



**Office of the Mayor
City of Springfield, Illinois**

**James O. Langfelder
Mayor**

“These forums provide an avenue for residents to give input on the direction of the City. Infrastructure may mean sidewalks to one Ward and sewers or bike lanes to another. When we are planning from a City perspective, we need to ensure we are focusing on the priorities for each Ward. This process will help us create a cohesive strategy for Springfield and allow citizens to become more a part of city government.”

- Mayor Jim Langfelder

On October 28, 2015, Mayor Jim Langfelder, along with the City Aldermen, announced the complete schedule for the Strategic Ward Planning meetings. The Ward meetings, moderated by outside facilitators, Janet Kirby from Benedictine University and Amy Lally from Memorial Health Systems, were open forums where individuals and businesses shared their thoughts and views about the priorities for their specific Wards. The discussions covered topics including economic development; infrastructure; recreation; public safety; utilities; community resources; transportation; communications; housing development and beautification.

Following is a compilation of the thoughts and ideas shared at those meetings in all ten Wards. The next step will be compiling the input into short-term and long-term planning and where items fall into place from a City perspective.

WARD 1

Firefighters Club

Best Thing About Living in Springfield

- Rich history
- Reasonably priced live entertainment
- Good pace - not too fast but not too slow
- Small town atmosphere – yet a bigger city
- The Schools
- The Clubs on the lake
- Reasonable utilities
- Convenience
- Medical facilities
- Another Langfelder as mayor
- Highway of connections (55 connecting St. Louis and Chicago; middle of the State)
- UIS/Benedictine
- The Lake
- Good neighbors
- Midwestern values
- Diversity
- Affordable education at LLCC
- Cultural activities in the City of Springfield
- Nice to have legislature in town to voice concerns without leaving home or traveling too far.

Issues/Concerns/Priorities

Snow Removal –

For example in Palisades subdivision. Also in Timberlane East.

Barker Park needs to be finished and developed.

The City doesn't maintain the Lake like it should. The lake needs to be dredged all the time; filter strips; dams.

The streets out by the lake are not good – described as terrible. No sidewalks; potholes; no street lights; water lines are not good. It costs on the back of the people already paying high taxes.

Deer population is horrible.

Hilltop Road needs to be improved. It is very dangerous. Mailboxes are getting hit. It is hard to drive two cars by each other (passing). Its access to neighborhoods is not usable – kids can't walk or ride their bikes. In order to grow and make it safe, it needs to be updated.

Protective Services

Time to do something with the Beach House

Sewer system on the lake needs to be evaluated. Septic tanks need to be removed and cleaned.

Sales tax increases for ½ a percent because CWLP owns property. The person is a City resident but it does not help the Lake Infrastructure. We need accountability with the taxes for the lake area.

Cleaner energy resources

Eleventh street extension needs to be done as soon as possible.

Lane restriping needs to occur like on fifth and sixth

Some overlays have been good like Cotton Hill Rd. South end of Cotton hill by Toronto road – there is no shoulder and road is too narrow to pull over.

No curbs at Lake Pointe and the curbs need to be added.

Crows Mill Lane is too bumpy and West Lake by Fire Fighters club – that fence is overgrown with weeds and either needs to be maintained or put back the barriers.

More city cleanups organized around the lake.

Maple Grove Lane. Many trees are falling down and have become a safety issue with cars. Tree branch fell in front of a school bus.

Franklin Park Neighborhood Association – safety of their roads.

Clarity of jurisdiction and communication of that information so it is accessible

Interstate 55 – access off highway to City Streets. How much input can we have to improvements? Create communications to help people know how to get involved or voice their concerns/input with these projects even if they are not at the City level.

Water Department has grants and we as a City need to pursue those/communications to allow people to tell the City about those opportunities. Need more resources to keep up.

Lake area fundraisers need to be created to help fund some of the lake improvements.

From a student perspective, things to do in the area. Open fields need to be used to recruit staff, students and people – like bike trails, events, etc. Long range planning for economic development. Smart Growth

City needs a City Planner

CWLP notification of when the plant will be testing (noisy).

Running races affect Maple Grove Lane and need to better map, schedule and communication of these races to the Clubs and residents.

Put the people accountable to attend Lake Meetings to answer questions and take concerns back.

Is the City dependent on matching state funds and how is this budget impasse affecting us?

Give pedestrians (non-lake residents) access to the lake – too hard to get to the lake. The lake needs more access to general community.

Need people to spend money more around the Lake so build a restaurant and things people would want to come out and do.

Development of Industrial Park and 11th Street connection

Neighborhood Police Officer needs to be developed more for a Beat Cop.

Add lighting along the pedestrian ways.

Open the beach again

More financial visibility between CWLP and the public – more transparency

Big hole in Southwest of Michelle Lane – Transformer bank and LLCC (around 150 yards)

Long Day Drive large oak trees that have been dead and nothing has been done with them and could damage vehicles and people.

Transparency with CWLP Water

Cost it takes – clean up vs. a ticket. Using violations with community service penalty vs. a cost (pay a fine).

What are the School District's plans for Hazel Dell School?

Center Park and Beach House – they have no parking signs and they need to be taken down.

How can residents access help/get information with changing off of septic and converting to sewer? They simply want to be offered the opportunity to make the switch.

Snow removal needs to be more public and how can they know when they will get plowed. Need help communicating this.

Before City considers taking in “holes in the donut”, look at road conditions before taking a certain area in. Make sure it is perfect.

Springwood Drive never has a plowed street on the first day but do it that night and affects what was already shoveled. It is located in Timberlane East.

Expansion of Gateway Trail

Lake Springfield Improvement Association has a clean-up day every May – first Saturday in May lakespringfield.org. Help communicate this.

Livelier economic development – need more jobs and create more opportunities to keep the people.

Library – needs to get more resource to have other facilities.

WARD 2

Southeast High School

Best Thing About Living in Springfield

- Cost of living
- The City's Community Relations Office
- Affordable housing
- Educational opportunities
- Geographic location
- Medical community
- Mark Mahoney
- State Government being here

Issues/Concerns/Priorities

More action needs to be done and precinct committeemen can help with the follow up that needs to take place.

Traffic control light at 11th & Adams. It is the main artery and can control traffic

Need more jobs: disparity in areas. Quiet in places and could be vibrant.

There needs to be regulations of halfway houses with paroles. Oversight in process because there are locations out there that are operating illegally.

Reasonable utility rates – don't want to go higher.

More help for seniors

Help from the City with the Churches – better working relationship with the City.

Space on 11th Street – Economic Development: plan for vacant lots. Lots of open space and it is negatively affecting the property values.

More things for the kids to do like going to a community center for youth. Gold's Gym would be an ideal community space (rent it for holidays, dinners). Need to enhance the Boys and Girls Clubs that are in existence.

More transportation from the east side to west side. Also why can't we get around to the smaller communities? Similar to a Metro Rail in Springfield.

Infrastructure improvements – sewers, flooding, street conditions, sidewalks.

Low and moderate income housing that is better.

Waste management needs to be more standardized. Predictable and flexible including recycling.

No public trash receptacles on 11th and South Grand and they are necessary.

Neighborhoods and properties dealing with Railroad Relocation and the change in property value. More inspections from Public Aid and Section 8. Oversight for these properties.

Also people moving in from out of town. It is those individuals that are causing the crime – not the local people.

Bridge that goes over Clearlake is not handicap accessible. It needs to be ADA compliant.

Springfield Housing Authority should be the rule of thumb/followed/standardized by all city codes – for ADA, Landlords, Tenants, etc.

Stevenson Drive up to South Grand – reduction of speed limit, especially between Stevenson Drive and Ash Street. Reduce by Iles Park to 30 miles an hour and 20 miles during school. It makes it difficult to cross the street with everyone going so fast. Speed limit in residential needs to be evaluated because it gets dangerous.

Congrats to street repair and now look at sewers – rate of repair should be held to same standards.

Still considered Railroad Relocation an issue and City should help. Plan is not clear and people are not being advised of those things. More information and ability to ask questions. Need to do what they said and be transparent.

Pave roads instead of oil and chip.

How can we get more Federal money to do everything we want to do?

Recycling – improving processes.

Community Gardens for empty lots and learning centers for plants and growth.

Utilize precinct committeemen – use them more to get info out. They are foot soldiers.

City and Mass Transit need to work together to offer 7 day a week service – 24 hours a day. Without the service it is dangerous and many are young African Americans. SMTD and City partnership is a must.

There was a transportation study done that may help city assess what is going on locally and into the future. The City should examine that information.

New and updated street lights – a lighting project. Dirksen to South Grand to MacArthur exercise eminent domain to entice businesses on that strip.

City lights need to be turned back on over on the East side and increase lighting where there are police calls.

Action to address violence and the need for activities for kids

Factory jobs

Mayor needs to meet with State Attorneys. The people committing the crimes aren't being prosecuted. County doesn't enforce those who have committed crimes and that needs to change.

Emphasis on youth employment and summer jobs – things like landscape, keep them busy and expose them to different professions and trade skills.

Engagement is a huge piece to get people going. Strengthen the neighborhood relations and start with the youth.

More discussion on the importance in the role of government – government is portrayed negative but with the new council have an emphasis on the positive of government – jobs, services, etc. All are positives.

If businesses are going to do consulting for the City of Springfield, they need to hire city residents, people who live in the community. If we were economically stable, there wouldn't be so much crime. Multi-million dollar contracts that City gives to people, they need to employ local people.

Including the Youth in the process and how they can be heard and involving them.

See how we can have the old vision (comprehensive plan) and how do we combine with these new ideas that we gain from these meetings.

Complete the development on South Grand – places where kids can go. We need a plan for our future.

Noise issues – vehicle issues with mufflers, etc. Deal with those.

More of the police doing community activities. Disconnect with the environment they live and the police department. People don't know neighborhood officers anymore and want to have that rapport with community policing.

Economic Development around Feitshans. Federal money may be available.

Board of local review to meet and connect to talk about sidewalks, streets, sewers to help prioritize.

Neighborhood Watch programs needs to be expanded and taught

Better communication from City – find our core competencies and try and get them to stay and get involved in our businesses (i.e. human capital development). Attention to who we need to keep and cultivate here.

We need to deal with racism. Look at the elephant in the room. City money needs to stay here in the city. If people could fix their property – look what could happen. Acknowledging it is the first step; even up the city resources – city has to lead this. City has been in denial – we need to acknowledge. We need to think beyond just the community. But how do they compete world-wide – not just here locally.

We need to have the dialogue – it is the start of the process. Acknowledge Institutionalized Racism. The city can work better with the school system – better collaboration.

Diversified youth council – across race, gender, age, and sexual orientation

Neighborhood incentives

City residency to help local jobs

Police need to report back to the community on their initiatives and events that they do (Coffee With a Cop, BBQ). What is occurring because of these efforts?

Economic Development: What about the Bunn Capital Youth Center? We have very successful private businesses. We don't see it however on some of our buildings (public/private partnership) and maybe we can see it more in our community. Call on our more successful people to be more committed to Springfield. Corporate involvement in our youth.

Lack of results from elected officials

WARD 3
St. Cabrini

Best Thing About Living in Springfield

- Big town but size is perfect
- Great place to raise kids
- Hometown
- Cost of living is less
- Abraham Lincoln
- Great educational system – K thru college
- Medical community/facilities
- State Fair
- Utilities
- Relatively easy to get from one side to the other if you have an automobile.
- Legislature has to come here to do their work.
- Variety of entertainment

Issues/Concerns/Priorities

Schools are overcrowded. Teachers are teaching because of job but not because they want to teach as a career. Also the shutdown of some of the schools.

Schools are lacking education of Springfield, Illinois. More history about our community. Smaller class sizes. (School Board Member in attendance responded to the resident that there are 30 to 33 in each class in the District)

Support School referendums on the ballot because they need the support.

After school programs

Transportation doesn't run 24 hours a day. It is a limited mass transit system.

Confusion of bus schedule/system and downtown hub where it is now is not clear.

Louis Lane – need to complete black top

Concern about crossing the road on Dirksen. City needs to add crosswalks. Someone was hit on Elm and Division

Finally did the Cook Street viaduct – thank you.

Lincoln Land Alum said it is a gem to this city.

Appreciation of synchronization of lights but please keep going with that project.

Aldermanic part has helped a lot – system of government is important and appreciated.

The forum is positive.

Snow removal is a positive

Pot holes on Popular Court is a problem.

City lights – more street lights are needed for purposes to alleviate crime. Safety should be a priority. Add lights to 14th 15th and 16th Streets North Grand and South Grand, Capitol between MLK back is all dark. Possibly solar lights if it is less expensive and are also brighter.

Corner of 4th and North Grand – major problem to try to get out. Tree obstructs and causes safety issues.

Violation enforcement cars on sidewalks.

2700 – 2800 East Black parking creates an issue for SMTD.

Moved up to Little Flower – empty businesses on Stevenson and North Grand. Small businesses are leaving the area and buildings are falling apart.

Need more small business support for area businesses

Something done with boarded up homes – Zombie homes. Also vacant lot solution to help property value.

Dirksen Parkway – speedway on the widened part of Dirksen. Sidewalks need to be added along Dirksen along with Bike lanes.

There is an overall safety concern on Dirksen. Slow the speed limit.

Delmar to Villanova on and Adloff - City needs to repair the street and put the pipe all the way down the street.

Ditch areas in front of house are hard to live around because when hot and fill up with rain water they attract mosquitoes and bugs.

Why did the City not black top Adloff lane because it is part of Glen Aire? Gets sewer and standing water.

Days Inn on Stevenson – vacant property is a zombie hotel. Sitting for awhile and City needs to do something about it.

Dirksen - reduce the speed not just on a stretch but the whole part when it opens up. Smoother flow with the widen lanes but keep slow.

Property that butts up against the wooded area by Adams Wildlife Sanctuary. Overgrown trees and branches. They used to have people come out and cut the trees but not anymore. No normal maintenance has happened in the last 10 to 12 years.

Resident lives on Leland Grove by Nickels Grove. Coming across Dirksen the road comes down and floods in the ditch. It is eroding the land.

Pillsbury Factory – keep people updated on the progress and situation, even if it is not a City decision. People want to know what is going on.

Speeders in general – go too fast. For example on Livingston and Sherwood

Neighborhood Watch – getting the program going but how to improve it throughout the ward and get it off the ground? Get to know your neighbors and good cooperation.

Leash Laws – dogs not on leashes and running through the yards and driveways. Need to be enforced.

Vacant lots – they aren't getting rid of the trees that are just as old. Need to also look at those trees.

Alley on Cook, Clay, Lawrence, 13th, 14th – look at trash and fly dumping.

Sidewalk needs to be completed from Christmas – by Livingston on Cook (Near Channel 20)
People in wheelchairs go on street.

Animal issues with backyard. Animal control will not help – they say purchase traps and take it to them. But that should be their job.

Animal Control should be intergovernmental – have enforcement agreements; better removal of problem critters; for pets hold the owners responsible and fine them.

Animals should be licensed for certain breeds.

Flooding/Sewer with heavy rains

Police should note where the lights are out and report it to the City. They sit in lots for an hour so why can't they record lights since they drive around and can see what needs replaced.

Absentee landlords. They don't enforce their tenants. City code enforcement is lacking. They don't get proper permits then when they came out – they don't notice other items like trash or wild animals.

Need more inspectors for monitoring violations. Also need more law enforcement.

Some of the inspectors are landlords and that is a conflict of interest.

We live in a complaint driven city. We need a system that is more proactive that the city can help drive. Police ALL City codes – not just some.

Tell residents about the metal plates on light poles so when they report they are out, that is the information they need to provide - code/number.

If you ask for us to tell you about issues, do not get annoyed with us or don't ignore us when we call with them. Be more receptive when we call for incidents.

More police interaction with residents.

Pitt bulls – need to protect the residents and many taking it into their own hands.

Improper drainage – ground water. St. Mary's is an example.

1205 Livingston – many rats

North Grand at Cottonwood Cove – drainage takes out Bridge

District 186 and complying with the 1976 Consent Decree – what is the City's response? Are they planning to engage? Respond?

Job opportunities –City needs to increase diversity.

Can the City provide more of an update to the Schnuck's progress?

Residency – too many people live outside the city that work for the city.

SJR is prejudice and bias.

Stevenson Drive needs to be a TIF district

Wheeler/South Grand back up on South Grand because of store

MLK – Clay/Case parking on Sunday on the Street. Please ask people to park in lots and not on the street.

WARD 4

American Legion

Best Thing About Living in Springfield

- Patriotic
- Camaraderie with the North end community
- Opportunity for small business and real estate. Ease of doing things. Entrepreneurship
- Fairgrounds – many more opportunities with the race track
- Working at the fair
- Historical assets
- State Fair – 10 day period is great
- Quality education
- Good restaurants
- The Capitol
- Route 66
- Carillon and Hoogland Center
- Medical facilities

Issues/Concerns/Priorities

Accountability – citizens and public servants both. Home owners have to be responsible for handling garbage; City should be able to handle complaints. City needs to maintain city property like we expect property owners to do.

Residents don't know what is going on in the Ward. Need to share information about what is happening. Not everyone is online.

Input about CWLP. Put it on the website each month about its metrics. How much electricity do we have on hand? How much did we sell? How much do we have? Gives us transparency.

Infrastructure on secondary streets – Hedge Lane isn't treated. Doesn't drain on Chevonna, Maiden and Piper – Twin Lakes, Indian Hills, North Gate, New North Gate, Sandgate, Albany, Plateau Drive.

Services that we pay for but we don't see it – Key, Watch, etc.

Response to the sewer survey. What are the results and the City's response?

Alley pavement was not done correctly. The quality construction of the roads is poor. Pride is not happening in the work.

Snow removal – Plateau snow removal.

Peoria Road – has been ignored (owner of Sutton Siding). Property value keeps decreasing. The roads haven't improved.

How do we improve this entrance of Springfield with the fair, university, etc. but the North end has been ignored. This side of town needs to stop being ignored. Stop ignoring Peoria Road – Dirksen has improved.

Vacant lots – they tear houses down and nothing gets done.

Railroad – need more info on what is occurring and how is that affecting Ward 4.

TIF District – more info and more oversight. Stealing from the School District. Control over the TIF.

Information and status on the rail project throughout the City.

Griffiths – two big vacant lots. It is owned by the railroad but the lots have been ignored and no maintenance has been done.

Timely demolition of abandoned property.

Underutilization of local museums

Maintenance of the museums.

Residency requirement for jobs at the City

Uniformity of business property. Planning of revitalization so it looks uniform. North Grand for example. Everyone does what they want to do and is not cohesive or connected in design.

Better control of rental properties. Background checks of property rental tenants. SHA properties.

What is the School District 186 plan to rehab the schools and improve?

Lake Two transparency

Provide info about the Gravel pits and why is that not being pursued?

Blue collar industry – lost 30,000 factory jobs. We need to do more to bring industry like that back to Springfield. Economic Development.

Long-range economic development that is written because revenue sources are changing

Development of a Senior Community that is on the North end so these residents don't have to go out west. Not a high-rise but homes that share lawn and other maintenance services.

Go back to the plans and the study – revisit those and reuse the info. Vision 2020 Plan – it talked about Peoria Road and addressing current situation.

Enforcement of traffic laws. North Dirksen and Veterans the cars are going at an increasing rate of speed and are also talking on their cell phones.

Loud mufflers in the town and need to be dealt with/noise issue.

Problem with 911 dispatch. They are unprofessional and rude. If it is a 3rd party then they need to be fired.

State and local laws may be in place but the motorized bikes need to change. Where can you take your golf cart on the road? Same needs to apply.

Recognition of higher education plan – provide the amenities that the children and young people want. Good park systems, bike trails, and transportation.

Realignment of Sangamon Avenue and Browning Road – the structure.

Newsletters – monthly ward report. Try to share information in multiple channels.

Better cooperation along Dirksen businesses and the residents that butt up against them. Vagrants (both people and rodents) and locations can become a junk yard.

Inter-government relationship/partnership. Need to address “Holes in the Donut”

Consider creating bike trails with the abandoned railroads like it was proposed in the 80s by Fairview school.

Future of abandoned 3rd Street; historic route so plan on how we can tap into it for future generations.

Better communications – Only two Neighborhood Associations in Ward 4. Does the city have a packet of info on how to build a Neighborhood Association?

Expand our residency – anyone who needs/uses our taxes.

City inspectors be more proactive vs. reactive. Instead of waiting for calls they go out and look at things. Change in a process. More city inspectors and publicize that they were coming out like Frankfurt, Kentucky. Transfer duties so they had enough inspectors. Like encouraging people to live healthier lifestyles then they would use less medical.

Painted bike lanes on Eighth Street

Peoria Road straightened and widened.

New baseball stadium to attract new teams

Sangamon/Dirksen turning back North to expand to a double turn lane. Number 2 accident report in the state. Is it on the IDOT list?

Host Ward meetings to include School District 186 and Park District, etc. Can we do a combined effort?

WARD 5

Nelson Center

Best Thing About Living in Springfield

- Beautiful Historic Cemetery – Tourism
- Downtown Library
- Affordability
- Fairgrounds
- Arts
- Memorial Medical Center
- Parks
- Capitol
- State Government
- Lake
- Utility
- Amtrak
- Airport
- Medical District
- Bus Routes
- Good golf courses
- Higher education
- Sangamon River
- IL State Museum
- Handicap Services
- Fire and Police Department
- Senior Center
- Convention Access/Trade Shows
- Convention Centers
- Centrally located
- Neighborhood Associations
- Proud Neighbors
- Small Businesses
- History/Lincoln Sites
- Increase in Bike Paths and Trails
- Resources for those in Need like Helping Hands
- North Grand Avenue – what it used to be and what it could be. It used to be a vibrant corridor.
- Availability of local foods – Farmers Market
- Southtown
- Churches
- Community Volunteerism
- Lake Springfield
- Affordable utilities
- Events that Springfield puts on – Blues and BBQ, Art Fair, etc.
- Access to the Alderman – they are accessible

Issues/Concerns/Priorities

Lighting – 4th, 7th and 8th Street don't have lights. Especially in the alley. Promote CWLP lighting program. Because it is a safety issue, the residents need more.

Too many one way streets downtown and need to switch it up.

Hunter Lake – is there a need for it? We need to set our priorities. Information to justify the \$100 million Hunter Lake vs. the sewer and other pressing issues.

Sidewalks are bad but the alley was paved. Oak Ridge area – north of North Grand. Replacement and connection.

Addition of sidewalk where 5th and 6th Streets come together to wait for the bus. Need to add sidewalks around Lincoln Park. Nowhere to walk/catch bus but in grass or street.

People who don't clean their sidewalks for snow. People walk to work or catch bus and need clear sidewalks. Some sort of enforcement or neighborhood assistance of those who can't do it themselves (for elderly or sick).

Speed coming up 6th Street. Stop sign by Enos but not another place until North Grand. They are going up to 45 miles per hour. Enforcement on that street or addition of a Stop sign. Yates is another one. They are all like that from downtown.

Transit Hubs – bringing together safe hubs downtown for cabs, buses and especially train.

Better plan for leaf collection in the City. Leaf bags fall apart. They collapse, they spill, you don't know when they are coming.

Covered bus stops.

On Rutledge and Elliot. On Elliot there is a halfway house. Then turned garage into a house as well. Explain how they can establish those houses; what are the rules and enforcement.

Slum landlords – stricter enforcement. Properties registered and background checks on tenants.

Communication on infrastructure – how are roads and sidewalks chosen. What is the plan?

Dead animals – who do they contact and who is responsible. Better communication

Abandoned houses, abandoned cars, increase in crime, and tenants that run rampant and landlords that don't help and only harm them.

Vandalism being done to commercial properties, cars being broken into.

City needs to put street lights in high crime areas.

Follow thru on issues brought to the City and update/status on those issues.

More shelters for the homeless

Is there a way for people to get help with sidewalks if they can't shovel – free assistance who have disability or on surgery, etc.

YWCA Block should be a priority – old buildings come down and a new one come up? What is the plan?

Downtown storefronts are economic drivers to help Wards around the downtown. Get more jobs downtown. See a build-up and what can come from it.

Can the City communicate with other entities when we receive an issue but it's not necessarily in the City's jurisdiction/responsibility (State/County domain) Need an assurance that the complaint gets passed along.

Stricter compliance with zoning for residential areas

Instead of paving Elliott Street, the City just drops rocks. The rocks hurt the residents' cars and it kicks up a lot of dust. Can't the City just pave it?

Neighborhood flooding – McClernand School all the way around has drainage issues

North 8th Street – please pave or rock because it doesn't have anything.

Code changes in order to see the process speed up for abandon houses.

TIF for North Grand corridor like MacArthur Blvd's TIF.

Independent audit for all Departments to look at the waste and cost savings that can be done.

Register Houses that need to update due to fines and issues. Currently the City has a fee every three months and it is \$500. That hurts their update/rehab budget. If progress is being made they shouldn't have to pay the \$500.

City involved in repurposing some of the larger properties to make them nicer. For example Benedictine University. City assistance to help speed up commercial façade improvements or enhancing the empty buildings.

City Legal Department – needs to be more equitable and not try to hire so many outside firms.

Enforcement equality – every property is treated differently and that is not ok.

Complaint driven – should be proactive vs. after the fact and fee driven.

Yard mowing – many un-kept properties out there and there needs to be more enforcement

Frequency of drones . Also other flights inbound to airport should be evaluated because a plane can shake an entire house. The planes could be flying way too low.

Motorized bikes come flying down the streets. They need to be restricted based by licenses and obey the traffic rules.

City needs to register landlords and it comes with a registration fee. Then if they register by a certain time or attend a workshop, they get a discounted registration fee.

Lower speed limit from 35 to 25 miles per hour.

Ugliness of 9th Street and Peoria Road – abandoned houses and un-kept properties.

Urban Sprawl – bring people back to the core. More concentration of resources to the core and less to the fringes of Springfield.

City grants to neighborhood associations to be used by residents to beautify their area.

McClerland has a fence all around it but no gate. Is there a way to fix that so people don't hop fence at night? Maybe create a court in an empty lot or put one in a park. Youths need something positive after hours that wouldn't be limited to hours and keeps people out of private properties

WARD 6

Laurel United Methodist

Best Thing About Living in Springfield

- Asset is in CWLP – great water and electric rates
- Family friendly
- Close to family and relatives
- Bicycle trails around
- Welcoming community in addition to business leaders and politicians – eye level civic community
- We are a City of neighborhoods
- Affordable housing (Affordability overall)
- Activities
- Housing market is stable
- Good small big town
- Good town for seniors
- Development of senior communities is really good
- Medical community
- State capitol is housed here
- Great police and fire departments
- Active and diverse arts community
- Springfield parks, botanic gardens, zoo, Fun Shop (park district)
- Good strong community leaders – thinking long-term/strategically
- Seat for the Diocese of the Catholic Church
- Lincoln heritage
- Tourism/culture – International draw/appeal
- Higher Education (SIU School of Medicine, LLCC, UIS)
- Amtrak
- Route 66
- Active small business community
- State Fairgrounds that houses year round events/Event venues
- Farmers Market
- Lake for recreational uses
- Development of affordable housing (SHA; Chamber; Habitat....)
- More opportunity for commercial development – thought happening to growth and development
- Sangamon Auditorium - symphony
- Transportation in general/highway/airport/Amtrak
- District 186
- National Guard
- PCCC
- City has been good with diversity – Pure News, for example, stays in existence because white advertisement as well.
- Eye sores/abandon properties have been handled well
- Trees in Springfield/Green here in town
- Local media – newspaper, radio, TV, etc.
- Paving and sidewalks has been great

Issues/Concerns/Priorities

Response by City to Fly Dumping issues. Need to communicate about services available for large item pick-up, etc. in hopes to cut back on the dumping.

Sewer system needs to be top priority

Focus on advancements in technology. The City needs to be ahead vs. behind with innovation.

Disappointment in the affordable houses. They are in such bad condition; deterioration is a bad in inner core. Not acceptable.

The City can use fiber optic capabilities with CWLP. Progress with that route for residents and save residents money by providing Internet.

All the recent gun violence and stabbings. What is happening?

Graffiti is around town

Inner City Older Neighborhoods need to look at ward by ward housing stock. How do we incentivize people to fix up their home or property? Inner neighborhoods need to be proactive vs. reactive.

Everyone wants betterment but we don't want to take a tax hike. We have to give in order to get. Stop resisting and take .5 cent to increase.

Hawthorne Place – the property taxes are so varied. A resident expressed when they built a new garage they received a tax increase that was not proportionate to the area. Requested a moratorium on taxes if they improve property but stay in property for a period of time.

The City needs to insure an "Action Plan" with this plan. Look at other cities in what they do and items that don't cost money and replicate.

Email addresses need to be added to the City Website.

Go after problem landlords who have bad business practices. Don't go after those who need the help.

All landlords need to be registered in Peoria and have to register the property(ies). It is too easy to become a landlord. Make Springfield landlords go to a training and their fee is only half the price if they attend and register vs. registering without attending.

City should do an inspection of property before a new tenant takes over but have to pay a fee for it to get inspected.

Traffic lights. There is no logic to the lights.

Bike lanes are being used as right turn lanes – bike only lanes/traffic needs to be enforced

Be progressive with curbed bike lanes

The City needs to look at the connect-ability with neighborhoods and schools – bike trails and schools

Put more focus on targeted places that can serve as “Business Anchors” for specific areas. For example Hy-Vee was a great business anchor for MacArthur and revives the area. A potential business anchor may be the Iles Park Building. Something that can go in that space and stabilize entire neighborhoods. It should be considered when looking at Economic Development.

Leaders need to be more decisive – like Hunter Lake or be proactive like the Medical Community. Don’t rely on the medical community to drive our decisions. Be just as innovative.

The City needs to get out of the mentality of use it up and move on. Stop the explosion out of the center/core of the City. Don’t develop out west. No one is gaining anything with new TIF areas if the others are getting left behind even though they thrived before.

What is the financial liability of the City for both CWLP and the Pensions. With CWLP, what is the long-term goals/where are we going with CWLP. Pension issues - what does the City know about it and do we have a complete handle on its magnitude?

Hire a City Planner. The City needs to stand up for good planning. This is how we fill up vacant lots, build up the core, etc. Intentionality behind that concept

Looking at zoning for particular areas.

Spot zoning for commercial development – A city planner can help with that type of consistency. Compliance needs to be followed with this, especially in Ward 6

What can the City do to help with banks looking at new businesses with “increasing risk taking” vs. the banks that say “We don’t do this here”. Businesses need seed money but banks and lending institutions need to do new things – not crazy or risky. Just creating innovation.

If the City wants millennials to move downtown, they need the necessities – a grocery store; parking; items within walking distance.

We are 400 housing units short downtown

Be more proactive in getting the Illinois State Museum back open. Even though it is a state function, the City needs to be more helpful.

See more trees downtown to help shade tourists and people walking around downtown in the warmer months.

First Street between Ash and Highland – cars use it as a race track. Several neighbors call and complain but nothing has been done about it. Possible speed bumps because no one speeds in Jerome or Leland Grove.

City needs to implement 25 mile per hour speed limit in residential neighborhoods and more signs posted.

We don’t have enough neighborhood police officers. The City needs more.

White flight has taken place – young families have been moving to Rochester; Pleasant Plains; Chatham. Leaves District with a lot of families below poverty line and puts a lot of pressure on teachers and administrations. That needs to be adjusted. Pressure is high now. They need help.

Need a White Castle even though we have a Chick-fil-A coming.

Lines blur with different governmental levels (who handles what).

Unbalanced between County and City like when it comes to assessing property value.

Communication needs to be improved. Residents should be able to sign up for alerts, and it tells you when street sweepers are coming through or branches are being picked up. Or send an email or post signs when things are happening in certain areas/neighborhoods.

At a City level, we need a facilitator role to bring people together. Efforts are scattered vs. bringing people together. We don't need to be silo'd and will help with any duplication of efforts.

We have too many video gaming establishments. We need a moratorium on that.

Feedback on 10th & Ash Street railroad projects. What is going to happen to the traffic - more communication needs to take place. Inform residents ongoing about the project.

Villas on Vine. More communication on that project as well.

The City needs a dashboard of projects on its website. Page to discuss status of where we are w/ progress. Also status on other projects – for example the Esquire building/lot.

The City needs the manpower to handle landlord issues. Also, ensure lids are required on trash cans.

Publish to City website timing of upcoming projects. For example, here is our plan/timing for sidewalks.

Traffic lights need to turn to red at night at a certain time of night.

Time to deal with the “Holes in the Donut” and annex them in

Time to deal with the landlord Tom Carrey.

Improve City transparency

Can the City assist with regular neighborhood clean ups? Encourage them to take place once a year and the City provides trucks and residents do the cleaning up?

Report a problem on the current website. Staff needs to circle back to residents about complaints/submissions.

Accessibility to information from the City. Look at FOA process.

People have to help with keeping property nice but if they can't do the work due to disability or restrictions, can the City help or provide the resources?

Citizens need to change outlook on WE are the city. Can we have incentives for positive behavior wherever that may come from? Incentivize for behavior like cheaper trash w/ more recycling you do.

We pay four haulers throughout the City and they aren't doing a good job.

Shift purchasing from corporate level to local level. Shop locally builds up Springfield.

Foreclosing on Weed Liens on vacant properties

Lack of affordable housing. There is a wait list and then they engage with problem landlords. The City needs to support responsible affordable housing.

WARD 7

South Side Christian Church

Best Thing About Living in Springfield

- Hy-Vee
- MacArthur Blvd TIF
- Rehabbing the MacArthur Park Apartments
- History of Abe Lincoln, Old State Capitol, Dana Thomas House, etc. – historic significance
- Public School System – size of the City we have diversity, working together, hardworking teachers
- Always something going on – car show; Muni; ballet; Hoogland Center. Offering of arts to share.
- Fire Department
- Washington Park – bicycles; experience nature; Carillon; walking trails
- Spirit of volunteerism and volunteer programs
- Ease of getting things done – size to get things done.
- Private education
- Ease of getting across town
- City government
- Medical Facility
- Strong neighborhoods
- Bike paths
- Neighborhood Associations
- Midwestern values

Issues/Concerns/Priorities

Snow Removal in Sherwood subdivision

Twenty-five mile per hour speed limit needs to be implemented on residential streets.

Bring economic development back to the core of the City – too focused on west. Focus on central part and east and north sections of Springfield.

Westchester has flooding issues in addition to the downtown area.

The City needs to better utilize Neighborhood Associations to get the word out.

I-55 Corridor. It is the cause of crime because traffic going up to Chicago. Local residents are not doing these crimes.

City website needs improvements. Add a section about status updates of issues or more comprehensive construction

Improving the access of entry points into the city by making them more appealing - beautification

Chatham Road Improvements. Maintenance of that road and what is the plan moving forward? When is it going to be fixed? Communication about what is known and what's going to happen.

Stop building on prime farm land. How can agriculture be integrated in the City landscape. Stop urban sprawl. We have buildings popping up everywhere.

Redundancy of buildings. City planning and coordinate what the needs are. Long range plans. Instead of building to build – base it on a need. Beautification is also needed.

Bike trails need to be connected to each other in some way. Bike trails need to be incorporated into parks as well. Bike trails is an attraction to businesses looking to locate to Springfield and to remember that.

Watch the tax creep. Pay attention to that with existing businesses or attracting businesses.

Citizens need to benefit from the low coal prizes, etc. with CWLP.

What is the plan for businesses downtown. For example the pizza place taking a building and knocking it down for parking. Can we do something for preservation of the City?

More recycling options for hazardous waste

Meetings like this – once a month meeting with alderman but not as formal. Maybe the alderman would have a guest speaker but a time to ask questions, get updates, etc. Like Coffee with a Cop.

Residency requirement. The City needs to move the requirement along.

Better signage for all the sites – directional signs for attractions but keep them consistent so visitors know what they are looking for.

Sidewalk accessibility for those with disabilities. Stanford/MacArthur up to South Grand need to be improved.

Flooding issues in south Outer Park and MacArthur

Areas where they took out stop lights, there is no enforcement of speed. Need to take a page from places like Jerome. People don't speed thru there because you know the speed. Springfield needs to do that more often.

City needs to address out of town landlords because they have tenant issues and maintenance issues.

Homeless population and bad properties need to be addressed.

Less red tape – easier process for abandon properties.

Difficult with the City's reporting process. However the jurisdiction is causing a problem. Can we have one number to channel all calls to like a clearing house/one stop shop. Resident simply need to make a call and get their issues resolve with police. It shouldn't matter if it is City, County, State, Jerome, etc.

Restrict large Billboards

City needs a new Website that provides more and clearer information for residents and businesses.

Vacant lots are an issue because we can't get them back on the tax rolls. The City needs to try and give incentives or roll out a plan to get them purchased.

No email addresses of staff/departments on the website and that needs to change.

Alderman is able to get back in touch about the issue or concern but can they circle back/close the loop as a way to ensure the answers are met.

Can the City implement a customer service standard like retailers do on a receipt? How did we do/survey customers after they dealt with an issue?

County/city with design aspects – urban sprawl. If the government can't pay for it but can we create a committee with community experts? Something like a citizen's advisory board. For example, a task force for the police academy/K-9 training grounds.

Neighborhood schools – go back to that vs. busing.

Railroad improvements. Reusing the third street track for something like a bike trail. Think ahead vs. leaving it abandoned.

Be careful for city pensions – cautious of what we do so they are funded. There is a budget.

Strengthen neighborhoods to reduce crime. Neighborhood Watch

NPOs in neighborhoods

Feedback from students say there is racial profiling happening.

Kudos to Alderman in Ward 7 in responding to their issues. Mark Mahoney is also great in Public Works

City should provide more formal support to Neighborhood Associations

Strengthening awareness when there are suspicious activities – call police. Don't feel you are bothering police.

Third Street Corridor – walkway/parkway center of downtown

Movie theater downtown – to get people downtown

Resident wants a choice in their waste removal company but likes the idea of unifying it on the CWLP bill. One payment each month.

Blessed Sacrament is a great example of strong Church bringing the neighborhoods together. Neighborhood churches and schools need to model themselves after Blessed Sacrament to build stronger areas and assess the needs of each particular area.

From MacArthur/South Grand to east side of town, there is not one grocery store in that area and those residents need access variety of food. It truly is a food desert.

How many of Neighborhood Associations are there? Identify where they are and where are the holes?

Charge more for certain vehicles on the road because bigger/heavier vehicles cause more damage.

The grocery store trips from fire department houses need to stop and order the food online because stores deliver now.

Frequently Asked Questions – try and be positive but our successes get lost because there are so many problems. Put the problems online so people know it is being resolved.

Attract more professional sports to town with tournaments or events like running or golf. Create a tax to help fund events to bring sporting to town.

Islands of weeds around Westchester and Sherwood subdivisions

Bridge by the entrance of Sherwood Road needs to be addressed

WARD 8

LRS

Best Thing About Living in Springfield

- We are near Chicago, St. Louis – great location. Close to many other places
- Quality of Life – good theater with arts, tourism is healthy, economy is good.
- Rich in history and tradition. You can live in great historical neighborhoods
- Easy to get around – 20 minutes corner to corner
- Small enough to get involved in various things and your voice is heard
- Cost of living – level that is easy to exist in
- Diversity
- Excellent police and fire and they are quick
- Feeling of being safe
- Medical establishments – growing and is an economic engine
- Springfield Municipal Band Concerts in Douglas Park for family and children – music appreciation

Issues/Concerns/Priorities

Redevelopment of empty properties. Locate where there are empty structures and keep them in a database for monitoring and economic opportunities.

Sidewalks – start and stop on Monroe Street into the Pasfield Park area. Difference from house to house.

Need better quality neighborhood streets for families.

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.

Left turning lane on Monroe and Chatham. Starbucks traffic is rough and is an accident waiting to happen. Always long lines and affects traffic both ways.

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.

Lawrence is a race track. Cars constantly speeding.

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.

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.

Better enforcement by Housing Inspectors. Houses are becoming dilapidated and properties are not up to code.

More Street Sweepers

Slow snow removal response and needs to be more prompt. On Governor and Feldcamp – the snow removal does not happen.

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

There are many residents who do not obey traffic rules – accelerate on yellow lights vs. being cautious and slowing down.

Monroe Park Condominiums – dogs and cats cut thru and leave droppings.

There needs to be a law in place for vicious dogs. It needs to be enforced before the dog hurts a person.

Clearer plan on who handles dog issues

Animal Control is horrible

Communication for neighborhoods/wards about things happening in their areas (i.e. – armed robberies, house broken into so they are on alert)

Release of information about crimes. Police haven't been forthcoming about crimes in the area.

Need to hear more from Public Works – branches, leaves, etc.

Easier access to information on the Website for people

Spot crime website shows where things happen so why can't the Police be open to crimes with residents?

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.

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. Share the information. City-wide efforts

Bus lanes need to be plowed so coordinate between Public Works and SMTD regarding snow removal.

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.

Information about what is available – where they can find info about the city and area services.

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?

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.

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 are handicap, can start at \$60 one way.

Speeding thru residential streets needs to be examined. Look at Leland Grove and go to 25 mile per hour and enforce it.

Missing blue collar jobs – economic development needs to focus on those types of businesses.

Adelia and Governor Streets – people speed thru on them. Not the alley but the new paved street.

Formal neighborhood representative in City Hall – Des Moines, IA has that in community development. Other examples include Madison, WI, Peoria, IL, Cedar Rapids, MI

No consistent policy for leaf blowers vs. leaf baggers

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.

WARD 9

St. John's Lutheran Church

Best Thing About Living in Springfield

- Good place to raise kids – good schools
- Cost of living is reasonable
- Size of the City – not too big and not too small
- Walking to Lincoln Park
- Excellent Medical facilities
- Arts community
- No traffic jams
- Very accessible alderman – form of government is working
- Snowing
- Where appropriate – traffic lights synced
- History – being at the seat of all this
- Northwest side – great connections to highway, shopping and downtown
- Low electric rates and quality water
- Lots of opportunity for shopping
- Safety and the people

Issues/Concerns/Priorities

Koke Mill Road - is it in the city or not because it floods by Washington and Old Jacksonville Road on Koke Mill.

Short strip of road – Oxford and Hanover hills. It is a connector road. Unsafe because it is narrow and each side has dips. Harbauer Road is also unsafe.

Can the City reroute drains to Spring Creek for rain water vs. going to Sanitary District?

Jefferson Park revamp – city did sidewalks. But from Oxford and Churchill there is no way of getting out into the park. It is all grass and it is hard to push strollers into the field. Needs to revamp and add sidewalks to get out to the things offered in the Park.

Sidewalks on Jefferson

Washington Street by the Bluffs on Koke Mill, it is very narrow and hard to get work done on it.

Oxford and Meadow Brook by Koke Mill – not keeping up on infrastructure because the City is expanding so fast . Those streets weren't prepared for all traffic that goes on it today.

West and South Side of Harbauer there are no sidewalks

Madison and Lincoln – streetlight on Madison stays red way too long

Street lights need to be evaluated to see if they can be shut down/taken out.

Harbauer – where residents can walk into Jefferson Park, the only walk in entrance sits low. So if it rains, it gets boggy and flooded. Sidewalks don't go all the way to entrance. They stop. It also floods the parking lot and cars get stuck. There is also a confusion on who owns that property by the entrance and parking lot. Is it City or Park District, etc.?

Salem Estates – communication about the jurisdiction (City, County, etc). Also make sure we direct residents to the right people in the office when they call City Hall.

Parcel of land on Bruns and Palomino. If there was a better way to connect it to Spring Creek or use other topography to have better drainage.

Jefferson going into Youngston Hills, it goes down to one lane and everyone jockeys to get into the one lane and is dangerous.

Bike Trail access from Youngston Hills – can't access it legally but other areas have entrances.

Bruns Lane and Chatham Road was worked on last year but needs to be redone.

Jefferson to Monroe is not good either and needs more work.

Create a Website by Ward to allow postings about what is going on and info residents can locate about beat cop; street work being done in the Ward, etc.

Snow removal on sidewalks for businesses and residents. City should monitor and should be required.

Have a creative way to get access to the bike trail at Harrison Park vs. crossing substation.

Garbage issue – had to buy the bag and then had to get the stickers. Why do we have to pay so much? It should be included in the City fee the residents are already paying.

If you call the City, you get too many voicemails.

Different leaf solution that is more effective like a suck wagon vs. leaf bags. Sweep in street and then it comes by and picks it up.

Institute something between residents and government about liter pick up. More collaboration.

City needs to look at broad band with CWLP fiber optics and use it as another revenue source.

We have 2 or 3 waste haulers coming in the neighborhood each week and why can't each area just have 1 provider?

Gaslight mobile home unit – 75 units, many are retired. However they wanted to privatize their water. So each got their own meters. Now they each get a bill but the bill from the private company is \$25 higher than CWLP. CWLP should not be privatized. And if they are, they should not be higher than regular going rate. City and CWLP need to ensure the meters that were installed were properly installed and they are not charged more. Private company shouldn't be able to do that – neither for water or sewer. They charged someone on a septic system a sewer charge.

Snow removal in Gaslight is poor.

Privatizing a public utility is not a good thing.

Cab company is operating on Forest Green Drive – Gracious Cab company. It is residential and should not be there.

Police patrol Churchill Road

Alley behind Illinois Street and Lincoln – it is not kept. People need to keep it clean but weeds and dumping have become an issue.

Up charge on recycling – they should not have to pay it if they don't want to recycle.

Thank you to Public Works for work on Harrison Park. Everyone was cordial who worked on the project.

Last summer they did all this work on Chatham and Washington Street – they patch but don't resurface. Why don't they resurface?

Reducing the speed limit. Instead of 30, it needs to be 25 in contained subdivision or residential streets.

Harbauer – people drive down the middle of the street way too fast. Reduce speed limit.

Jefferson and Veterans Parkway, there was supposed to have a Qik n EZ but what happened?

Scheels area – what is the status of that area? Afraid if nothing is done, it is going to close/leave.

Old Jacksonville and Meadowbrook– Street lights are missing on North Side

Mine Subsidence survey occurred but the information was never communicated out about the results. Can the info be shared?

PH Broughton did a great job on a recent City project.

WARD 10

Hope Church

Best Thing About Living in Springfield

- Employment
- Family
- Medical
- Community - hometown feel/close knit feeling/people
- Lincoln Heritage
- Bike Trails

Issues/Concerns/Priorities

Make the Building Permit Process easier

There are seams in the streets in Piper Glen Subdivision on the north end and should be fixed.

Access by foot traffic for local businesses in the area (i.e. no sidewalks to get to the Y).

Improvement to Archer Elevator Road

Better residential and commercial planning

Traffic flow issue on Meadowbrook and Archer Elevator Road. Concern with traffic accidents and lots of traffic on the streets.

Chatham Road is an issue due to improper/lack of repair.

Sidewalks needed on Isle Avenue, west of Archer Elevator

Lenhart Road is busy and needs improvements if we are looking at more apartments and traffic.

Gridlock – improve around White Oaks Mall. Pedestrian traffic to areas and understanding what happens around Ward 10 around the holidays.

General Traffic flow is an issue out West.

Research how traffic flows work in other communities around malls and mimic because they don't have the gridlock how we have it and they are bigger malls (like St. Louis).

Traffic by Sam's Clubs and West White Oaks around County Market and Isles needs to be addressed.

Lights are not timed or synchronized

Safety and security in general. Help other ways for people to feel safe like Neighborhood Watch programs.

Cockrell Lane to Savannah Pointe – a planning scenario needs to be looked at/created because of the high traffic count. Also Mathers Road to Wabash; out to Parkway Point; and Old Jacksonville Road to Bradfordton Road.

Fire House location concern - Fire Department response to the Southwest part of the City.

Look at the Police/Fire with the timing of the lights so they don't have to stop at every intersection.

Look how we can move people from all points around Springfield in the best and most efficient manner possible.

Improve the streets around the Medical District.

Look at St. Louis in their loop area and see what they have done with traffic and economic development.

Bike Trail out to Hedley and Lenhart – repaint to help define where the bike trail starts and ends to help give perspective to bikers.

What is the jurisdiction of all of these commissions and we lose some of the focus with changes in administrations and gets disjointed. How can we ensure continuity with the changes.

Better communications with what the planning process is for the City.

Have the City look at fundraisers to get some of this work done.

Neighborhood Associations need to have open communications from the City about what is going on in their Wards.

Small baseball diamonds like Chamberlain Park and Southeast High School. We fail in comparison of other cities that can bring in people for tournaments and it affects economy and out of town visitors. Bigger fields are needed. Consider using the open fields as potential spaces for such a thing.

Need an easier way for Meter Parking – take credit card or other payments

Better communication about other forums occurring in the wards. For example, a candidate forum during the election time.

Parking garages in LA have been innovative on layering cars vs. letting them be on the street or in car deserts. If City has a parking issue, look at what LA has done.

Parking around the Library and Sixth Street is difficult. It makes it hard to get to those places including City facilities. Parking capacity needs to improve.

Location for Ward news and info – better Facebook, Website and how to put the info out to the residents about Ward happenings.

Needs to be easier access to Public Information. There are too many layers to the FOIA process and it's a matter of understanding what public info is and what is not.

Fewer stoplights

Complaint residents have against city offices/workers/officials. Add to the Website a form or contact agency they should call. Add to it to the Community Relations tab. Can also be used for kudos.

Get more local artists into town

Think of ways to entice new businesses to come to town or to Westside because currently it is too expensive out West. Tax incentives or improvements should come with locating to Springfield.

Affordable Housing on the West end.

Mass Transit hasn't changed and it needs to look at Springfield with a new lens.