



Mighty

MOUNT STERLING

STRATEGIC PLAN



MARCH ENGAGEMENT & WEBSITE SUMMARY

March Events



STEERING COMMITTEE #2
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
YMCA

The 12-person Steering Committee spent Thursday morning sharing and refining their priorities for Mount Sterling.



COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE
5:30 - 7:30 P.M.
HAGEL 1891

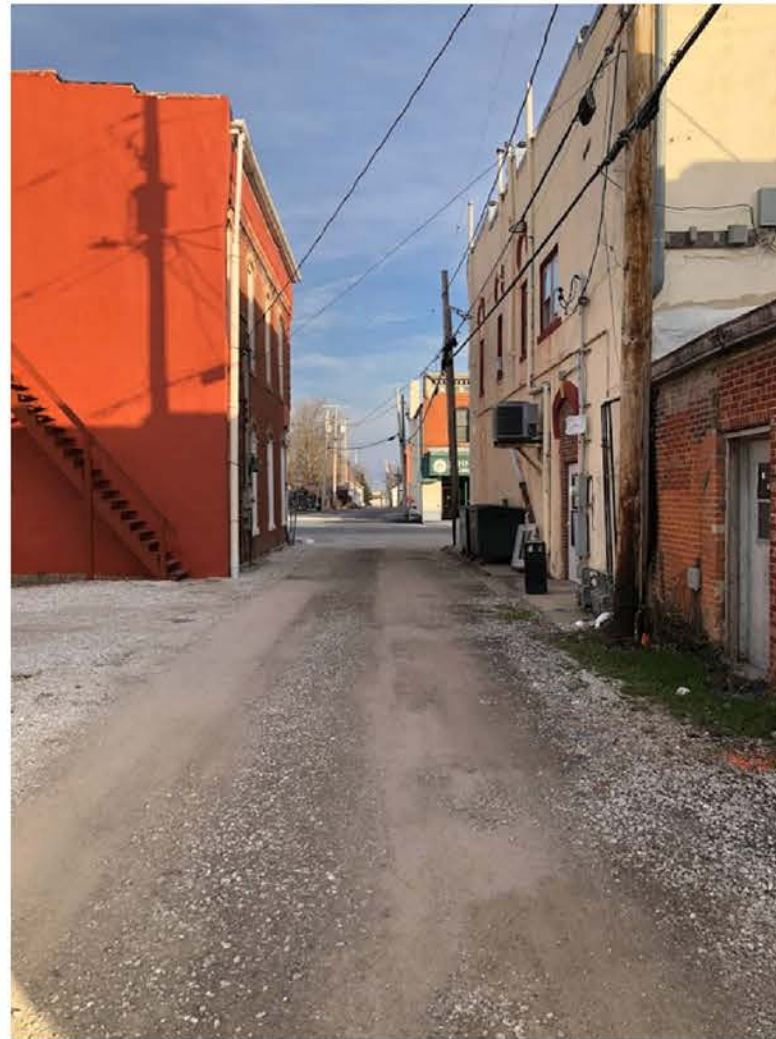
Approximately 50 community members took part in an inspirational evening of learning, visioning, sharing & goal setting.

PROLOGUE

The consultant team arrived in town on March 13 to observe how Mount Sterling enjoys an unseasonably warm day. What we found was a treasure trove of public space and opportunities for future development. With these assets in mind, we will begin to frame where possibilities exist to achieve the community's vision.



Rolling Greens is a recreational amenity that may support tourism and economic growth.



The alley adjacent to Sportsman's offers opportunities for activation and art.



The creek through Clark Park is a natural asset that could be enhanced through natural plantings and educational, sensory signage for kids.



North and Capitol is an iconic intersection and vantage point in Mount Sterling with plentiful activation opportunities nearby.

*Steering Committee
Meeting #2*



COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday morning saw the refinement of the Steering Committee's vision into smaller (but still big) ideas. After a visioning exercise, we dug deep into what aspects make a community inviting, livable and memorable and what types of projects and priorities they would like to focus on most. Together, the Committee and team formed the beginnings of a "game plan" for Mount Sterling's next decade.



DISCUSSING FUTURE INITIATIVES

*The Steering Committee toured a series of future concepts and flagged the topics they were most passionate about. Working in small groups they then discussed the top ranked focus areas to begin to identify specific components and possible action items to help move those projects forward. **Here's what we heard...***



Insights shared by the committee on the topics of:
DOING & DINING

ENTERTAINMENT

THE RINK WAS GREAT-
SOMETHING AFFORDABLE, THAT
CAN CATER TO FAMILIES AND
TEENAGERS

LEARNING EXPERIENCES?
MAYBE WITH DOT?

ARCADES!
FAMILY DINING!

ACTION ITEMS

FIND AN OPERATOR;
FIND STAFF;
FIND QUALITY
STOREFRONT SPACE;
MARKET THE BUSINESS

Running a business is
expensive and capital
costs are higher than
ever. How can we build
sustainable financing?

IDEAS

-PIZZA
-WINGS
-BREWERY
-SPORTS BAR
(LIKE BUFFALO WILD WINGS)

CHALLENGE

Property owners
aren't always
motivated to lease
out ground floor
retail space,
creating scarcity.

BUSINESS BENEFITS

- 1) MORE PEOPLE IN TOWN
- 2) SALES TAX REVENUE
- 3) CREATE DESTINATION
- 4) RECIRCULATING LOCAL \$\$\$

VISION

Staying in Brown County
for basics, food, and fun
- bring in visitors from
the region.

Insights shared by the committee on the topics of:

RECREATION

IMPROVEMENTS

Clark Park pickleball
Bathrooms @ Lake
Archery
Camping
Putt-putt

A potential challenge
to new park facilities
is funding- both for
upfront capital costs
and continued
programming

OPPORTUNITY

Marketing- Mount
Sterling has incredible
parks and assets. Letting
people know they're there
and having activities like
"park hopping" or
geocaching would highlight
them

EQUIPMENT RENTALS!
LAKE MOUNT STERLING
HAS A KAYAK RENTAL
VENDING MACHINE.
COULD THIS BE
EXPANDED WITH OTHER
ATHLETIC GEAR?

Let's better
coordinate with users
of the park (disc golf
leagues) to get the
word out about
rental equipment +
events!

EVENTS!

Story-walks
Citywide picnic
Scavenger hunt

Insights shared by the committee on the topics of:

HOUSING

CHARACTER
+ DESIGN
MATTERS!

The high cost of construction materials + labor makes building new homes at attainable prices difficult.

Many property owners "sit" on their land and are reluctant to develop
COULD WE USE PENALTIES OR INCENTIVES?

More types of all housing are needed! But getting people to move to smaller format homes may be a tough sell

People use large lots for storage or vehicles & equipment. Can we find a place to store them and free up land for development?

BENEFITS =
TAX BASE,
VIABILITY OF
INDUSTRY, &
TALENT POOL

OPPORTUNITY

The City can expand its boundaries south to the prison without significant infrastructure costs for utilities (e.g. pump stations)

INFILL DEV?
-FAIRGROUNDS
-SOUTH OF TOWN
-NEAR UPTOWN

CAN A LAND TRUST ACQUIRE PROPERTIES AND HELP GET HOUSING BUILT?
CAN ONE OF THE 3 TIFS BE LEVERAGED FOR CONSTRUCTION COSTS?



The next three slides organize this input to create a goal statement and outline the benefits, challenges, and action items to consider in arriving at such.



• BREAKOUT GROUP DISCUSSION •

DO & DINE

Goal: Serve-up the basics, food and fun! Create an environment where people don't have to leave Brown County and more visitors want to come in.



BENEFITS

- Would keep people in town and bring visitors in
- Increased traffic to businesses
- Increased sales tax rev for city
- Increased quality of life
- Supports community identity and builds recognition
- May support population growth if housing needs are met



CHALLENGES

- Scarcity/underutilization of existing space; property owners not motivated to lease or sell
- Finding operators for wanted businesses (nail salon, basic kids necessities, pizza, etc.)
- Financial hurdles
- Community lacks strong marketing



ACTIONS

- Affordable, family activities, things for teens; rink was great
- Pair food and play; i.e. pizza with play room, arcade games
- Kid-friendly learning experience, maybe sponsored by DOT
- Hometown version of Buffalo Wild Wings, similar to Jerseys (owners from Brown County)



ACTIONS

- Strengthen City brand/appeal
- Identify potential operators and available properties
- Explore retrofitting and/or re-use of Legion and Library sites
- Find access to capital for start up costs and renovations
- Provide training, coaching, marketing for owners

• BREAKOUT GROUP DISCUSSION •

GET OUTSIDE

Goal: Enhance Mount Sterling's appeal and recognition as a recreation destination with curated activities and events for all ages. Align efforts with a cohesive and compelling brand / marketing strategy to strengthen local tourism and identity.

BENEFITS

- Serves needs of local residents
- Destination / attracts tourists
- Supports mental and physical wellbeing; nature connection
- Wholesome, all-ages, and family-friendly vibe aligns with Mount Sterling's identity
- City-owned property

CHALLENGES

- Allocating funding to make improvements (bathroom facilities)
- Current community marketing and branding lacks cohesive identity

ACTIONS

- Re-stripe Clark Park tennis courts for pickleball
- Programming: citywide picnic, scavenger hunts, geocaching, park hop, story walk signage
- Add small equipment rental vending machines
- Support organization of biking/walking/running clubs in various park spaces.

ACTIONS

- Better coordination with Disc Golf Leagues; host "how to" classes, advertise equipment for rent at Library
- Map/brochure of local assets
- Better marketing of parks in and around City, kayak rental
- Explore full range of activities: archery, biking, fishing, hiking, hunting, kayaking, picnicking, pickleball, putt-putt, tennis...

• BREAKOUT GROUP DISCUSSION •

HOUSING

Goal: Provide a range of affordable, quality housing types that attract new residents, support local employment base, and ensure empty nesters and seniors can downsize and comfortably age in place.

BENEFITS

- Supports population growth
- Employment base needs this
- Increases tax revenue
- Expands local talent pool
- Foot traffic / economy boost

CHALLENGES

- Where to build? Location
- Upper story residential and infill dictated by current property owners willingness to sell / make improvements
- Cost; how to make affordable housing feasible based on construction costs

ACTIONS

- Expand City boundaries
- Create property index that identifies development and infill opportunities
- Update land use / zoning to identify policies and regulations to guide dev.
- Create design guidelines to communicate ideals for housing, scale, character

ACTIONS

- Explore infill development as part of Fairgrounds
- Identify innovative options to meet costs
- Create a land trust
- Provide off-site storage to accommodate residents who live in smaller homes, rentals, downsizing, etc.

Community Open House Summary



PARTICIPATORY FUNDING &
VISUAL PREFERENCE

OPEN HOUSE SUMMARY

The planning team (and 50 of our closest friends) took over the upstairs of Hagel 1891 to find common ground on priorities for the City of Mount Sterling. Together, residents participated in a visioning exercise, participatory funding around starter concepts, and a visual preference activity. The most popular components of Mount Sterling's future vision are highlighted on the subsequent pages.



Dan Teefey and Vada Yingling kicked off the meeting with a welcome note and a recap of accomplishments from the last strategic plan.



Writing and visioning exercises were conducted to initiate critical thinking about the elements that make a place great.



Residents prioritized concepts and strategies through funding from "Tip-Top Notcher's Piggy Bank" and visual preference polls.

Idea Lodge

PARTICIPATORY FUNDING ACTIVITY

*The following six concept boards were developed
based on community input to date.*



Get Outside

RECREATION. TOURISM. HEALTH & WELLNESS. ECONOMY. IDENTITY

The Opportunity: Lake Mount Sterling is a natural amenity with considerable potential. Situated only 1.5 miles from town, railway connectivity is planned.

The Idea: Partner with local members of the community to improve amenities, experiences, identity, economic viability and market as a unique destination.

- Tents, Yurts, Platforms, RVs
- Bathroom/Shower Facilities
- Retreats, Rentals, Events
- Provide ADA Amenities
- Appeals to All Ages
- Supports Mental Health



Camping & Glamping

Partner with local businesses, restaurants and non-profits to program events for kids, families, hobbyists, health retreats, safety and survival training, etc.



Seasonal General Store with Branded Swag



Creative & Sustainable Upcycling



Family & Teen Activities



Do and Dine

SOCIAL VIBRANCY. ECONOMY. HEALTH & WELLNESS. QUALITY OF LIFE

The Opportunity: Seize market potential, strengthen social fabric, expand food, health, entertainment, quality of life and experiences through doing and dining.

The Idea: Wider breadth of food and entertainment options meets family-friendly atmosphere and affordability; upbeat day-to-evening settings, carry-out and dine in options.

- Family-Friendly, Sports, Date Night
- Affordable, Carryout, Dine-In
- Upbeat Day-to-Evening
- Parties / Rentals / Leagues
- Healthy Food Options
- Dine-In, Carry-Out

Dining Destinations as Economic Development Engines



Provide choice and comfort. Leveraging a strong local food culture that offers affordable, healthy, and family-style options caters to the whole community and varying needs, preferences therein.



Grab-and-go or sit-and-stay, all under one roof

Dining for all flavors of people and events: family dinners, date nights, lunch breaks, visitors, passersby, health-conscious, birthdays, and much more! A diverse dining scene keeps money circulating in the community and gives workers and visitors a reason to stay.

CHECK. PLEASE!



Same time next week?

Activities and restaurants that keep you coming back. Places where you can build community at a price point that allows you to come back often and healthy offerings to make sure you are nourished each time.

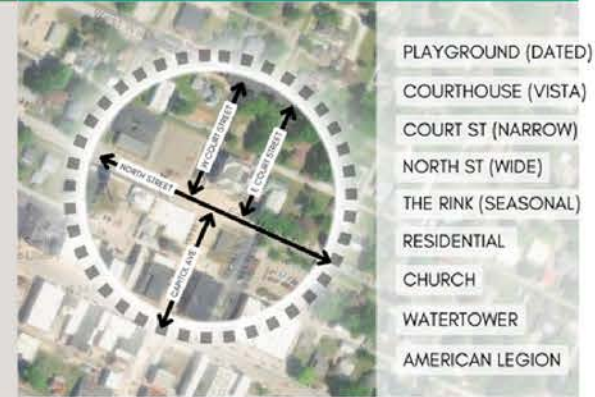


Experience Uptown

The Opportunity: Build on momentum in Uptown, add needed retail space, activate underutilized sites, create canvas for flex-events and connection.

The Idea: Reimagine synergy of spaces, places and potential in the historic heart of Uptown to cultivate an engaging public realm animated by a range of activities and programming.

- Identify Underutilized Sites & R.O.W
- Outline Community Needs & Goals
- Review Community Flex-Space Models
- Coordinate with Property Owners
- Review Traffic Circulation/Safety
- Conduct North Street Pilot Project
- Engage Youth in Pop-Up Activations



Design spaces that are part of something bigger



Understanding the context of a site allows a design to tie into larger systems. Here we'll consider how spaces are used and function, and what the broader community vision is. **Therein lies the opportunity!**

Create spaces that are dynamic, cohesive and reflective



Pilot projects & activations as part of the Bicentennial

From community pilot project to permanent people place...



Reflective: Celebrate community identity and facilitate a shared sense of ownership and attachment.

Cohesive: Promote social interaction among residents, workers, business owners, and other community members.

Mighty Identity

CHARACTER. HISTORY. PLACEMAKING. EVENTS. TOURISM

The Opportunity: Placemaking, tourism, economic engine, storytelling, culture, history etc. Build on existing identity and elevating.

The Idea: We cultivate and activate an inviting, accessible, and people-centered atmosphere that celebrates historic character.

- Public Art Around Small but Mighty
- Interactive Sculptures
- Explorative Storytelling
- Places to Play
- Playful Connections to Nature



Connect the Dots: Small but Mighty Walking Tour

Embrace Small but Mighty



From the tiny hornet to the mighty Tip Top Notcher, there is an opportunity to tell stories of the underdog - the people, places and legends with an oversized impact.

Magnification Art



Hornets are one of many pollinators



Small spaces with mighty impacts through native plants

Public checkerboards



Diversify Housing Mix

AFFORDABILITY. LIVABILITY. POPULATION GROWTH. ECONOMY

The Opportunity: Large employment base and limited housing diversity paired with the desire to attract new residents and ensure empty nesters can downsize and seniors can age in place.

The Idea: Increase mix of affordable, quality buy/rent housing options in the \$75-\$150K range. Explore opportunities for rehab, infill, new development, and expansion of city boundaries.

- Affordable, Quality Starter Homes
- Add Rentals, Density Near Uptown
- Update Property Inventory Directory
- Single-Level Cottages, 55+ Community
- Senior, Assisted Living
- Landuse, Zoning, Policies, Programs



Multiple Units that look like a house...

One of many solutions to the national housing problem is to build quality housing to meet the needs of the two largest age demographics in the country - Millennials & Baby Boomers



Help people build local wealth...



Upper story rentals puts feet on the street, more customers in Uptown, maximizes existing infrastructure, provides additional revenue for property owners.

Attached Single Family Structures



DIFFERENT DEMOGRAPHICS HAVE DIFFERENT HOUSING NEEDS

I'm a single person. I need a studio apartment that's close to where I work and bikeable to downtown.

We are roommates. We need a three-bedroom unit with space to host. We're not into yard work, and don't need a backyard.

We are retirees. We need a home where we are surrounded by community. We don't drive and prefer to be very close to what we need.

We are a couple. We need a small place where we know our neighbors. We want to be able to walk to shops and restaurants.

We are a multigenerational family. We need room for three generations to live together. Grandma and grandpa need their own space to relax, but still want to be steps away from their kids and grandkids and to be present in the family's daily life.

We are a family. We need space for our kids to live and play, and we'll love a backyard. We'd love it if they could walk to school.

ADOPT POLICIES THAT INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY, AFFORDABILITY, AND DIVERSITY OF HOUSING

Pave the Way

ACCESS. CIRCULATION. RESILIENCE. SUSTAINABILITY. SAFETY

The Opportunity: Investing in resilient infrastructure is vital for sustainable development, economic functions, and connecting people and places.

The Idea: Prioritize infrastructure investments to improve circulation and safety. Focus on key destinations, youth, senior, and safety first.

- Pave Streets & Sidewalks
- Fix and Fill Sidewalk Gaps
- Improve Corridor Safety
- Pedestrian Refuges
- Push to Cross Signals
- Hazard Mitigation Planning



Complete Sidewalks + Trails

Pedestrian Refuge



Natural infrastructure like bioswales and tree canopies help manage the effects of inclement weather by absorbing and filtering stormwater and reducing air temperature during heat events.



Safe streets for everyone

A street that allows for safe walking and biking is a street that's safer for all users. This infrastructure also ensures that those without cars, such as children or elderly, can safely access all that Mount Sterling has to offer!



INVESTING IN MOUNT STERLING'S FUTURE

Participants were awarded \$750 "Brown County Bucks" from Tip-Top Notcher's Piggy Bank to invest in the concepts they felt most passionate about.



RESULTS & EARNINGS

The final tally for each concept is noted below:

\$2,650	GET OUTSIDE Invest in a wider array of recreational opportunities.
\$1,400	DO & DINE Invest in family-friendly/healthy food, affordable experiences.
\$1,400	MIGHTY IDENTITY Invest in unique community-based branding.
\$1,350	EXPERIENCE UPTOWN Continue to invest in making Uptown the “place to be.”
\$1,250	DIVERSIFY HOUSING MIX Invest in housing of varying types and price points.
\$700	PAVE THE WAY Invest in improved and new public infrastructure.



It is important to note that all of these concepts are interrelated and address both programmatic and infrastructure related needs. A balance of both is necessary and essential in shaping a vibrant, resilient, and prosperous future for Mount Sterling. Successful implementation and phasing must be looked at from a collective perspective.

Visual Preference



Participants toured a series of image boards and used colored stickers to identify the initiatives they preferred most for Mount Sterling's future.

VISUAL PREFERENCE

The boards displayed images with short descriptions to communicate varying types of community goals, amenities, infrastructure needs and placemaking components.



TOP 5 RANKED INITIATIVES

Please see detailed overview that follows...

- 1 Expand recreational offerings and lodging at lake mount sterling
- 2 Reimagine potential of North/Capitol St. (uses, outdoor dining, lighting, etc.)
- 3 Attract day-to-evening uses/venues; food, play, entertainment, family-friendly
- 4 Provide affordable quality housing types for all ages, needs, life stages
- 5 Explore community commons, flex play spaces, outdoor amphitheater



EXPAND RECREATIONAL OFFERINGS AND LODGING AT LAKE MOUNT STERLING

24 votes

Residents emphatically agreed on the importance of Lake Mount Sterling and its role in attracting visitors to the City.



REIMAGINE POTENTIAL ALONG NORTH STREET AND CAPITOL STREET

23 votes

Capitol Street is an iconic sightline in Mount Sterling; already home to seasonal events and programming like the Rink and with opportunities to add retail space, many attendants agreed that this central area is a major opportunity for Mount Sterling's future.



ATTRACT USES THAT CATER TO DAY-TO-EVENING VENUES

20 votes

Mount Sterling is a tapestry of different people and preferences. More places to hang out, dine, drink, and have fun round-the-clock is an opportunity to keep people and investment in town.



PROVIDE AFFORDABLE, QUALITY HOUSING TYPES FOR ALL NEEDS, AGES, AND LIFESTYLES

18 votes

Respondents believe that a small town shouldn't mean limited choices. Attainable housing to attract new families and to keep seniors in town (and every demographic in between) is widely viewed as important for Mount Sterling's future.

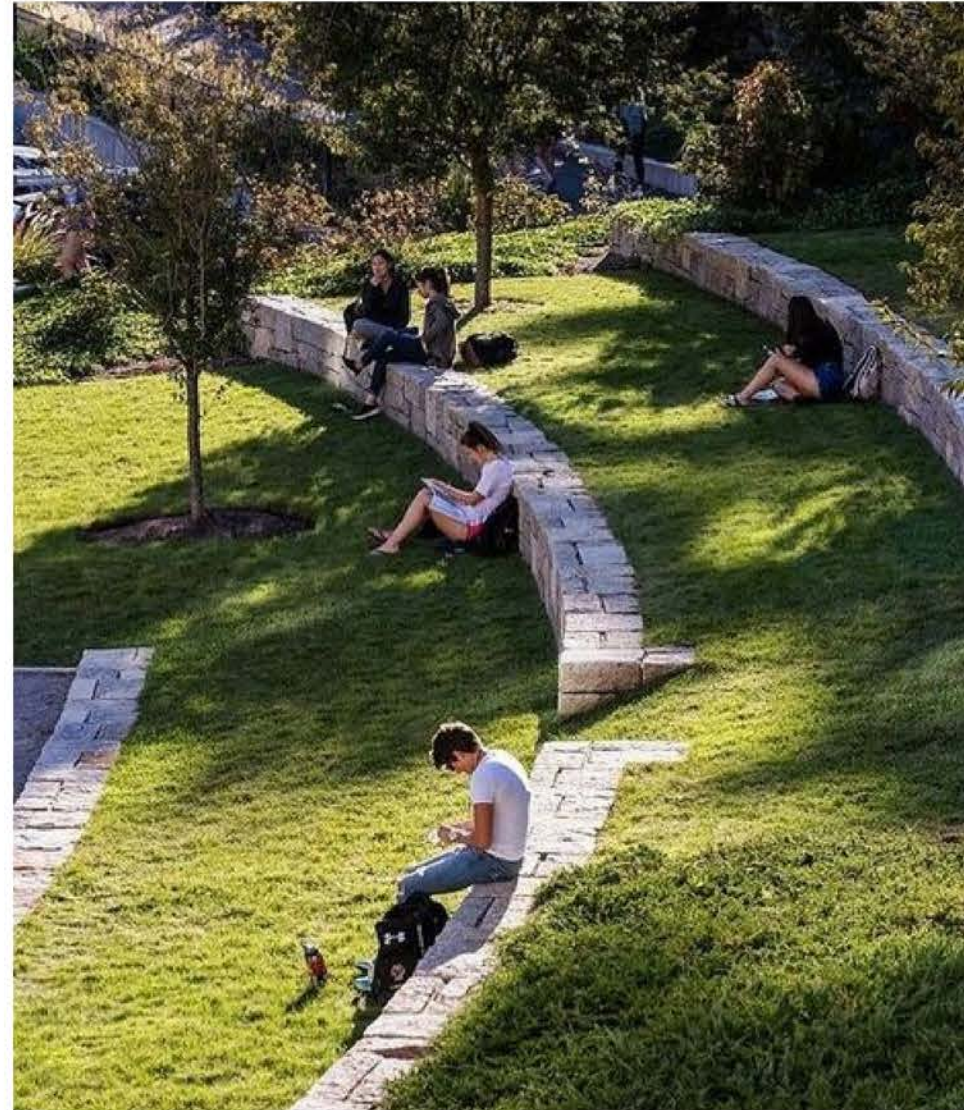


EXPLORE COMMUNITY COMMONS, FLEX PLAY SPACES, AMPHITHEATER

17 votes

5

As a small and closely-knit community, coming together is a big part of Mount Sterling's identity. More places for playing, gathering, and "neighboring" is a priority for the future.



OTHER TOP PRIORITIES (EACH RECEIVED 16 VOTES)

Advance Health & Wellness activities, goods, affordability.



Continue Uptown improvements; seek more outdoor dining areas.



6

Focus on commercial district investment strategies.



Illuminate walkways, plazas, and dining areas with festoon lighting.



PRIORITIZE PAVING ROADS, SIDEWALKS GAPS, RESILIENT CONNECTIVITY

15 votes

Continued infrastructure upgrades translate into improved mobility, increased transportation options, and accessibility for more people. Respondents recognized the benefits of infrastructure and placed it within the top ten of highest-priority concepts.



APPENDIX: VISIONING IN ACTION

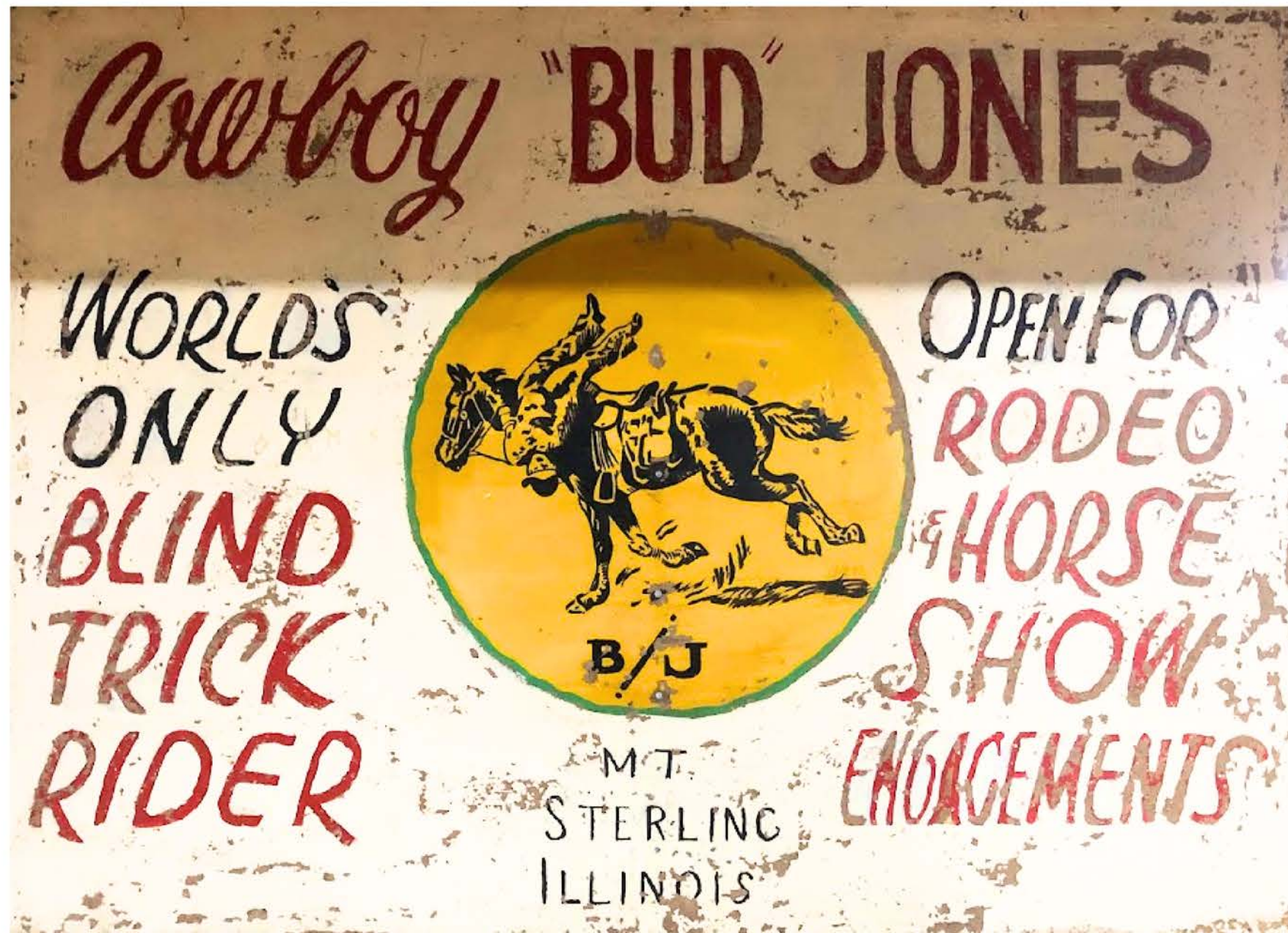


APPENDIX: VISIONING IN ACTION



EPILOGUE

The consultant team continued to explore Mount Sterling on Friday morning. A trip to the Mount Sterling Depot History Museum was a fascinating dive into the town's history and an opening day visit to Lake Mount Sterling helped the team understand the unique recreational asset and opportunity just north of town.





Project Website

ONLINE INPUT & ENGAGEMENT

An interactive project website was established at the start of the planning process to provide a range of tools and different ways for community members to share and learn about the plan.

ONLINE ENGAGEMENT METRICS

DECEMBER 2023 THROUGH MARCH 2024

Performance Summary

1,115

Views

925

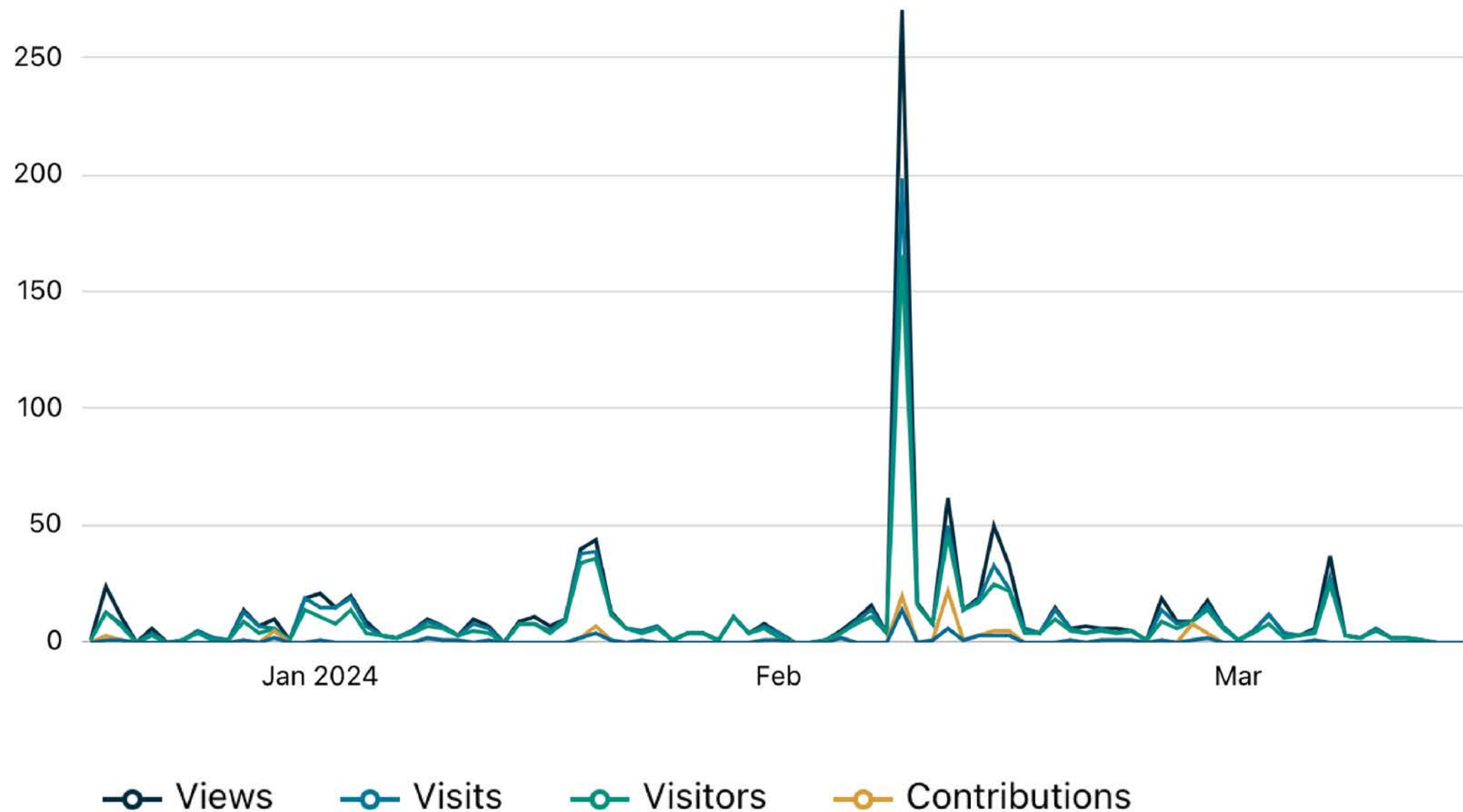
Visits

637

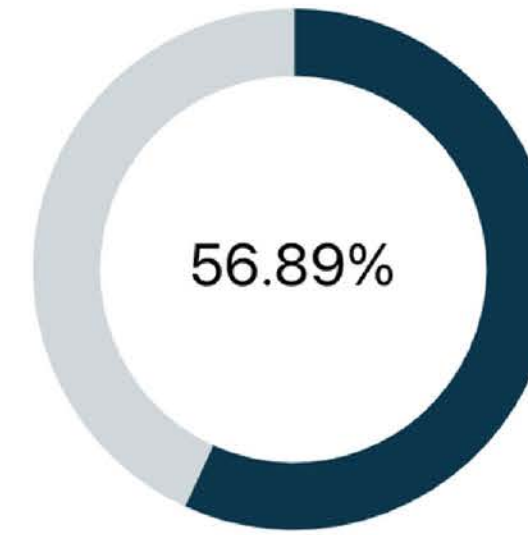
Visitors

106

Contributions

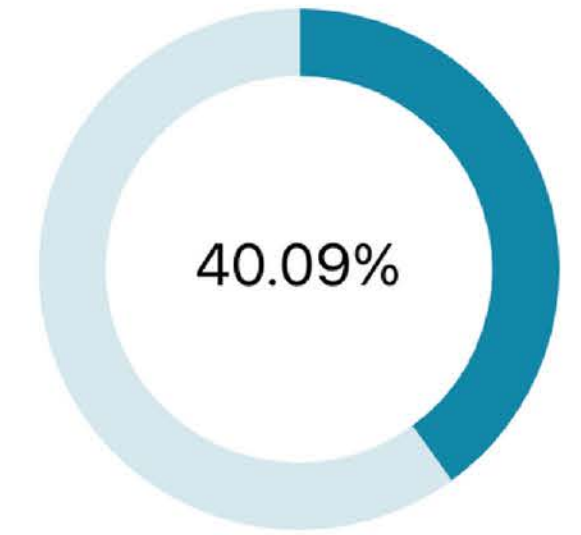


Attention



Percentage of visits that lasted at least **1 active minute**.

Actions



Percentage of visits where at least **2 actions** were performed.

In the short course of 3 months, the project website for Mount Sterling's Strategic Plan received 1,115 views and 925 visits by 637 unique visitors. The majority of visits (~57%) lasted longer than a minute meaning people were engaged in reading content, and/or contributing ideas. 40% of visitors participated in at least 2 actions, i.e. adding a comment, up-voting an idea, or clicking a link.

IDEAS WALL



TOP RANKED COMMENTS

The Ideas Wall provided an opportunity for community members to share ideas, photos and up-vote input they agreed with. In total, 90 posts were added receiving a collective total of 543 upvotes of support. Below are the top three supported posts, with others on the slides that follow.



90

Posts

45

contributors



543

Total Votes

7.3 avg.

votes / post



907

Views

10.19 views /

post

Housing and traffic

Posted by Anonymous | a month ago

Respectfully, I'd like to highlight an important consideration. The current real estate landscape in Mt. Sterling poses a significant challenge for many potential employees, as half-million dollar homes are often financially unattainable. To attract a broader workforce, it might be beneficial to explore options for more affordable rental properties. This could facilitate the relocation of individuals seeking employment at Dot Foods. Furthermore, addressing the traffic congestion during shift...

♥ 25 Likes



Housing

Posted by Anonymous | a month ago

\$225,000 is NOT affordable housing for most people in this area. We need housing that is affordable for warehouse workers, including rental properties for those that aren't in a position to secure a home loan. Affordable apartments are needed much more than houses that cost \$300,000 with a \$12,000/year tax bill. "Affordable" does not mean \$1800/month for a studio apartment. Apartments for less than \$1,000/month are needed if Dot wants to hire and keep warehouse personnel.

♥ 25 Likes



Restaurant availability

Posted by Anonymous | 2 months ago

While we are a small community, Mt Sterling is home to employment opportunities that bring in business revenue. Unfortunately, our choices are limited when it comes to meals, and the availability of these meals. Many have sworn off or limited their intake of fast food. Many of us would appreciate other options for pizza, salads and Italian food. Many on night shift and particular schedules are forced to eat convenience foods; when healthier, fresher options would be welcomed. Not everyone...

♥ 23 Likes



TOP RANKED COMMENTS THAT RECEIVED BETWEEN 19 AND 14 "LIKES" / UPVOTES



Pizza Place

Posted by Anonymous | 3 months ago

A nice, casual pizza place where you can go with the family or out with friends / family is so needed... and would be so loved. Maybe some tvs or a small bar for watching sports. Dine-in and carry-out service! A food truck could be great for special...

♥ 19 Likes



Food Truck Square

Posted by Anonymous | 2 months ago

In the same location as the rink, from May to September, make this food truck central. Trucks around the edges. Picnic tables in the middle. Corn dog stand, Mexican food truck, the pizza place that came to the fairgrounds, BBQ wagon. Give them a central location that includes community seating. Find trucks from other communities that stay for a week or two at a time. Be open for lunch all week and dinner Thursday-Saturday.

♥ 19 Likes



WE NEED Park District Programs

Posted by Anonymous | 2 months ago

The park district needs to be involved in so many more programs for the community. The Macomb Park District maintains a ceramic program, mini golf course, batting cages, dog park, disc golf, skate park, athletic fields and a nature center. Why isn't our park district doing these things in our community? The park district needs to team up with the art alliance to offer art programs in the summer and work with other groups who have requested to bring in a dog park. The YMCA is great for...

♥ 17 Likes



Creating a Hangout Spot

Posted by Anonymous | 3 months ago

There's nowhere in town for families, friends, and people of all ages to hangout! There's either the Y or Sportsman's, which are both great, however we need something more! I vote we bring another business, like a bowling alley, into town so we all have somewhere to spend time and meet friends!

♥ 17 Likes



Casual Dining

Posted by Anonymous | 2 months ago

We need a casual dining spot that can serve a variety of populations, from families to friend wanting to meet for a drink. Also, to be open on Friday evenings after football games and Sunday during lunch for the after church crowd. A hometown bar and grill with Hornet gear/decor would go over so well in this community.

♥ 15 Likes



Attraction

Posted by Anonymous | 2 months ago

A year round attraction that draws people from all around. The rink did a great job of this but we need something year round. You do this and then some other ideas would be great to keep people staying for longer periods of time. You have an attraction, people come, then you can do the walking tours, the food truck village, bowling alley, and things like that to keep people entertained for maybe a weekend getaway type experience. In terms of this, maybe also taking an unused building closer to...

♥ 15 Likes



Dog Park

Posted by Anonymous | a month ago

It would be so beneficial to have an area to allow pet owners to take their companions to interact with others and have a safe environment to do so. There is no designated area to for pet owners to utilize and are scolded for using other public...

♥ 14 Likes



TOP RANKED COMMENTS THAT RECEIVED BETWEEN 13 AND 9 "LIKES" / UPVOTES



Seasonal Activities & Destinations

Posted by Anonymous | 3 months ago

The Rink has been such a wonderful seasonal addition to Mount Sterling! I'd love to see more unique and inviting draws that bring our community and families together during all seasons, daytime/weekend as well as evening hours. It enriches the...

♥ 13 Likes

Housing

Posted by Anonymous | a month ago

Affordable housing for single individuals. While the new houses being built are nice, they are not affordable for single individuals. Options for a 2-3 bedroom houses!

♥ 13 Likes

Walking Path

Posted by Anonymous | a month ago

We've got some things going at the city lake with the frisbee golf, but we need to add more. How about a walking path around the lake. It's so beautiful out there. You could get in some exercise while taking in fresh air and nature!

♥ 11 Likes

Recycling center

Posted by Anonymous | a month ago

Most of the surrounding areas have a designated place for residents to bring their old electronics- TVs, monitors, etc. Having a place set up like this would decrease seeing these items disposed of in harmful ways. I think there are even some EPA programs that would subsidize the costs of having a place for items like this.

♥ 11 Likes

Farm Store

Posted by Anonymous | a month ago

It would be nice to have some kind of Farm Store in town. As a Farm community it would be nice to buy supplies in my hometown instead of having to go out of town. When we have to go out of town then we end up going to other stores as well to do all of our shopping at one time.

♥ 11 Likes

Recreation

Posted by Anonymous | a month ago

A combination skating rink & bowling alley. This would offer up a great recreation experience for kids & families. Preferably NO alcohol served & NO gambling machines, as these two things are everywhere and are shaping the minds of our youth as things that should be part of their lives. Thank you to the Tracy Family for your continued investment in the community!

♥ 10 Likes

Housing

Posted by Anonymous | a month ago

Affordable housing for single individuals. While the new houses being built are nice, they are not affordable for single individuals. Options for a 2-3 bedroom houses!

♥ 13 Likes

Trade School in Partnership with JWCC

Posted by Anonymous | a month ago

Folks who are trained in a trade are drying up seemingly by the day. Unfortunately, the process to become licensed in a trade takes so much time and is so difficult, the effort isn't worth the pursuit. Offering trade classes here in town could promote that opportunity for kids leaving BCHS and wanting to pursue this kind of work.

♥ 9 Likes

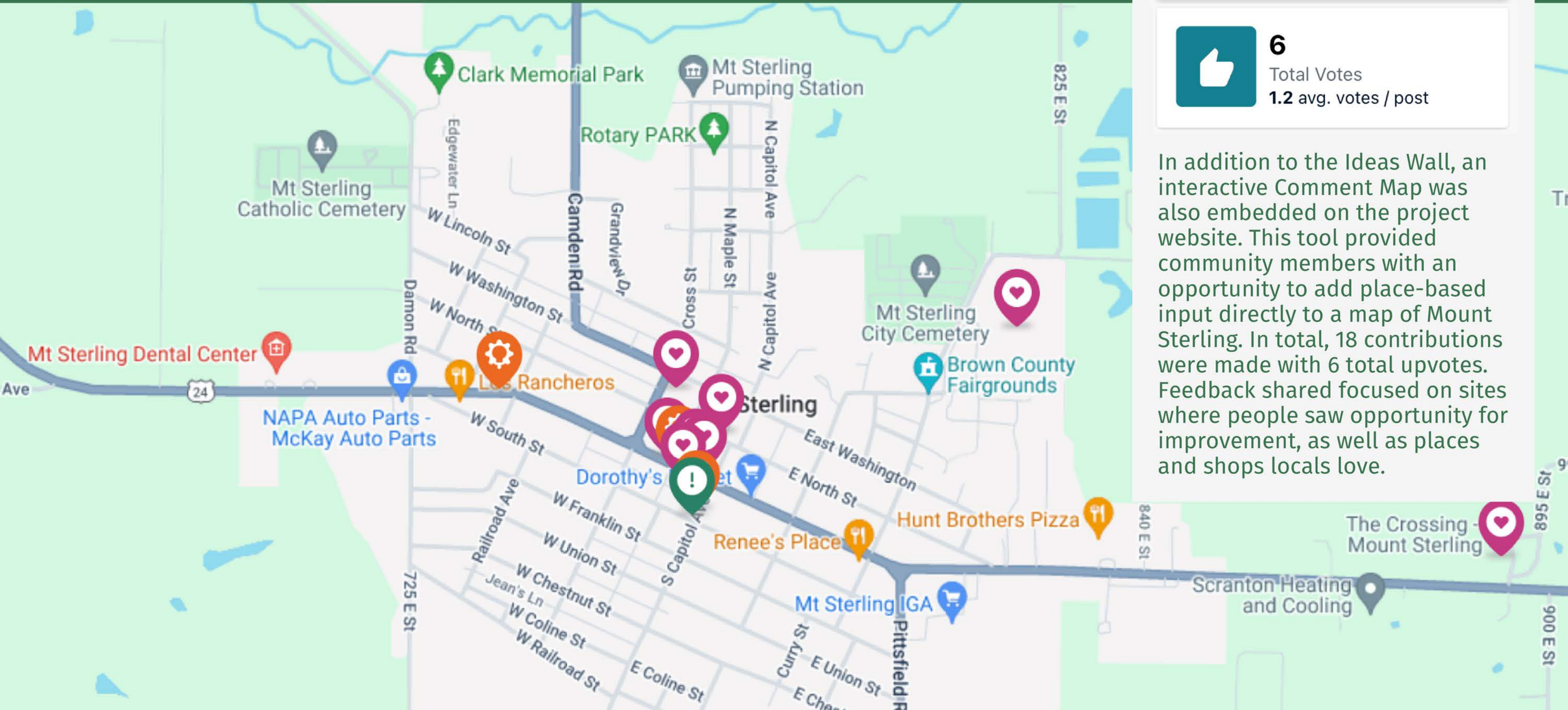
Local Business-Nail Salon

Posted by Anonymous | a month ago

We have so many community members drive 45 minutes to get their nails done on a regular basis. It would be great to attract talent or support local interest in a nail salon venture. This could be in partnership with an existing business or a new business that focuses on a variety of things such as nails, massage, and wellness activity such as yoga or pilates.

♥ 9 Likes

COMMENT MAP

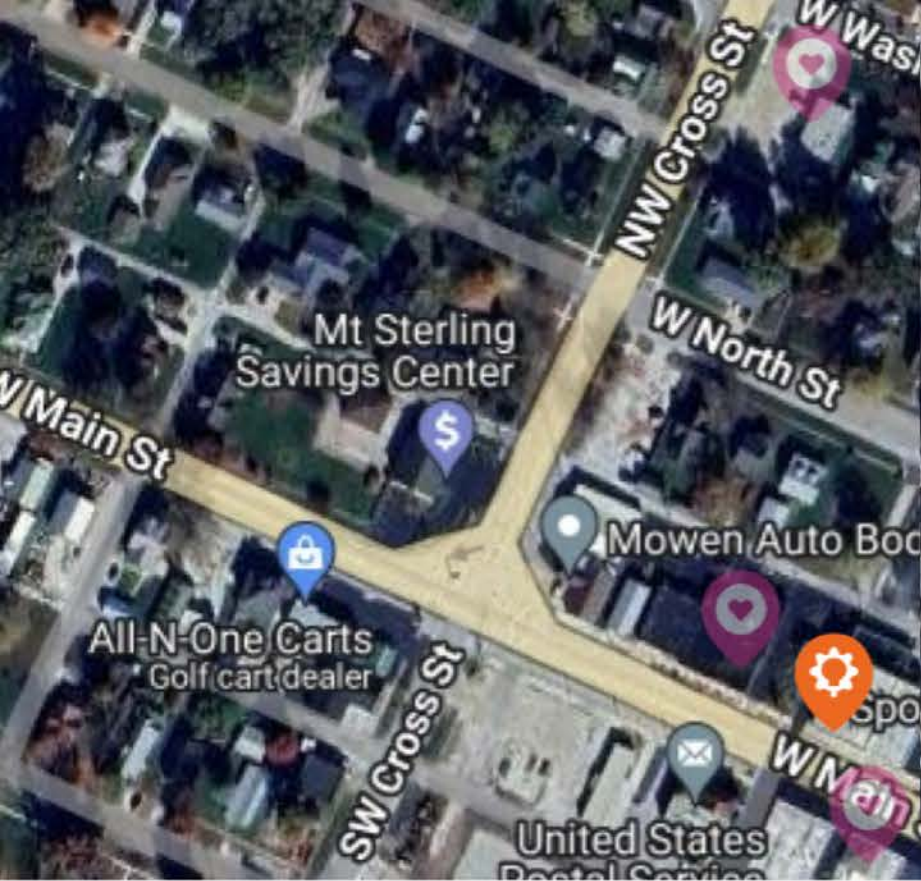


18
Posts
9 contributors



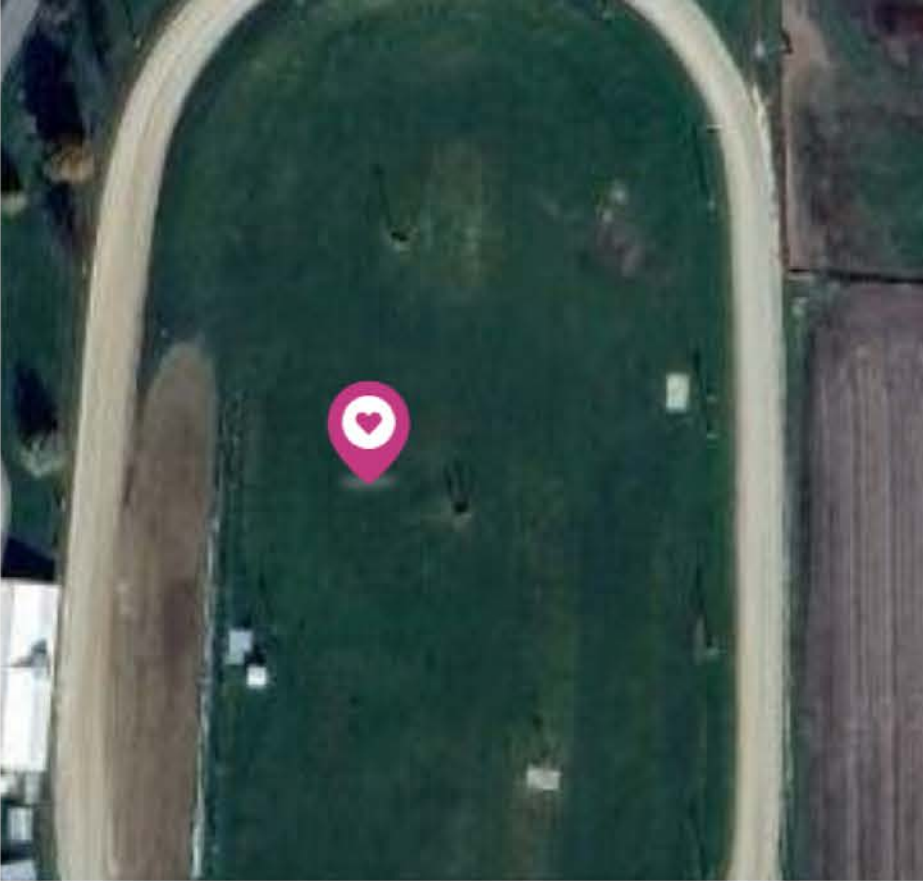
6
Total Votes
1.2 avg. votes / post

In addition to the Ideas Wall, an interactive Comment Map was also embedded on the project website. This tool provided community members with an opportunity to add place-based input directly to a map of Mount Sterling. In total, 18 contributions were made with 6 total upvotes. Feedback shared focused on sites where people saw opportunity for improvement, as well as places and shops locals love.



Idea / Comment
 I'd like to see more blade signs. They enhance the pedestrian / shopping environment and provide visibility of our local businesses.

2 VOTES OF SUPPORT



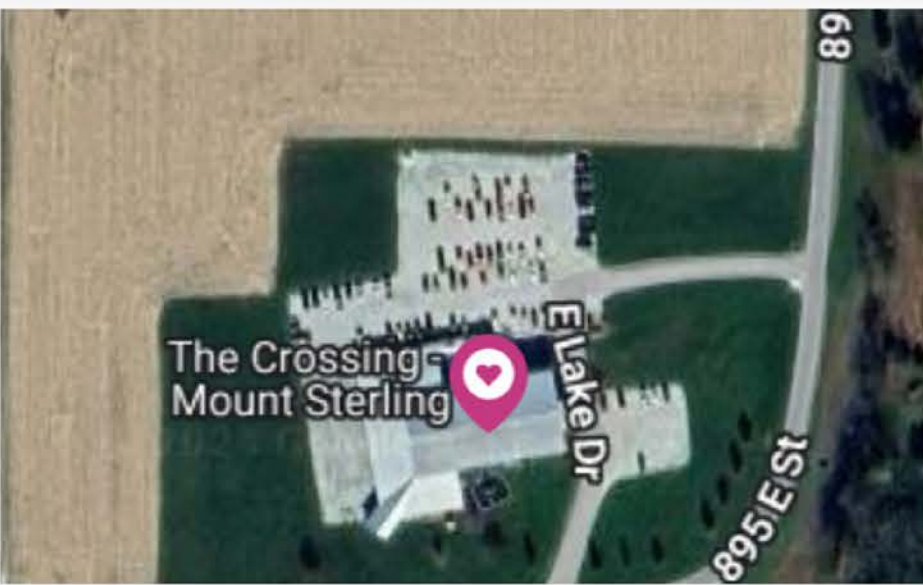
Idea / Comment
 I love the horse races at the Brown County Fair!

1 VOTES OF SUPPORT



Idea / Comment
 This is an interesting intersection and focal point for westbound travelers.... might be an opportunity for beautification, community signage or a unique sculpture / piece of public art.

1 VOTES OF SUPPORT



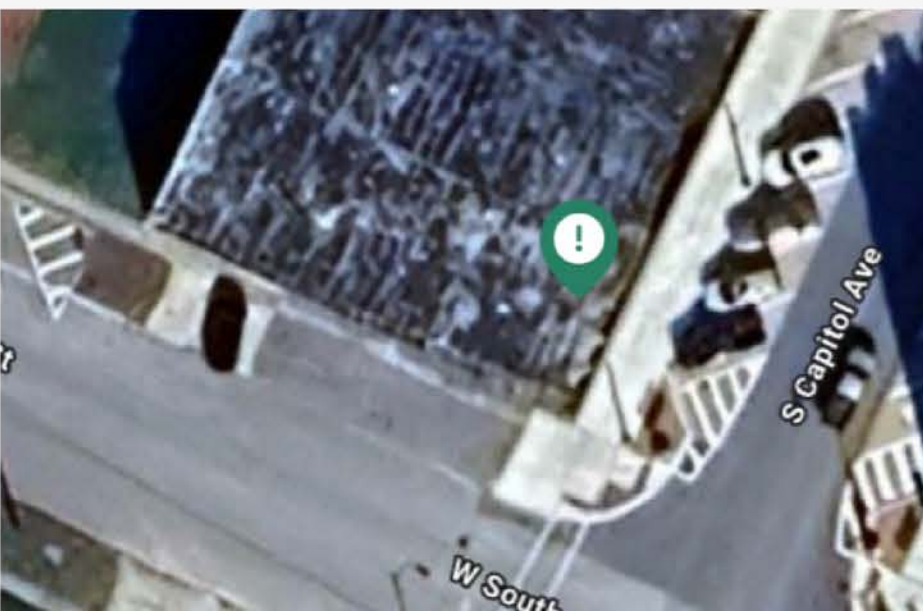
Idea / Comment
 Such an important part of our community's future growth, is its spiritual growth. A place like The Crossing is vital for this.

1 VOTES OF SUPPORT



Idea / Comment
 The Rink! This was a great seasonal addition and draw for our community. I'd love to see more activities year-round that offer unique experiences for residents and visitors alike. Identifying additional ways to partner with local businesses, perhaps doing theme / craft nights, and shop pop-ups would be a bonus. Loved the hot cocoa at Sportsmans!

1 VOTES OF SUPPORT



Idea / Comment
 Can this building be repurposed? Restaurant? Retail?

Idea / Comment
 Movie theater.

NEXT STEPS

Draft Plan Development (ongoing)

April - June 2024

Steering Committee Meeting #3 ***Review & Refine Interim Draft***

Thursday, May 9th · 9-12

Yingling & Nuessen Insurance

111 W Washington Street

Marketing for June Open House

YMCA to create Social Media Event

Teska to Design Social Media Graphic / Ad for DM

Share with Committee and Dan @ Newspaper

Community Open House

Share & Present Final Draft Strategic Plan

Thursday, June 6th · Time TBD (5:30PM?)

Hagel 1891 (Upstairs)

