

Response Summary

PAGE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. Does the summary above generally reflect the range of issues, challenges, and opportunities you would like to see considered during the visioning process specific to economic development?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		66.7%	22
No		12.1%	4
Somewhat		18.2%	6
Not sure		3.0%	1
answered question			33

2. What would you add or change specific to economic development?

	Response Count
	17

- City-by-city competition for growth is a no-gain game. Financial incentives to attract an existing business from Shawnee to Lenexa or to OP is unworthy in the long run. The same is true for sucking jobs from Jackson County, MO, to JoCo. The net regional gain is zero. And when KC, MO, declines, the entire region suffers.

Also, using Tax Increment Financing to attract growth at the margins of a municipality, which empty store fronts appear more and more frequently is simply an ego-trip for existing City Councils and City staff. TIFs were intended to spur development in decaying "downtown" areas, not steal businesses from the urban core to outlying suburbs. And the schools take the hit in lost tax revenue for the duration of the TIF. What visionary leaders will begin to analyze the true impact of current practice and policy, and speak the truth about this absurd practice. Only the developers benefit, and they need to be reined in at City Hall.

Sat, Aug 14, 2010 7:42 PM [Find...](#)
- Has the County reached the saturation point on retail establishments? Can we continue to expand econ. development without building more shopping malls and strip shopping centers?

Sat, Aug 14, 2010 2:06 PM [Find...](#)
- How does the County have a meaningful discussion about how we develop with all key decision makers within Johnson County?

Thu, Aug 12, 2010 4:24 PM [Find...](#)
- Great!

Thu, Aug 12, 2010 8:09 AM [Find...](#)
- I agree with the list above, and would add the need to maintain the high level county services in order to protect our property values. If we cut funding to schools, libraries, parks etc and these services become comparable to the surrounding communities (Lee's Summit, Liberty, Blue Springs) people no longer be willing pay a premium to live in JoCo.

Wed, Aug 11, 2010 6:41 PM [Find...](#)
- Unemployment makes an affordable mortgage a foreclosure.

When is someone going to connect the dots about the importance of real estate as being the engine that drives a local economy.

Tue, Aug 10, 2010 8:32 AM [Find...](#)
- Information regarding unemployment statistics was omitted. How might jobs be created put unemployed residents back to work.

Mon, Aug 9, 2010 1:45 PM [Find...](#)
- How do we integrate various ethnicities into the Johnson County workforce? What are the impediments, like transportation to and from work, to integrate newcomers and the poor? How do we provide for cultural and religious diversity such that all segments of society are accepted and welcome in Johnson County?

Mon, Aug 9, 2010 1:36 PM [Find...](#)

2. What would you add or change specific to economic development?

9.	How can the county balance economic growth with renewing existing economic areas?	Sun, Aug 8, 2010 7:49 PM	Find...
10.	Stop being in bed with developers. Stop allowing cities to enroach on vacant land without a vote of the people. You need to dramatically lower taxes to encourage true business development. Taxes are stifling growth.	Thu, Aug 5, 2010 12:05 PM	Find...
11.	While it is impressive that 94,000 jobs have been added to Johnson county since 1995 and that represents over 60% of the growth in the Kansas City area, we must look @ the reason why. I feel that education is a large part of that equation. Johnson County has long been recognized for it's quality of elementary & high schools, to have a discussion about economic development without considering the up keep of our educational system is a mistake. It is imperative that the challenges that our educational system facing be discussed and debated.	Wed, Aug 4, 2010 12:19 AM	Find...
12.	Our rapid growth has left some areas to decay. Overland Park has given tax incentives to businesses to redevelop and this has driven away some businesses.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 5:35 PM	Find...
13.	nothing	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 3:32 PM	Find...
14.	Should the county remain in the wastewater business and road improvement business because roads/sewers mainly benefit developers with county funding spread over years and with most of the projects in cities or soon annexed by cities.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 2:47 PM	Find...
15.	Specifically address coordination of economic development activities with existing Chambers of Commerce and city governments.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 8:34 AM	Find...
16.	The impact our K-12 education systems play in economic development need to be studied and developed. I believe they play a much greater part of economic development than they are given credit for. How can the county support K-12 education, especially with the state currently not meeting it's obligation?	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 2:37 PM	Find...
17.	Regional competitiveness is BAD. Johnson County has to quit acting like it is NOT part of a larger, complex metro area. There needs to be more cooperation among these governing bodies, not competition.	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 12:48 PM	Find...

answered question 17

PAGE: FINANCING AND TAXATION

1. Does the summary above generally reflect the range of issues, challenges, and opportunities you would like to see considered during the visioning process specific to financing and taxation?

[Create Chart](#) [Download](#)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		68.8%	22
No		9.4%	3
Somewhat		21.9%	7
Not sure	0.0%	0.0%	0

answered question 32

2. What would you add or change specific to financing and taxation?

Response Count





18

2. What would you add or change specific to <u>financing and taxation</u> ?		
1.	There must be a limit to ever-increasing taxation! And the JoCo tax rate must not be considered apart from increasing Federal, State, city, property and other jurisdiction taxation. We are rapidly approaching a real 50% tax rate, which falls especially hard on those of us who saved and invested for our retirement, now to watch the value of our savings decline while taxes increase. Reduction in public employee numbers, salaries, and benefits, and "entitlement" expectations and public services have to be budgeted conservatively and within available resources. We are rapidly approaching a welfare state, which few will tolerate.	Sat, Aug 14, 2010 7:27 PM Find...
2.	None	Fri, Aug 13, 2010 11:29 AM Find...
3.	There is a continued desire within the community to maintain the low tax rate while continuing to provide the exceptional services Johnson County is recognized for. This formula simply will not work during these tough economic times, there needs to be a campaign to help Johnson County citizens realize to keep a community of exceptional services, we need to maintain a healthy tax rate to support it.	Fri, Aug 13, 2010 7:43 AM Find...
4.	Is Johnson County's commitment to the "lowest property tax rate in the state" an admirable goal or is it hamstringing the county to respond to community needs? The wealth of Johnson County is heavily in real property and a modest increase in the property tax should not be ruled out simply for the sake of "holding the line" and "being the lowest". Simply put, all financing and taxation options should be available for consideration/recommendation.	Fri, Aug 13, 2010 7:18 AM Find...
5.	Are citizens of Johnson County willing to pay more for continued quality services? How do you prioritize services for competing funding?	Thu, Aug 12, 2010 4:27 PM Find...
6.	Yes!	Thu, Aug 12, 2010 8:09 AM Find...
7.	I would like to see the County Government take a more pro-active role in challenging the school finance formula. Our county's higher property values are dependent on our outstanding schools. If the quality of these schools is allowed to drop our property tax revenues will fall at a proportional rate. This should be our number one priority!	Wed, Aug 11, 2010 6:51 PM Find...
8.	How can the County restructure its departments to not duplicate services and cut internal costs of doing business. 39 departments is way too many.	Mon, Aug 9, 2010 2:44 PM Find...
9.	The total county budget could be added, as well as a percentage breakdown of each of the operational departments.	Mon, Aug 9, 2010 1:40 PM Find...
10.	The third area of spending is not included. A top to bottom review of all the agencies, identifying any overlapping services, and actual need for each needs to be included. The financial system employed by the county should have the capability to put all revenues/expenditures on line for citizen review similiar to KANVIEW at the state level.	Sat, Aug 7, 2010 8:20 PM Find...
11.	Sales taxes are far more sustainable than property taxes and should be increased first if increases are deemed necessary. Property tax increases may help in the short term, but being the county in Kansas with the lowest property taxes is a great incentive for moving here and it helps keep property values high.	Fri, Aug 6, 2010 6:10 PM Find...
12.	Taxes are not inherently bad - without taxes there are no government services. What has made Johnson County an attractive and affordable place to live and work did not come without public investment. Keeping Johnson County attractive and affordable in the future will continue to require elected officials to levy taxes.	Fri, Aug 6, 2010 3:45 PM Find...
13.	Taxes are extremely high. Time to lower them and cut services.	Thu, Aug 5, 2010 12:06 PM Find...
14.	Quit trying to provide 'services' to everyone. I understand that people/organizations continue to demand more of the County, but that does not mean that the County is obligated to help. The County must pull away from the idea that it can/must be the 'do gooder' by spending the rest of the taxpayers' money in order to 'help.'	Thu, Aug 5, 2010 8:59 AM Find...
15.	I realize this is an election year, but the only way we are going to pull out of this economic mess and back on the road to recovery IS to raise the mill levy. Citizens need to wake up and realize that it takes tax dollars to keep the county's infrastructure afloat.	Wed, Aug 4, 2010 3:17 PM Find...
16.	I think they county does a wonderful job in difficult times maintaing our tax rate at the lowest possible. i'm not against paying slightly higher taxes to make up for loss of revenue in other places but i would want that used on the important things health, education, conservation....	Wed, Aug 4, 2010 11:15 AM Find...
17.	I do not believe in TIF, and would hope the county would not engage in that in the future; same for cities. Having said that, we should do whatever we can to develop economic incentives for "small", "green" businesses to locate here.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 3:41 PM Find...
18.	Reduce spending where possible. Look for innovation and reduce any duplication of services.	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 3:12 PM Find...


answered question 18

PAGE: SOCIAL, HEALTH, AND HUMAN SERVICES


1. Does the summary above generally reflect the range of issues, challenges, [Create Chart](#) [Download](#) and opportunities you would like to see considered during the visioning process specific to social, health, and human services?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		69.5%	41
No		1.7%	1
Somewhat		27.1%	16
Not sure		1.7%	1
answered question			59

2. What would you add or change specific to social, health, and human services? [Download](#)

	Response Count
	45

1. JoCo and the Metro will have to deal with the "Who Has" vs. "Who Needs" dilemma. Aging boomers, more low-income residents, increasing demand for the wide range of public services all will require limiting "entitlements" and learning to live withing existing resources. Ever increasing taxation will be counter-productive to continued economic development and sustained growth. Quality public education for ALL students throughout the Metro will be necessary to ensure a contributing citizenry who will be trained for the jobs available. Sat, Aug 14, 2010 7:19 PM [Find...](#)
2. transportation and creation of a network of services to help people age in place should be priorities. Sat, Aug 14, 2010 1:45 PM [Find...](#)
3. Increase in reaching out to other non-profits to meet service demands, including those traditionally not partnered with, including arts and humanties programs. Fri, Aug 13, 2010 7:46 AM [Find...](#)
4. I think this captures it really well. The changing demographics are among the key factors will be shaping the future of Johnson County and the demands on the social, human service and health issues. The "health" of the public is significantly impacted by the built environment. Consequently, planning, economic development and parks/recreation must all consider the demographic issues as the future is shaped in those arenas. Fri, Aug 13, 2010 7:14 AM [Find...](#)
5. How do we fund growing human service demands?
Are the citizens willing to pay more to help more people?
How do we educate those that do not have a direct need that it helps all to fund those that do need it? Thu, Aug 12, 2010 4:32 PM [Find...](#)
6. Great start, hope to see utilization and funding of County agencies such as Mental Health and Johnson County Library to help address and meet these community needs. Why aren't there developers in this County working to build attractive, green housing for lower income families/households that doesn't resemble urban projects or rural trailer parks? Thu, Aug 12, 2010 7:56 AM [Find...](#)
7. Impact of race on the manner in which services are delivered, allocated, and received. Wed, Aug 11, 2010 3:59 PM [Find...](#)
8. Continue to show the legislators the demographics, the changes and the diversity in Johnson County that creates increased needs in all these areas. Tue, Aug 10, 2010 8:10 PM [Find...](#)
9. More access to dental services for uninsured and/or underinsured. Tue, Aug 10, 2010 7:18 AM [Find...](#)
10. Increase public health and social services in the county. Compensate the individuals working in these areas appropriately so they can continue to provide services in this county and don't move to other counties. Mon, Aug 9, 2010 2:57 PM [Find...](#)
11. How does the Health Care Reform bill affect the current model for services being provided BY the County? Will some or all of those needs continue to exist? Mon, Aug 9, 2010 1:43 PM [Find...](#)

2. What would you add or change specific to <u>social, health, and human services</u> ? 		
I would like to see more attention given to the wonderful service provided by JCDS and how the County plans to expand that effort through volunteer or non-profit organizations.		
12. How is Johnson County addressing the needs of the senior citizen population and assistance for this population?	Mon, Aug 9, 2010 12:18 PM	Find...
13. The non for profits have been growing and adapting already less food to more and more people. We have grown so much already. I find that the non for profits can do more with less than the government can do to help us to do more for less.	Mon, Aug 9, 2010 11:17 AM	Find...
14. Specifically housing. A 30-something, single professional, making less than the median income can not afford to live in JoCo without struggling. The focus on affordable housing has always been geared toward families (in general) and the elderly. What about those who are currently working in or for JoCo, who are the immediate future? Something needs to be done to stop that large number of the population from vulnerabilities and having to turn to County services.	Mon, Aug 9, 2010 10:03 AM	Find...
15. The families, State and Federal Government and it's mandates need to be added as partners. Efforts to include responsibility to those capable of helping themselves need to included.	Sat, Aug 7, 2010 8:57 PM	Find...
16. need to look at care and funding for underinsured and uninsured for access as major problem	Fri, Aug 6, 2010 10:56 PM	Find...
17. Make ranch style housing actually affordable by county residents. I'm not talk about cramming them into 900 square feet. County employees can barely afford to live in the county in which they work. Ranch housing is needed for those with disabilities and the aging.	Thu, Aug 5, 2010 2:02 PM	Find...
18. The last bullet on trends and key issues states "the current need for developmental services exceeds current availability of services." I assume this means developmental disability services. If that is the case, I think the statement should be "developmental disability and mental health services" the need for mental health services certainly far exceeds the availability of services.	Wed, Aug 4, 2010 3:42 PM	Find...
19. More programs addressing issues of the poor in this county: access to health care, prevention programs, homeless shelters.	Wed, Aug 4, 2010 3:12 PM	Find...
20. Continuation of early childhood programs.	Wed, Aug 4, 2010 2:23 PM	Find...
21. I think expanding health services offered maybe having a doctor on staff would be and excellent idea for the future	Wed, Aug 4, 2010 10:25 AM	Find...
22. People will have to choose between more services or more taxes.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 9:18 PM	Find...
23. The community concerns about youth alcohol/drug use is not reflected. Access to medical and behavioral care for the uninsured and underinsured is not reflected.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 5:08 PM	Find...
24. need of more than access to education and preventive services in general related to health and safety not just clinical services access	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 3:15 PM	Find...
25. Some research indicates that people value what they work for more than something that's given...we should find a way for folks to give back...even if not "matching"...when they receive something...Ex. Do some volunteer work on a highway project in exchange for utility assistance. Engage the whole community in creating a site/sites for Boys' and Girls' club/ after-school drop-in center (old Dillon's in Olathe) safe place for hanging-out after school, MNU students willing to be mentors, snack/coffee bar...churches/individuals/service clubs all interested in creating something for kids...we heard that Daryl Sprouls (ON football star now with SanDiego) is real interested in putting in some time/\$/etc. Fits well with Olathe and USD 233's Communities that Care initiative Engage all the local service organizations...Chambers, Rotary, Optimists, Amer. Legion, etc, etc.What we do for children & youth now will pay off handsomely in the future!	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 2:33 PM	Find...
26. Affordable housing always seems to be in critical demand. Will that demand increase with more citizens trying to live on fixed incomes, more minorities trying to call Johnson County home with incomes below the norm, and more households wanting to reside near job locations because of convenience and higher fuel costs.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 2:29 PM	Find...
27. Vulnerable/disadvantaged citizens are dependent on governmental assistance and support which is shrinking at a rapid pace.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 2:05 PM	Find...
28. Expansion of social services to address the cultural shifts needed in education, parks and rec, religious access and housing and feeding programs	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 1:49 PM	Find...
29. Transportation is an increasing problem for those in need of assistance. The lack of reliable public transportation has a significant impact on household disposable income.to those who are low income or disabled. As fuel costs increase regular commuter transit will become more useful in helping the "disappearing middle class" households.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 11:17 AM	Find...

2. What would you add or change specific to <u>social, health, and human services</u> ?		
30. Who is responsible for providing human services? Should County government be in the business of human services? If Johnson County opted out of providing human services, what would happen to the population that is currently receiving services? Would they move to other counties or states? Would they seek more assistance from other sources?	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 10:07 AM	Find...
31. Need to be able to provide more services to people. Not just illegals and elderly. Many people paying the taxes to do this are now starting to feel the squeeze themselves and are getting bitter about having to work so hard to give money over to illegal immigrants coming over to deliver their babies.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 10:05 AM	Find...
32. Regarding the changing demographics, I would like the Visioning Committee to become informed on the KC4 Aging in Community Initiative (Center for Practical Bioethics) - an initiative with a goal to create an aging-friendly metro area.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 9:25 AM	Find...
33. lack of public transportation effects access to health, social, and human services care.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 9:18 AM	Find...
34. Johnson County must communicate with the public to ensure that they are aware of the changing demographics and the importance of providing services to those who most need it.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 7:54 AM	Find...
35. homelessness	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 7:40 AM	Find...
36. Healthcare for the un-insured.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 7:32 AM	Find...
37. There are substance abuse issues prevalent throughout the Johnson County area that largely get over looked.	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 3:28 PM	Find...
38. Just want to emphasize that we really face these problems and not just give them lip service because we are " Johnson County " .	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 3:13 PM	Find...
39. Can the county/local gov'ts/nonprofits give priority to developing innovation in serving citizens with human services, to researching waht works in other communities and to leverage resrouces to replicate innovative services in JoCo?	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 3:11 PM	Find...
40. more emphasis on the cultural/linguistic diversity, and how inadequate the current resources are, in terms of recruitment of representative personnel also emphasizing the challenges created, not just by "dispersed population growth", but the total lack of adequate public transportation options	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 2:58 PM	Find...
41. The view of cost burdened households should look at not just housing costs but look at housing plus transportation costs to provide a more insightful view of cost burdened individuals.	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 2:26 PM	Find...
42. We need a homeless shelter or some other form of residence assistance for individuals that are homeless. We have people in JOCO that are needing housing, transportation, and employment resources. Housing and transportation are the two biggest barriers to living in JOCO.	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 2:07 PM	Find...
43. Drug and Substance abuse by youth	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 1:56 PM	Find...
44. n/a	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 1:54 PM	Find...
45. We need more affordable housing. I am against providing services in Spanish. If they want to live here, let them learn English.	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 12:50 PM	Find...

answered question 45

PAGE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

1. Does the summary above generally reflect the range of issues, challenges, [Create Chart](#) [Download](#) and opportunities you would like to see considered during the visioning process specific to criminal justice and public safety?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	66.7%	16
No	4.2%	1
Somewhat	29.2%	7

Online Community Workshop #1

Survey Summary

8.16.10

1. Does the summary above generally reflect the range of issues, challenges, [Create Chart](#) [Download](#) and opportunities you would like to see considered during the visioning process specific to criminal justice and public safety?

Not sure 0.0%

0

answered question 24

2. What would you add or change specific to criminal justice and public safety? [↓](#)

Response Count

13

- | Response | Date/Time | Find... |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Funding for such public safety issues as alternatives to incarceration should be coming from public funds. This is an essential government service, and it should not be privatized. (Incidentally, this section should be proofread for punctuation errors.) | Sat, Aug 14, 2010 1:53 PM | Find... |
| 2. Infrastructure planning for disaster readiness as population grows, more tornado sirens in unincorporated areas, emphasis on disaster planning, etc. | Fri, Aug 13, 2010 7:49 AM | Find... |
| 3. I can't believe I saved this one for last. This is perhaps the most thought out, most expertly written entry in the questionnaire. I wouldn't change anything, it's so well done! | Thu, Aug 12, 2010 8:11 AM | Find... |
| 4. Charge people who live in the county for a greater share of the Sheriff's department's patrol unit. I live in a city and pay for my city police dept plus the county sheriff. | Mon, Aug 9, 2010 2:46 PM | Find... |
| 5. Look at values and norms within the community that may play a counterproductive role in raising children and young people who, as a result, engage in illegal or counterproductive behavior because that behavior has been accepted or normalized. | Wed, Aug 4, 2010 11:34 AM | Find... |
| 6. Nothing | Wed, Aug 4, 2010 9:57 AM | Find... |
| 7. Reduce the number of youth serving time for minor offenses and require parents and guardians to pay fines for their kids being in possession of minor amounts of pot and or alcohol. Police should devote time to investigating serious crimes and not harrasing youth at the expense of the taxpayers. | Tue, Aug 3, 2010 5:39 PM | Find... |
| 8. I think you are on-target regarding the need to balance the "demand" for public safety with resource limitations.

Perhaps a greater emphasis on consolidation of police and fire services within JoCo. | Tue, Aug 3, 2010 5:23 PM | Find... |
| 9. Increasing staff in communities is much cheaper than incarceration....again...requiring criminals to "pay back" or "pay for" services, rather than handing out resources is more effective...
Re-instate the death penalty for some heinous crimes...I kind of like the idea of "an eye for an eye" or a millstone around the neck in the middle of the ocean for someone who hurts a child. "Not guilty" for reason of insanity is ludicrous...appeal after appeal is equally ludicrous...I sort of resent spending my tax dollars on such activity! | Tue, Aug 3, 2010 2:41 PM | Find... |
| 10. Revisit the previous discussion on making the Sheriff and District Attorney positions appointed (reporting to the County Manager) instead of elected positions.

There is a perception in some areas of the community that the Sheriff's Office is overstaffed and wastes taxpayer funds. This may or may not be true, but the perception needs to be addressed. | Tue, Aug 3, 2010 8:40 AM | Find... |
| 11. Consolidation of fire districts is an excellent idea--the county will play a key role in that as facilitator and coach. | Mon, Aug 2, 2010 3:16 PM | Find... |
| 12. Can the couty/local law enforcement agenices, etc. review existing strategies that are used to collaborate between public safety agenices (such as the metro homicide squad) and see if there are other areas to replicate such collaboration that would better use limited staff resources? | Mon, Aug 2, 2010 3:14 PM | Find... |
| 13. The fire service in my area (Johnson County District 2) is outstanding. We have the best equipment & training and a reserve fund in the bank. Our ISO ranking beats Overland Park. It's important that when/if rural areas are annexed that the fire services are not tampered with. Also I've noticed OP police down at 199th between Metcalf & Antioch in that 2,000 foot wide swath they annexed. That's just dumb. I think the Sheriff has that covered already. | Mon, Aug 2, 2010 12:46 PM | Find... |

answered question 13

PAGE: EDUCATION


1. Does the summary above generally reflect the range of issues, challenges, [Create Chart](#) [Download](#) and opportunities you would like to see considered during the visioning process specific to education?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		75.5%	37
No		8.2%	4
Somewhat		16.3%	8
Not sure		0.0%	0
answered question			49

2. What would you change or add specific to education? [↓](#)

	Response Count
	22

1. How does the County's increasing demographic diversity impact excellence in education? The County has long been known for its excellent schools, which has fueled its economic growth; maintaining that excellence should be a priority for all levels of government. How can the County make its case to officeholders and voters that this should be a priority?. Sat, Aug 14, 2010 2:00 PM [Find...](#)
2. Excellent! Thu, Aug 12, 2010 10:10 AM [Find...](#)
3. What additional services should the county supply to support education? Wed, Aug 11, 2010 10:34 AM [Find...](#)
Preschool and Adult Literacy programs, Library services etc...
4. The County and Municipalities should NOT be involved in education at any level, except to be supportive, certainly not in helping with funding. I understand the City and County responsibility for land use planning, zoning, etc. and school districts need to work WITH the municipalities and the county on those issues. Long range planning on transportation might someday include routes past schools, and eliminate school bus costs, for districts, but it needs to be a comprehensive plan that includes all school districts, so to me that would be long range planning possibility only.. Tue, Aug 10, 2010 7:35 PM [Find...](#)
5. Full day Kindergarten and consider extending the school year. Also, school lunches need to be more nutritious for our children to stop the obesity epidemic. Tue, Aug 10, 2010 7:20 AM [Find...](#)
6. I believe a sustainability facet should be added to every school district within the county's core curriculum to better prepare the future of Johnson County as a whole. Sun, Aug 8, 2010 8:58 PM [Find...](#)
7. It's time to stop the focus on public schools. Pursue a brand new vision that includes school vouchers, which cost much less per pupil than the current system. The current public school system is not the long term answer for education in this area. Thu, Aug 5, 2010 12:07 PM [Find...](#)
8. Tie in the relationship of a child's ability to learn with his/her overall health, including dental health. Take the blinders off at various school districts and set up school-based clinics to address the needs of teens (not just medical like education and responsibility about their sexual health, but also about risky behaviors, etc.). Prevention is the key which means education kids at early ages about good nutrition and physical activity to prevent diabetes and other chronic conditions. Wed, Aug 4, 2010 3:15 PM [Find...](#)
9. i just think we need to be very careful to maintain our quality of education as it is one of the reasons many people move to Johnson County. Wed, Aug 4, 2010 10:37 AM [Find...](#)
10. I have a niece who has special needs. Seeing the way the public education systems in this county treat special needs students and their families has been a real eye opener. The days of trying to mainstream and actually educate these students is long gone. They bring down the no child left behind testing standards and so the trend seems to be to get them out of the classrooms as much as possible. This could be one reason that Johnson County school districts Wed, Aug 4, 2010 1:19 AM [Find...](#)

2. What would you change or add specific to <u>education</u> ? 		
	consistently outperform state and national averages on standardized tests. How about let's actually provide all children an education.	
11.	Johnson County needs a full 4 year college.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 9:21 PM Find...
12.	The anti-tax contingent will grow in the county with the aging population. As a larger sector of Jo.Co. residents fight paying to support our schools , bond measures and mil levy measures will fail. The resident of JC need to be reminded and apprised of the long standing benefits of supporting public education especially as the population becomes more diverse and of lower SEC.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 5:43 PM Find...
13.	I so not think the municipalities nor the county should engage in direct financial support of schools. State law probably won't allow that in any case. But I do believe municipalities and the county should vigorously support the school districts in their efforts to gain more local control over their taxing and budgeting. We need only look across the state line to see what poor schools do to a community. Let's not allow that to happen in Johnson County!	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 3:37 PM Find...
14.	Ben Franklin said once that we should have a Bible in every classroom, or we'd spend all our time & resources catching and housing criminals....then....we took "faith" out of schools...Don't we have a GREAT world now!	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 2:15 PM Find...
15.	mobilizing teh rich resources in our community is essential. Community engagemtn and support or simply put, volunteer involvement from our community will make the difference. I would als like to see a strong effort to mobilize support from our science and math community to foster an interest in these fields.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 1:53 PM Find...
16.	Ways to decrease the fees that public school children have to pay to go to school. It has more than doubled this year and I know of many families that cannot afford 100 dollars just like that. We have to buy half of the school supplies for the teacher to just use and now pay additional money for them to go to school? This needs to be addressed. Also those adults who need to continue their education to keep up with the changing times have to compete with foreigners coming over to go to school. And they are able to receive grants for their school. Severely needs to be addressed	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 10:06 AM Find...
17.	Education is one of the main reasons that many of us moved to Johnson Co. I know that due to falling property values, revenue for the schools is down, too. But, I feel that it is very important to find the money for schools even if it is at the expense of other programs. On the other hand, extra-curricular activities, especially the sports programs, could be trimmed in the school budgets.	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 6:07 PM Find...
18.	Since the high quality of the local public K-12 district is unquestionably the main reason people are drawn to this county, sustaining this area's quality EDUCATION system through adequate funding MUST BE this county's highest priority.	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 4:06 PM Find...
19.	We are seeing a tremendous growth in the number of international students, especially from Pakistan, India and China. They are settling in Johnson county because of our schools. The demand on our ESL programs is going to grow incredibly.	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 3:10 PM Find...
20.	English-language learner students challenges in involving working parents adequately in their children's educations (certainly not unique to JOCO, but should be a priority for all school districts) declining state investment in education puts strains on local communities and introduces greater risk of inequities	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 3:00 PM Find...
21.	Include post secondary education as well. As far as K-12, a great deal of study needs to go into how our districts can be supported financially at the county level.	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 2:42 PM Find...
22.	I am most concerned about the building of these palatial schools, like Blue Valley Southwest. It's obscene. How about less building and instead having more, higher quality educators? I got an excellent education in an unairconditioned cement block building with linoleum floors. My fourth grade class was held in a trailer. It's about discipline, not buildings. And all this emphasis on sports and all the money spent on athletic facilities is also an abomination. From what I've heard in my community (Spring Hill) a bunch of us feel this way, it isn't just me.	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 12:33 PM Find...
answered question 22		

1. Does the summary above generally reflect the range of issues, challenges, [Create Chart](#) [Download](#) and opportunities you would like to see considered during the visioning process specific to culture, arts, and humanities?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		70.3%	26
No		8.1%	3
Somewhat		21.6%	8
Not sure		0.0%	0
answered question			37

2. What would you add or change specific to specific to culture, arts, and humanities? [Download](#)

	Response Count
	21

1. The County should be seen as a cultural center and and arts & culture leader in the state of Kansas, as well as a thriving part of the KC arts scene. Sat, Aug 14, 2010 1:43 PM [Find...](#)
2. During this tough economic time in our history, how to meet the rapidly growing demand for these services and to responsibly support culture, arts and humanities for families and children in Johnson County? Fri, Aug 13, 2010 7:37 AM [Find...](#)
Also, there is no doubt that that arts and humanities are sought after by the citizens here in Johnson County and should remain an important function of County government. The first issue should be reworded.
3. The Library is in the Culture, Arts and Humanities classification and should be in the Education classification. Thu, Aug 12, 2010 5:38 PM [Find...](#)
The Library supports education in the county from preschool through college. The Library provides free access to books, movies, magazines, Cds, and other materials. The Library provides vital community programing such as 6x6 Ready to Read, summer reading programs, adult reading programs and many more.
4. The Johnson County Library has become a backbone of our community providing necessary services such as: job and business help, valuable materials and programs that help our taxpayers have a better way of life, educational support for our schools and universities, and centers that tie us together as "the Johnson County community". Thu, Aug 12, 2010 12:49 PM [Find...](#)
5. The Library is integral, the Museum is outdated, and far too many Johnson Countians seek most of their cultural entertainment and development in Jackson County. That's a shame. Thu, Aug 12, 2010 7:59 AM [Find...](#)
6. When considering this issue it should be limited to to culture, arts, and humanities. The Library should not be considered in this category. The library is a core service that supports buisness, education and social needs of the populations. Wed, Aug 11, 2010 6:57 PM [Find...](#)
7. What specifically should the county be responsilbe to fund in the arts & humanities? Current endeavors and their on-going goals, or NEW endeavors? This is a big issue that needs to be addressed. Are we only going to expand existing service, or will the county consider creating new organizations. Also, what on-going responsibility does the county have for sustaining entities they created? Wed, Aug 11, 2010 3:43 PM [Find...](#)
8. Clearly, the most important arts, cuture and humanities are on the other side of the state line, but we contribute nothing to them, except perhaps in attendance. My goodness, a museum of suburban history, the most sterile period in America's history, and we somehow think there is something here to preserve, visit, study, or whatever? Tue, Aug 10, 2010 2:49 PM [Find...](#)
Other than the occasional restaurant, an unusual event at JCCC once every couple of years, or an outdoor music event such as Jazz in the Woods, there's little that can be classified as culturally stimulating in Johnson County. Until and unless we choose to recognize there would be no Johnson County without Kansas City, that Kansas City provides most of our arts and culture, and that we should contibute to the maintenance and enhancement of the amenities in Kansas City, this will continue to be a challenge to families and individuals who see culture, arts, and humanities as essential to our growth.

2. What would you add or change specific to specific to <u>culture, arts, and humanities</u> ?		
9.	I would just want to see that there are specific guidelines for providing funding to the arts. The 1% of funding for new county buildings is a start but it would be great to have more.	Tue, Aug 10, 2010 9:52 AM Find...
10.	We have far too many libraries too close together. all for access but a 25 min drive time is sufficient.	Wed, Aug 4, 2010 12:13 PM Find...
11.	As a volunteer for the JoCo Libraries, I want to be sure they are front and center of anything pertaining to "culture, arts and humanities". ESPECIALLY in this age of diversity, it seems obvious that free access to books, as well as ALL media, continue to be made available to our population. Think of all the people who aren't able to be "tied in" to the electronic net and who look to our libraries as a way to connect. I've watched the major cutbacks over the last several years and hope this constant reduction of funds can be turned around, or, at least reduced all possible. We NEED our libraries and the people who keep the system operational! I feel very strongly that most people who live in this county are unaware of all the wonderful things they can find at our libraries...we need to promote the myriad programs available to the public thru this system.	Wed, Aug 4, 2010 11:28 AM Find...
12.	What is the feasibility of turning many of these over to non-profit organizations? Why is it a governmental responsibility? There is something to be said for oversight, it is another to be completely responsible.	Wed, Aug 4, 2010 9:04 AM Find...
13.	How about adding something about the Johnson County Library being responsible for the stewardship of printed and online materials and resources for the county, and for lessening the digital divide, or other language that reflects what the library provides to its community. It doesn't make the library seem like an essential service if its only key trend is that it is "nationally recognized and is a source of pride for the community."	Wed, Aug 4, 2010 1:06 AM Find...
14.	More emphasis on voluntary tax deductible contributions, such as to the Jo Co Library Foundation	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 9:24 PM Find...
15.	The Johnson County library system should be focused on EDUCATION. Library books, technology, media, tutoring, and more are essential to a good education. People need quiet places to study, active front desk liberians that aide with research, and many more behind the scenes people planning events to bring people to the library as often as possible as soon as possible. Kids need to volunteer at their local libraries and learn to LOVE them dearly. I know I do!	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 8:02 PM Find...
16.	The library system is very important and funding for the Johnson library system must keep up to maintain the standard that has been set in the past.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 3:40 PM Find...
17.	I would like to share how important I think the library is to the overall health of our community. It serves to support citizens from the very young to the very old and access the high usage is a direct reflection of the importance our community places on life-long learning. keep libraries strong and in the mix for future plans! thanks!	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 1:51 PM Find...
18.	Given shortfalls in revenue, should the arts be a focus of government? Given other needs for police, public transportation, infrastructure and other services can the local governments afford to support arts as a priority?	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 11:22 AM Find...
19.	This is probably too specific, but the County Museum needs a dedicated revenue stream (like the Library system and the Parks District) in order to be successful over the long-term.	Tue, Aug 3, 2010 8:44 AM Find...
20.	Collaboration among cities ans county may make this more effective. work together rather than compete	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 3:19 PM Find...
21.	This is where we can support KCMO with the bulk of the arts venues over there. Also, what passes for "public art" in this county is an incredible waste of tax payer money. The blue pringles at 119th and Blue Valley Parkway is a prime example of that. Embarrassing.	Mon, Aug 2, 2010 12:52 PM Find...




answered question 21

PAGE: PARKS AND RECREATION


1. Does the summary above generally reflect the range of issues, challenges, [Create Chart](#) [Download](#) and opportunities you would like to see considered during the visioning process specific to parks and recreation?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	54.8%	17

1. Does the summary above generally reflect the range of issues, challenges, [Create Chart](#) [Download](#) and opportunities you would like to see considered during the visioning process specific to parks and recreation?

No		12.9%	4
Somewhat		25.8%	8
Not sure		6.5%	2
answered question			31

2. What would you add or change specific to parks and recreation? [↓](#)

	Response Count
	25

- If Johnson County residents view parks and libraries, like schools, as major quality of life assets, why – in comparison to schools – have they consistently been so disproportionately funded in both good economic times and bad? Sun, Aug 15, 2010 9:01 AM [Find...](#)

In the case of parks, nearly a decade ago the Johnson County Park & Recreation District proposed a viable funding strategy that combined a tenth of a cent sales tax with the district's existing two-mil tax level to achieve a system of parks and recreational resources befitting a "Community of Choice."

The land acquisition and park development proposals within the district's master plan, MAP 2020, not only are reflective of the priorities established through the county's previous visioning initiative, they also are consistent with the input and preferences shared by Johnson County residents in two separate Citizen's Surveys conducted by ETC Institute.

During the Preserving Our Future process in 2000, parks and recreation ranked second on the list of priorities developed at the Community Infrastructure Summit, and a shortage of parks and open space was the top concern of the youth participants at the summit.

In the first Citizen Survey in 2007, improvements to county parks received the second highest level of support (53%) from respondents considering projects and services to fund through renewal of the county's one-fourth of a cent sales tax. And when ETC conducted a second survey in 2009, residents indicated our parks and recreation system was the county service that should receive the most emphasis over the next two years.

To this point the residents of Johnson County who value parks so highly have yet to be given the opportunity to vote on whether or not they are willing to invest in the county park system proposed in MAP 2020. As valuable as that investment could be, it's difficult to imagine the community's response to a MAP 2020 ballot question would be anything but a resounding "yes!" Especially when you consider achievement of the county and municipal park acreage projected in MAP 2020 would only require preserving a little over 8% of the county's total acreage as public green space for the public good.

(Submitted by the Administration of the Johnson County Park & Recreation District)
- We decided to remain here in our retirement rather than move back to be close to our sons and their families in another state in large part because of the outstanding system of trails and parks in JoCo. It's a thrill to see the increasing use of these amenities, and to know that people want to be in JoCo because of this advantage. Congratulations to the JoCo Parks and Rec leadership and staff on a superb job with limited resources. Keep it up! Sat, Aug 14, 2010 7:46 PM [Find...](#)
- Development of existing resources to meet county demand. Fri, Aug 13, 2010 7:59 AM [Find...](#)
- key link between the availability/affordability of recreational opportunities and the overall health of the community. Rising obesity rates demand that multiple opportunities for physical activity be available and actively promoted in Johnson County. Fri, Aug 13, 2010 7:27 AM [Find...](#)
- How can our challenges and opportunities be limited to simply keeping up with demand? Our green spaces can provide far more than recreational or visual enjoyment. Let's integrate Parks and Rec with sustainability, transportation, land development, etc. This is a missed opportunity over a 20-year community development plan. Thu, Aug 12, 2010 8:04 AM [Find...](#)
- Couching the challenges in terms of declining revenues is misrepresenting the issue. Voters should be given a voice, and the commission should respond to that Wed, Aug 11, 2010 4:04 PM [Find...](#)

