

# **Plan Cincinnati**

## **Community Informational Meeting**

**Corryville  
September 30, 2009**

### **Small Group Feedback**

City of Cincinnati  
Department of City Planning and Buildings  
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# **Question 1:**

# **What makes a great city?**

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# Question 1 - What makes a great city?

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Table 1 (Question 1)	Table 2 (Question 1)	Table 3 (Question 1)	Table 4 (Question 1)
Good public transportation	amenities - facilities, accessibility (all times), open space	knowing what makes a good neighborhood	housing opportunities
Strong cultural institutions	easy multi-modal transportation	liveliness - pedestrian oriented ethnic groupings	ethnic diversity
Well connected trail system	creative, educated, active citizenry	easily accessible transportation	quality of life
Quality education	civic interaction	safety	erase the digital divide
Resident-owned businesses	preservation	good education system/schools	various modes of transportation
Low vacancies, infill	dense core - transportation, entertainment, nightlife	economic identity	efficiency & completeness
Connectivity with waterfront, usage	affordability	respect for history/add to history	greenspace
Pollution control	events & programming	maximizing space	economic viability
Accessible public parks	community engagement	city-ness	low crime rate
Connectivity, walkability	walkability	public participation	crime prevention at night
	public art/the arts	cultural activities	opportunities that the city has to offer
	good sports teams	diversity	best practice - human, health, social services
	sense of pride	jobs	great institutions
	celebrating diversity/unity	downtown library	cultural & business authenticity
	safety	visual connectivity technology centers	interesting architecture variety in environment venues
		density evolution	sightseeing opportunities rebuilding infrastructure
			regulation of chemical plants/industry complete urban core
			variation of built form economic inclusionment

**Question I - What makes a great city?**

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Table 5 (Question I)		Table 6 (Question I)	Table 7 (Question I)
creative political leadership	promotion of the city's assets	respect for diversity, economic, ethnic religious diversity - integration	everyone is treated equal
bike trails	public spaces	light rail	plan for each neighborhood
balanced budget & fair taxes	good architecture	money allocated to the use of downtown	equal distribution of resources
better use of the river	affordable homes	have section 8 in all areas to benefit all	good transportation/accessibility
more attention to waste management	focus on historical places	social capital - people working together , welcoming strangers	sustainability: economic, social, environmental
teach languages in all schools	new construction built to last	good transportation	diversity and opportunities in housing, people, jobs
variety of ages in leadership	healthy environment	need walkability	Education standards need to be the same throughout the community
excellent & affordable health services	cultural institutions (cso, pops, etc)	good safety	more power for schools
people	good football & baseball teams	good lighting	diversity and opportunities in housing, people, jobs
jobs	walkable business districts	need to feel safe and secure	availability of live, work, play opportunities
sense of opportunity		need for access and transportation	proximity
diversity			
all voices being heard			
pride in city			
all voices being heard			
solid educational process (for all ages)			
fun stuff to do			
self-promotion			
great spaces			
various circulation			
opportunities - transportation			
sense of safety			
parks & recreation (with maintenance)			

# Question I - What makes a great city?

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Table 8 (Question I)		Table 9 (Question I)
vibrant culture - physical features, accessibility & transit	vibrant CBD	pedestrian access
memorable places & history	employment good public services	base services: food, transportation, etc
distinct and inspiring to be different	outstanding health & research facilities	healthy economy, green collar jobs
walkable neighborhood		openness to change
formal gateways		good communication between government and governed
options for travel - multi-modal transportation		good school districts
enlightening & visionary leadership		ease of flow
public gathering spaces, park system, green people		ability to get around
major institutions - interactive with neighborhoods		affordable public transportation
manufacturing		light rail and bus re-organization
access to the water		is the streetcar the right transportation system
excellent cultural arts historic preservation		
opportunities for interaction clean safe environment		
safe housing opportunities		
mixed income, housing, diverse		
appropriate placement of manufacturing		
progressive leadership		
professional sports		

**Question I - What makes a great city?**

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Table I0 (Question I)		Table I1 (Question I)	
clean air & water	good food	interconnectivity	access to health care by everyone
safety	affordable housing	architectural beauty	access to healthy food
integrated transportation	access to jobs	culture	good restaurants
cultural institutions	nightlife/range of options	safety	good parks/tress
great schools	community centers	diversity	good street maintenance
public libraries	disaster preparedness	public transit (effective/rapid)	safer/slower traffic
committed neighbors (invested in community)	rural/economically integrated	African-American artists	high ranking public schools
caring environment	age/class integration	welcoming public schools (students)	low/no dropout rate
access to amenities, good services, jobs, housing clean, green, sustainable	commitment to social justice	agreeing population	more urban public space
transportation access		good neighbors	better image
mixed uses		neighborhood gardens	better sports teams
good communication civic discussion		jobs	more teen activities
pet friendly friendly neighbors		economic prosperity	historic revitalization
walkable community community with vision		low tax base	responsive public officials
a city that values diversity/ access to opportunities energy efficiency		exciting nightlife	quality airports
		cleanliness	better rail access - outside city
		landmarks	affordable housing
		low crime rate	
		history	
		public events	
clean & safe parks		good housing	
		clean: streets, sewer, water, air	

**Question I - What makes a great city?**

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Table 12 (Question I)		Table 13 (Question I)	
working opportunities	unique character	higher educational facilities	zero homeless rate
diversity	autonomy	diversity of people	tourism
cohesion/mixing of cultures	good administration	jobs	public spaces/public art
working infrastructure	pedestrian friendly	landmarks	walkability/ pedestrian friendly
excellent school system	mix of uses: residential, industrial, commercial	attractions	
citizen participation	transportation	business opportunities & growth	
historic/cultural activity	bike lanes	efficient transportation network	
vibrant arts & cultural community	adequate parking	accessibility	
choice in housing	park & ride	0 unemployment rate	
easy to use	farmers' markets	commerce/industry	
cleanliness	artist fairs/markets	recreational opportunities	
good public transit	good connection to suburbs	cultural institutions/museums	
geographic location	affordability	parks & trails	
leadership		natural sites (mountain/water)	
safety		security/safety	
services		infrastructure	
locally owned restaurants		public services	
accessibility of facilities & people		police & security	
green space		preparation for college/jobs	
waterfront access		happy residents (invite new residents)	
entertainment		strong entertainment	
easy access to city information		nightlife, shopping, food	

# Question 2:

## What are the most pressing issues in Cincinnati?

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**Question 2 - What are the most pressing issues in Cincinnati?**

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Table 1 (Question 2)	Table 2 (Question 2)
Sprawl	infrastructure planning: I-75, strong neighborhoods, vibrant streets, water, sewer
Deterioration Infrastructure	comprehensive infrastructure increase population
Disconnected waterfront	retail vacancies
Crime	brownfields
Poor treatment of historic structures	preservation
Timid when trying radical ideas	mobility
Limited interconnectivity	increasing density & new residents
Income-based neighborhoods	safety/clinic (near institutions)
Economic injustice of public schools	more downtown activity needed
Downtown vacancies	improved perception of downtown
Lack of reliable transportation	transportation
	environment: water sources, restoring natural areas
	land use
	attracting green industries
	segregation/intolerance (hate crimes)
	promotion of unity

**Question 2 - What are the most pressing issues in Cincinnati?**

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Table 3 (Question 2)		Table 4 (Question 2)	
transportation	regional connections beyond car (railroad)	city government is ineffective	opportunities for international citizens
historic preservation	human relations	not enough public transportation	homelessness
density	immigration	brain drain	
maintaining infrastructure		downtown revitalization needed	
becoming a regional center (200 miles)		city using economic stimulus for its residents	
population loss		lack of activity & housing opportunities downtown	
maintenance of neighborhood businesses		crime/public safety	
public safety		transportation/parking	
vacant buildings		availability of parking: especially in residential areas such as Avondale	
lack of shopping opportunity (Avondale)		illegal parking	
increasing home ownership		how will people fit into the emerging green economy?	
lack of services		combined sewer overflow	
national image		lack of willingness to take chances on large projects	
poverty		integration of African-Americans in the economic infrastructure - city purchasing	
regional participation		lack of civic pride	
improvement of self-image			

**Question 2 - What are the most pressing issues in Cincinnati?**

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Table 5 (Question 2)		Table 6 (Question 2)	
access to healthy foods	streetcar (do/don't need it)	segregation	light rail: investment problems
jobs	improvement of current transportation	improvement of crime, transportation & education rates	connect with Newport; get together to develop the region
the Banks	lack of communication to people not organizations	neighborhoods need more support to eradicate false perceptions	need to make sure we have basic services & goods for residents
public education	better access to public input meetings	too much attention given to crime	always thinking about crime
better mobility	create neighborhood pride	lack of effective mass transit	increase stock options - so city doesn't lose companies
discipline & accountability in education	confusing voting process (ballot wording)	regional rail - effective light rail	improving streets/signage
more enforcement of serious crimes	denial of class/race issues	housing - blighted areas	transportation
less inmates for minor crimes	improvement of intergovernmental relations	assist residents in the demolition/redevelopment	need more resources to start new business
professional counseling & mental health services	lack of metropolitan government	energy efficiency	cut down cost of small communities
problems with criminalizing the homeless	transportation "system"	investment: resulting in sprawl	false safety accusations
long term budget solutions	uneven attention to neighborhoods	fear of living in city	dog-friendly parks
preservation of historic buildings (do not rely on demolition)		lack of transport	preserve Over-The-Rhine
insufficient creativity & imagination		lack of education	fiscal (raise funds)
utilization of youth		lack of transport	more connectivity - bridge the gap - accessibility
breakdown of neighborhood barriers (turf wars)		development process, finance	need good businesses that will attract new residents
		lots of people walking around	from a county government bringing in more revenue

**Question 2 - What are the most pressing issues in Cincinnati?**

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Table 7 (Question 2)	Table 8 (Question 2)	
security	segregation	regional government
stability	crime	cooperation
jobs, transportation you can rely on	homelessness	vacant housing in older neighborhoods
finance & completion of jobs that are started	better jobs & housing (downtown)	attracting & retaining young professionals
crime; killings in the neighborhoods	loss of outstanding talent	obesity
jobs; layoffs; job security	transportation (inadequate)	lack of appreciation of historic fabric
we have lots of assets but a lack of integration of assets	lack of mixture of income groups	lack of housing options near campus/job centers
lack of realization	inter & intra connectivity	adequate healthcare
underutilization of assets - transportation	too conservative	lack of recreation along the river
connectivity between the core and uptown neighborhoods	citizens' image other city: locally; internally; externally	lack of progressive leadership
encourage development patterns that are sustainable	aging industrial fabric; infrastructure	
decrease revenue: tax abatement; raise taxes; don't give so many incentives that decrease revenue	inadequate workforce	
city should act regularly	valuing education by all citizens	
linkage of communities	school quality	
	pollution	

**Question 2 - What are the most pressing issues in Cincinnati?**

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Table 9 (Question 2)	Table 10 (Question 2)	
Perception of crimes, riots	poverty	lack of annexation
limited access to arts	crime	lack of regional co-operation
the economy; need for more manufacturing	homelessness	upgrading infrastructure
prioritization of city goals	jobless neighborhoods	more of a sense of community citywide
foreclosure rates	access to jobs	respect for historic assets
integrated housing; communication with neighborhood councils	increase in home ownership	ineffective public education
integration; lack of cohesion in the city	quality education	lack of funding
Difficulty of transportation (ex. Airport)	access to education by adults & kids	communities are territorial to their detriment, more collaboration
Violence, crime	more transportation	multi-neighborhood strategies
hope; vision; theme, purpose; city wide; why are we here?	public transportation - more integration	use of scarce resources
Not enough city-wide common experiences (ex. Festivals)	historic preservation	more volunteerism
	address vacant properties	fair treatment to neighborhoods
	more productive re-use	very territorial
	litter control	
	lack of co-operation	
	divided city: east/west	

## Question 2 - What are the most pressing issues in Cincinnati?

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Table 11 (Question 2)		Table 12 (Question 2)
crime	access to groceries	environmental pollution
ineffective public transit	muggings	transportation/pedestrian
deteriorating neighborhoods	overcrowded prisons	security issues
loss of population	"mean city"	schools
jobs; sprawl	career programs	shortage of affordable housing choices
bad roads	shootings	image/perception
lack of recycling	vandalism	keeping young professionals (talent)
racial segregation/discrimination	city budget	abandoned buildings ( value of historic buildings)
high dropout rate	lack of comprehensive plan	historic preservation
poverty	losing capital to northern KY (entertainment)	economic inequity
city's perception	lack of vibrant downtown and neighborhoods	better connectivity of parks & open spaces
image	lack of urban public space: Washington Park	grocery stores
bed bugs (health)	lack of entertainment after 5 p.m.	brand needed
break-ins	not walkable/bike-able	privatization of public space
litter	traffic: too fast	

**Question 2 - What are the most pressing issues in Cincinnati?**  
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**Table 13 (Question 2)**

areas around school not safe	stronger downtown nightlife needed
difficult attracting students to universities because of neighborhoods around campus	lack of equal access to good education
economic divide: poor and perceived rich	public perception & way the city is or is not branded
lack of employment	nothing identifiable about the city
transit options	information for recreation facilities is not adequately disseminated
safety	brain drain: people leave for more competitive cities
tough place to do business	financially unsustainable neighborhoods
undesirable city to live in (perception)	businesses have a tough time surviving
urban poverty	lack of support (government/density lack)
dilapidated housing stock	poor attitudes
leads to wrong visual clues	funding for schools
cleanliness	lack of network of communication citywide/information are to a select few
police budget cuts	lack of recycling facilities
segregation	not much new development/new buildings
not bike or pedestrian friendly	

# **Question 3:**

## **How do we make Cincinnati a great city?**

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**Question 3 - How do we make Cincinnati a great city?**

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Table 1 (Question 3)	Table 2 (Question 3)	Table 3 (Question 3)
Pride, sense of identity	green city: complete streets; streets as places; trees bike lanes, buried utilities, front porches, street car, light rail	make Cincinnati the predominant regional cultural & entertainment center within a 200 mile radius
City theme	rapid transit; walkability, public transit, Chicago, Copenhagen, Boston	viability
Walkability, string uses together	quality education; best in the country	look at river beyond traffic use development; access to waterfront
Asset-based planning	regional cooperation	increasing professional residency
Respected pedestrian/ bicycle areas	curb growth outside 275	implement community plan
Finish Banks project	infill	fun
Revitalize downtown core, reuse old structures	brownfields, reclaim greenfields	become leading technology center
Build on history/ culture	promote interaction & inclusion	how to treat riverfront - reference 1925 plan
Create downtown as a destination	strong leadership	decrease vacancy rates
Build a light rail/ street car	government & leadership brave enough to drastically change direction and dares to disappoint people to achieve big things city employees required to live in city	walkable transit stops & neighborhood centers  capitalize on economic opportunities
	make it a regional destination	housing

**Question 3 - How do we make Cincinnati a great city?**

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Table 4 (Question 3)		Table 5 (Question 3)	
more business opportunities: taxes & regulation	making Cincinnati a walkable city	look for non-traditional funding - creative financing	strong design in all neighborhoods
\$7 billion community residential act (CRA)	24 hr shopping	living with our means	individual neighborhood design guidelines
reversing sprawl & bringing people back into the city		better public/private partnerships	more viable neighborhoods
making the city a tourist destination using ports and major leisure Super Bowl		all assets equally available to all citizens	
civic pride - believing that Cincinnati can be a great city		more equitable transportation spending - less on roads	
making it so we can swim in the Ohio river become a leader in urban innovation e.g. sustainability		get guns off the street	
improve public transit		instill faith in the police	
value diversity		increased cooperation with investigations	
make Cincinnati a leader in the Digital Age		dramatically improve public schools	
waterfront development		focus on residents, less on tourists/visitors	
connecting the NBD with transit making Cincinnati a green city		greater community & civic pride	
		make it safe to play outside everywhere	
		stricter guidelines for property investors	
		redevelopment of existing structures	

**Question 3 - How do we make Cincinnati a great city?**

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Table 6 (Question 3)	Table 7 (Question 3)	Table 8 (Question 3)	
need movie theater downtown	integrate rail system - other modes as well	implement transit options	promote the natural qualities of the city
promote the arts	be more creative/original e.g. Aronoff Center, more attractions	restoring historic buildings	celebrate great schools
network of hiking/bike trails	don't be so conservative because you lose projects e.g. Newport Aquarium	promote Cincinnati with quality branding	attract a diverse population
increase walkability	want a 24 hr city	provide public access along the entire riverfront	increase high skilled jobs
better maintenance of infrastructure	better selection of affordable housing	attract population to downtown	improve & attract manufacturing/technology
money back to transport	metropolitan government (uni-government)	promote locally grown food	merge the park systems
need more public places - like Fountain Square more neighborhood interaction	think at neighborhood level, act at city level attract and retain young people	promote renewable energy	green roofs
more people living in Cincinnati	vibrant neighborhood business districts	develop our own identity - Cincinnati	promote the arts & culture at all levels
property taxes		make Cincinnati bike-able	
have to look at regions/districts		complete the Banks	
keep people in the city		create or enhance neighborhoods & districts merge governments (city & county)	

**Question 3 - How do we make Cincinnati a great city?**  
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Table 9 (Question 3)	Table 10 (Question 3)
Showcase what we have, promote our assets (OTR, Arts, Parks)	Collaboration between institutions and communities      Invest in public art
Increase education at all levels, preschool and up	Involvement and investment in each other      Social justice
Invest in the built architecture, make it greener	Affordable education, including higher education      Value diversity
Get citizens more politically involved	Keep young people in the city with opportunities, unique housing
Regional Government	Make Cincinnati distinctive
Get adults into schools, community education	Collaborate with other cities
	Give incentives for small businesses
	Think progressively
	Provide access to amenities
	Diversify transit, think public transportation
	Upgrade housing, develop brownfields (urban infill)
	Attract people to downtown with movie theaters, mid-income housing, income integration
	Provide safe parking
	Invest in interesting urban design

**Question 3 - How do we make Cincinnati a great city?**

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<b>Table 11 (Question 3)</b>		<b>Table 12 (Question 3)</b>
Revitalize downtown, OTR	Improve social services	Make the city friendly
Attention to one area in each neighborhood	Revise local building codes	Improve security
Improve walkability	Improve relationship between police and neighborhood patrols	Foster civic pride
Centralize/ improve infrastructure	Save historic buildings	Increase citizen involvement
Revitalize vacancies	Start a citizen patrol	Improve transportation, streetcar
Plant gardens in infill sites		Clean rivers
Improve public transit/ crosstown transit		Mandate recycling
Increase recycling		Focus on environmental issues
Invest in public art		Historic preservation
Strengthen neighborhood youth programs		Stop open crime
Fix roads		Bury utilities (power lines, phone lines, etc)
Encourage green building		Support human rights legislation
Less surface parking lots		Support fair housing
Encourage diversity		Justice reform system for violent crimes only

**Table 13 (Question 3)**

Improve public transportation	Clean up abandoned buildings
Build new developments downtown to attract young adults/ families	Add infrastructure to neglected areas, not just downtown
More social and cultural opportunities	Market new businesses and city events
Improve library system	Create a partnership between residents and police
Foster a unifying attitude	Integrate communities
Promote jobs that promote the city	Aggressively attract new businesses
Improve the city's economic conditions	Follow through with efforts
Develop communities that invest in their neighborhoods	City-wide wireless access
Build a streetcar line	Increase art and cultural elements in city
Build bike paths and promote said bike paths	
Drop income tax and increase property tax to make the city more competitive	
Provide sufficient funding for public schools	
Publish positive publications that promote neighborhoods	
Improve public safety	

## **Question 4:**

**If you could shape the future of the City, what one thing would you change?**

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**Question 4 - If you could shape the future of the City, what one thing would you change?**

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Table 1 (Question 4)	Table 2 (Question 4)	Table 3 (Question 4)	Table 4 (Question 4)
Improve transportation, better bus system	Make the street a great place	Create a mechanism to draw small business entrepreneurs to storefronts and NBDs	Create a thriving urban core
Make downtown mixed use	Increase mobility, transportation	Improve transit	Improve public transportation
More parking, signage regulations	Change the mindset about transportation, open to other choices	Improve human relations	Community reinvestment agreement (ex. From the \$800 bil. Financial Institutions)
Rebuild highways	Improve educational quality of <b>all</b> public schools	Invest in affordable housing	Change how we elect city council and police chief
Continuity of public spaces	Eliminate conservative mindset	Focus on downtown core	Foster civic pride
Connect to Newport	Historic preservation of OTR	Create pedestrian centers in neighborhoods	Make uptown more safe (increase commercial activity at night)
Connectivity of neighborhoods	Promote entrepreneurship, small business	Build vocational schools	Change the city's worldview
Eliminate segregation in the city		Reverse population decline	
Bring in younger crowd		Bury wires	
		Limit growth of new shopping centers, maintain existing centers	

**Question 4 - If you could shape the future of the City, what one thing would you change?**

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<b>Table 5 (Question 4)</b>	<b>Table 6 (Question 4)</b>	<b>Table 7 (Question 4)</b>	<b>Table 8 (Question 4)</b>
Improve public schools	Regional government	Make city council/ advisory board a volunteer group	Attract the next Microsoft/ Bill Gates
More inclusive leadership (different leaders)	Improve education, school status	Strong mayor	Historic preservation/ adaptive reuse
Build a well-designed public transit network	Bring back taxes	Reduce control of corporations	Improve the average citizen's attitude towards public education
Better provision for the homeless	Improve public relations for the city, re-brand	Have a regional government that makes decisions on land use, transportation, utilities	Enhance the existing park system to provide sidewalks
Better use of resources with collaboration	Winning football/ baseball teams	Economics at one level	Create metro government
Eliminate city government	Build light rail	Reduce homelessness	Practice enlightened land use
Facilitate/ enhance existing charitable efforts	Effectively use resources (aka. River, etc)	Corporations should have input, not control	Concentrate development in the city center
100% recycling	Historical preservation	Make city-wide health a greater priority	Multi-modal transportation
Stop duplicating services and facilities with the same purpose	Market city		Riverfront amenities
Redesign local government	Preserve the arts		Infill and redevelop OTR
			Promote the importance of the roles and responsibilities of individual citizens for the success of the city as a whole

**Question 4 - If you could shape the future of the City, what one thing would you change?**

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Table 9 (Question 4)	Table 10 (Question 4)	Table 11 (Question 4)	Table 12 (Question 4)
Governance	Improve transportation	Bridge racial divide	Repeal the housing impaction ordinance
Unify the city through a common theme	Build community centers for people at risk	Improve public transit (rail)	Strengthen environmental ordinances (especially for industry)
Become a pioneer	Merge city and county government	More welcoming city	Change perception of city (currently negative)
Improve public transportation	Strive for proportional representation	Improve public schools	Build sustainable transportation/ transit
New government	Unified government within I-275 loop	Safety and perception (streetlights)	Tighten security
Increase funding for the arts	Increase number of housing and job opportunities	Increase institutional standards (hospitals, colleges, city government)	Introduce light rail
Connect adults to schools, aka. Adult classes	Improve quality of neighborhood elementary schools	Increase downtown residency	
Implement year-round curriculum	Consolidate government to provide the system with more revenue for improving transportation, housing, jobs and education	Increase mixed-use neighborhoods	
Fund all schools same	Change the city for the people who live here	Build affordable housing	
	Increase tax base		

**Question 4 - If you could shape the future of the City, what one thing would you change?**

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<b>Table 13 (Question 4)</b>
Build cohesive, affordable public transportation
Good public schools
Economic development
Improve public perception of city
Make the city a serious destination
Give more power to the city
Teach children responsibility and pride
Reduce homelessness
Improve funding for police/ jails
Improve community and cross-community organizations
Infrastructure that is committed to neighborhoods
Opportunities to listen to youth
Improve public transportation