

WARD 6

2016 Ward Meeting

What would make Springfield the “Model” city?

- Streets that don't flood when it rains
- An art district
- Pedestrian areas in the downtown
- Vibrant commercial downtown
 - Retail
 - Restaurants
- Intentional City planning based on best practices
- Core needs better development. More vibrant older neighborhoods. Support for rehabbing and maintenance
- Residential development downtown.
- Better funded school district and library
 - All school zones are in the Lincoln Library district. Branch libraries again. Elementary school libraries (Matheny-Withrow is out of district). They all need to be part of Capital District
- No more segregation of boundaries. More inclusive city.
- We only have one charter school. We are stuck
- Cutting edge education that every child has access to it. There should not be waiting lists
- Accessible public transportation for all people
- Transfer Center – inter-model hub
- Nice bicycle and pedestrian walkways from north to south on the 3rd Street track
- Quiet Zone along the 3rd Street track as far as we can afford (Oak Ridge to Cantrell)
- Light rail along the 3rd Street corridor
- Visually appealing City (better roadways, trees, green spacing, landscaping, waste management, etc.)
- Y Block – part green space. Water drainage issue and mix-use space.
 - Compatible to the Governor's Mansion. Fit together and neighborhood
- Finish Hunter Lake. Need of a backup water source.
- Wi-Fi throughout the City
 - When students go home, they should have access to it.
- More diverse economy – not just government and hospitals.
 - Manufacturing back in the city (i.e. Sangamo Electric)
 - Range of employment industry
- Industrial Park – access to rail and interstate
- VA hospital in the capital city
- Roundabouts should be used in the City more often vs. traffic signals
- Greater collaboration with Park District and the City - better utilize for entertainment and beautification. Management and policing. Create more uniformity.
- Plan to develop best practices for economic development. Part of a comprehensive plan. State of the art that considers the value and quality of life of the residents considering neighborhoods.
- Separation of storm sewers and sanitary sewers. Needs to be addressed

Issues

- Sick of the gambling parlors. Too many.
- Separation of storm sewers and sanitary sewers.
- State Fairgrounds should come back to City/County control
- Pillsbury needs to be fixed.
- Sales tax increment passed three years ago and has done some but not enough. What is the next step?
 - What do the residents want?
- Comprehensive Plan did try to address the property decline. Incentive financing program was part of Mayor Hasara's plan. Was anything done? Program still exists? If not, use that in this one.
- Problem properties and vacant properties still an issue. Do not let people buy properties if they own too many and don't keep them up.
- Are we using other cities as best practices for the bench marks for our next Comprehensive Planning?
- Recycling area that takes more than just paper/cans but also electronics, hazardous waste and kitchen waste all the time. Not just one-time a year.
- Residential speed is too fast. Holmes Avenue between Laurel and South Grand. Vine between Walnut and MacArthur. West Canedy. Lowell and Homes. 6th Street – up from the viaduct because of the parking lane they lose a lane.
- Oak and Ash on the east side in the alley on 4th is used by a lot of people. Entrances on both ends are full of potholes.
- Dial Court lost its curbs due to the street repair and Bryn Mawr.
- 6th and Bryn Mawr lost its curb.
- Resurfacing is great but losing the amount of water it can retain. Getting less and less
- Public Safety for j-walkers and bicyclists. Bikes going wrong way. Over by Sunrise Café. People are going to get hit.
- Big trees – and trimming. Electric lines going thru trees. Need to be trimmed better.
- What is the plan for Ash Trees?
- We don't have sufficient revenue to address these issues. Inadequate tax base. Need to have a better conversation about taxes. We have to pay for this.
 - But doesn't this come back to a plan? Economic Development could aid this. Raising taxes is part of this but we need a vibrant part of this plan
- We need to look at the tax base of other cities and why they have what we don't have.
- In 2010 they said they would be supportive if it would raise taxes if it would fix sewers.
- Properties were not appreciating at the level they once were

In one word, describe Springfield today.

- Improving
- Stagnant
- Uncultured
- Economically declining
- Disrespectful
- Declining
- Improving
- Lagging

- Stael
- Political
- Divided
- Relatives
- Incomplete
- Wow
- Friendly
- Struggling
- Divided
- Neighborhood
- Quiet
- Disjointed
- Green
- Nice
- Divided
- Unsophisticated
- Divided
- Bland
- Friendly
- Boring
- Not progressive
- Unfriendly
- Sleepy
- Divided
- Challenging
- Dependent
- Opportunity
- Lacking
- Retail

In one word, how would you like to describe Springfield?

- Beautiful
- One
- Nice
- Safe
- Vibrant
- Progressive
- Fun
- Exciting
- Friendly
- Harmonious
- Progressive
- Amazing
- Vibrant
- Cultural
- Vibrant

- Peaceful
- Happy
- Interesting
- Exciting
- Wonderful
- Recycling
- Healthy
- Great innovative
- Vibrant
- Diverse
- Wow
- Fun
- Interesting
- Progressive
- Leader
- Growing
- Clean
- Destination
- Thriving
- Inclusive
- Thriving
- Unique
- Planned