

WARD 8 - STRATEGIC FORUM PROGRESS

Citizen Input	Dept.	Ward	Comments
Purposeful collaboration with the Ward, Neighborhood Associations – regular updates with CWLP, Public Works, District, SMTD, Police, Fire, Ameren, etc. All the people we vote for, we need to have them come together and let the residents come and listen.	Econ Dev	8	At the first of the year, the city has started a weekly e-blast to share with neighborhood associations about City updates (weekly branch pickup and construction locations and City events). This would be outside the District & SMTD but trying to use social media to help share their updates/news that affect the broader community.
Sidewalks – start and stop on Monroe Street into the Pasfield Park area. Difference from house to house.	PW	8	Public Works has been working to address sidewalk issues in that area. There are some challenges due to right of way issues which is expressed through the inconsistent sidewalk connectivity. Have passed to engineering for further review.
Need better quality neighborhood streets for families.	PW	8	Streets are rated by engineering division each year with the poorest streets being repaired during the construction season. Ratings are based on accepted professional engineering standards. If is an area of particular concern can have engineering review.
Restoration of library branches – Physical bricks and mortar buildings. A City our size should have more than one branch. A place to gather vs. online services.		8	Lincoln Library is doing a strategic plan which included a public survey. The library has also started online services and expanded their classes and programs for the public.
Left turning lane on Monroe and Chatham. Starbucks traffic is rough and is an accident waiting to happen. Always long lines and affects traffics both ways.	PW	8	The city Traffic Engineer has been in contact with the property owner regarding the issue. An improvement to the property is being considered that may address the issue.
Travelling from the west side of Springfield to east of Springfield with the schools during the morning. Congestion is too much. Pathway from each side of the City is not adequate.	PW	8	Based on commonly accepted professional traffic engineering standards the level of congestion on east west corridors is appropriate and does not cause any significant delay. Some exceptions may occur with construction work during the season but those are temporary and to be expected in order to make improvements.
Lawrence is a race track. Cars constantly speeding.	PW	8	Need to put on speed monitor rotation and/or patrol.
So many little businesses in the area but parking is not adequate. Chatham Road and Starbucks is an example of not enough space to handle the traffic.		8	Economic Development will meet with owner to determine the desire to move.

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School District needs to be more involved with area schools because people drop kids off in the street for those attending Grant, Springfield and Dubois. They don't use the allotted spots – instead stop in street and someone is going to get into an accident or a student will get hit/injured.		8	Concerned shared with District 186
Better enforcement by Housing Inspectors. Houses are becoming dilapidated and properties are not up to code.	PW	8	The Housing Division has been directed to be more proactive in citing housing code violations and not relying solely on complaints. The administration is working towards a strategy with other entities to restore the properties.
More Street Sweepers	PW	8	The city purchased two new sweepers in 2015 and is planning on continuing to upgrade and expand the sweeping program.
Slow snow removal response and needs to be more prompt. On Governor and Feldkamp – the snow removal does not happen.	PW	8	Snow removal is a top priority of the Public Works Department and our goal is to do our best to insure every street in the city is safe and passable for residents. The Department attempts to adjust which neighborhoods are cleared first for each event to insure that are not always last to be cleared. In addition more aggressive use of tracking technology allows the city to track for any areas or streets that may have been missed. West side salt dome was also added and will re-evaluate after the snow season.
County Market and Qik n EZ on Monroe is nice to have but not appealing. It is a lot of concrete for the area. The analogy is that it is similar to fly dumping but on a commercial level at the corner on Monroe and Chatham	Econ Dev	8	Public Works is going to partner with Springfield Green to improve needed green spaces and Ash Tree replacement.
There are many residents who do not obey traffic rules – accelerate on yellow lights vs. being cautious and slowing down.	Police	8	If we have specific addresses and locations we will be able to put on speed monitor rotation and/or patrol.
Monroe Park Condominiums – dogs and cats cut thru and leave droppings.		8	Will share information with Sangamon County Animal Control.
There needs to be a law in place for vicious dogs. It needs to be enforced before the dog hurts a person.		8	Concerned shared with Sangamon County Animal Control
Clearer plan on who handles dog issues		8	New City Website navigation assists in directing residents.

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Animal Control is horrible		8	
Communication for neighborhoods/wards about things happening in their areas (i.e. – armed robberies, house broken into so they are on alert)	Comm	8	City rolled out a new website in addition to a weekly email program. The neighborhood NPOs are willing to attend neighborhood association meetings to provide an update on what is occurring in the area. The NPO information is located on the City and Police Web sites. Residents may also use the website: www.crimerports.com to find out other happenings in the area.
Release of information about crimes. Police haven't been forthcoming about crimes in the area.	Police	8	The neighborhood NPOs are willing to attend neighborhood association meetings to provide an update on what is occurring in the area. The NPO information is located on the City and Police Web sites. Residents may also use the website: www.crimerports.com to find out other happenings in the area.
Need to hear more from Public Works – branches, leaves, etc.		8	City rolled out a new website in addition to a weekly email blast to Neighborhood Associations who sign-up through the Mayor's office. Information is also shared on the City's Facebook and Twitter pages.
Easier access to information on the Website for people	Comm	8	Communications developed a new Website that is mobile optimized and directed toward residents and business needs.
Spot crime website shows where things happen so why can't the Police be open to crimes with residents?	Police	8	The neighborhood NPOs are willing to attend neighborhood association meetings to provide an update on what is occurring in the area. The NPO information is located on the City and Police Web sites. Residents may also use the website: www.crimerports.com to find out other happenings in the area.
We are a wonderful place for tourism. But we need to embrace and welcome that. How do we get residents more involved and appreciate this? We need to be proud.	SCVB	8	Economic Development and SCVB is meeting to establish a program whereby residents can help promote Springfield via Economic Development and Tourism opportunities.
Bus lanes need to be plowed so coordinate between Public Works and SMTD regarding snow removal.		8	Concern was also shared with SMTD in order to open the lines of communication about what the City can do to assist with their needs.
Don't give us information overload – say where people can locate it/access it but don't start doing flyers and mailings to the point that it is in excess.		8	City is gearing more information through Website, Neighborhood Associations, Social Media and Cable Access Channel.

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Information about what is available – where they can find info about the city and area services.	Comm	8	City rolled out a new website and is improving our Social Media and Cable Access presence in the community. Neighborhood Associations are also receiving information regarding City news and updates.
Eastbound on Lawrence by the S curve – something happens over there in regards to snow plowing and it turns into an ice skating rink. Why does the plowing change there?	PW	8	Have noted for snow removal operations to look at during next snow event. Snow managers unaware of any changes there.
A lot of our residents don't have cars or are disabled – the transportation doesn't exist for a City of our size. Bus service is postponed starting at 6p.m. on Saturday night until 6a.m. on Sunday morning. It is a disservice to our residents. It needs to be expanded geographically (expand reach) and times service is available.		8	Concerned shared with SMTD. In addition, Communications partnered with the Regional Planning and developed a series of PSA videos about SMTD, route information and their ADA transport availability. The videos are being rolled out by SMTD currently.
There is no taxi service in town that has a handicap car in their fleet. Our City needs to provide that service and strong arm cab companies to offer those types of vehicles. To hire a private company to take you if you if you are handicap can start at \$60 one way.		8	Unfortunately that is true. Communications is working with Regional Planning about doing a series of PSA videos about SMTD including their ADA transport service.
Speeding thru residential streets needs to be examined. Look at Leland Grove and go to 25 mile per hour and enforce it.	Police	8	Need to put on speed monitor rotation and/or patrol.
Missing blue collar jobs – economic development needs to focus on those types of businesses.	Econ Dev	8	Economic Development is working with the Chamber of Commerce on Targeted Industry Sectors, trying to attract businesses that compliment existing businesses (i.e. Medical District = Medical suppliers)
Adelia and Governor Streets – people speed thru on them. Not the alley but the new paved street.	Police	8	Need to put on speed monitor rotation and/or patrol.

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Formal neighborhood representative in City Hall – Des Moines, IA has that in community development. Other examples include Madison, WI, Peoria, IL, Cedar Rapids, MI	CR	8	The City's Community Relations department works closely with the Neighborhood Associations in order to understand their concerns and needs and what the City can do to assist. We encourage associations to reach out to the Director of Community Relations, Juan Huerta to ensure he has your meetings on his calendar.
No consistent policy for leaf blowers vs. leaf baggers	PW	8	If referring to blowing leaves into the street it is against city code and residents caught doing so will be cited. If a resident witnesses a neighbor blowing leaves into the street and are willing to sign an affidavit attesting to it the city will cite them accordingly.
Four garbage trucks on the same day – can't they space their pick up out. Garbage cans are out every day of the week in the street so why can't it be coordinated – this subdivision gets picked up every Wednesday, etc.	PW	8	September 1 the City rolled out the new Waste & Recycling policy. Garbage cans are by code only supposed to be out within 24 hours of before and after time of scheduled pick up. Currently the city does not restrict pick up time outside of the hours and Monday through Saturday.
We are near Chicago, St. Louis – great location. Close to many other places		8	
Quality of Life – good theater with arts, tourism is healthy, economy is good.		8	
Rich in history and tradition. You can live in great historical neighborhoods		8	
Easy to get around – 20 minutes corner to corner		8	
Small enough to get involved in various things and your voice is heard		8	
Cost of living – level that is easy to exist in		8	
Diversity		8	
Excellent police and fire and they are quick		8	
Feeling of being safe		8	
Medical establishments – growing and is an economic engine		8	
Springfield Municipal Band Concerts in Douglas Park for family and children – music appreciation		8	