

**2017 Ward Planning Meeting**

**WARD 5**

**ISSUES/CONCERNS**

TIF - too many TIF districts. The use of TIF for public projects only takes away from how it is really supposed to be used.

Pedestrians and buses. The way the streets were treated during a snow storm. It stopped the buses from running, affecting resident's daily needs. People depend on transit and the City and SMTD need to work together. Better coordination and working together because people depend on public transportation.

Springfield Vintage and the Wet Bar area. The City is hurting businesses because "No Parking" bags are put on the meters Friday afternoon and stay on all day Saturday and it hurts the other businesses along the street.

Some sprawl. What are we doing to keep businesses in their current area? For example, over by Friar Tuck. Now the strip mall is vacant and Friar Tuck built a new location. Many vacant properties are left from businesses but new construction still occurs. Why can't businesses use what is there first and see if new construction is needed later.

County Building - no parking. Can you legally park there if a meter is dead?

Appreciates the medical district, but there is no signage that shows where it stops or starts. Should have signage that highlights the area. It is needed. No major corridor into the medical district. Use Lewis Street to tease people that way by Springfield High to give people a route there and see what it is about.

Need a stadium for Springfield High School but there is no place for students to go in case of emergency like a bomb threat in poor weather. Keeping Springfield High School is good and it keeps people at the core, but they need a stadium like Southeast and Lanphier.

Appreciate the Mayor/Mahoney/Alderman for assistance with their abandoned property and their \$750 a day they were being charged in fines. These individuals backed everyone off after meeting with them and the City has to look at the entire neighborhood and if it is unfairly assessed.

Milk and Honey - built to encourage downtown residency and be happier to be here in downtown. There is no playground and lack of green space. We have the Y Block and there are a lot of other options. What are things we can do right now and can get accomplished. Laundry Mat is missing downtown. Look at what is missing downtown and fix it - do quick fixes.

Reuse of abandoned buildings and not focus on new constructions.

Can we tax online sales? Worried about City revenues and this will help.

Where is the money from all the gambling? Can't that be used to build missing items downtown.

Where is the big blue P sign for parking to point to the 4th Street parking lot? Springfield Vintage would like 2 parking signs.

Spot Hero is used in Chicago to help find open spots on the street to park. Great to use something like that in Springfield and would be very helpful.

Ash trees have been taken down but the kids needs shade in the summer.

30 minute parking and 20 minute parking - can we increase that time?  
These businesses need parking changes now.

Parking garages are not very safe or open to the public. Where can we find all the open lots and times?

North Grand Avenue used to be a very vibrant corridor. City needs to do a better effort for that area like it is doing for MacArthur.

Revenue is dangerously low and people aren't coming downtown.

City Planner

People come for pride and passion and drive people here for Lincoln Heritage. That will drive sales tax and hotel/motels. Citizens of the City can help with this. They can drive that because people should be amazing. Drive tourism and temporary residency and enabling leaders to help with that.

Such a negative city - need to cover positives (IL Times has negative covers, news coverage). Get people to come downtown.