	14.2% (41)	17.3% (50)	<b>20.4%</b> <b>(59)</b>	14.9% (43)	10.4% (30)	13.1% (38)	9.7% (28)	3.68	289
Implement best practices in advancing technology and evidence-based programs	3.6% (10)	10.0% (28)	12.8% (36)	17.8% (50)	<b>24.9%</b> <b>(70)</b>	18.5% (52)	12.5% (35)	4.56	281
Promote high levels of coordination among public safety agencies and other service providers	8.7% (25)	<b>24.1%</b> <b>(69)</b>	17.1% (49)	18.5% (53)	13.6% (39)	12.2% (35)	5.6% (16)	3.63	286
Allocate resources based on evidence-based outcomes	6.6% (19)	10.1% (29)	12.8% (37)	13.2% (38)	14.9% (43)	<b>23.6%</b> <b>(68)</b>	18.8% (54)	4.66	288
Aggressively pursue grant opportunities	9.1% (27)	6.7% (20)	6.4% (19)	14.1% (42)	13.8% (41)	16.2% (48)	<b>33.7%</b> <b>(100)</b>	5.00	297
Is there something you think is missing in this area? (If yes, please explain.)									26
								<b>answered question</b>	<b>305</b>
								<b>skipped question</b>	<b>29</b>

**4. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority? (1 = Highest priority, 6 = Lowest priority)**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Rating Average	Response Count
Adapt land use and transportation policies to meet the needs of a changing population	<b>45.9%</b> <b>(130)</b>	22.3% (63)	12.7% (36)	8.1% (23)	5.7% (16)	5.3% (15)	2.21	283
Promote coordinated growth in unincorporated areas	8.2% (23)	15.3% (43)	18.1% (51)	18.9% (53)	18.9% (53)	<b>20.6%</b> <b>(58)</b>	3.87	281
Evaluate current sewer financing structures	6.7% (19)	11.7% (33)	20.5% (58)	<b>24.4%</b> <b>(69)</b>	23.3% (66)	13.4% (38)	3.86	283
Invest in multi-modal transportation	17.3% (51)	<b>22.8%</b> <b>(67)</b>	17.3% (51)	11.9% (35)	9.5% (28)	21.1% (62)	3.37	294
Explore the creation of a range of conservation tools	5.6% (16)	14.0% (40)	17.9% (51)	19.3% (55)	<b>28.1%</b> <b>(80)</b>	15.1% (43)	3.95	285
Lead by example with regards to sustainability initiatives	20.0% (58)	14.1% (41)	14.8% (43)	16.9% (49)	12.8% (37)	<b>21.4%</b> <b>(62)</b>	3.52	290

Is there something you think is missing in this area? (If yes, please explain.)

30

**answered question**

**302**

**skipped question**

**32**

**5. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority? (1 = Highest priority, 7 = Lowest priority)**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Rating Average	Response Count
Convene a process to review current levels of government	14.7% (41)	12.6% (35)	8.6% (24)	13.3% (37)	13.3% (37)	17.6% (49)	<b>19.8%</b> <b>(55)</b>	4.30	278
Evaluate and implement the most efficient means of providing programs and services based on evidence-based practices	<b>25.5%</b> <b>(72)</b>	18.4% (52)	18.4% (52)	13.1% (37)	9.9% (28)	11.0% (31)	3.5% (10)	3.11	282
Develop and support leadership that reflects the diversity of the county	7.5% (21)	15.4% (43)	13.6% (38)	12.9% (36)	14.0% (39)	12.9% (36)	<b>23.7%</b> <b>(66)</b>	4.44	279
Strengthen the voice of Johnson County government and the community within the region	12.9% (36)	12.6% (35)	<b>16.9%</b> <b>(47)</b>	14.4% (40)	14.0% (39)	15.8% (44)	13.3% (37)	4.05	278
Encourage civic engagement	10.0% (28)	16.8% (47)	17.9% (50)	<b>18.3%</b> <b>(51)</b>	17.2% (48)	12.9% (36)	6.8% (19)	3.82	279
Establish a review schedule to track the implementation of the vision plan	5.0% (14)	9.0% (25)	9.7% (27)	17.2% (48)	19.7% (55)	19.4% (54)	<b>20.1%</b> <b>(56)</b>	4.76	279
Promote an open and transparent process	<b>26.6%</b> <b>(74)</b>	17.6% (49)	15.8% (44)	10.8% (30)	10.1% (28)	9.0% (25)	10.1% (28)	3.27	278

Is there something you think is missing in this area? (If yes, please explain.)

19

**answered question**

**294**

**skipped question**

**40**

**6. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority? (1 = Highest priority, 5 = Lowest priority)**

	1	2	3	4	5	Rating Average	Response Count
Identify new funding options to support increased access to parks and recreation	<b>22.8%</b> <b>(63)</b>	22.1% (61)	22.1% (61)	16.7% (46)	16.3% (45)	2.82	276
Encourage the identification of broad-based sustainable funding mechanisms for the arts	13.1% (36)	10.9% (30)	17.9% (49)	26.6% (73)	<b>31.4%</b> <b>(86)</b>	3.52	274
Develop a flexible and innovative model for the delivery of library services	16.0% (44)	16.4% (45)	<b>26.2%</b> <b>(72)</b>	20.7% (57)	20.7% (57)	3.14	275
Identify new ways to engage all sectors of the community	19.3% (54)	<b>26.4%</b> <b>(74)</b>	17.9% (50)	18.6% (52)	17.9% (50)	2.89	280
Support programs and services that are inclusive and accessible	<b>31.1%</b> <b>(87)</b>	24.6% (69)	16.1% (45)	16.4% (46)	11.8% (33)	2.53	280






Is there something you think is missing in this area? (If yes, please explain.)

28

**answered question 291**

**skipped question 43**









**7. Overall, how well does the draft Vision Report reflect your vision for the future of Johnson County?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
5 - Very well		8.9%	25
<b>4 - Well</b>		<b>43.9%</b>	<b>123</b>
3 - Neutral		34.6%	97
2 - Somewhat		9.3%	26
1 - Not very well		3.2%	9
<b>answered question</b>			<b>280</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>54</b>

















**8. Do you have any general comments about the draft Vision Report that you would like to share with the committee?**

	Response Count
	64
<b>answered question</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>270</b>

## 9. What is your occupation?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Private Business		4.1%	12
<b>Government</b>		<b>72.8%</b>	<b>211</b>
Non-profit		2.1%	6
Education		1.0%	3
Student		0.3%	1
Retired		3.1%	9
Elected Official		0.3%	1
Other		16.2%	47
<b>answered question</b>			<b>290</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>44</b>

## 10. Where do you live?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Unincorporated Johnson County		8.8%	22
Bonner Springs		0.0%	0
De Soto		1.6%	4
Edgerton		0.4%	1
Fairway		0.4%	1
Gardner		6.4%	16
Lake Quivira		0.0%	0
Leawood		4.0%	10
Lenexa		8.4%	21
Merriam		1.6%	4
Mission		1.2%	3
Mission Hills		0.4%	1
Mission Woods		0.0%	0
Olathe		25.5%	64
<b>Overland Park</b>		<b>27.5%</b>	<b>69</b>
Prairie Village		3.2%	8
Roeland Park		0.8%	2
Shawnee		7.2%	18
Spring Hill		2.8%	7
Westwood		0.0%	0
Westwood Hills		0.0%	0
		Other (please specify)	37

answered question 251

skipped question 83

**Page 2, Q1. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 3 = Lowest priority)**

1	jobs that pay enough to allow workers to live in JoCo (retail jobs do not pay this amount)	Sep 16, 2011 2:25 PM
2	Cooperate with schools to inform teachers and students	Sep 16, 2011 1:02 PM
3	Consolidate police, boards, fire department and other functions for small cities like Mission, Shawnee etc. to gain economies of scale and reduce redundancies. If a library is becoming a community center is there duplication with community centers - like OPs community center on Hardy in Downtown OP	Sep 16, 2011 11:56 AM
4	Supportive role in tourism attractions development and existing attractions in Johnson County.	Sep 10, 2011 9:30 AM
5	Play a leadership role rather than a supportive role.	Sep 9, 2011 1:34 PM
6	The workforce organization should be a maintaining good schools. Diversity is a joke, provide opportunities to those who work for them.	Sep 5, 2011 1:22 PM
7	the organization to promote workforce should be volunteers, no paid positions!	Sep 2, 2011 5:07 PM
8	I think that that workforce training is key and future employers should be hiring people with the intent to train. Unemployment seems to be very high particularly in the unskilled workforce and I think that training is a key component.	Aug 31, 2011 9:59 AM
9	Increased intercity transit for employee positions in the county.	Aug 31, 2011 8:23 AM
10	There are already several organizations in the area (ie-chambers of commerce) devoted to attracting businesses to the area. No need to reinvent the wheel. Continued support of these organizations is needed, but we do not need another bureaucratic organization to muddy the waters.	Aug 31, 2011 8:17 AM
11	Encourage workforce EQUALITY. Sex, Sex orientation, Religion, Skin color, or ethnicity should play no role in performance of a job, or who should or should not be hired. Encourage workforce diversity derives racial and sexual inequality.	Aug 30, 2011 3:48 PM
12	Rather than "Continue to play a supportive role in area economic development efforts", I would suggest that Johnson County needs to be playing a leading role in this area. High-tech, high-growth companies, with their highly educated workforce, will provide the means to support most of the other initiatives in the 2030 workplan. Johnson County needs to be on the forefront to attract these companies to the area.	Aug 30, 2011 3:40 PM
13	You should not force diversity in the workforce, that will come naturally if the market so determines.	Aug 30, 2011 2:57 PM
14	1.The whole idea of a "JoCo 2030 Living Our Vision" report is a good one; hadn't heard of it before. However, having just started to answer this questionnaire, it is going to be difficult to answer. As helpful as it is to have an introductory summary such as in the first category called Economic Vitality, the three guiding	Aug 30, 2011 2:56 PM

**Page 2, Q1. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 3 = Lowest priority)**

principles sound a result of a design-by-committee, conventional analysis and even more out-dated, boomer-age rhetoric. For example, diversity. Doesn't this usually mean race, gender, and disabilities? Take a look around, please, right here in JoCo. You'll already see a variety of mixed families which equate to a possible future workforce nonchalant to diversity. But what about the class division that has widened ; how is each and every household going to survive with pensions cut, retirement plans looking like a mere stock market gamble, and so on? Plus, and maybe more importantly, so many folks are in credit card debt, will they ever learn how to manage their money to begin with? I suggest, be imaginative, very imaginative (with practical results in mind). If you create an organization focused on promoting workforce development, create an organization that develops more optional sub-communal/collective communities who have their finances managed, household maintenance provided; an example of innovative thinking that will attract big businesses to the area. Note: As I respond to this survey, my answers may sound too "open-minded". If this questionnaire had come across as more "imaginative", my answers have taken on a conservative tone. Whatever is decided, please ultimately consider a balanced approach as the end result. Sound good?

15	Please not another 'organization'...	Aug 30, 2011 2:54 PM
16	It is my beleif that government should stay out of the business sector. Business can take care of themselves. Some will fail and new ones will take there place. Those that fail should because they either do not keep up with what the populations needs are or they are poorly managed.	Aug 30, 2011 2:00 PM
17	The county and economic development community should focus on attracting businesses that have a demonstrated commitment to sustainability.	Aug 30, 2011 1:49 PM
18	Enable Law Enforcement to aggressively remove illegal aliens from the workforce of Johnson County businesses and enable the County to aggressively punish employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens.	Aug 30, 2011 1:45 PM
19	Develop a training/internship program with local businesses for people who are currently under or unemployed to provide new job skills training. This could be coordinated through JCCC. Perhaps a volunteer group could be created that would utilize retirees as trainers which would help keep costs of the program down.	Aug 30, 2011 1:38 PM
20	I think that having seven white males running the county is a detriment to economic development, especially when two of them are tea-party people.	Aug 30, 2011 12:49 PM
21	Build a new courthouse	Aug 30, 2011 12:42 PM
22	Continue education offerings that mirror new trends and opportunities such as the Bioscience Initiative. Make a concerted effort to get lower middle class and middle class people into education opportunities that will lead to livable incomes.	Aug 30, 2011 12:28 PM
23	Partnership with KU in some way as a key partner in this - this is a great resource for research and expertise.	Aug 30, 2011 12:24 PM
24	Please explain "Workforce diversity".	Aug 30, 2011 12:10 PM
25	Develop appropriate wages for employees working in Johnson County, but not earning enough to purchase a home in the county in which they wish to work and	Aug 30, 2011 12:09 PM

**Page 2, Q1. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 3 = Lowest priority)**

	support via tax dollars, etc. Many of the people working in JC don't make enough to live here or if they do can barely afford the high cost of housing.	
26	Jobs come in all sizes - those that pay a livable wage and above; entry level and service jobs that may not pay a livable wage in JOCO. Lower paying jobs will frequently be filled by persons not living in JOCO requiring better access. Livable wage jobs will require a highly educated work force which means the K-university involvement to create qualified workers needs to be included.	Aug 30, 2011 9:49 AM
27	Reduce the number of illegal aliens taking our jobs & housing!!!!	Aug 24, 2011 3:45 AM
28	No	Aug 19, 2011 9:06 AM
29	Yes...the importance of continuing to support our great public schools. They are the reason people move here...good schools are a key economic development engine.	Aug 18, 2011 10:03 AM
30	Take care with your definition of "diversity." A good job base and affordable housing will do much more to foster diversity than will making diversity one of your goals. Johnson County needs to focus less on being exclusive and wealthy and more on providing a place where people can afford to start out here and stay here.	Aug 18, 2011 7:29 AM
31	no	Aug 8, 2011 12:09 PM

**Page 3, Q2. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 3 = Lowest priority)**

1	Involve parent and the community whenever possible. Use schools to encourage adult education and reeducation and job training for adults.	Sep 16, 2011 2:26 PM
2	add "within county school districts" to conduct periodic education summits.	Sep 16, 2011 2:18 PM
3	I worry that budget issues/cuts demoralize education, the very public servants who can be the biggest help in achieving the vision.	Sep 16, 2011 1:03 PM
4	Education drives JC - look at neighbors Kansas City KS schools and Kansas City MO schools - both districts provide poor education, cooperation, problems with funding. Education brings good quality people, housing, etc. All follows.	Sep 16, 2011 11:59 AM
5	the importance of education - we cut budget/funds from the future of our community	Sep 15, 2011 5:22 PM
6	Business partnerships are becoming more of a focus in our schools and we look to those partners to help keep our schools some of the nations best even in the face of inadequate funding given to us by our state legislature.	Sep 15, 2011 11:35 AM
7	It is important for Johnson County to continue to view quality education and work force development not as separate issues, but as issues that are dependent on each other.	Sep 14, 2011 12:47 PM

**Page 3, Q2. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 3 = Lowest priority)**

8	Johnson County must work on behalf of our school district to fix the current school finance formula. It is essential not only because we need to provide our children a quality education, but also to maintain property values, encourage businesses to invest here, as well attract new residents.	Sep 13, 2011 7:20 PM
9	Need to review and revise the policy where we spend too much money making sure "illegals" get proper education. Everyone deserves an education, but not at the Kansas tax payers expense	Sep 6, 2011 6:41 AM
10	Support and promote the role of the Johnson County Library as making a significant contribution to county educational efforts with programs such as 6x6 - an acclaimed early literacy program aimed at pre schoolers and focusing on reading readiness as well as the library's homework help programs available both in the library branches and on-line through the library's website in addition to the vast research and educational resources available through the physical library locations and through the various databases to which the library subscribes. The JoCo library complements the efforts of the various school systems and is a vital source of materials and information for the considerable home school population - it is a vital part of the county's educational structure and should be recognized as a unifying entity for promoting education across individual school systems and across the ages.	Sep 5, 2011 4:11 PM
11	work to reduce waste, we don't have any more \$ to spend on education, we are already spending over 50% of state funds on education, we need to be more efficient, increase classroom spending and reduce administration costs	Sep 2, 2011 5:11 PM
12	Look at innovative educational ideas, don't just stay with the status quo of ideas. Find out what is working around the world and make it a priority here in JOCO.	Aug 31, 2011 2:33 PM
13	I would like to see more grassroots initiatives to get community businesses involved in funding school projects (and Title 1 schools that are struggling to pay for field trips, etc).	Aug 31, 2011 11:57 AM
14	Increased funding and leadership for vocational education in partnership with the crafts. Not everyone needs a college education.	Aug 31, 2011 8:27 AM
15	Action is needed, not just "talk" at summits.	Aug 31, 2011 8:18 AM
16	Not sure how this is a county issue	Aug 31, 2011 6:38 AM
17	What are involved in the education summits. Please define better. Very, very vague	Aug 30, 2011 7:12 PM
18	Yes, badly missing -- actually increasing educational funding, not merely "collaborate on opportunities. . ." Let's actually do something here.	Aug 30, 2011 4:23 PM
19	Yes, There should be property tax credits for those who homeschool their children, or all extra curricular activities should be able to be used by ALL children living in a school zone. So those children who are homeschooled and are on-line academy taught are not treated like second class citizens by the community they live in.	Aug 30, 2011 3:51 PM
20	Education is a local task and the more we keep government out of it, the better.	Aug 30, 2011 2:57 PM
21	2.Yes, it is said we have a good education system in Johnson County but	Aug 30, 2011 2:56 PM

**Page 3, Q2. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 3 = Lowest priority)**

compared to who or what; sounds like an assumption to me. You ask two questions related to funding so it that already the most important issue, money? True, good teaching is not easy and it doesn't come on cheap. My humble recommendation? First, re-imagine education from the ground up and recognize the challenges that the next two decades underlie all areas of this questionnaire; you might not need additional funding if you/we think smarter first. ... Haven't read this recently published book but heard of it and would like to, Learning Futures: Education, Technology and Social Change. Here is what it lists to be concerned with for the next 20 years: -The emergence of new relationships between humans and technology -The opportunities and challenges of aging populations -The development of new forms of knowledge and democracy -The challenges of climate warming and environmental disruption -The potential for radical economic and social inequalities

22	continue to offer quality degrees using quality teachers and curriculum	Aug 30, 2011 2:37 PM
23	Ensure no education funding is provided, at any level, for illegal immigrants or their dependents.	Aug 30, 2011 1:47 PM
24	Develop not only an educational plan, but a job skills plan as well. Not every student is college material, but many would be wonderful mechanics, plumbers, electricians, carpenters and builders and these are all service businesses that will always be hiring.	Aug 30, 2011 1:41 PM
25	It does not seem to me that education is within the scope County activity. While it generally a 'good thing,' concentrating rather than diffusing the County's efforts would seem to be more productive.	Aug 30, 2011 1:23 PM
26	Schools need better teachers and less bureaucracy. Do away with tenure -it's archaic and nonsensical in today's society. Pay based upon performance not time-in-grade. Require teachers to pass proficiency exams. Encourage professionals to teach. Every single one of the recommended actions cited here deals with funding. That doesn't help students learn. Summits to what end? Less talking more doing.	Aug 30, 2011 12:59 PM
27	I believe government should not meddle in education other than provide appropriate levels of funding. A retired principal told me once that the school districts have so much money they don't know how to spend it all, yet always plead poverty	Aug 30, 2011 12:51 PM
28	The County is in a better position than the State to focus our educational needs. More development needs to be spent outside of Blue Valley as well.	Aug 30, 2011 12:46 PM
29	A new courthouse has been needed for years, It has been studied 3 times and recommended 3 times. It is time to act.	Aug 30, 2011 12:46 PM
30	Education is important and Johnson County is blessed with a great educational system. Money to continue that should not be taken away from other needs such as 'infrastructure' to give to education.	Aug 30, 2011 12:45 PM
31	We need more funding for Special Ed classes that specialize in social skills for those with Autism and Aspergers. The amount of diagnosed persons is rising and there is currently no real place where citizens on the spectrum can learn the skills needed to be successful in obtaining and retaining employment.	Aug 30, 2011 12:44 PM

**Page 3, Q2. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 3 = Lowest priority)**

32	Education isn't only about funding mechanisms. Hire the best teachers and let them create new models for educating children and young people. Ensure that young people are inspired to pursue interests that lead to education OR training that will result in livable incomes.	Aug 30, 2011 12:32 PM
33	Early childhood education is teh building block - we must insure that our future generation is not already handicapped before they embarq on their school journey	Aug 30, 2011 12:25 PM
34	The education in Johnson County is made up of a number of districts - unless the county is going to take over all districts, this whole vision needs to be lower in priority than many other.	Aug 30, 2011 12:22 PM
35	Our children are our future. It's up to us to educate them. I do believe that respect starts with teaching, which we have lost since not allowing discipline in the classroom.	Aug 30, 2011 12:08 PM
36	Engaging universities and community college efforts to create a high quality workforce through developing needed knowledge, skills and abilities of the job force to pay livable wages.	Aug 30, 2011 9:53 AM
37	Enhancing educational opportunities for all residents can be promoted through venues such as the library. However, the budgeting needs to allow for it. This support can only come through the residents of the County.	Aug 19, 2011 9:38 AM
38	Providing benchmark data to key decision makers and to the general public...we have great public schools here that need to be supported. We are not like most of the rest of the country that struggles getting public education right.	Aug 18, 2011 10:03 AM
39	Instead of continuing to raise taxes and fees, take a CLOSE look at how districts are spending their education funding. The Blue Valley district is a distressing example of wasteful spending while complaining that they don't get enough funding. If this trend continues, Johnson County may tax itself out of existence. The visioning committee needs to include responsible use of other people's money as one of its main themes.	Aug 18, 2011 7:32 AM
40	Explore/enhance initiatives which eliminate barriers to learning at the student level (i.e. bullying,domestic/dating violence, poverty, etc.).	Aug 18, 2011 7:29 AM
41	Have all of the school districts look to achieve better efficiencies through consolidation of resources within the County and between the school districts.	Aug 8, 2011 12:15 PM

**Page 4, Q3. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 7 = Lowest priority)**

1	Evidence based decisions on funding sex ed. and contraception - BOC needs to choose evidence based solution not be lead by a vocal minority using fear.	Sep 19, 2011 10:14 AM
2	Strengthen housing - affordable to help with inclusiveness and diversity	Sep 16, 2011 2:36 PM
3	How do we inform the poor and newly poor about services?	Sep 16, 2011 1:03 PM

**Page 4, Q3. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 7 = Lowest priority)**

4	Heavens no 7 is more than enough	Sep 16, 2011 12:58 PM
5	Too much police enforcement focused on minor infraction to generate income and justify existence and overlapping in county and JC cities.	Sep 16, 2011 12:01 PM
6	Not sure these are exclusive of each other. The various areas actually could and possibly should be coordinated.	Sep 14, 2011 1:02 PM
7	Consolidate safety, ambulance, fire & police.	Sep 10, 2011 5:15 PM
8	Public Safety ie: law enforcement, probation, mental health all need to be maintained at the fullest level possible to help decrease crimes committed in JOCO	Sep 1, 2011 12:46 PM
9	any of these missing affects the others	Aug 31, 2011 4:25 PM
10	I'm not sure I understand the scope of item 2.	Aug 31, 2011 12:24 PM
11	Consolidation of public safety among the various cities into one unit should not be an immediate goal of the above proposals.	Aug 31, 2011 8:34 AM
12	Avoid duplication of services amongst cities and county; decrease unnecessary and wasteful spending in law enforcement and corrections -- especially in areas other than patrol officers on the streets	Aug 30, 2011 4:27 PM
13	There needs to be more Equality between all workers in the Johnson County Government. If county agencies are given shift differential, the public safety and emergency personnel should also receive shift differential. Equality is lacking in the Johnson County Government, and may cost more in legal fees in the future than implimentation.	Aug 30, 2011 3:57 PM
14	3.Supporting high quality public safety and emergency services is number one. A sense of safety and security must exist to provide for all the other "principles" listed in this category, "A safe, healthy, and caring community". The psychologist, Maslov, is well know for his hierarchy of needs with the two being listed first: I.Physiological Needs: These include the most basic needs that are vital to survival, such as the need for water, air, food and sleep. Maslow believed that these needs are the most basic and instinctive needs in the hierarchy because all needs become secondary until these physiological needs are met. II.Security Needs: These include needs for safety and security. Security needs are important for survival, but they are not as demanding as the physiological needs. Examples of security needs include a desire for steady employment, health insurance, safe neighborhoods and shelter from the environment. As a local government, focus on the first two to begin. All of the other actions in this category could go, perhaps, under a new umbrella of "Behavior-Based Approach for a sustainable community" which would support the first two but from the angle of his remaining three levels: social needs (for belonging), esteem needs, and self-actualizing needs. You mention fund raising again but what about a new government system of building a public trust instead of spending all the tax collected money every year?	Aug 30, 2011 3:07 PM
15	Not only is is important to aggressively pursue grant oportunitites, it is important to evaluate programs to determine if funding should be continued should the grant go away. A lot of grants are provided as "seed" money to create new programs. What is missing is the County's response to poverty and	Aug 30, 2011 2:08 PM

**Page 4, Q3. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 7 = Lowest priority)**

	homelessness. Poverty is a complex issue that extends beyond food pantries; prevention/early intervention should help to address that.	
16	Focus on human services is a top priority. Johnson County government has a habit of spending as little as possible on human services but claiming all credit for programs.	Aug 30, 2011 12:53 PM
17	These are lofty goals considering who the Sheriff currently is and his ideals. Unless you have Judges, Sheriff, and Corrections and Community Corrections leaders all following the same guidelines and wanting the same outcomes (not following how to get re-elected) , this will be something to strive for but not achieved.	Aug 30, 2011 12:49 PM
18	Cities in this county should be able to fill some of these responsibilities taking the burden off of Johnson County. The county should not have to solve all the problems nor should we duplicate many of the services that are provided or could be provided by city's.	Aug 30, 2011 12:49 PM
19	Seriously consider changing attitude about marijuana use to be commensurate with alcohol use. There's not much difference except for legislation and ordinances prohibiting marijuana. Then, the justice system can concentrate on more critical issues.	Aug 30, 2011 12:35 PM
20	Where is infrastructure upkeep? This has a bearing on a safe community.	Aug 30, 2011 12:24 PM
21	I believe Med Act should be out sourced	Aug 30, 2011 12:12 PM
22	The recent	Aug 30, 2011 12:12 PM
23	too much spent on jail renovation	Aug 30, 2011 12:09 PM
24	Working with state, federal and surrounding agencies to deal with repeat offenders, violent offenders and prevent safety issues.	Aug 30, 2011 9:58 AM
25	No	Aug 19, 2011 9:40 AM
26	In the absence of prevention/early intervention efforts, increases/enhancements to public safety & emergency services become a self-perpetuating need.	Aug 18, 2011 7:35 AM

**Page 5, Q4. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 6 = Lowest priority)**

1	Stress bike paths and easily usable intercity transit	Sep 19, 2011 10:15 AM
2	2. must include mention of affordable housing	Sep 16, 2011 2:29 PM
3	Control growth to make it more costly to go out a develop leaving empty areas. Green space, save it.	Sep 16, 2011 2:28 PM
4	I am concerned about the age of gas lines and their replacement	Sep 16, 2011 2:07 PM

**Page 5, Q4. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 6 = Lowest priority)**

5	We cant depend on private sector churches to work on this. Government must facilitate and pay for. Affordable Housing is a must!	Sep 16, 2011 1:04 PM
6	we need light rail ASAP	Sep 16, 2011 12:18 PM
7	- "Green" sustainable living/growth - public transportation system that works! and is user friendly.	Sep 15, 2011 5:23 PM
8	Put more time and money into mass transportation. Add bike lanes on roads or reduce road space for cars and give to bikers. In Europe some countries make it very inconvenient for the car and very convenient for the bicycle. Like plenty of parking for the cyclist very little for cars. Traffic signals favor the cyclist while cars have to wait and wait.... It becomes frustrating for the motorist which changes people's choices.	Aug 31, 2011 2:41 PM
9	There is too much waste in development. There are too many empty buildings not being used, instead of refocusing growth to already build structures. Ex: Merriam's empty new buildings. What a waste!!!	Aug 30, 2011 7:16 PM
10	Promote coordinated land use and transportation decisions by adjoining and near by cities.	Aug 30, 2011 4:21 PM
11	Yes, the Jo transportation should be scrapped, and with the yearly buget buy those who have no vehicle a vehicle. This would be cheaper on the taxpayers. Also like the aspect of "old rail" using the existing railroad tracks for commuters. The tracks cover the largest areas of the metro and reaches evey city.	Aug 30, 2011 4:02 PM
12	4. Ah, there it is; finally, the phrase that renders imagination and hope, "A Sustainable Pattern of Growth". Yep, yep, yep, thanks for including this category. Instead of waiting for even this report to be finalized, can anyone here at JoCo crack down on littering as the fundamentally first step we as a community can do that would show immediate results that we can even do more to be good stewards of this local space we call "home"? More "radically", how about plain, old fashion government ban on the type of products that come into the county that aren't recyclable? P.S. When exploring a range of conservation tools, wind turbines are detrimental to bats who are having a hard time. No bats, no human. The air pressure created around them causes their lungs to explode?	Aug 30, 2011 3:11 PM
13	We currently spend to much money on the JO, a better solution would be to partner with KC Metro and come up with a mass transit (light rail) that takes people where they want to go and when they want to go.	Aug 30, 2011 2:59 PM
14	Since there are many commercial buildings in Johnson County that are currently vacant, provide assistance in utilizing these structures instead of continuously building new ones. Leave the green space alone and use what we have first. Nothing brings the appearance of an area down as much as multiple empty buildings with overgrown grass and weeds.	Aug 30, 2011 1:46 PM
15	Some of this is not very visiony. Evaluating current sewer financing is on operational goal not a strategic one. To invest in transportation we need to define where we want to go. We don't know that yet.	Aug 30, 2011 1:29 PM
16	give high priority to maintaining green areas to support psychosocial and environmental health of citizens	Aug 30, 2011 12:58 PM

**Page 5, Q4. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 6 = Lowest priority)**

17	It's hard to justify "higher taxes" when land continues to be bought, new houses being built, and new high schools being built and then cry poor to the community. How many schools need to be within 1 mile of each other just to justify school districts - hence fighting over boarders and monies into the specific areas? How long with OP and Olathe fight Spring Hill for boarders? Don't we all live within the same County and can share the same resources? The only change in population Johnson County is seeing is everyone trying to move South. I can not vote on this whole section as I see them all as "6". Sewer, Water, and resource allocation for the County should be re-evaluated each year.	Aug 30, 2011 12:57 PM
18	Promote the development of smaller homes that older people can live in, then create transportation systems that can better move people	Aug 30, 2011 12:55 PM
19	Population growth is driven by a number of factors such as cheap ground, sewers, roads and availability to schools, stores and entertainment. Cheap ground is usually in the county since there are no excise taxes, but many other needs are not there so pressure comes to the county to try to deal with it. County development should only occur if suitable ground does not exist in cities. Again, the county tries to be the answer to way too many needs of the citizens. Why are we in duplicate businesses such as parks, libraries, parks, sewers and so on while many cities provide these services as well if not better than the county.	Aug 30, 2011 12:55 PM
20	Light rail should be investigated and considered in a combined effort with each city and town in Johnson County. Every city would be united and could benefit by creating a city identity; reasons why residents come to spend time there. Festivals, shopping, cities historical value could all be better utilized by every citizen in the county. When and if KCMO builds a system and would like to connect to Johnson County we would have the leverage of a developed and economically viable system.	Aug 30, 2011 12:51 PM
21	We need better public transportation throughout the ENTIRE county. The current JO boundaries are absurd. We could also team with companies such as 10/10 cab and work out a deal to assist persons with developmental disabilities in getting rides back and forth to work. The city of Olathe has done this and I would like the county to assist other cities in a similar program that Olathe has.	Aug 30, 2011 12:49 PM
22	Build a new courthouse	Aug 30, 2011 12:47 PM
23	I like this thinking! In such a spread-out, horizontally developed county, we'll have to get serious about mass transportation. With the Boomers aging, this will become more critical as their driving becomes limited. In addition, young people starting out can't afford privately owned vehicles anymore - and even if they can make payments, it's not good financial sense.	Aug 30, 2011 12:37 PM
24	Dont' focus on growth in unincorporated areas. Put more emphasis on current areas where there the population resides. More affordability in housing.	Aug 30, 2011 12:27 PM
25	Urban design, land use, transportation need to work in harmony to connect people with jobs, services, goods and other wants/needs. Building based on primarily personal transportation creates consumption of resources for roads (construction and maintenance) and spreads out jobs/goods/services making accessibility more difficult.	Aug 30, 2011 10:02 AM
26	Jo Co is quickly becoming the poor and the wealthy, fewer middle income	Aug 24, 2011 3:51 AM

**Page 5, Q4. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 6 = Lowest priority)**

	residents.	
27	No	Aug 19, 2011 9:43 AM
28	Strongly support the development and services of the county park system.	Aug 18, 2011 7:17 AM
29	Reduce landfill use through county recycling, composting and mulching programs. Assist the general population in yardwaste reduction and repurposing vice simply doing nothing.	Aug 16, 2011 12:05 PM
30	Do not support bus transportation down Metcalf. Need door to door transport, like the 10/10 taxi. This service could be partially funded by the county. Elderly population cannot walk to bus, and that type of service truly would not meet the needs. Transport to Dr. office, hospital out pt. treatments, and drugstores for Rx are all necessary for elderly. The door to door service is best. If the taxi service can make a profit doing this, it should be a viable alternative. The current Sr. bus option that is available is too slow, must be scheduled in advance, and has too long of a wait time on both ends. If a medical problem happens during the day and the resident can get a Dr. apt, they need to get in that day.	Aug 15, 2011 12:39 AM

**Page 6, Q5. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 7 = Lowest priority)**

1	See KC state article on combining cities and dollars savings about 2-3 years old.	Sep 16, 2011 12:02 PM
2	Get the community involved. More civic engagement. Knowledge and communication on what is going on locally.	Sep 15, 2011 5:23 PM
3	Yes, the third "e" is missing, and ethical government. I would not want to take that for granted.	Sep 15, 2011 5:21 PM
4	Consolidate all of the Johnson County City Governments.	Sep 10, 2011 5:16 PM
5	need more voice in state decisions	Aug 31, 2011 4:25 PM
6	We do not need more layers of government and red tape. Need programs that work.	Aug 31, 2011 8:21 AM
7	I believe this is what we were supposed to be doing all along	Aug 31, 2011 6:42 AM
8	Tax missouri for Johnson County Community projects to benefit the metro area. It worked for Missouri.	Aug 30, 2011 4:16 PM
9	5. Efficient and effective government: The 360 degree personal feedback tool that more and more departments are implementing plus the normalization process Human Resources is proceeding with is hopeful. The normalization or equalization of roles needs to continue and expand, however (in my humble opinion) to include reviewing and equalizing the bias of management, for example, the manager who consistently doesn't give a good review for an employee (or employees) because he doesn't understand or can relate to that person's job but rates another employee, more like himself, higher. P.S.	Aug 30, 2011 3:18 PM

**Page 6, Q5. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 7 = Lowest priority)**

	Developing and support leadership that reflects the diversity of the county ranked lowed because I don't immediately know your definition of diversity; all people, animals, and fauna should be treated equally (again, my humble opinion).	
10	The first and last are some kind of jargonish gobbledygook. How exactly do we 'convene a process?' The second last is self-involved.	Aug 30, 2011 1:34 PM
11	Lying by omission is still lying. Put the pertinent information out to be reviewed, not just the information that justifies your position or makes the County look good.	Aug 30, 2011 1:01 PM
12	I am concerned that only tea party men can be placed on the ballot for county office. The problem is the nominating process within the parties. I would encourage a governing system where anyone can run for office with no party promotion. I realize BOCC is non-partisan, but REALLY?	Aug 30, 2011 12:59 PM
13	Convening a process to review current levels of government I hope means looking at so many layers of government? In Johnson County we have 20 cities with their political make up along with the counties board of county commissioners. Too many politician's and conflicts for making a smooth running county/city process.	Aug 30, 2011 12:59 PM
14	County Government already does a good job and has responded well to the recession. More crunch is coming - so we need to maintain, while simultaneously preparing for a new, leaner model for the future.	Aug 30, 2011 12:40 PM
15	No need for the multiplicity of local governments within the county, Investigate merger of cities and utilities that offer similar services such as Water One and Johnson County Wastewater. Current lack of effective cooperation between Water One and JCW on billing and bill collection activities increases costs to all citizens of Johnson County.	Aug 30, 2011 12:18 PM
16	The county needs to do a fairer job at evaluating everything. They take the ideas and opinions of their top few leadership levels and not those of the individuals actually doing the work. Many of these leaders are grossly out of touch.	Aug 30, 2011 12:15 PM
17	Leadership is out of touch with reality and the current workforce. You can't ask your employees to do any more than they already are. Then beat them up for doing their jobs.	Aug 19, 2011 10:31 AM
18	No	Aug 19, 2011 9:44 AM
19	Fix the typo above. Instead of just "promoting" an open and transparent process, why not guarantee it? Just promoting it implies that it doesn't exist and it's not all that important. If you're not willing to fully support it, why bother to mention it?	Aug 18, 2011 7:38 AM

**Page 7, Q6. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 5 = Lowest priority)**

1	Strengthen library statement - continue to strongly support funding of library	Sep 16, 2011 2:38 PM
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**Page 7, Q6. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 5 = Lowest priority)**

	services	
2	keep our great libraries	Sep 16, 2011 2:28 PM
3	Include other county cultural service in "identify new funding options to support increased access to parks and recreation"	Sep 16, 2011 2:06 PM
4	add - "and stable funding" to item for library services in 1st item, change "parks and rec" to "recreational programs"	Sep 16, 2011 2:04 PM
5	Thank you for understanding that this area lightly impacts theme 3 and 2! Affordable transportation to and from is a must!	Sep 16, 2011 1:05 PM
6	Let these cultural idea bring in their own people (?) This is not an area the county can afford in this economy - need to focus, like everyone else on priorities. Why don't bikers use paths? Why on 2 land roads in the counties farm to market roads - build them paths along streets - get them out of driving lands or on paths - maybe wide asphalt between the sidewalks, say 5'-6' paths. Focus on pockets of poverty neighborhoods - direct funds to these parts of the county by improving these neighborhoods. "Libraries" will not be libraries as we know today - will people still go to them for books - will books be online - will they only come as online books.	Sep 16, 2011 12:10 PM
7	Communication about the programs that currently exist - there are some great programs but not a lot of people know about them.	Sep 15, 2011 5:24 PM
8	I do not believe library services belong in the "culturally rich" category. The library is an essential service that supports, economic and business development, education, and overall quality of life. Maintaining our current library services as well as expanding them to cover our entire county should be a high priority of the visionary commission.	Sep 13, 2011 7:28 PM
9	More trails for biking, walking and running. More quality of life items for baby boomers.	Sep 10, 2011 5:17 PM
10	The library has done a tremendous amount on their own to help in times of budgetary crisis. I would not interfere with their cutting edge, award winning services.	Sep 8, 2011 2:18 PM
11	The Library is not merely a cultural amenity. It is part of the infrastructure and economic vitality of the community. The library system is a large part of what makes Johnson County a desirable place to live and work.	Sep 6, 2011 8:01 AM
12	Services provided by the County library are much boarder than "cultural" in nature. Although library do offer services supporting some culturallly based initiatieives, they also strongly support educational efforts with literacy based programs, research resources and homework help services as well as economic initiatives including entrepreneuerial endeavors and practical, hands on support for job seekers. As the county grows, some populations are being ill served based on current library locations and a number of locations need upgrading to make sure they are inviting and technologically up to date to continue to serve a diverse population.	Sep 5, 2011 5:04 PM
13	why isnt bull creek park open and accessible? I voted to buy that 20? years ago. overland park had the arbo open the month after it was purchased. change the	Aug 31, 2011 4:25 PM

**Page 7, Q6. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 5 = Lowest priority)**

	law so parks doesnt get all that money.	
14	JOco library and parks should not receive emphasis or more funding until they recognize the need to manage their business from a business perspective. I would support hiring business managers in both places	Aug 31, 2011 6:47 AM
15	If the Library was in a "cloud" access from the computer, there would be little material lost in check out, and could elevate a library or two.	Aug 30, 2011 4:29 PM
16	In this area I feel all are equally important. Not one more so than the other.	Aug 30, 2011 4:16 PM
17	6. A culturally rich and active community. How do you define the arts? In so called primitive cultures, there are no words for either art or religion. Upon further analysis that is because "art" and "religion" are so well integrated into a person's lifestyle they are not separated. Plus, aren't we caught in a cultural art loop, the same old music, etc., for decades now. As much as I like the "arts", I say all steam ahead on protecting the environment and maybe getting that message across in the way of "art" and thus getting out of our commercially defined loop.	Aug 30, 2011 3:22 PM
18	The Library and Parks need to learn to manage the assets they have before we give them more money.	Aug 30, 2011 1:36 PM
19	We have too much park land sitting around to protect it and people dont get to use it. We should have purchased less land and used money to make real parks. Again cities should be a part of this funding. Our libraries are top in the country so nothing is broke to fix. Arts is one of those nice things to have, but is not the highest priority for most of the citizens of this county in lieu of more important needs.	Aug 30, 2011 1:03 PM
20	Should the county fund and govern these programs? There are many cities who are shareholders in each of these, but the county seems to get stuck with the bill.	Aug 30, 2011 1:01 PM
21	Libraries are educational institutions, among other things - they don't really belong in this category. They are effective resources for job-seekers, for instance, and are part of the support mechanism for a well-educated community, beginning with early literacy. Education as in "education" - not culture or training. Defining public libraries isn't about OR - it's about AND: culture AND education AND consumer health AND early literature AND employment resource AND...	Aug 30, 2011 12:43 PM
22	The library is already flexible and innovative in delivering services. Not everyone in the community wants to be engaged.	Aug 30, 2011 12:31 PM
23	Follow through on the commitment to build new museum and library	Aug 30, 2011 12:28 PM
24	Focus on needs at this time, not wants. Parks, arts, libraries, etc. are all fantastic, but now when you have homeless, unemployment and the underemployed.	Aug 30, 2011 12:16 PM
25	You will never engage all sectors of the community. It is a wasted effort.	Aug 19, 2011 10:41 AM
26	No	Aug 19, 2011 9:47 AM
27	Support the proposed improvements to the Johnson County Museum, particularly its need for a new facility.	Aug 18, 2011 1:26 PM

**Page 7, Q6. How would you rank the recommended actions in this area in order of priority?  
(1 = Highest priority, 5 = Lowest priority)**

28	This section is extremely low on my priority list. We need accessible jobs in Johnson County. We need EQUAL educational opportunities for all our children with funding being equal among the school districts. We also need ways to decrease the number of crimes in Johnson County and funding for more social workers and access to them.	Aug 18, 2011 8:34 AM
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**Page 8, Q8. Do you have any general comments about the draft Vision Report that you would like to share with the committee?**

1	Not sure of the implications of some of the action. Would be helpful to have info in advance of presentations. Presentations should be more interactive.	Sep 19, 2011 10:16 AM
2	Transportation and housing stated more strongly encourage shift in privatization	Sep 16, 2011 2:38 PM
3	The emphasis on growth and prosperity positive and understandable. However, I am greatly concerned about the growing division between rich and poor increasingly evident in JoCo. I'd like to see obvious concern with this issues in the Vision Plan	Sep 16, 2011 2:35 PM
4	Excellent work by the Vision Comm. Priorities: 1) Education 2) A Culturally Rich and Active Community 3) Efficient and Effective Government 4) Safe, Health, and Caring Community 5) Economic Vitality 6) Sustainable Pattern of Growth	Sep 16, 2011 2:23 PM
5	it was difficult to find the full report on the website. Thank you for your time and efforts in divulging and articulating the plan.	Sep 16, 2011 2:10 PM
6	Prioritize 6 areas: 1. economic vitality 2. sustainable growth 3. culturally rich 4. safe, healthy, caring community 5. efficient and effective government 6. education	Sep 16, 2011 2:05 PM
7	transportation should be emphasized	Sep 16, 2011 2:02 PM
8	more emphasis on transportation	Sep 16, 2011 2:00 PM
9	Thanks for your time and efforts :)	Sep 16, 2011 1:57 PM
10	Top priority over the next 1-2 years: Identify new ways to engage the diversity in JoCo Something we've missed: the need to demonstrate that ethnic minorities are welcome re affordable housing and workforce inclusion.	Sep 16, 2011 1:55 PM
11	You've done a good job of addressing and presenting a very complicated vision in an understandable manner. Cities must cooperate! Don't let naysayers limit or reduce the vision. People must work toward consensus.	Sep 16, 2011 1:06 PM
12	Mike did a great job!	Sep 16, 2011 1:01 PM
13	We (JoCo) are getting the reputation of stealing business from lower economic areas. We need to watch our ethical business practice.	Sep 16, 2011 12:20 PM
14	Find ways to us public volunteers who are experts in their field to lead committees to do counties work in new areas. Don't allow North part of the	Sep 16, 2011 12:17 PM

**Page 8, Q8. Do you have any general comments about the draft Vision Report that you would like to share with the committee?**

county to continue to deteriorate - North OP is quickly falling apart. It is becoming an old city with only a poor population remaining and vacant space in Mission, Metcalf, Etc. Plans in place but nothing is happening - when will it begin to work? Why will activity return? really more time more focus on the old infrastructure, schools, etc. Need return of retail, growth, new buildings, etc. - population still there - OP is dying. A vision plan should be based on projected income levels, and population aging levels. not just make over where all budget, departs etc are just assumed to grow and increase, really?

- |    |   |                       |
|----|---|-----------------------|
| 15 | Loot at precedence of communities that are "green", pedestrian friendly and implement them - take the risk - obviously people want it - they talk about it all the time but not an exemplary neighborhood that does this.   | Sep 15, 2011 5:26 PM  |
| 16 | I commend you for having a plan for future needs in our county and input from the community you serve.  | Sep 15, 2011 11:41 AM |
| 17 | Thank you for the thoughtful study and analysis the Vision Report represents.   | Sep 14, 2011 3:22 PM  |
| 18 | Nothing really inspires me...sounds like status quo...doesn't sound actionable or collaborative enough with various stakeholders in the community.  | Sep 13, 2011 11:38 PM |
| 19 | We need a unified county government similar to Fairfax County, Virginia. "Consolidation"  | Sep 10, 2011 5:18 PM  |
| 20 | I moved to Johnson county because I like suburbs. Attempts to urbanize it go against everything the county has been about. Quit letting Overland Park base it's future earnings on taxing Stilwell.   | Sep 2, 2011 7:11 AM   |
| 21 | I would like to see an added emphasis on implementing a sustainable development strategy in the final report. Adopting an effect plan to manage future growth will only help to satisfy the rest of your goals, like economic vitality, education, safety, efficient government, and a culturally rich and diverse community. A sustainable development pattern over the next 20 years is critical to the future of Johnson County. We must take an aggressive role in promoting in-fill and redevelopment in under utilized areas where services already exists. New development MUST pay for itself. One must only look to our neighbors across the state line to see implications of allowing traditional development patterns to continue. Our cities are already struggling to maintain the infrastructure that exists today. If we continue to allow urban sprawl; water, sewer, police, and fire services in our urban core will suffer. | Sep 1, 2011 10:44 AM  |
| 22 | Proposed goals do not speak specifically to addressing the growth of poverty in Johnson County and our changing demographics. Perhaps we need a task force on poverty?  | Sep 1, 2011 9:16 AM   |
| 23 | Thank you for your time and service on this project!  | Aug 31, 2011 10:45 AM |
| 24 | Natural Resources Protection - no mention of one the greatest threats to our natural resources in explosion of exotic and invasive species both animal and plant. Status quo - will result in a transformation of native vegetation to exotic species. Serious threat to native species!  | Aug 31, 2011 10:05 AM |
| 25 | Your time waw spent well...social expenditures for the next 10 years will be heavy to be helpful. Either a nine year elementary or 5 year high school term is needed and possibly year-round schooling. More time is needed to emphacize  | Aug 31, 2011 8:48 AM  |

**Page 8, Q8. Do you have any general comments about the draft Vision Report that you would like to share with the committee?**

	the impact of history on the present and future progress.	
26	Would like to more specifics, not so vague. Would like to see how waste is being curbed.	Aug 30, 2011 7:19 PM
27	I think the report should 1) identify the potential economic vulnerabilities the County may be facing as the economy continues to change and 2) recommend public sector options for addressing this; ie, if gov't budgets will continually need to be cut what are the most important services that will need to be maintained.	Aug 30, 2011 4:33 PM
28	Thanks, have a great day.	Aug 30, 2011 4:30 PM
29	Two comments: 1) Several places in the report mention "evidence-based" outcomes, plans, programs, etc. without ever defining what that means. "Evidence" is often something that can be interpreted in multiple ways, depending on the user's point-of-view. It would be nice to see some examples of such programs, plans, etc. listed in the plan, so that users could research them for themselves and find out if the "evidence" meets the needs and/or promotes the results that they are trying to achieve. 2) "Diversity" is a catch-all phrase that I almost hate to see in a report such as this. While it is often interpreted as "racially diverse", it can have other meanings as well. Without denying the fact that the county's population is becoming more racially diverse, it is important to make sure that "racially diverse" doesn't have the same effect as "segregated by choice". Remembering your past and history is one thing; holding on to it to the exclusion of adapting to your new home is quite another, and I fear that it is happening more and more. Promoting diversity should not mean helping people to remain apart from others, but allow them to embrace their neighbors without forgetting their roots.	Aug 30, 2011 4:23 PM
30	I think that promoting recycling and reduction of waste might need broader and stronger support from County Government.	Aug 30, 2011 3:57 PM
31	7. I'm exhausted just answering this questionnaire. Johnson County, however, could be at the beginning (not the end) of being superbly great. Good luck to you. Thanks for asking!	Aug 30, 2011 3:23 PM
32	This is very well done. I feel the areas of responsible growth, commerce, the well being of our citizens and sustainability have all been addressed. I appreciate the time everyone has given to help create a realistic future for the county. It is evident you have spent a great deal of time and energy to create this document. Thank you.	Aug 30, 2011 3:19 PM
33	need to see ways to measure vision before I can see if visions are realistic	Aug 30, 2011 3:00 PM
34	Before we invest in arts, etc let us make sure that people's basic survival needs are being met. I don't see much in the vision report that talks about meeting basic needs of the people in Johnson County.	Aug 30, 2011 2:49 PM
35	This vision tells County Officials that residents want things to change; it does not state that the status quo is acceptable. I think that making these changes will help Johnson County become more diverse and reflective of what people want a community to be in 20 years. It has convinced me not to give up and move somewhere else just yet. Implementing this vision is the responsible thing to do.	Aug 30, 2011 2:14 PM
36	The long term vision should include the elimination of duplication of services	Aug 30, 2011 2:08 PM

**Page 8, Q8. Do you have any general comments about the draft Vision Report that you would like to share with the committee?**

such as multiple 911 dispatch services between multiple cities and the County. Reductions and consolidation of school districts to save administrative costs. Consolidation of government entities among the 22 cities within the County. Use Wyandotte County as the example of consolidation and cost savings leading to economic and job growth.

37	In these times of economic stress, Johnson County should strive to become a County that provides the support which gives the businesses the tools they need to be successful and the citizens (and citizens to be) the training and support they need to perform the jobs which will allow them to purchase the products that will make the businesses successful. This includes good public transportation, personal development, skills training and English as a second language. It should include all age and ethnic groups. Along with welfare and food stamps, the County should provide (or perhaps require) training and development as a stipulation of receiving this assistance. Government support should be a step up, not a hand-out. Johnson County should work to be an innovator and leader in this area.	Aug 30, 2011 2:02 PM
38	If something isn't done to stop the influx of illegal aliens into Johnson County, this plan will change over the allotted time period into something which was not envisioned or planned for.	Aug 30, 2011 1:59 PM
39	No	Aug 30, 2011 1:44 PM
40	I noticed you have 2 representatives from Community Diversity on the committee but no one from parks, open space, and natural resources. It's a shame that such a priceless resource is being overlooked and likely devalued.	Aug 30, 2011 1:40 PM
41	It is *very* new wave. We may need to convene a process to figure out what you guys are saying or doing.	Aug 30, 2011 1:37 PM
42	No	Aug 30, 2011 1:26 PM
43	It may take 20 years to implement many of the goals in this report unless all of the department heads share the same vision. I hope this is not the case.	Aug 30, 2011 1:08 PM
44	Having lived in the metro area for over 40 years now I sense that the folks in Johnson County rank themselves above others in the metro area to the point of being arrogant. I dont think we should think we are better than the other counties or the folks in Missouri. This attitude makes for poor decisions for our neighbors and coordination of activities that would be beneficial the region.	Aug 30, 2011 1:06 PM
45	I think the general points are important. If these are to become the responsibility of county government I am not sure that should happen. If this vision is for all governments then perhaps it would work better.	Aug 30, 2011 1:02 PM
46	Great job!	Aug 30, 2011 12:43 PM
47	How is this being promoted to the entire county to participate in - I have not seen a lot of promotion of this personally - only through my position as a county employee. I think the it is critical to broaden the conversation in order for htis to be viable and have buy-in from the community.	Aug 30, 2011 12:43 PM
48	As a County resident and employee, I feel the following should be the County's general priorities... 1. Support efforts in ensuring that our education systems are	Aug 30, 2011 12:42 PM

**Page 8, Q8. Do you have any general comments about the draft Vision Report that you would like to share with the committee?**

	best in region, if not the nation. 2. Support services for those with development disabilities and mental health challenges, so they may succeed in being active members in their community. 3. Continue to attract businesses with good paying jobs to the County. 4. Continue commitment to quality parks and recreational programs. 5. Continue commitment to growth in County, both in population and economic development.	
49	Trying to be all things to all people, overly ambitious. Need to focus on the core responsibilities of local government in these challenging times, which may be the new "normal!"	Aug 30, 2011 12:39 PM
50	Johnson County needs to be more involved in cross-state initiatives, that benefit both sides of the state line as we are very closely intertwined. .	Aug 30, 2011 12:34 PM
51	As a citizen of Johnson County, as well as an employee for the county, there are items that I never know about until working for the county. The services that the county as a whole provides are wonderful. I have also, realized that there are things, as a county, that we could be using our money and time wiser. I do believe that there is a lack of knowledge amongst the community on what all the county does/offers for the residents. I once believed that the county government was only in place for us to pay our taxes (car tags, house/property) and for the cops to find something wrong with the way we drive to give us tickets to help the government survive. Now working for the county I have gained knowledge on what we have to offer.	Aug 30, 2011 12:34 PM
52	Parks, Trails and Rec are very important. A great community will also have GREAT schools! After these priorities I see health/human services a top priority. What about a Recreation Center???	Aug 30, 2011 12:31 PM
53	Focusing on the wrong things.	Aug 30, 2011 12:17 PM
54	The statement... 'improving how we live and age' would be the simplest statement of a great county and place to live. By creating jobs, access to jobs/goods/services, high quality education and a safe environment in which to live and age... much has been accomplished to create a great county and place to live and age.	Aug 30, 2011 10:14 AM
55	Focus on jobs in Johnson County. How to attract jobs, how to keep the jobs here, how to help the homeless/poverty, infrastructure is a huge one I think it's time Kansas looks at what California has and that's a train system. It would be a wonderful investment and would make Johnson County even stand out further than what it already is!	Aug 26, 2011 11:24 AM
56	Jo Co is now #3 on the list for those in poverty, what does that tell you?	Aug 24, 2011 3:56 AM
57	Under the current leadership employees are completely disregarded and disrespected.	Aug 19, 2011 10:43 AM
58	It is very good. None the less, a continued inclusion of the diverse population is crucial. We are seeing more and more immigrants to our county.	Aug 19, 2011 9:48 AM
59	Good schools, along with cultural, arts and humanities amenities, add to the attractiveness of the county as a place to live and a place to conduct business. The county should continue to support the libraries, the museum and the parks, and do everything it can to maintain the fine public schools within the county.	Aug 18, 2011 1:28 PM

**Page 8, Q8. Do you have any general comments about the draft Vision Report that you would like to share with the committee?**

60	Some of my top priorities are to decrease the number of people in our jails by promoting prevention and substance abuse prevention strategies, keep up with the constant advances in technology, get more efficient and better transportation in the county, support efforts to get more citizens involved in taking responsibility for their health by exercising and eating right, and support and improve education in Johnson County.	Aug 18, 2011 8:54 AM
61	The arts can wait. It's ridiculous that it's on this survey. Dig deeper...not everyone in Johnson County earns \$50,000 and well over. We need creative ways to help people keep their homes. We need more funding for the area food pantries which help not only with food, but school supplies, cleaning and personal supplies. We have under privileged citizens with many talents and can contribute to making the County better. Tap into these resources.	Aug 18, 2011 8:42 AM
62	I would emphasize the importance of the "Safe, Healthy and Caring Community" elements as a priority in that they address some of the most fundamental needs/concerns present in any community, and really form the foundation upon which the County would be able to effectively focus on the other more fine-tuning aspects of the Vision Report. As reflected in Maslow's Hierarchy, once people have established the basics of food and shelter, the next priority - which eventually allows for progress on to achievement and self-actualization - is safety.	Aug 18, 2011 8:01 AM
63	I am surprised that the Library system was included in Cultural Amenities and not in Education. I don't view the Library as an "amenity" but as a necessary partner with the public school system in life long learning for the citizens of Johnson County. Also, my understanding of the school district system is that the county really doesn't have any control over the district.	Aug 17, 2011 12:30 PM
64	Should there be thought to growth control? Report seems to look at continual expansion into urban areas. That may not be sustainable and a serious look at growth control due to growing demands placed on infrastructure and the ability to maintain it vice only growing it.	Aug 16, 2011 12:12 PM

**Page 9, Q10. Where do you live?**

1	none	Sep 19, 2011 10:16 AM
2	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:38 PM
3	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:36 PM
4	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:29 PM
5	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:28 PM
6	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:25 PM
7	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:23 PM
8	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:20 PM

**Page 9, Q10. Where do you live?**

9	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:19 PM
10	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:17 PM
11	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:16 PM
12	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:11 PM
13	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:08 PM
14	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:06 PM
15	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:05 PM
16	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:02 PM
17	none	Sep 16, 2011 2:00 PM
18	none	Sep 16, 2011 1:59 PM
19	none	Sep 16, 2011 1:57 PM
20	none	Sep 16, 2011 1:55 PM
21	none	Sep 16, 2011 1:07 PM
22	none	Sep 16, 2011 1:01 PM
23	none	Sep 16, 2011 12:59 PM
24	none	Sep 16, 2011 12:22 PM
25	none	Sep 16, 2011 12:20 PM
26	none	Sep 16, 2011 12:18 PM
27	none	Sep 16, 2011 11:49 AM
28	none	Sep 16, 2011 11:48 AM
29	none	Sep 15, 2011 5:26 PM
30	none	Sep 15, 2011 5:21 PM
31	Metro area - Missouri side	Sep 14, 2011 3:23 PM
32	Kansas City MO- Looking to move to Kansas though	Sep 7, 2011 9:30 AM
33	Kansas City, MO	Sep 2, 2011 8:06 AM
34	Kansas City Kansas	Sep 1, 2011 12:51 PM
35	43 years	Aug 31, 2011 4:26 PM
36	wellsville	Aug 31, 2011 2:28 PM
37	Osawatomie	Aug 31, 2011 1:52 PM



# Speakers Bureau Comments

SEPTEMBER 20, 2011

The following comments and questions were collected by Citizens Visioning Committee (CVC) members during the various Speakers Bureau events held during August and September 2011 to seek input on the committee's draft recommendations—as contained in the Johnson County 2030: Living Our Vision report (Review Draft: July 2011). These comments and questions have been factored into the Community Outreach Summary provided to the CVC.

## Planning Commissioners, August 23, 2011

- Concern about the northern part of the county with vacancies in buildings, poverty, and a need for investment/reinvestment (an acknowledgement that this is different than five-ten years ago).  
Examples: Mission Mall, NE Overland Park, Johnson Drive, Shawnee Mission Parkway, and Metcalf.
- Do not want development to only focus on the south.
- Concern that wealth will reach the peak soon, and that in 10-12 years Olathe School district will be built out.
- Some felt the report should focus more on dangers/threats/"beware" signs – do not fail to keep an eye on certain items.
- Concern voiced about baby boomers aging, and not being able to afford to live in JoCo (housing, transportation, etc.).
- There was discussion of governments having champagne budgets and not being able to operate this way. We may have to live without some things; concern was voiced about whether we can be competitive on a basis of taxes for businesses/costs of development/cost of living for residents. Affordability? Sustainable pattern of control of taxes needed.
- Are we competitive with world market with the cost to live here?
- Development will need to change and policies will need to be more flexible or change; start changing requirements/regulations towards affordable housing.
- One stated that beautiful/green buildings in the time of people not making ends meet, does not make sense.
- Should be a lid on taxes.
- Edgerton and others could use help with BNSF suppliers/warehouse eco devo.
- One suggested that in staff reports that policy actions should speak to whether actions are advancing Vision 2030.
- Concern about retirees and concern that school lunch program is increasing.
- Concern about warning of blight.

## Human Services Coalition, August 24, 2011

- Health and Human Services –should this be together with Public Safety?
- Use of transportation for the elderly
- State Rep. Barbara B likes the vision to strengthen the Johnson County voice.

- Some county departments felt that lumping Public Safety and Human Services may be too much for one topic area and consideration to split this out should be given.
- There was concern about elderly/sustainability in their homes and transportation.
- Interfaith discussion needed
- Questions about why human services/health were combined with law enforcement. Concerns that both were major issues on their own.
- County should strengthen voice in legislature.
- Can't expect to accomplish much without additional funding.
- Not enough about seniors and transportation.
- Wanted to see focus on re-development of northeast section of county.
- Comments that law enforcement challenge re: employment are also being experienced in social services and health care. Cultural and language issues also have major impact on positive outcomes in those areas, too.
- Suggestion: page 21 Law Enforcement Recruiting Challenges: Perhaps reframe this to "Maintaining educated, diverse workforce."

#### **Chamber Presidents Council, August 25, 2011**

- They discussed economic development and the county being more of a convener (i.e., JCERT attracting workforce).
- They discussed the opportunities and challenges of consolidating government functions. One challenge is the disparity in level of service and willingness to pay.

#### **Overland Park Young Professionals and Rotary Club, September 7, 2011**

##### General Comments:

- Transportation needs an entire separate section in the Visioning Report and needs to be addressed thoroughly by the Citizens Visioning Committee
- Johnson County government needs to establish a tourism department that works side-by-side with marketing/PR of the County to: (a) sell Johnson County and how fantastic it is; and (b) do a much better job of informing citizens of what is available. It was agreed by everyone that they had no idea of the vast resources of the county and that a large campaign to educate the public is crucial for the long-term of Johnson County.
- "We want more bike lanes"
- Library discussion was heated, but all agreed that a survey and/or audit needs to be done on the library system to help shape what a future library will look like with our changing society. Agreed by most that the library is an important community center. Some suggested to make it more like a "mall atmosphere" with coffee, food, meeting space.
- All agreed that Johnson County, Kansas needs a central entertainment area like KC Power and light that has accessible taxi service and public transportation. In the alternative, there needs to be a well advertised and exclusive public bus-line from Johnson County to entertainment areas (i.e. circulates all night at specific points).

##### Multi-modal transportation comments:

- It's not anything I'll ever use so don't want my tax \$ used for something I'll never use."
- Young people want transportation to hit the hot spots. "Last outing included a \$60 taxi ride home, don't want to do that again."
- Ridiculously expensive – maybe makes sense in D.C. and other big eastern cities but not here.
- JoCo is too expansive for multi-modal.
- There was talk of the expansion of the South/West corridor – but how much would that cost?

- Funding is just not there.
- JoCo is not a travel destination. We have no entertainment district to draw tourist.
- Maybe events could be held in JoCo like the Irish Festival which would bring people here. We have no tourism. What's the role in the County re: tourism? Need a plan to propose long term role of the county in developing tourism sites, events. Visitor/convention centers address tourism by city, not county wide
- Maybe the County needs to collaborate with cities – but that's just not feasible – imbalance of resources city by city, i.e. the # of hotels in Shawnee verses OP.
- Too big a deal – top priority for the State – a separate issue.
- Bike Lanes
- What about growth of the county as a transportation hub? Road, buses and financing?
- Young people want to have transportation to hot spots to gather with friends.
- No one in attendance had used the JO bus.
- Routes are an issue to night-life / entertainment areas (which JoCo does not have)

Response to Recommended Actions:

Not strong enough – where's the power to implement?

Vague – when and what does implementation look like?

Water issues – powerful individuals blocking progress i.e. sewer project

Library comments:

- Repurpose buildings as min-museums for “look, feel, smell” how it used to be.
- Are they needed? “NO” (loudly from 2 participants)
- Shut down 1 or 2 of the largest libraries.
- Efficiency isn't there today.
- All resources are web-based sources Google, Wikipedia, etc.
- What about those who don't have access to technology other than the library?
- Is there a pent-up demand for services?
- Suggest a user survey to determine what services are being used and by whom.
- Important part of the community to grow and evolve with the county
- Might scale up or down depending on the area they serve.
- A place for mothers, children, elderly to safely connect with community.

Parks comments:

- What does increase access mean?
- What about land trust?
- BIKE trails needed.
- Review what the County can and cannot do to purchase property – i.e. Public Land Trust.

Challenges:

- Mechanisms to drive solutions and authority to implement.
- Low chance of actually getting anything implemented
- More public outreach encouraged
- Get more people more connected / involved
- Get more information of County offerings/services to more people.
- Get more social media connections
- There's so much about the County I want to know
- I've learned more about the County today than I have in a long time.

- Flattered / impressed to be able to give opinions - give feedback to this process.
- Education and Park & Recs is why JoCo is JoCo.
- Love living here.
- Love working here.
- Bike Lanes

#### **League of Women Voters, September 10, 2011**

- How did we come to these recommendations?
- Move forceful language re: libraries
- Began this process did we get guidance from previous CVC process?
- New funding for P&R would seem to be for all cultural activities
- Where have you addressed housing in this report?
- Growth:
- Specifically intermodal (BNSF)
- Rate of growth – slow or fast
- Impact – locally or regionally
- Follow up – affordable housing – years ago a housing study. Housing and ambulance (?) transit.
- Done a great job – emphasis on diversity
- Increase of funding is most likely! Thinks there is money out here and how do we get it!
- How do we get more people involved and at the table?
- Planning departments in every city – how do we come together with everyone having their own idea?
- The county feels very strong on these issues
- Government has vital role in promoting common good.
- Report doesn't clearly state that county should continue to fund Library - and League thinks it should.
- Report doesn't identify how county should secure revenue for future -- and they believe the county should be looking at other revenue options.
- Not enough on housing and transportation.
- Page 34: Historically Moderate Property Tax Burden, High (County delete) Sales Tax Rate
- Be clear that "modernization" or "efficiency" are not misunderstood as an excuse to underfund or drop core services.
- Should highlight the "Challenges to achieving the Vision" somewhere in the report to avoid potential pitfalls that may arise.

#### **Community Forum, September 14**

- Does the document contemplate the County as a leader/convener?
- Role of library extends beyond “culture”—should be its own category to emphasize role it plays in education, economic development, etc. Integral to all topics.
- Consider changing “Sustainable Pattern of Growth” to “Sustainable Pattern of Development”—better reflective of what’s trying to be accomplished
- Flood control is an important consideration and should be addressed
- Who is this vision intended to be for? County vs. other communities.
- Not clear how recommendations will be carried forward
- Are relationships and cooperation that are referenced throughout clearly defined?

**Community Forum, September 15**

- New courthouse should be considered by committee in their recommendations
- Appreciate emphasis placed on education
- Appreciate perspective in recommendations of “multi-dimensional” library services—many services provided that relate to all of these themes
- Should seek input from community on priority recommendations