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### **Public Engagement Events Overview**

The Public Input Summary Report reviews all of the feedback collected from residents across Sioux Falls during Phase 1 and 2 of the Shape Sioux Falls Comprehensive Plan update. Feedback has been summarized by event type and there is a final overall key takeaways section included at the end of the report.

### **Public Engagement Events**

#### **Overview**

There were several different types of engagement activities used for the Shape Sioux Falls Comprehensive Plan. Activities included a mix of in-person and online events to help reach a wide and diverse audience.

In-person events included:

- · Use of an Advisory Committee
- · Community Listening Sessions (2)
- · Focus Group Meetings
- · Pop-Up Event Booths (8)
- · Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops (4)

Online events included an interactive engagement website and stakeholder interviews.

All of these engagement activities were supported by the completion of a statistically valid survey, administered by the ETC Institute. A statistically valid survey is designed to represent the likely views of the entire community by following certain procedures for outreach and distribution of completed surveys.

The following pages summarize the input received by meeting type. Some feedback has been condensed for conciseness. The final section is a summary of the overall key takeaways and themes present in the feedback.

Additional public events will include a Public Open House, once the full draft is completed, and the public hearing process associated with the Planning Commission and City Council.

### Planned Engagement Activities:

- · Advisory Committee Meetings
- · Community Listening Sessions
- · Interactive Engagement Website
- · Stakeholder Interviews + Focus Groups
- · Community Survey
- Pop-Up Events
- · Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops
- Public Open House



### **Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee**

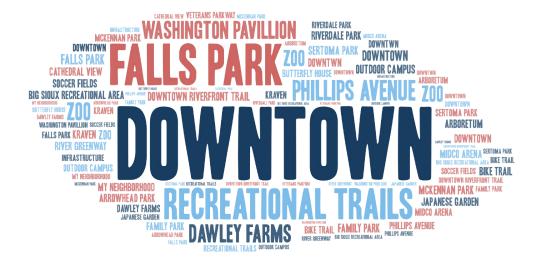
The Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC) is composed of community stakeholders and leaders that will help review, inform, and implement the updated Shape Sioux Falls Comprehensive Plan. The group met in July 2024 to kick-off the project.

### **Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee**

#### **Project Kick-Off Meeting**

The Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC) had a kick-off meeting on July 29, 2024. The purpose of this meeting was to provide an overview of the project scope and schedule, listen to a brief comprehensive planning 101 lesson, review the key themes and goals of the existing Shape Sioux Falls Comprehensive Plan, and to answer a few key visioning questions. The last agenda item involved the use of Mentimeter online polling as well as general group discussion. The results of the visioning questions are described below.

#### **Favorite Place in Sioux Falls?**



### What has been the best change in Sioux Falls in the past 5 years?



### **Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee**

What is the biggest challenge facing development in Sioux Falls?



### What is the biggest opportunity for development in Sioux Falls?



Overall, how satisfied are you with the way in which Sioux Falls is developing today? Please rate on a scale from 1 (low) to 10 (high).

7.9
Overall Average

### **Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee**

#### What could be better?



#### What development type is most needed?



#### What emerging trends do you think Sioux Falls most needs to address in this update?



### **Interactive Engagement Website**

It is important to have both in-person and online activities available for the public. The interactive engagement website provides dynamic and fun engagement opportunities to hear from all members of the Sioux Falls community.

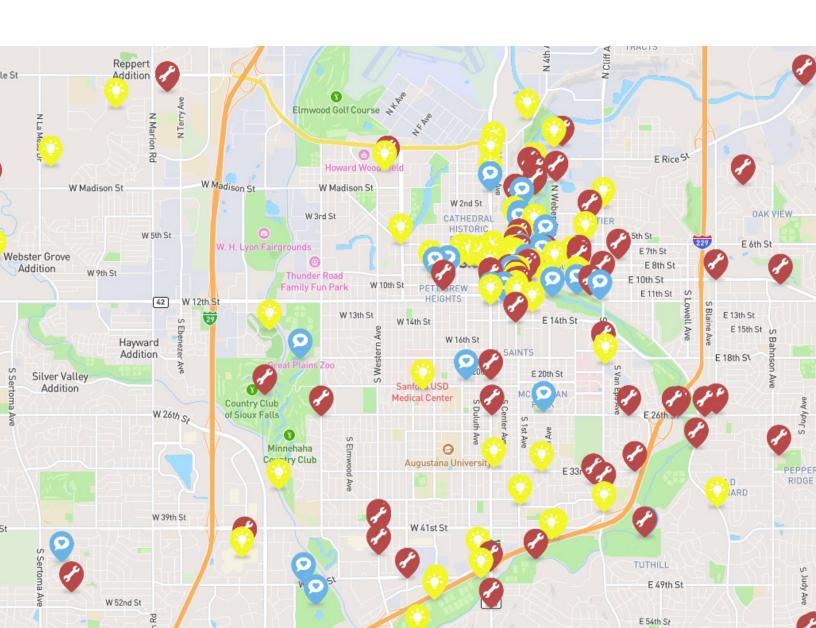
### **Interactive Engagement Website**

#### **Summary**

To help facilitate a robust online engagement strategy, the Consultant Team set up an interactive engagement website using the platform Social Pinpoint. The website contains information about the planning process and schedule, in addition to hosting engagement activities. The following pages summarize the overall outreach of the engagement activities and reviews the results of each activity.

#### **Website Engagement Summary**

As of the end of January 2025, the interactive engagement website has been viewed over 9,000 times by over 5,160 unique visitors. In total, there were 695 contributions made by 239 participants.



### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

#### **Activity #1 Visioning Survey**

The first activity on the website was a visioning survey composed of three short questions meant to gauge overall views of Sioux Falls and priorities of the respondents.

### What is your favorite thing about living in Sioux Falls?

There were a wide variety of responses to this question, however, most revolved around Sioux Falls' great downtown, restaurant scene, access to outdoors/parks/recreation, and the bike trail. There was also an overarching sentiment about the small-town feel they sense in Sioux Falls alongside the big city amenities offered. Many responses related back to Sioux Falls being the right size for access to amenities such as healthcare, shopping, and entertainment alongside relatively low traffic and crime. The word cloud by

shopping, and entertainment alongside relatively low traffic and crime. The word cloud below shows a summary of the responses with the most common themes shown in a larger font size.





I can be in any area of town and be a short drive from a grocery store, gym, places to eat or shop, etc. I LOVE our downtown and bike trail as well as the variety we have in businesses in town.

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

**Activity #1 Visioning Survey** 

#### How would you rate the quality of life today?

The second question asked respondents to rate the overall quality of life in Sioux Falls on a scale from one (1) to five (5) stars.





**FIGURE 1** Star Rating Summary

I love the access to downtown the shops, concerts, great food/ restaurants and a quality atmosphere throughout the year.

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

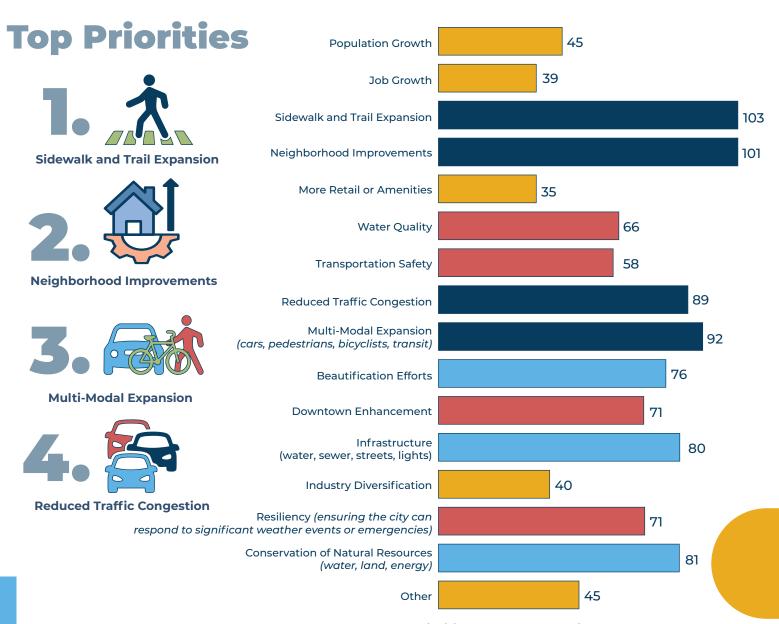
### **Interactive Engagement Website**

**Activity #1 Visioning Survey** 

## What type of improvements do you think the City of Sioux Falls should prioritize for the future? Select all that apply.

When asked to indicate the improvements they believe the City of Sioux Falls should prioritize, the four most common responses were (1) Sidewalk and Trail Expansion, (2) Neighborhood Improvements, (3) Reduced Traffic Congestion, and (4) Multi-Modal Expansion (cars, pedestrians, bicyclists, transit). The overall results by number of responses is shown below. Other higher priority items include Conservation of Natural Resources, Infrastructure, Beautification Efforts, Resiliency, and Downtown Enhancements.





**FIGURE 2** Improvement Priorities Summary Results

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

**Activity #2 Mapping Activity** 

#### **Overall Mapping Activity Summary**

Participants were given three (3) map comments type to choose between on the activity:





#### Love this!

What is your favorite place in Sioux Falls? What is working well?



### **Needs Improvement**

What don't you like? What needs some improvement?



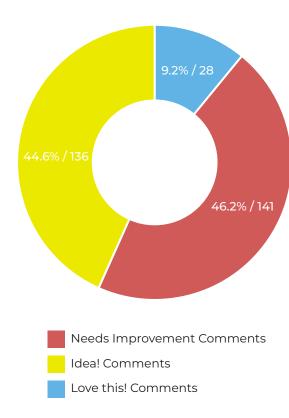
#### Idea!

Have an idea for Sioux Falls? Let us know!

In total, there were 305 mapping comments left by 99 individuals. The most dominant comment type was Needs Improvement, which represented 46.2% of all comments received. The Idea! comment type was also popular with 44.6% of all comments. The Love this! comment type had the fewest at only 9.2%.

The average number of map comments left per contributor was about 3.2 comments. While 45 contributors left only one comment, one contributor left 40 comments. There was no limit to the number of comments each contributor could make on the map.

The results by comment type are summarized on the following pages.



**FIGURE 3** Comments by Type Summary

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

#### **Activity #2 Mapping Activity**

#### **Love This Map Comments**

**New Development** - There were several new developments and structures that were identified including the new One Stop building design.

**Gateway Improvements** - Enhancements from the airport to Downtown have improved the visitor experience.

**Libraries** - Siouxland Libraries are highly valued for programming and access to resources, entertainment, and information.

**McKennan Park** - The park is appreciated for its beauty and cultural events, with some concern about potential traffic issues on 26th Street.

**Levitt at the Falls** - The Levitt is recognized as a vibrant area with great opportunities for engagement and public performances.

### **Interactive Engagement Website**



#### Love this!

What is your favorite place in Sioux Falls? What is working well?

**Tuthill Trails** - The new trails have been a success for trail running and mountain biking.

New pedestrian signals and access improvements - Recent improvements are appreciated for enhancing safety and connectivity.

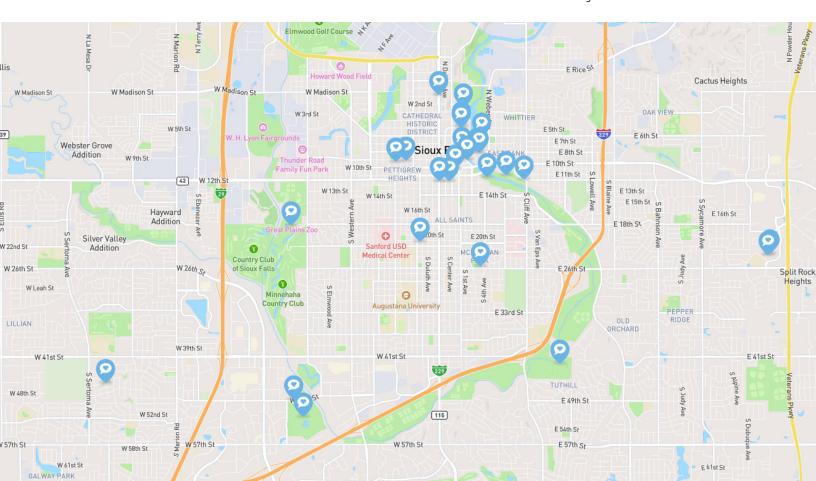
**Downtown Walkability** - Respondents appreciate the walkability improvements.

Trail Network - Great views and connectivity.

**8th and Railroad -** People enjoy this new development.

**Riverline Project** - Project is seen as crucial for showcasing the city's vision.

**Roundabouts and Bike Markings** - Desire to see more of these in the city.



### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

**Activity #2 Mapping Activity** 

#### **Needs Improvement Map Comments**

Below are some key themes seen in the Needs Improvement map comments:

#### **Traffic and Road Improvements:**

- · Intersection Upgrades
- Traffic Light Adjustments
- · Road Widening
- · Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety

### **Public Spaces and Amenities:**

- · Park and Trail Enhancements
- · Beautification Projects

#### **Homelessness and Social Services:**

· Support for Homeless Population

# Needs Improvement What don't you like? What needs some improvement?

#### **Environmental and Aesthetic Concerns:**

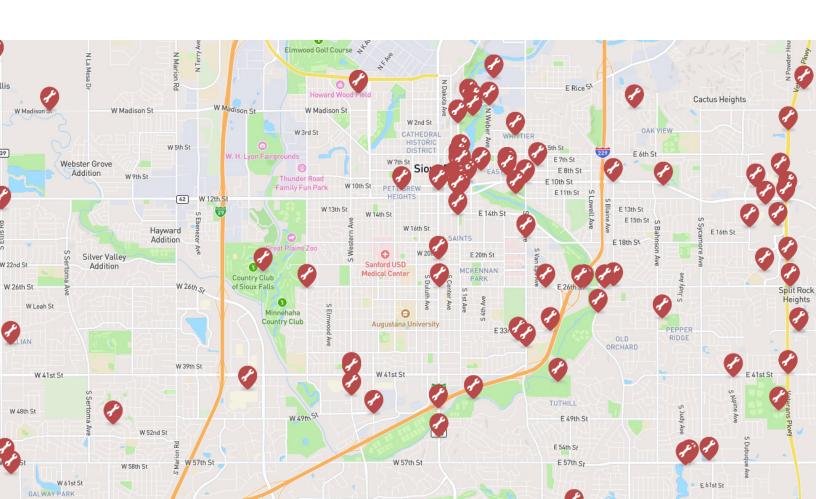
- · Litter and Cleanliness
- · Noise Pollution

### **Community and Development:**

- · Commercial and Residential Development
- · Public Transportation

### **Safety and Accessibility:**

- · Traffic Calming Measures
- Accessibility Improvements



### **Interactive Engagement Website**

**Activity #2 Mapping Activity** 

### **Traffic and Road Improvements**

**Intersection Upgrades** - Several recommended roundabouts to improve traffic flow and mentioned the one at 18th and Highline as an example. Many mentioned adding more turn lanes to prevent traffic backups.

**Traffic Light Adjustments** - Several mentioned adjusting the timing of traffic lights, adding turn indicators at busy intersections, and installing new stoplights at high congestion intersections.

**Road Widening** - Participants said they felt road widening was needed along 26th Street (between I-229 and Cliff Ave), Six Mile Road (Arrowhead to 41st Street), and 10th Street (I-229 to Sycamore).

**Downtown Traffic Flow** - Some mentioned the traffic lights Downtown need re-timing. Others suggested expanding skywalk options.

### **Public Spaces and Amenities**

Parks, Trails, and Nature Areas - Strong desire among respondents for additional trails and nature areas, especially on the west side of Sioux Falls. Many parks received specific comments about improvements they felt were needed. Some mentioned adding more bike lanes.

**Beautification Projects** - Several mentioned across the City, especially in Falls Park and Dawley Farms. They feel the park could be made more attractive and welcoming by cleaning up litter and enhancing overall aesthetics. Dawley Farms could use more landscaping and made more walkable.

**Community Centers** - Several felt more community centers that can be used for training, celebrations, clubs, and indoor play are needed.

**New Recreational Areas** - Comments were made about the need for new recreational areas throughout the City, including a disc golf course.

### **Public Spaces and Amenities**

**Affordable Housing** - Increasing the availability of safe and affordable housing for families on the

### **Interactive Engagement Website**



verge of homelessness to prevent them from becoming homeless.

**Spread of Resources** - Ensuring resources are spread out across the city to make them more accessible. This includes providing transportation to help individuals reach these resources easily.

#### **Environmental and Aesthetics Concerns**

**Litter and Cleanliness** - Several mentioned the need to address litter and cleanliness in places like under bridges and popular areas like Falls Park.

**Noise Pollution** - Some respondents mentioned traffic noise in residential areas requiring barriers or better enforcement of regulations.

### **Community Development**

**Mixed-Use Developments** - Many encouraged mixed-use developments to create more vibrant, walkable areas.

**Zoning Improvements** - Some comments mentioned the City should reevaluate zoning regulations to ensure compatibility with nearby land uses such as storage facilities near residential areas.

**Public Transportation** - Respondents mentioned that more public transportation options are needed to connect key areas like the airport to Downtown and better transit connections for students at USD-Sioux Falls.

### **Safety and Accessibility**

**Traffic Calming Measures** - Measures such as speed reductions in residential areas and better enforcement of speed limits were mentioned. Some believe visibility improvements are needed at key intersections and turn lanes.

**Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety** - Several mentioned the need for more sidewalks and bike trails, especially near schools and residential areas. Others mentioned adding pedestrian bridges or tunnels across busy roads like Veterans Parkway.

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

**Activity #2 Mapping Activity** 

### **Idea Map Comments**

Below are some key themes seen in the Idea! map comments:

#### **Infrastructure and Development:**

- · Road Extensions
- · Commercial Development
- · High-Rise Buildings

### **Public Transportation and Connectivity:**

- · Alternative Transportation Systems
- · Pedestrian and Bike Infrastructure
- · Highway and Road Improvements

### **Community Spaces and Amenities:**

- · Parks and Recreation
- · Libraries and Community Centers
- · Public Restroom and Facilities

#### Idea!

Have an idea for Sioux Falls? Let us know!

#### **Economic and Cultural Development:**

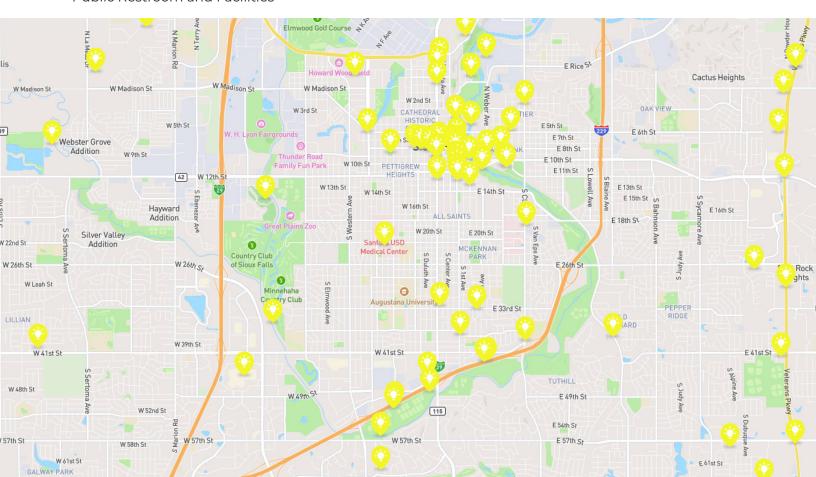
- · Entertainment and Sports Centers
- · Historic Preservation and Arts
- · Farmers Market and Local Businesses

### **Environmental and Aesthetic Improvements:**

- · Beautification Projects
- · Water Quality and Habitat

#### Safety and Accessibility:

- · Traffic Calming Measures
- · Flood Mitigation



### **Interactive Engagement Website**

**Activity #2 Mapping Activity** 

### **Infrastructure Development**

**Road Extensions** - Comments made about the need to extend roadways adequately into planning growth areas and to make the naming system for these new roads to be more intuitive.

**Commercial Development** - There were several comments made about the specific commercial development respondents would like to see, including more Hy-Vees, a new Super Target, an IKEA, or more car dealerships along I-29 north.

**High Rise Buildings** - Some mentioned they would like to see Sioux Falls develop more highrise buildings with apartments and offices with retail on the first floor. They feel this would make the skyline more recognizable.

### **Public Transportation and Connectivity**

**Alternative Transportation Systems** - Some mentioned the need for Sioux Falls to explore alternative transportation systems, such as a street car along corridors like Minnesota Avenue.

**Pedestrian and Bike Infrastructure** - Comments made about the need to add pedestrian bridges, bike lanes, and walking paths to improve safety and connectivity.

**Highway and Road Improvements** - Some mentioned extending I-229 around the west side of Sioux Falls and adding more exits/entrance ramps. Others mentioned the need to switch four way stops in certain areas to traffic lights.

### **Community Spaces and Amenities**

**Parks and Recreation** - There was a desire for new parks, green spaces, and recreational facilities, including an IcePlex, dog park, and splash pads.

**Libraries and Community Centers** - Some requested new/more libraries and community centers in growing areas of town.

**Public Restrooms and Facilities** - Some feel public restrooms are needed in key areas of town, like those found at Falls Park.

### **Interactive Engagement Website**



#### Idea!

Have an idea for Sioux Falls? Let us know!

### **Economic and Cultural Development**

**Entertainment and Sports Centers** - Some comments were made about the need to develop large entertainment and indoor sports centers to support winter based activities.

**Historic Preservation and Arts** - Some desire the preservation of historic buildings such as the Whittier School for community use such as an arts and heritage center.

#### Farmers Market and Local Businesses -

Comments suggested a desire to expand the farmers market to multiple locations.

## **Environmental and Aesthetic Improvements**

**Beautification Projects** - Comments want to continue beautification routes from airport to Downtown by planting trees along bike paths and commercial/residential facade improvements.

**Water Quality and Habitat** - Some wanted to see small dams and aeration steps along the Big Sioux River to improve water quality and fish habitat.

### **Safety and Accessibility**

**Traffic Calming Measures** - There was a call for implementing traffic calming measures, such as stop signs and better pedestrian crossings, to reduce speed and improve safety in residential areas.

**Flood Mitigation** - Some feel the City should restrict development in flood-prone areas and require flood resistant design in new constructions and renovations occurring in the community.

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Activity #3 Evaluating Emerging Trends**

There are several key emerging trends that the City of Sioux Falls wanted to get feedback on from respondents. These emerging trends are future-oriented issues and topics that represent a wide range of future challenges and opportunities residents and the City may face throughout the life of this plan. For each emerging trend, respondents were asked to identify how important they believe each one is based on a text description and representative imagery. The following pages overview the results.



#### **Trend #1: Resiliency**

This emerging trend includes a range of issues such as infrastructure resilient to emergencies and other natural disasters, like flooding.

Average: 4.18

Not Important

Very Important



## <u>Trend #2: Conservation of Natural Resources</u> (Water, Land, Energy)

This emerging trend includes a range of issues such as expansion of parks and greenways, water quality, preservation of agricultural land, and habitat restoration.

Average: 4.29



Not Important

Very Important



### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

**Activity #3 Evaluating Emerging Trends** 

#### **Trend #3: New Technologies**

This emerging trend includes a range of issues such as smart cities, use of AI technology, and IT modernization in cities to improve livability.

#### Average: 3.26

Not Important Very Important



#### **Trend #4: Infrastructure**

This emerging trend includes a range of issues such as the long-term strategies to replace aging infrastructure in cities with newer, more resilient technologies.

#### Average: 4.29



Not Important Very Important



### Trend #5: Housing

This emerging trend includes a range of issues such as decreased inventory, lack of affordable housing, and new housing types.

#### Average: 4.27



Not Important Very Important



### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

**Activity #3 Evaluating Emerging Trends** 

#### **Trend #6: Transportation**

This emerging trend includes a range of issues such as electric and automated vehicles, E-Bikes and scooters, and transit.

#### Average: 3.48

Not Important Very Important



#### **Trend #7: Economic + Retail Shifts**

This emerging trend includes a range of issues such as the changes in retail since the pandemic, the rise of online shopping, and the rise of experiential/entertainment retail.

#### Average: 3.11

Not Important Very Important



#### **Trend #8: Future of Work**

This emerging trend includes a range of issues such as the increase in work from home, decreased demand for office space, and remote work.

#### Average: 3.38

Not Important Very Important



### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

**Activity #3 Evaluating Emerging Trends** 

#### **Trend #9: Inclusive Design**

Not Important

This emerging trend includes a range of issues such as designing cities for all ages or inclusive design of amenities such as playgrounds and gathering spaces.

Average: 3.99

Very Important

1 1 -1



### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

#### Activity #4 Idea Wall

The final activity on the interactive website was an Idea Wall where respondents were allowed to upload an image and/or add text describing a general idea they have for the City of Sioux Falls. Other participants were able to "like" and "dislike" ideas to show their support or disagreement with each topic. The following pages show the ideas added to the wall and provides information on how many "likes" and "dislikes" each comment received. Well liked comments, as well as the most liked comment, have been marked.





#### **Skyline Improvement**

Sioux Falls may not be New York, but we should encourage the start of building up in our downtown. Even just a couple of 20+ story buildings could begin to give Sioux Falls a recognizable and beautiful skyline.





0 dislikes

#### **Mid-Town Mixed Use Opt-Out**

Make the Mid-Town Mixed Use zoning opt-out vs. opt-in....to reduce friction of needing approval for each project... Mid-Town mixed use is one of the most progressive (and positive) changes the city has made, but it's impact may be significantly blunted given the administrative burden of getting each project approved. Making it opt-out would lower the hurdle for more housing and development.



1 like



1 dislike



#### A New Era for Sioux Falls: Where Global Creativity **Meets Local heritage**

Sioux Falls can bring this new creative hub studio; a cutting edge studio where residents can explore and learn the latest in technology, fashion, design, and world class architecture. This space will serve as a center for sharing ideas...



0 likes



0 dislikes

#### Bring a streetcar system to Sioux Falls I think Sioux Falls needs to consider its

long term growth, and the best way to plan into the future is to think about modes of transportation the city will need in 2050. I think a streetcar system - starting in Minnesota Avenue - should pass through areas of interest and central locations...



7 likes



1 dislike

### New airlines and direct flights

Try to get new airlines and direct flights to East Coast locations like Washington DC or New York



5 likes



0 dislikes

### **Electrify Public Transportation**

Consider moving public transportation to electrically powered vans (or buses on highly utilized routes). In the long run, this shift would save money on fuel overtime especially if charging stations are solar powered.





1 dislike

#### **Preserve and Protect Historic Districts**

Sioux Falls is home to a few very special historic districts that feature properties that help tell the stories of our city and its citizens. It is important to protect these for future generations by preventing demolition by neglect through stronger code enforcement of existing laws and strengthening single family zoning to take away financial incentives to tear down historic properties.





0 dislikes

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

Activity #4 Idea Wall



#### Redevelop Wells Fargo block

I would love to see the redevelopment of the Wells Fargo block, adding more shops, restaurants, and bars along Phillips Avenue that would get rid of that gap. Pictured is an example of a vision of a redevelopment of that site back in 2015.



0 dislikes

#### Pedestrian and Bike traffic downtown

Make it easier and safer and more connected



2 likes



0 dislikes

### Affordable Housing

For working people.



3 likes



1 dislike

#### **Bicycle Safety Improvements** at Intersections

Sioux Falls, or at least the urban core, provides a great opportunity for those who wish to live a car-free or "car-light" lifestyle, the best opportunity in SD. The website "People for Bikes" maintains an active online database for other cities' street improvements, specifically how other streets have elected to treat the intersections, to promote multi-modal SAFE streets for bicyclists and pedestrians.





### Close Phillips Avenue (Downtown) to Vehicle Traffic

Closing the Phillips Ave corridor to vehicle traffic from 13th to 9th street would make the space more pedestrian friendly and would invite more people to visit the downtown area. The amount of people playing loud music from their vehicles, speeding, and revving engines erases the enjoyment of checking out sculptures, shopping, hanging out on a patio with friends/family, listening to street musicians, etc., Also, if the space were dedicated to pedestrians it opens up more opportunities for community engagement in the downtown space.



4 likes



0 dislikes

#### Bring passenger rail service to Sioux Falls

#### WELL LIKED IDEA

Bring passenger rail service back to Sioux Falls with building connections to the Twin Cities, Omaha, Rapid City and more. Many young professionals and companies who may want to live and work in the Sioux Falls area want the diversity of transportation options passenger rail can provide. Passenger rail is also a catalyst of economic grown around the station locations: something that can further enhance downtown Sioux Falls.



💜 15 likes



0 dislikes

### Have picnics and neighborhood events.

Revitalized neighborhoods for affordable housing and access to food and medical care. Playgrounds volunteer opportunities in your neighborhood. Meet the neighbors!





1 dislike

#### Gentle Density and Tactful, Affordable Urban Infill Housing

The City of Sioux Falls, architects, builders... could consider the value of placing new moderate-density housing emphasis on the vast and many neighborhoods near DTSF. The national trend of new homebuyers (and renters) has smaller families that favor close amenities, vibrant street life and street safety, and culture over isolationism. It is no longer 1950. SF is already the state's beacon for such people, but the majority of all new housing has been devoted to the edges of town, unnecessarily increasing traffic congestion for those that might very well prefer to walk, bike, or ride a streetcar to their work or school.

The city of South Bend, IN is perhaps the best-known example of an American city that has recently directly sponsored the design of appropriate infill housing in culturally sensitive neighborhoods, to increase interest in living in their urban core and promote affordable living. There are MANY economic and health benefits to being close to all your needs. Though there are reasonable limits to historically protected neighborhoods in SF, there remain ample opportunity areas to allow more people to live where they actually want to live.

The City of SF could consider to adopt and create a similar strategy for preapproved, ready-to-build infill housing.

However...there is no account of garages in their designs. Because they are ugly and big. It is my opinion as an architect that the South Bend examples are best utilized in alley-served neighborhoods. By this I simply mean that any garages are truly at the rear of the lot (where they belong) which allows houses to be closer together, keeps our core neighborhoods dense, beautiful, and interesting, and also promotes sidewalk safety for kids. A shift in mindset about parking by both City staff and homebuyers is KEY to actually getting affordable housing.



4 likes



2 dislikes

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

Activity #4 Idea Wall

#### Parking, car dependency, and zonina

WELL LIKED IDEA

Sioux Falls needs to look at updating or eliminating parking minimums for developments like many other cities have. This adds extra cost to build new developments and takes up valuable land. We also need to get away from being so car dependent and sprawling. New developments should be easily walkable, bikeable and have access to transit. We also need to change zoning to allow small commercial properties in communities like we used to. Corner stores like groceries, restaurants, bars, coffee shops, etc. This helps lessen car trips and expensive car infrastructure and makes for far more enjoyable neighborhoods.



12 likes



1 dislike

#### **Updated Community Health**

While we are a city known for its healthcare offerings, a large number of our populace cannot afford to purchase health services, nor do they have access through their employer. Community health should be available to fill that gap. Healthcare including but not limited to: dental, dermatology, general health and wellness, pediatrics, women's health, and mental health are some of the basics we need to invest in. This means attracting practitioners, providing appropriate infrastructure, using current technology, and hosting educational programming to encourage citizen participation and support. We are not competing with Sanford, Avera or local practitioners, we should be filling in the gaps they leave.



3 likes



1 dislike

### **Updated Family Fun Center**

Our existing centers are outdated and need improvement. We need an 18-hole indoor miniature golf course, and a new roller skating rink in a more accessible and nicer area of town.



2 likes



1 dislike

#### **Indoor Gathering Spaces**

Sioux Falls has some wonderful outdoor gathering spaces in the summer, but it becomes hard to use those in the winter. I would love if Sioux Falls had a large indoor courtyard area with restaurants, bistro-style seating, and perhaps a play area for kids. Brewhalla in Fargo is kind of similar to what I'm thinking of... Nice cobblestone flooring, good lighting (perhaps streetlamp style to add characters) and perhaps a nice indoor water feature like a fountain. It could even have a small stage for concerts

If you could fit 5-10 food vendors in a space like that, it would just be great to have a welcoming, family-friendly gathering space to get out of the house in the winter months.



9 likes



0 dislikes

### Indoor playground / climbing space for kids

Sioux Falls needs a place for kids to be active in colder months similar this one in Edina MN. It has lots of opportunity for climbing and slides as well as an indoor gym with bouncy houses and basketball hoops.



3 likes



1 dislike

### More trees and green spaces

The city has done a good job this year with tree planting. But, between the 3 tornadoes, 2 derachos, Ash bore disease and other storms, we have lost a lot of trees in the city.





1 dislike



#### Be inventive with unused space. Optimize unused areas of the city.

Find areas that aren't used as much and spruce them up to make them more attractive. Just a thought.



16 likes



0 dislikes

#### Championship level disc golf course

Create a Championship level disc golf course that attracts major disc golf tournaments. This will help grow the sport in Sioux Falls. Currently, right now all the Sioux Falls courses you have to share with other activities or in the flood plain which can hinder playing at times.



5 likes



1 dislike



#### **Neighborhood Open Space**

I would love to see neighborhood trails incorporated into new development.



1 dislike

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

**Activity #4 Idea Wall** 

## Maintain Learning Opportunities and Provide for Eclectic Interests

I think what makes a city unique is also what makes it memorable. Sioux Falls is awesome for what it does well - a balanced blend of diverse businesses, beautiful geography (and parks), and a full-range of living opportunities for anyone on either end of the social ladder. Therefore, since many of the basics are already in place, I would like much of the focus from the city to be on maintaining what we already have. This includes improving sidewalks, streets, etc. I would also like to see the city prioritize local businesses over franchises and chains. I think it's important city planners not get too polarized in their approach, but allow for all viewpoints, ideas, and professions to coexist, side by side. Focus on the essentials first and foremost, and make these (ideally) readily accessible to each community. We want to be the place where the up and coming generation goes to start a new business, learn a new trade, or build their career. I love the fact that we receive such a wide range of input from all walks of life, each contributing to make Sioux Falls special. Let's keep that going, by making Sioux Falls functional and accessible, while keeping it beautiful at the same time. This could include garbage removal initiatives (pollution) as well as organizing with local non-profits to benefit the community and get the "hard work" tackled. This may also require intelligent marketing and recruitment efforts to let people know and keep them informed of what's going on (always important). We're looking ahead to an even bigger and more exciting Sioux Falls, so I'd say the future looks bright and the opportunity is enormous. Let's get it right, and capitalize on what we have in place already!





1 dislike



#### Safe Comfortable Sidewalks

I would love to see the right-of-way used more for creating a safe and comfortable experience along the sidewalks rather than streets.



10 likes



1 dislike

#### Add a new library

The east side of Sioux Falls could use another library branch.



5 likes



0 dislikes

## Remove Smithfield and Redevelop Core Areas

Many areas will have aging housing, neighborhoods, and infrastructure. We need incentives to remodel and redevelop core neighborhoods. Homes built in 1950 or later will be 100+ years old in 2050. Core neighborhoods need to be taken care of and modernized before it looks like cities on the East Coast.

Move Smithfield out of town. Take back the entire area from the prison to Smithfield to the Falls. Keep the redevelopment of the area going for future generations and less stink!



0 likes



1 dislike



### **Different Housing Types**

I think we should support more street-fronted residential development and gentle density with row houses. These would be great for entry-level homeowners and seniors looking to downsize.



12 likes



1 dislike



#### **Mixed-Use Developments**

I'd love to see more exciting mixed-use developments here in Sioux Falls!



11

0 dislikes

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### **Interactive Engagement Website**

### Activity #4 Idea Wall

#### Central residential/business/ transportation coordnation

Encourage livability of the core areas of the city rather than encouraging random growth in all directions away from town. Main business corridors, such as Minnesota Ave., 41st St, 12th/10th, etc., should have apartment/small commercial development clustered at major intersections. For example Minnesota and 33rd, Minnesota and 26th etc. should have clustered, multi economic level apartments with local small shops, cafes, etc. on the first floor of the buildings. There should be a frequent low cost or free bus service, trolly, tram, etc.up and down Minnesota, 41st, etc. Allowing easy access to downtown, Empire Mall, hospitals, etc. There should be an emphasis on small clustered areas of residential with convenient cafes, shops. etc. but with ready access to the downtown/ malls areas for entertainment, jobs, shopping, etc.

We have seen such development in cities such as Berlin and Vancouver on a larger scale but it should work here. Giving ready access to small, convenient neighborhood services and amenities along with handy, direct access to downtown allows individuals who are looking for apartments or condos to live in the city with less emphasis on cars and extensive travel. Our parks have grown into a successful corridor based system winding around the city. Our residential and small commercial settings could also be corridor based, leading to downtown jobs and services.

With our current increased emphasis on apartments we should look into how to develop small clustered developments with ready access to city amenities.





0 dislikes

### Make Sioux Falls a People and **Health-Centered City**

The main reason why European countries and places like Japan are seen as healthier is due to the peoplecentered design of cities. Before cars were invented, cities had to be accessible for walking. If we take this concept and apply it to Sioux Falls, we could introduce more multi-family housing (cheaper options for condos would be nice) and include smaller grocery stores in more neighborhoods. This way, everyone could walk to the nearest grocery store.

This would encourage more walking paths and bike routes throughout the city. Many younger people are growing tired of how suburban and bleak cities like ours get and would prefer more connectedness built into their living area. If we managed to turn many neighborhoods into people-centric places to live and socialize, we could bring in multiple younger-folk to the city and breathe new life.



💓 1 like



0 dislikes

#### More shops/restaurants along **Phillips**

As lively as Phillips Avenue is already, I think it could be improved and made even more lively and fun to go to if there could be more shops, restaurants, and bars with more mixed-use developments at the Wells Fargo block, and going down to the Cascade, to make Phillips Avenue seamlessly connect to the Orpheum, Jones 421, the Levitt/Jacobson Plaza, and the Cascade. I think it would be a big improvement from the unappealing office buildings that really create a big gap down to the Levitt.



0 likes



0 dislikes



#### **Community Center with** Children, Family, and Adult **Ammenities**

The health of the city would benefit from a Community Center that has many amenities for children, families, and adults under one roof. My family recently visited a bustling community center that was awesome! In the same building, there was an indoor playground, fitness center, gymnasium, lap pool, rec/kids pool, small hockey rink, and large rooms that could be rented out for community events. When we went to enjoy the indoor playground, there was a craft fair, open gym, and hockey game also happening. It would be great to have a space like this in Sioux Falls, under one roof, especially during the winter months as there are few indoor playground options that are also connected to amenities that older kids and family members can enjoy.



0 likes



0 dislikes

### **Community Listening Sessions**

Community listening sessions were hosted to gather initial feedback, concerns, and ideas related to the plan update. These listening sessions were hosted at two different locations within the community to meet with as many residents as possible.

### **Community Listening Sessions**

#### **Event Overview**

There were two Community Listening Sessions held in September 2024. The first listening session was held on September 9, 2024, at the Ronning Branch Library. A second listening session was held on September 11, 2024, at the Caille Branch Library. The intent of these Community Listening Sessions was to provide opportunities to hear from residents on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats facing Sioux Falls. The results of these meetings were used to inform the type of follow up questions asked later on in the Neighborhood Public Visioning Workshops.

There were several activities available for participants:

- · Postcard Exercise
- · Tell Us About You Dot Boards
- · Write-In Boards
- Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats Identification and Result Boards
- · Emerging Trends Dot Boards

#### **Postcard Exercise**

To help break the ice among attendees, a postcard activity was held. Each person was handed a postcard and pen and asked to write about the future of Sioux Falls as if they were describing all of the positive changes they hope to see in the next 10-20 years. Examples of input heard are shown on the right and on the following page. This exercise was repeated later during the Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops.

COMPREHEN	X FALLS 2050 SIVE DEVELO		PLACE STAMP HERE
Dear Friend/Family It's 2050 and you sh		in Sioux Falls becau	ise
We've revital	ized many of d	our historic	
residential co	ommunities w	hile further	
developing o	ur northernm	ost neighborh	oods
and provided		y of communi	
SHAP SIOU FALL 2050	īx —	s and educati	<u>on.</u>
SHAPE SIOUX COMPREHEN	SIVE DEVELO		PLACE STAMP HERE
Dear Friend/Family It's 2050 and you sh		in Sioux Falls becau	ise
The city has v	walkable area	s and doesn't	feel
like a concret	te jungle.		
SHAP SIOU FALL	IX —		
2050			
SHAPE SIOUX			PLACE STAMP HERE
SHAPE SIOU	SIVE DEVELO	PMENT PLAN	STAMP HERE
SHAPE SIOUX COMPREHEN Dear Friend/Family It's 2050 and you sh	SIVE DEVELO	PMENT PLAN	STAMP HERE
SHAPE SIOUX COMPREHEN Dear Friend/Family It's 2050 and you sh	sive Develo	PMENT PLAN	STAMP HERE
SHAPE SIOUX COMPREHEN Dear Friend/Family It's 2050 and you sh	sive Develo nould visit me here chance to vis en enhanced	PMENT PLAN in Sioux Falls becau it the greensp	STAMP HERE

### **Community Listening Sessions**

### **Community Listening Sessions**

**Postcard Exercise** 

	PE SIOUX FALLS 2050 PREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN
	iend/Family, D and you should visit me here in Sioux Falls because
It's a	great place to bring your family.
	HAPE SIOUX ALLS 2050
	PE SIOUX FALLS 2050 PREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN
	iend/Family, O and you should visit me here in Sioux Falls because
Hon	ne town feeling. Museum of Science and
Indu	stry. Low low taxes. No state income tax.
Low	reasonable prices. No convention center in
SI	HAPE SIOUX ————————————————————————————————————
СОМ	PE SIOUX FALLS 2050 PREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN iend/Family,
	O and you should visit me here in Sioux Falls because
	kable/connected downtown.
	able transit to connect all corridors of Sioux
	s. We care about all our neighbors.
IT IC	a unique sense of place.
	HAPE

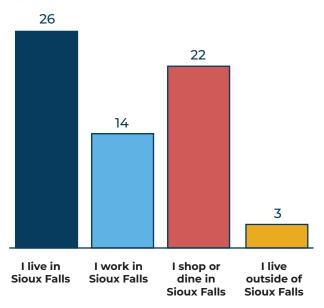


### **Community Listening Sessions**

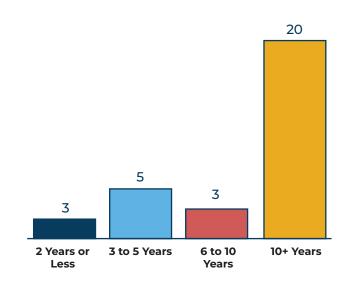
### **Community Listening Sessions**

#### **Tell Us About Yourself Dot Boards**

The results of the dot voting boards revealed that the majority of attendees of the Community Listening Sessions live in Sioux Falls and have done so for 10 or more years. A large percent shop or dine in Sioux Falls. Slightly over half work in Sioux Falls. Only a small percentage of attendees said they did not live in Sioux Falls.



**FIGURE 4** Tell Us About Yourself Results - Community Listening Sessions



**FIGURE 5** How Long Have You Lived in the Sioux Falls Area Results - Community Listening Sessions

### **Community Listening Sessions**

### **Community Listening Sessions**

Lagging

**Write-In Boards** 



29

### **Community Listening Sessions**

### **Community Listening Sessions**

Write-In Boards



30

### **Community Listening Sessions**

### **Community Listening Sessions**

Strengths I Weaknesses I Opportunities I Threats (SWOT) Analysis

### **Strengths**

- The Washington Pavilion
- · Good music scene
- Philanthropic community
- · Something for everyone with a small town feel
- · Community engagements
- · Non-profit organizations
- · Universities / tech schools
- · On-demand transit
- · Senior Centers
- Trails
- · Big Sioux River
- Libraries
- · Clean air
- · Diversity (worldwide)
- · Low unemployment
- Parks
- · Neighborhood schools (k-12)
- · Medical facilities
- · Short commutes
- · Safe
- · Strong community growth
- · Positive economic indicators
- · Access to the arts
- · Parks + greenspaces
- · Short travel times
- · Access to lawmakers
- · Great youth spaces recreation
- · Bike trails
- · Public schools
- Neighborhoods
- · Medical professionals
- · Restaurants + food trucks
- · National retailers
- · Downtown

- Dog parks
- · Centralized Midwest location
- · Consistent growth
- · Economic stability
- · Entrepreneur friendly
- · Universities + technical schools
- · Internet accessibility (fiber)

## How do we take advantage of these Strengths?

- · Add new connecting trails
- · Support "Missing Middle" housing
- · Consider pre-approved dwelling plans
- · Utilize river clean-up policies
- · Establish a lending agency
- · Practice river flow management
- · Enhance safe routes
- · Bike trail connectivity + safe routes
- · Support public transit investment
- · Establish core principles
- · Preserve local farmland
- · Encourage infill development + density
- · Balance growth of law enforcement
- · Better street design for pedestrians
- Updates to engineering design standards
- · Encourage shared-use parking

### **Community Listening Sessions**

### **Community Listening Sessions**

Strengths I Weaknesses I Opportunities I Threats (SWOT) Analysis

### **Weaknesses**

- · Road maintenance
- · Lack of mental health resources
- Food deserts
- · Missing Middle Housing
- · Roads designed for vehicle flow
- · Absence of infill development
- · Reuse of existing facilities (adaptive)
- · Plan follow-through
- · Long-term infrastructure maintenance cost
- · Sustainability challenges
- · Low paid teachers (state-wide)
- · Walkability and connectivity
- · Lack of services in newly developed areas
- · Lack of public park/open space
- · Lack of direct flights at airport
- · Transit car central city, lack of bus locations
- · Lack of family-oriented entertainment
- · High cost of family activities
- · Acceptance of diversity
- · Homeless population
- · Affordable housing
- · Bus system
- · Less Downtown parking ticket prices
- · Moving convention center
- · Transport routes across town
- · Too much multi-family apartments
- · Traffic and density
- · Lack of leadership follow through
- · Cost of living unaffordable housing
- Low incomes
- · Labor shortage
- · Unsafe bike infrastructure to trails
- · Car-centric city pedestrian safety
- · Cost of youth activities
- · Low diversity integration

## How can this plan address these Weaknesses?

- · Promote walkability + transit
- · Affordable housing for single-family
- · Tiny houses + accessory dwelling units
- Integrate retail/commercial into older neighborhoods
- · Investment into small improvements
- · Quality park amenities and products
- Create density hubs planned unit developments (PUDs) + variances for smaller housing developments
- · Promote and invest in public transit
- · Expand wayfinding signage

### **Community Listening Sessions**

### **Opportunities**

- · Younger population underserved
- Cross-collaboration between city and promoting organizations
- · Immigrant/refugee population
- · Rail lines passenger or rail-to-trails
- · Shape 2050 Plan Implementation + Updates
- · Infill development
- · Vacant homes/lots
- Room for growth/learn from other communities
- · Tourism/local art River District
- · City support of art and history
- · Emerging tech environment
- City managed waste/recycling services

- · Population growth
- · Climate resilience
- · River recreation
- · Use of interstate crossroads
- · Tourism marketing
- · Accessibility + inclusivity (universal design)
- · University + college grads keep them local
- · Room for community college / trades
- · Passenger rail cars
- · Indoor recreation (track)
- · Citizen collaboration
- · More integration of the arts
- · Airport expansion

### **Threats**

- · Fear for the future
- · Response / fix to crime
- Pros/cons of growth
- · Weather severity
- · Limits of city resources
- · Lack of diverse funding sources
- · Water quality
- · Lack of good transit
- · State government representation
- · Lack of community connectedness
- · Development density
- Trafficking
- · Substance abuse
- Flooding (Weather Severity)
- · Crime
- · City budget sustainability
- · Infrastructure return on investment
- · Not just the shiny projects

- · Apathy for positive change
- Sprawl
- Amenity support for existing and growing population
- Brain drain loss of educated population to other regions.
- · Food insecurity + food deserts
- · Financial needs for seniors
- · Smithfields environmental + social impact

### **Community Listening Sessions**

### **Community Listening Sessions**

### **Emerging Trends Dot Voting Board**

There are several emerging trends that may impact Sioux Falls in different ways in the course of the planning horizon year of 2050. To help better understand which trends the City of Sioux Falls should focus on, participants were asked to put a dot on the different trends they felt were most important. This emerging trends analysis was repeated in several different forms throughout the engagement to better understand overall views. Below is a summary of the results from participants at the community listening sessions.

## **Top Trends**



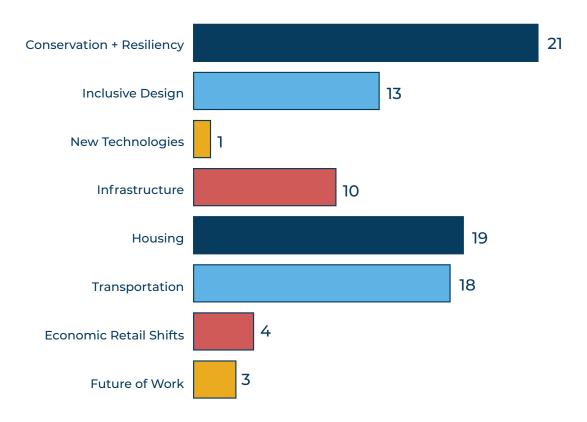


FIGURE 6 Emerging Trends Voting Results Summary - Community Listening Sessions

### Stakeholder Interviews + Focus Groups

One-on-one conversations with key stakeholders and focus groups can provide useful information about the opportunities and struggles facing the City of Sioux Falls. These often candid conversations provide unique insight into the community.

### **Stakeholder Interviews & Focus Group Meetings**

#### Overview

The Consultant Team conducted key stakeholder interviews and small focus group meetings to gather additional insight into the existing strengths, challenges, and opportunities facing Sioux Falls. Individual meetings were held virtually over Zoom conference calls and focus group meetings were held in-person.

City of Sioux Falls staff and members of the CPAC helped to identify the names and organizations of individuals or group that would be good stakeholders or focus groups. Stakeholder interviews and focus groups were held over the fall and early winter of 2024/2025.

#### **Stakeholder Groups/Organizations:**

- South Eastern Council of Governments (SECOG)
- · South Dakota Retailers Association
- · Tea School District
- · Short Term Rentals
- · Health Representatives
- Planning Commission
- · Realtors Association of the Sioux Empire
- · Via Transportation
- · Sioux Area Metro (SAM)
- · Align Content Studio
- · Move to Sioux Falls real estate
- · Developer / Midtown Mixed Use
- · Sioux Valley Energy
- Soukup
- Sanford
- · Associated General Contractors of SD
- Tri-Valley School District
- · South Dakota Retailers Association
- · Associated General Contractors of SD
- · Sioux Falls Development Foundation
- · Construction company representative
- · Cities of Tea, Brandon, and Hartford
- · Lincoln County

#### **Small Focus Groups:**

**Arts, Culture, and Downtown** - Sioux Falls Arts Commission, Washington Pavilion, Sioux Falls Arts Commission, Downtown Sioux Falls, Inc.

**Higher Education** - South Dakota State University, University of South Dakota, Augustana, Southeast Technical College **General Transportation** - Airport Authority, Freight Rail, South Dakota Trucking

**Housing** - Affordable Housing Solutions, SF Housing, Habitat for Humanity, South Dakota Multi-Housing Association (SDMHA)

**Economic Development** - Experience Sioux Falls, Young Professionals, Chamber, Start-Up Sioux Falls

**General Non-Profit** - Dakota Abilities, Lifescape, Volunteers of America - Dakotas

**Active Transportation and Mobility** - American Heart Association

**Utilities** - MidAmerican Energy, East River Electric Power Cooperative, Magellan Pipeline Co/OneOK, Northwestern Energy

**Homelessness** - Sioux Falls Thrive, Southeastern Directions for Life, Union Gospel Mission, Bishop Dudley Hospitality House, The Banquet

**Natural Resources** - Friends of the Big Sioux River

**K-12 Education** - Brandon, SF Catholic Schools, West Central, Canton, Sioux Falls Lutheran

**Water Districts** - Lincoln County Rural Water, Minnehaha Community Water, Lewis & Clark Regional Water, Lincoln County Rural Water

**Community Health Workers** - Avera, Community Health Workers

### Stakeholder Interviews + Focus Groups

#### Stakeholder Interviews

Strengths I Weaknesses I Opportunities I Threats (SWOT) Analysis

### **Strengths**

- Downtown core is strong there are more opportunities to improve Downtown, but it is a highlight of the Sioux Falls community.
- Growth Sioux Falls has grown significantly in the past few decades and has generally handled this very well.
- Hospitals and universities are stabilizing forces for neighborhoods and the community overall.
- Excellent bike path system though some believe it is purely recreational as opposed to commuter friendly.
- Sioux Falls has enough growth momentum and strength that it can be more selective with new development – make sure we are getting what we want, where we want it.

- Sioux Falls is very family oriented, which creates high demand for certain amenities and space like recreation.
- Recent investment in transit, specifically the contract with Via, has expanded micro and on-demand transit options in Sioux Falls.
- University of South Dakota Discovery District is a great opportunity and should be expanded to grow into a larger university campus.
- The new, high-end housing being developed within the City is helping with employee recruitment.
- City is great to work with and very well planned.

### Weaknesses

- Plat fees, impact fees, and raw land prices drive up the price of housing – exacerbating affordability issues in the region.
- Infill housing faces many challenges including high costs and issues with moving homes.
- There were mixed views from interviewees on how to fund or promote affordable housing development in Sioux Falls, but most agreed that this is a major issue in the community and region.
- Difficult to rehabilitate a house located in a historic district because it is too expensive and there are too many rules. However, some houses are not being maintained and may need a program to help update.
- The City needs a plan to work with counties and landowners being annexed to limit islands and other leapfrog development types.
- Education is needed on new roadway improvements such as roundabouts.

- The City has always been growth focused but now needs to focus on infill opportunities.
- Sioux Falls should not grow for the sake of it keeping up with growth has been challenging and there have been some growing pains related to infrastructure expansion.
- Co-location of social services is problematic should be more spread out. This is impacting the Downtown's ability to grow.
- Need more sanitary sewer extensions to open up more land for development in every direction.
- Need to push vertical development, density, and infill development due to cost of infrastructure expansion.
- · Concern with homelessness and crime.
- Workforce availability is an issue and may be tied to housing.

# Stakeholder Interviews + Focus Groups

#### Stakeholder Interviews

#### Strengths I Weaknesses I Opportunities I Threats (SWOT) Analysis

# **Opportunities**

- Encourage/allow for more flexibility on infill lots (density, fees, setbacks etc) to help promote affordable housing.
- Focus industrial growth in northeast Sioux Falls.
   Some think more land is also needed.
- Smithfield Relocation frequently mentioned as an opportunity to support Downtown growth and expansion, while growing and maintaining the industry elsewhere.
- The City should be a leader in transportation planning, including a new long-range transportation and traffic safety plan. This could include a Vision Zero type of project.
- Promote / allow for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) to help people save money, support 'granny flats', or as an extra income source.
- · Reevaluate subdivision standards and plat fees.
- · Need subcontractor/trade job training.
- · Promote more spacious senior housing options

- to help encourage downsizing and open up larger housing stock for families.
- Encourage more creative and unique alternatives for housing development and not just focus on a suburban mindset to growth.
- Focus on Cliff and Minnesota Avenue corridors as infill redevelopment corridors.
- Along future arterials hold the major corners for retail, no storage buildings on hard corners.
- Tiny home community to help transition the homeless population in Sioux Falls.
- · Need to increase density in the core.
- Support neighborhood maintenance assistance programs, especially near the Downtown.
- · Walkability and safe streets for all is important.
- Consider a short-term rental ordinance that protects housing stock and the economic interests of residents.

#### **Threats**

- Affordable housing is a huge concern. The City needs to track rules, regulations, and standards that will continue to push up the cost of housing.
- Multi-family housing is producing a lot of kids from low-income households.
- Sioux Falls gained a lot of population during Covid, but there is some concern that people may leave due to lack of jobs, weather, etc.
- Short-Term Rentals some believe this is a major threat to affordable housing and should be more strictly regulated and/or prohibited.
- New landlords are raising rates and pricing out current tenants – especially Downtown service

- workers. This forces many service workers to buy a car because transit does not provide ample service to get to work.
- Lack of housing and affordability will be the thing that could slow growth in Sioux Falls.
- Sioux Falls is at risk of creating a north/south/ east/west divide – at 10th street generally.
- Not a lot of creativity in our development community on new housing types and layouts.
- Need to get residents to vote in municipal elections / more civic engagement.

# **Stakeholder Interviews + Focus Groups**

# **Focus Group Meetings**

# **Summary by Focus Group**

#### Arts, Culture, and Downtown

- Make Sioux Falls a place where artists can fully support themselves.
- · Create an Arts and Culture Master Plan.
- The Sioux Falls Steel and Sanford developments have been good, but there has been some concern over the design process.
   The public should be more involved in the design of major projects like these.
- · Adopt an official public art policy.
- Create and activate public spaces, including smaller-scale spaces and on private property.
- Private companies are getting better at including art in their designs. City should continue to encourage and/or require this, especially if project is receiving TIF or tax abatement funding.
- Sioux Falls should create space for interactive art.
- Recreation land in Sioux Falls should consider integrating public art into design.
- Want to see more neighborhood retail like The Perch neighborhood kitchen/coffee shop.
- Central Sioux Falls neighborhoods should be made more walkable with entertainment/art space.
- There is a funding gap with arts and culture that needs to be addressed.

#### **Higher Education**

- Transportation options are needed to help with student mobility, especially international students without access to a vehicle.
- Housing is always an issue local schools open to infill development opportunities near campus.
- New SAM routes are expanding and have been getting positive response from student users.
- There is a need to update the housing stock surrounding urban campuses.
- The City should look at tax funding for new housing in areas outside of Downtown Sioux Falls.
- Students need daycare too but there is a high cost and difficulty in finding in-home providers.
- College campuses have an increasing non-English speaking student population that face city-wide challenges in gaining access to services.
- Approximately 45% of Sioux Falls high school graduates are not going on to higher education. Higher education needs public school support and partners to reach out to students.
- The business community would likely support improving interaction with minority populations in Sioux Falls.
- The City is good to work with, but the schools need to know what businesses the City wants to attract so education can match the work prospects.

# **Stakeholder Interviews + Focus Groups**

# **Focus Group Meetings**

#### **Summary by Focus Group**

#### **General Transportation**

- Having lots of supply and options for aggregate and other materials is important.
- The City needs to identify and allow for a new quarry that should be buffered from the existing quarry to protect the environment from dust, etc.
- The Sioux Falls airport is growing to match population growth by adding a new concourse and gates.
- There are noise and height restrictions that go along with the land near the airport that require certain soundproofing standards and limit school outdoor activities.
- There are several traffic bottleneck locations in Sioux Falls that should be addressed.
- There is some interest in exploring a new regional general aviation airport to replace the airport in Tea because of growth restrictions.
- There is not a growing demand for electric vehicles, but the City should not forget to consider charging infrastructure as technology improves.
- The City needs to design roads to accommodate heavier vehicles.
- Salt/brine is ruining our roads and storm sewers.

#### Housing

- · It is difficult to get infrastructure to new areas.
- There is a high raw land price at \$50k/acre.
- There are one thousand people on the waiting list for affordable housing. Local groups are looking at a subsidy for affordable multi-family housing to address this high demand.
- There is a strong need for missing middle housing for working families that just cannot afford housing costs.
- Affordable housing gap cannot be addressed through single-family residential alone. There is a need to focus on apartments.
- The high amount of multi-family activity in Sioux Falls has pushed up design costs for this housing type.
- The City should allow for more density, smaller lots, and accessory dwelling units.
- Multi-family property taxes in the City are high.
- There is not much support for a rental housing inspection program.

# **Stakeholder Interviews + Focus Groups**

# **Focus Group Meetings**

# **Summary by Focus Group**

#### **Economic Development**

- There has been good investment in Downtown Sioux Falls and increasing density.
- Sioux Falls needs more neighborhood retail, nodes, and mixed-use.
- · There is a great restaurant scene in Sioux Falls.
- The airport expansion will be helpful for economic development.
- The new zoning code is good, but they would still like to see single-family buffering.
- There is some concern about long-term maintenance of apartments.

#### **General Non-Profits**

- Demand for services is increasing in line with population, but there is also increasing demand for services from outside of the City, especially adults needing services.
- Mainstreaming of these vulnerable groups is improving our interactions, opinions, and actions.
- Non-profit services can be an economic development tool. For example, new employers may be looking for services for children.
- Transportation is a must for vulnerable groups and needs to be City funded because the state does not provide funding for separate transportation services.
- There is a lack of workforce, and they believe affordable housing is a main culprit alongside language barriers.
- The City rules have been accommodating and flexible on defining how many adults can live together as a family.

#### **Active Transportation + Mobility**

- Pedestrian/bicycle access is poor, but there is good internal connections to open space.
   However, the trail system does not work well for access to amenities like shopping.
- Sioux Falls should explore creating a Safe Streets for All or Vision Zero Plan.
- The City needs policies and infrastructure to make it safer for pedestrians and bicyclists in Sioux Falls.
- The City has a Complete Streets policy but not an ordinance.
- The Community Health Improvement Plan revealed the location of low-access neighborhoods that have limited access to a grocery store/healthy food.
- They wondered if there is a way to use vacant office space for different uses.

#### **Utilities**

- Sioux Falls does a good job communicating on new projects.
- Leapfrog development makes it hard to efficiently provide services.
- Development needs to make sure enough right-of-way is preserved in new design.
- There is good coordination between pipelines and farms.
- · The City should add tracker wire to all utilities.
- There is some concern over new data centers as they are not sure they are the best use for the land.
- There is only so much natural gas available to be delivered to Sioux Falls.

# Stakeholder Interviews + Focus Groups

# **Focus Group Meetings**

# **Summary by Focus Group**

#### **Homelessness**

- Sioux Falls homeless services serves four states, outside of city limits, 15 language, and the immigrant community.
- There are over 1,000 shelter residents, including 47 families and 756 supportive services.
- There is some landlord abuse occurring in the City, including bait and switches, leases not being renewed, and not taking tax credit vouchers.
- There is a strong demand for services from working families and not just homelessness.
- Daycare is too expensive and do not always take state vouchers.
- There is a growing issue with young adults facing homelessness.
- The City needs to build low-income and supportive housing.
- Developers need to start including a mix of housing types.
- The City should explore creative solutions such as inclusionary zoning or an affordable housing trust fund.

#### **Natural Resources**

- The region needs to clean up the Big Sioux River. Topics such as water quality, K-12 education programs, water testing, and advocacy are important.
- There has historically been a general apathy towards our rivers, but there is some growing interest in or awareness of the issue.
- Landowners in the region are interested in improving agricultural practices.
- The City is investing millions in riverfront development because it is such a big

economic development draw.

- · Water quality and conservation are important.
- The City should explore wetland preservation incentives, green roofs, and the use of native plants.

#### K-12 Education

- The City is doing a good job on partnering with schools on parks, greenspace, parking, and maintaining infrastructure.
- The school districts s are treated like a developer by the City.
- There is some need for shorter review/approval process on projects through the use of preapprovals for example.
- There was a question of whether the City would partner with a private school on a park site.
- Schools need to know when sewer/ infrastructure is timed because of the growth in school demand it generates.
- Apartments are starting to generate more students now.
- Safe Routes to School is important. Some new growth areas do not have sidewalks, parents want bus, and there is a need for crosswalks.
   Pedestrian over and under passes are a good solution to consider.
- It is difficult to find crossing guard staff.
- The City should pre-plan student pedestrian routes.

# Stakeholder Interviews + Focus Groups

#### **Focus Group Meetings**

#### **Summary by Focus Group**

#### **Water Districts**

- Lewis and Clark is a wholesaler that can provide 44 million gallons per day currently.
   This can be expanded to 60 million gallons per day by 2030-2031. Half of Sioux Falls is served by water from Lewis and Clark.
- Minnehaha Water gets water from the Big Sioux aquifer and is maxed out of water use rights.
- Lincoln County Rural Water District follows a 2008 settlement agreement and gets its water 100% from Lewis and Clark.
- Rural Minnehaha is not the place for heavy water supply. They cover the area of the county others cannot cover.

#### **Community Health Workers**

- Community Health Worker (CHW) is a new type of healthcare professional designed to improve community health and expand access to treatment by taking a systematic approach.
- There is a need for transitional housing for people leaving the hospital and transitional care facilities for those without any funds.
- The region needs to acknowledge our growing immigrant and diverse population many of which are being abused by slum lords.
- The City needs to address issues arising from slum lords.
- There is demand for housing with a case manager and other resources.
- There is growing awareness of the demand put on the food pantry system.
- Food deserts are a problem in certain parts of Sioux Falls.
- SAM now covers the entire City and can partner with health providers.
- · Daycare demand is a growing issue.
- There is a growing immigrant population that has special demand for services and outreach in multiple languages.

# **Special Pop-Up Events**

Special event booths allow people to engage and learn more about the process in a place they are already spending time. By meeting people where they are, engagement can be received from a wider segment of the population.

# **Pop-Up Event Booths**

#### **Summary of Input**

City of Sioux Falls Staff hosted eight pop-up engagement opportunities throughout the city in conjunctions with other community events. Each pop-up event featured three interactive poster board activities, as well as a coloring contest for children and the ability to discuss ideas with city staff. There were six different activity board options that were utilized. The cumulative results are below, and individual event results are provided further in this report.

#### **Public Events with Pop-Up Booths**

- · National Night Out / August 6, 2024
- · Riverfest / August 17, 2024
- · Falls Park Farmers Market / August 24, 2024
- · Levitt Concert / August 30, 2024
- · Lake Lorraine Farmers Market / September 5, 2024
- · Levitt Concert / September 7, 2024
- · Touch A Truck / September 20, 2024
- · Our Team Meeting / September 24, 2024

Slightly different boards and activities were available at each event and the overall summary from all eight events is summarized on the following pages. Many of these are depicted using word clouds in which the larger the word, the more common it was heard in feedback.

#### My Favorite Thing About Sioux Falls is...



**Special Pop-Up Events** 

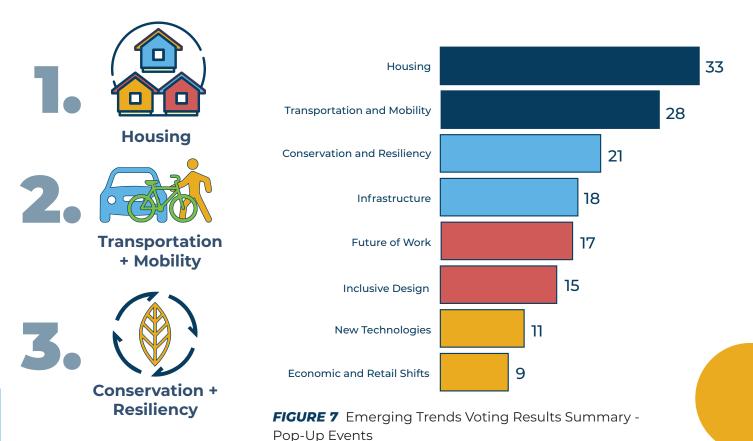
#### **Pop-Up Event Booths**

**Summary of Input** 

One Word to Describe Sioux Falls today...



# What are the most important emerging trends facing Sioux Falls?



# **Special Pop-Up Events**

#### **Pop-Up Event Booths**

**Summary of Input** 

What is missing in Sioux Falls that would make your life better?



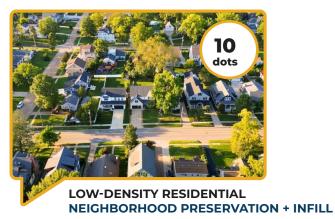
\* Housing responses included focus on affordability, missing middle, and elderly housing. \*\* Phillips Avenue suggestions related to closing the street to vehicles, limiting vehicle length, and expanding sidewalk cafes.

# We will need an additional 78,000 residential units by the year 2050. What types of housing should we build?

At a few events, image voting for housing types was set up and participants were asked to place dots on the type of housing they most want to see in Sioux Falls. Below are the top four selections:









# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

A series of hands-on public visioning workshops were held in neighborhoods across Sioux Falls to gather input from residents in all major quadrants of the community.

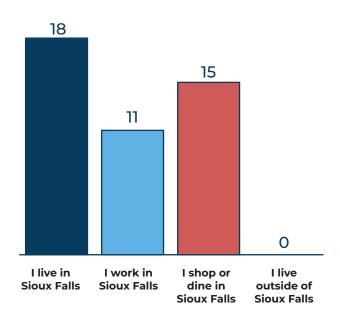
# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

#### Intent

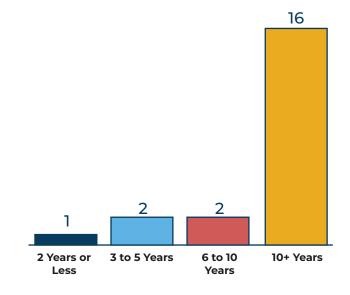
The Consultant Team facilitated four Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops spread out across the City to identify key issues, priorities, opportunities, and preferences that will guide the direction of the plan update. The workshops included a presentation on the Comprehensive Plan process and sought input on various aspects of the plan. Live polling using Mentimeter was used throughout the presentation to keep the audience actively engaged. After the presentation, a series of hands-on engagement activities were available. The following pages summarizes the responses heard across all four workshops.

#### **Tell Us About Yourself Dot Boards**

The results of the dot voting boards revealed that the majority of attendees of the Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops live in Sioux Falls and have done so for 10 or more years. A large percent shop or dine in Sioux Falls. Just over 60% of attendees work in Sioux Falls. No attendees said they did not live in Sioux Falls.



**FIGURE 8** Tell Us About Yourself Results - Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops



**FIGURE 9** How Long Have You Lived in the Sioux Falls Area Results - Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

**SHAPE SIOUX FALLS 2050** 

COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

It's 2050 and you should visit me here in Sioux Falls because..

system covers 100% of the city. The built

environment is filled with masonry and

COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

It's 2050 and you should visit me here in Sioux Falls because..

We have beautiful historic districts with single-family dwellings and a vibrant

downtown. We are a world class city with

wonderful landscaping and everything is loved

and well cared for.

There are less freestanding signs. Our transit

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

**Postcard Activity Collected Results** 

Another postcard activity, as discussed in the Community Listening Sessions, was used. Below is a selection of responses.

Dear Friend/Family.

windows!

SHAPE

SIOUX

FALLS

Dear Friend/Family,

SHAPE

SIOUX

FALLS

2050

**SHAPE SIOUX FALLS 2050** 

#### **SHAPE SIOUX FALLS 2050**

COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

HERE

Dear Friend/Family.

It's 2050 and you should visit me here in Sioux Falls because..

We got a train system downtown and there are

restored prairies scattered throughout the city.

There's NO traffic. We have native trees + grasses

for temperature regulation, and we have mixed-



use spaces and lots of small locally-owned shops and plenty to do. It is easy to get here because they built a light rail system.

#### **SHAPE SIOUX FALLS 2050**

COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PLACE STAMP HERE

Dear Friend/Family,

It's 2050 and you should visit me here in Sioux Falls because..

We are a balanced community with housing,

commercial areas, workforce opportunities,

and exciting amenities while maintaining

sustainability and fiscal responsibility. Also, we



have a transportation system that is safe, efficient, and

2050

environmentally friendly.

#### **SHAPE SIOUX FALLS 2050**

COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Dear Friend/Family,

It's 2050 and you should visit me here in Sioux Falls because...

Less multi-family housing in historical areas,

less speeding, good law enforcement, and

many green spaces.



**SHAPE SIOUX FALLS 2050** COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

PLACE STAMP

HERE

PI ACE

HERE

Dear Friend/Family,

It's 2050 and you should visit me here in Sioux Falls because...

It's a beautiful city, safe, and convenient.

SHAPE SIOUX **FALLS** 

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Mentimeter Online Visioning Questions**

#### What is your favorite thing about living/working in Sioux Falls?

Most of the responses could be sorted into four major categories: city government and services, parks and recreation, overall sense of community, and development + amenities. Below is a summary of responses.

#### **City Government + Services**

- · The Fire Chief.
- · Good Mayor!
- · Well planned.
- · Libraries.
- · Clean and well maintained.
- · Good schools.
- The wide variety of services, safe place, and bike trails.
- Small enough to get things done. Less bureaucracy.

#### **Parks and Recreation**

- · Park system and green space.
- · Outdoor activities.
- · Trail system.
- · Bike trail.
- The Levitt / River Greenway that showcases the waterfront.
- · Open space, beauty, and cleanliness.
- · Park system.

#### **Overall Sense of Community**

- Neighborhoods
- · Small-town Feel.
- All four seasons
- Friendly + safe community.
- Size.
- · The Community.
- Great people!
- · Clean and safe.
- · Small big town
- Small town feel with options.
- It's a big small town. Great atmosphere
- Larger opportunities with a smaller town vibe
- The people and can do attitude of the business community.
- Warm and open people that make it easy to join a community.
- Entrepreneurism and philanthropy.

#### **Development + Amenities**

- · Downtown.
- · Good variety of restaurant types.
- · Downtown events and the Washington Pavilion.
- · Small family owned restaurants
- Restaurants.
- Great hospitals.
- · The quartzite.
- · Good mix of chains and local businesses.
- Downtown and the Big Sioux River.
- · Easy commute.
- Vibrant downtown!
- · Mixing housing stock throughout the City.
- East Side Lutheran Church.
- · Steel District.
- Easy commute.
- · Progressive ideas and amenities

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

#### **Mentimeter Online Visioning Questions**

Related to new growth & redevelopment, what have been the best trends of the past 5 years in Sioux Falls? What did we get right? Provide examples.

- Downtown is vibrant. New dining options.
   Engaging park space.
- · Quality of life investments.
- · More housing and infill housing.
- We supported law enforcement, which made us attractive and investable.
- Infill development with multi-family and Downtown redevelopment.
- · Mix of residential density.
- Development of Downtown area with hotels and restaurants.
- Public-private partnerships, especially parks projects that are not "basic."
- Railyard land redevelopment (Cherapa, Steel District).
- · Phillips Avenue to Falls Park.
- Downtown mixed-use (Cascades, Steel District, Cherapa).
- · Development of Downtown surface parking.
- Expanded recreational opportunities.
   Additional lower income housing.
- Phase 1-2: River Greenway Development,
   Cherapa, Hilton Garden Inn, Steel District.
- · Steel District and Cherapa.
- Downtown investment period. Signals momentum and long-term public investment.
   DARC investment although we haven't seen the end product yet. Excellence in public safety. PSC. Philanthropic partnerships.
- Took the long view (100 years) on water and wastewater master planning.
- · Art.
- · Downtown and focus on core redevelopment.

- Opportunities for all environmental lifestyle options. Density and wide open spaces.
- · We invested in the Delbridge.
- · Entrepreneurship and small business focus.
- Downtown expansion, trail system maintenance.
- Increase in housing options downtown and accompanied restaurant and services.
- · Mixed-use developments.
- · Public spaces.
- · Mixed use development.
- More bike trails paved and single track (Tut Hill, leaders, great bear).
- · Mixed uses together.
- · The skatepark.
- · Many historic homes restored.
- Trees/landscaping required with all construction.
- Planning for stormwater.
- · Lincoln Commons.
- · Midtown zoning change.
- · Minnesota Avenue split lanes.
- More pedestrian safety options.

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

#### **Mentimeter Online Visioning Questions**

# Related to new growth & redevelopment, what have been the worst trends of the past 5 years in Sioux Falls? Provide examples.

- Centralization of transient and social services Downtown.
- · Homelessness.
- · Nuisance behavior is more visible.
- · So many gas stations/convenience stores.
- · Need more dilapidated buildings demolished.
- · Local elected candidates pool has gotten worse.
- · Homelessness has grown disproportionately.
- More traffic delays. Still underserved in the restaurant sector.
- · Storage units in town.
- Growth creates complexity and complexity creates growth. We have to continue to fight against complexity. Housing isn't a new issue. It just evolves.
- · Not growing enough to get more density.
- · Too many off premise signs.
- · Main thoroughfares aren't very attractive.
- · Too many billboards.
- Affordability of single family homes and transition to multi-family housing.
- Would like to see more aesthetic requirements on all the multi-family.
- Home ownership culture is resistant to town/ attached homes.
- · Construction cost inflation.
- Would love to see better design standards along Vets Parkway.
- Poor urban planning by some surrounding cities.
- Managing/agreeing on community growth boundaries with neighboring communities.
- · No public transport to the airport.
- · Lack of benches, bus stops.

- · Lack of public transit investment.
- · Massive sea of giant apartment buildings.
- · Cul-de-sacs and streets should connect better.
- · Lack of design standards.
- Too much single family zoning creating enormous budget issues in the future related to building, expanding, and maintaining roads.
- · Concentration of homelessness.
- · Lack of traditional transit routes.
- · Allowing demolition by neglect.
- · Dull identical housing developments.
- · More private streets.
- GREY.
- Inability to build traditional side by side buildings Downtown leading to 5 over 1 buildings.
- Parking lots are way too big, underutilized, and hideous.
- Developments are created without thought to pedestrian access. Some schools are surrounded by homes with only one entrance.
   Cul-de-sacs should always have a walking path through.
- Lack of housing diversity, lack of missing middle housing.
- Need to focus more on increasing Downtown density. This is a money maker for the city vs. single family zoning and one-off restaurants with parking lots.
- New development created in an island that doesn't have a plan to connect to other development focusing long-term distance between neighborhoods.
- · So many storage units.
- · No neighborhood hubs in new development.

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

#### **Mentimeter Online Visioning Questions**

# What is the City's role or responsibility related to new growth and development? What can we do or address?

- Paint the vision for who we want to be in such a compelling way that we don't have to regulate it.
- · Managing the growth through zoning.
- Reasonable regulations that work with the development community.
- Be the leader in regional coordination and cooperation.
- Balance Midwest desires/values with need to advance.
- Continuing to invest in quality of life. Safety.
   Healthy lifestyles.
- Get stakeholder buy-in to move forward together.
- City has to set the vision and establish regulations to ensure adoption.
- Support but manage growth. Have growth pay for growth.
- · Set tone for culture.
- Communicate with stakeholders and the community on growth plans.

# What amenities and types of development do you want to see in Sioux Falls?

- · More small business parks.
- · Walkable hubs across the City.
- · Neighborhood hubs.
- · Dog parks.
- · Plazas.
- · Traditional development.
- · Neighborhood scale parks, trails, commercial.
- · Pedestrian and bike separation from roads.
- Ball fields and soccer fields that are within neighborhoods rather than only grouped in large complexes.
- · Pre-approved plans.
- · Easier ADU requirements.
- · Smaller infill.

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

#### **Priority Ranking Board**

Participants were presented with a board that had four major topics and a list of associated priorities as well as a few blank spots for people to write-in their own priority not currently listed. They were then asked to place a dot on the priority they felt was most important for each category. Below are the top priorities by topic area.

#### **HOUSING + NEIGHBORHOODS**



DECREASE HOUSING DENSITY AND KEEP SINGLE-FAMILY ZONING IN HISTORIC DISTRICTS\*

\* WRITF-IN PRIORITY



ADDING MORE HOUSING AT A WIDE RANGE OF PRICES.



CREATIVE SOLUTIONS TO HOUSING (ADUS, TINY HOMES, NARROW LOTS, ETC.)

#### TRANSPORTATION SAFETY



MORE TRAILS AND SIDEWALKS FOR PEDESTRIANS AND BIKES



SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AT INTERSECTIONS FOR ALL MODES OF TRAVEL



MORE TRAFFIC CALMING ELEMENTS

# **CONSERVATION + RESILIENCY**



REDUCING URBAN SPRAWL



AGRICULTURE PRESERVATION

#### **COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT**



MORE SMALLER SCALE COMMERCIAL IN NEIGHBORHOODS



MORE MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT

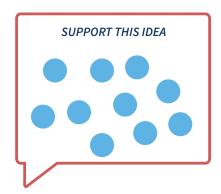
# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

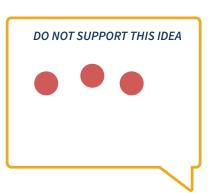
# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

#### **Image Voting Boards**

Respondents were asked to identify if they would support or not support the following development types based on a picture(s) and a brief description. The following pages summarize the responses received.

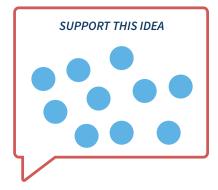






**ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS** 





DO NOT SUPPORT THIS IDEA

**INFILL HOUSING** 



SUPPORT THIS IDEA

DO NOT SUPPORT THIS IDEA

**NARROW LOT HOMES** 

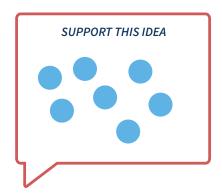
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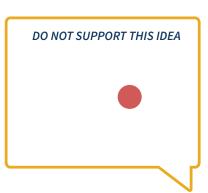
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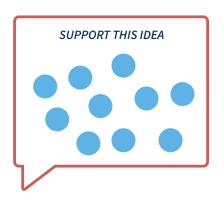


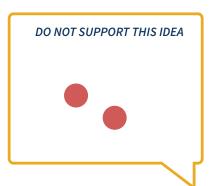




**TINY HOMES** 



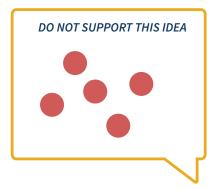




**COTTAGE OR CLUSTER SUBDIVISION** 



SUPPORT THIS IDEA



**4 OR 8 PLEX HOMES** 

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Image Voting Boards**

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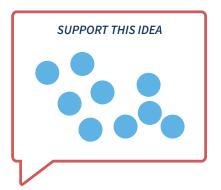


SUPPORT THIS IDEA

DO NOT SUPPORT THIS IDEA

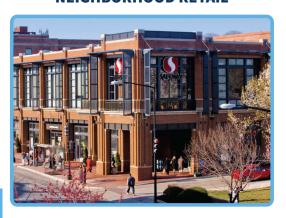
SMALLER-SCALE NEIGHBORHOOD RETAIL



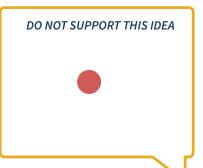


DO NOT SUPPORT THIS IDEA

MID-SIZE NEIGHBORHOOD RETAIL



SUPPORT THIS IDEA



LARGER
NEIGHBORHOOD RETAIL

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

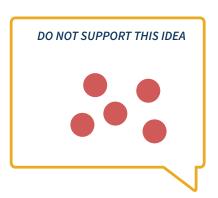
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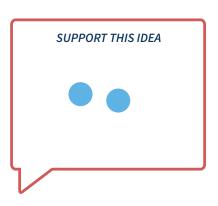


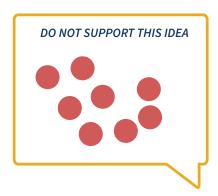
SUPPORT THIS IDEA



**STRIP MALL RETAIL** 



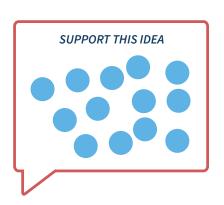


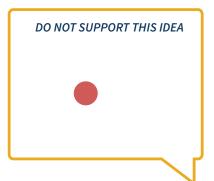


**BIG BOX RETAIL** 



LARGE MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT





# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

#### **Image Voting Boards**

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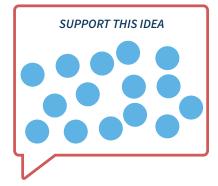


SUPPORT THIS IDEA

DO NOT SUPPORT THIS IDEA

**IMPROVED CROSSWALKS** 



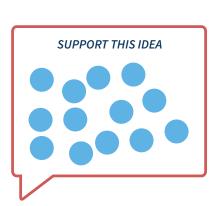


DO NOT SUPPORT THIS IDEA

**SEPARATED BICYCLE LANES** 



SHARED USE PATHS / TRAILS



DO NOT SUPPORT THIS IDEA

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Image Voting Boards**

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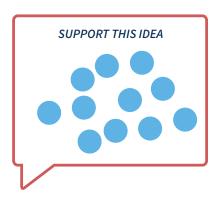


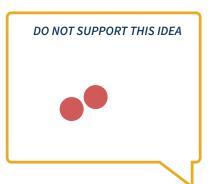
SUPPORT THIS IDEA

DO NOT SUPPORT THIS IDEA

PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY INTERSECTIONS



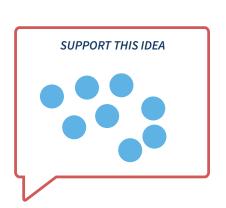


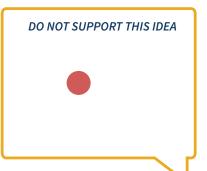


MINI ROUNDABOUTS /
TRAFFIC CIRCLES



LARGER ROUNDABOUTS / TRAFFIC CIRCLES





# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Image Voting Boards**

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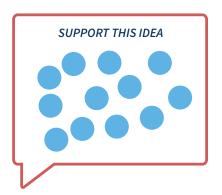


SUPPORT THIS IDEA

DO NOT SUPPORT THIS IDEA

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

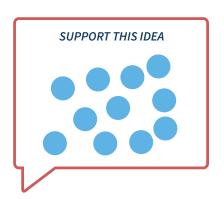




DO NOT SUPPORT THIS IDEA

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE ON PUBLIC PROPERTY





DO NOT SUPPORT THIS IDEA

TREE COVER EXPANSION

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

# **Public Visioning Neighborhood Workshops**

#### **Image Voting Boards**

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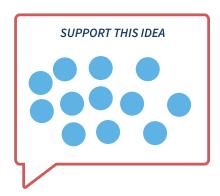


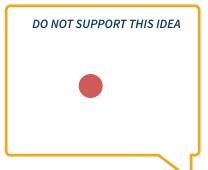
SUPPORT THIS IDEA

DO NOT SUPPORT THIS IDEA

**COMMUNITY GARDENS** 



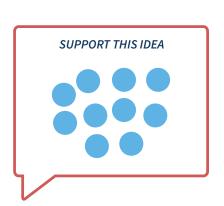




USING NATIVE PLANTINGS IN OPEN SPACE / PARKS



AGRICULTURE PRESERVATION / REDUCED SPRAWL



DO NOT SUPPORT THIS IDEA

# **Community Survey**

A statistically valid community survey was completed in the Fall of 2024 to identify updated goals and priorities that can reasonably be attributed to the entire community. This section summarizes key takeaways - a full report of findings is available in a separate report.

# **Community Survey**

#### Overview

The ETC Institute conducted a statistically valid community needs survey in Sioux Falls in the fall of 2024. The overall results for the sample of 541 residents have a precision of at least +/-4.21% at the 95% level of confidence. The ETC Institute has a full report of the feedback collected through this survey in a separate document. The following pages will highlight the key takeaways as identified in the executive summary.

#### **Key Findings & Takeaways**

#### **Reasons for Living in Sioux Falls:**

The three most common reasons respondents listed for why they live in Sioux Falls are:





Access to Shopping Options (66%)



Proximity to Health Care Services (64%)

Based on the sum of top three choices, the items that will have the biggest impact on their decision to stay in the City over the next five years were:





**Proximity to Health** Care Services (34%)



Employment Opportunities that Match My Skills (24%)

# **Looking for a Home in the City:**

Respondents selected the type of home they would be most interested in if they were looking for a new home. The most interested types of homes are:



Single-Family
Detached Home (59%)



Twin Home/Duplex (11%)



Condominium (10%).

Based on the sum of top three choices, the biggest obstacles to purchasing or renting a home are: charges or fees that are passed on to buyer/renter (27%), noise pollution (22%), and homeowners association (21%).

# **Community Survey**

#### **Business Sectors:**

Respondents selected the types of businesses they would most like to see in Sioux Falls, which included: technology related business (98%), biotechnology & scientific research (98%), and retail businesses (95%).

Based on the sum of three choices, the business sectors they support are:





Technology Related Business (38%)



Healthcare/ Medical (32%).

#### **Land Use & Development:**

Respondents selected they types of places in Sioux Fall they most want to see more, which included:



Daycare or School (99%)



Senior Housing (99%)



Grocery Store, Pharmacy, & Other Shops for Necessities (98%).

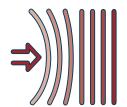
#### **City Growth:**

Based on the sum of top two choices, respondents selected the areas that they think should receive the most emphasis from the City leaders. The most selected areas are:

- · Addressing maintenance & repair across City (39%).
- Addressing accessibility of housing through housing varieties, housing costs, housing sizes, & housing locations (24%).
- Investing in conservation & resiliency, such as ensuring City can respond to extreme weather events or other emergencies (21%).







# **Current Zoning Regulations/Restrictions:**

Respondents rated how strict the current zoning regulations/restrictions are in Sioux Falls. Nine percent (9%) believed they are too strict, 70% believed they were adequate, and 22% believed they were not strict enough.

# **Community Survey**

#### **Investment Priorities**

To help the City identify Commercial and Residential Development priorities, ETC Institute conducted an Importance-Satisfaction (I-S) analysis. This analysis examined the importance residents placed on each development item and the level of satisfaction with each development item. The analysis was conducted for both Commercial and Residential Development items. This analysis helps pinpoint which items will have the most impact on overall satisfaction with future development in Sioux Falls.

#### **Commercial Development Priorities:**

Commercial Development Priorities. This analysis was conducted to help set priorities for Commercial Development in the community. Based on the results of this analysis, the commercial development items that are recommended as top priorities include:

- Traffic congestion (I-S = 0.3618)
- Feeling of safety & security (I-S = 0.2283)
- Noise levels (I-S = 0.1183)

Below is a summary of the importance-satisfaction rating for commercial development topics.

2024 Importance-Satisfaction Rating <u>Commercial Development</u>	Most Important %	Most Important Rank	Satisfaction %	Satisfaction Rank	Importance- Satisfaction Rating	I-S Rating Rank				
Very High Priority										
Traffic Congestion	47%	2	21%	18	0.3618	1				
Feeling of Safety & Security	46%	1	51%	8	0.2283	2				
High Priority										
Noise Levels	17%	3	32%	17	0.1183	3				
Medium Priority										
Access to Public Transportation	15%	6	35%	16	0.0955	4				
Accessibility for those with Disabilities	14%	8	35%	15	0.0918	5				
Pedestrian Safety	14%	7	45%	11	0.0782	6				
Parking Availability	16%	4	51%	6	0.0779	7				
Walkability	12%	9	38%	13	0.0745	8				
Presence of Parks, Trees, & Landscaping	15%	5	59%	1	0.0622	9				
Compatibility with Residential Areas Nearby	11%	10	47%	9	0.0597	10				
Variety of Businesses	10%	11	53%	4	0.0486	11				
Overall Design & Appearance	9%	12	56%	3	0.0402	12				
Light Pollution	5%	14	36%	14	0.0290	13				
Proximity to Residential Areas	6%	13	52%	5	0.0265	14				
Signage & Advertising	3%	16	40%	12	0.0188	15				
Lighting Quality	3%	15	46%	10	0.0183	16				
Drive Thru or Delivery Options	3%	17	57%	2	0.0120	17				
Hours of Operation	2%	18	51%	7	0.0117	18				

# **Community Survey**

#### **Investment Priorities**

## **Residential Development Priorities:**

This analysis was conducted to help set priorities for Residential Development in the community. Based on the results of this analysis, the residential development items that are recommended as top priorities include:

- Traffic congestion (I-S = 0.2982)
- Street condition (I-S = 0.2599)
- Feeling of safety & security (I-S = 0.2168)

Below is a summary of the importance-satisfaction rating for residential development topics.

2024 Importance-Satisfaction Rating Residential Development	Most Important %	Most Important Rank	Satisfaction %	Satisfaction Rank	Importance- Satisfaction Rating	I-S Rating Rank				
Very High Priority										
Traffic Congestion	37%	2	19%	20	0.2982	1				
Street Condition	37%	3	29%	19	0.2599	2				
Feeling of Safety & Security	39%	1	44%	11	0.2168	3				
High Priority										
Noise Levels	15%	4	31%	18	0.1043	4				
Medium Priority										
Access to Public Transportation	13%	6	31%	17	0.0860	5				
Density (how close homes are to one another)	12%	8	36%	16	0.0767	6				
Walkability	12%	9	38%	15	0.0725	7				
Pedestrian Safety	13%	7	43%	13	0.0718	8				
Presence of Parks, Trees, and Landscaping	13%	5	61%	5	0.0494	9				
Availability of Off-Street Parking	6%	13	38%	14	0.0364	10				
Overall Maintenance	7%	12	52%	8	0.0352	11				
Overall Design & Appearance	8%	11	55%	7	0.0349	12				
Access to Community Gathering Places	8%	10	69%	2	0.0257	13				
Availability of Bicycle Facilities	4%	15	45%	10	0.0240	14				
Compatibility with Commercial Areas Nearby	4%	18	44%	12	0.0229	15				
Access to Schools	4%	16	57%	6	0.0185	16				
Proximity to your Work/School	3%	19	50%	9	0.0171	17				
Access to shopping & services	4%	17	67%	3	0.0138	18				
Proximity to healthcare providers	5%	14	75%	1	0.0115	19				
Proximity to family/friends	2%	20	63%	4	0.0059	20				

TABLE 2 Residential Importance-Satisfaction Rating

- ETC Survey

# **Overall Strengths I Weaknesses I Opportunities I Threats Analysis**

# **Strengths**

- Downtown Core Downtown is seen as a strong asset with opportunities for further improvement.
- **Growth** Sioux Falls has experienced significant growth and has generally managed it well.
- Hospitals and Universities These institutions are stabilizing forces for neighborhoods and the community overall.
- Bike Path System The bike path system is highly regarded, though some see it as more recreational than commuter-friendly.
- Family-Oriented Community Sioux Falls is very family-oriented, creating high demand for amenities and recreational spaces.
- **Positive Economic Indicators** The city has strong economic indicators, access to the arts, and community engagement.

# **Opportunities**

- **Infill Development** There is potential for more infill development and creative housing solutions.
- **Industrial Growth** Focus on industrial growth, particularly in the northeast part of the city.
- Transportation Planning Opportunities for long-range transportation and traffic safety planning.
- Neighborhood Maintenance Support for neighborhood maintenance programs, especially near downtown.
- Walkability and Safe Streets Emphasis on improving walkability and street safety.

# **Weaknesses**

- **Road Maintenance** Issues with road maintenance are a common concern.
- Mental Health Resources There is a lack of mental health resources.
- Food Deserts Some areas lack access to fresh food.
- Missing Middle Housing There is a need for more housing options that fall between singlefamily homes and large apartment complexes.
- Infill Development Challenges with infill development and adaptive reuse of existing facilities.
- Public Transportation The public transit system is seen as improving but more service is desired.
- **Affordable Housing** There are concerns about the availability of affordable housing.
- Acceptance of Diversity There are challenges with acceptance of diversity within the community.

# **Threats**

- Affordable Housing The lack of affordable housing is a significant concern.
- Multi-Family Housing There are mixed views on multi-family housing.
- **Population Growth** Concerns about managing population growth and its impact on resources.
- Crime Concerns raised about crime and wanting to ensure the city maintains a sense of security.
- City Budget Sustainability Concerns the long-term return on investment for infrastructure projects.



#### **Overall Key Takeaways + Themes**

Across all of the engagement completed for the Shape Sioux Falls Comprehensive Plan, a series of key themes and takeaways have been identified and described below. This feedback will be used to support goals and recommendations in the updated comprehensive development plan.

# **Key Themes + Takeaways**

#### Overview

There are several key takeaways consistently heard in the public input. By focusing on these key areas, the City of Sioux Falls can address the community's needs and priorities, promote sustainable growth, and enhance the overall quality of life for its residents.

#### **Housing and Neighborhoods**

**Affordable Housing** - There is a significant demand for affordable housing options, including missing middle housing, tiny homes, and accessory dwelling units (ADUs). The city should explore creative housing solutions to meet this demand.

**Infill Development** - Encouraging infill development and adaptive reuse of existing facilities can help address housing shortages and promote sustainable growth.

**Neighborhood Maintenance** - Supporting neighborhood maintenance programs, especially near downtown, can enhance the quality of life for residents.

#### **Transportation and Mobility**

**Public Transportation** - Improving the public transportation system to make it more accessible and efficient is a priority. This includes exploring alternative transportation systems and enhancing transit connections.

**Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety** - Investing in infrastructure to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety, such as adding more sidewalks, bike lanes, and pedestrian bridges, is essential.

**Traffic Calming Measures** - Implementing traffic calming measures to reduce speed and improve safety in residential areas can enhance the overall safety of the community.

#### **Conservation and Resiliency**

**Environmental Conservation** - Focusing on conservation of natural resources, including water quality, habitat restoration, and preservation of agricultural land, is crucial for the city's long-term sustainability.

**Resiliency Planning** - Developing infrastructure that is resilient to emergencies and natural disasters, such as flooding, can help the city better respond to future challenges.

#### **Economic and Cultural Development**

**Mixed-Use Development** - Promoting mixed-use developments that combine residential, commercial, and recreational spaces can create vibrant, walkable neighborhoods.

**Support for Local Businesses** - Encouraging the growth of local businesses and expanding the farmers market to multiple locations can support the local economy and reduce congestion.

**Arts and Culture** - Investing in arts and culture, including creating an Arts and Culture Master Plan and integrating public art into city designs, can enhance the city's cultural landscape

# **Overall Key Takeaways + Themes**

#### **Community Health and Services**

**Mental Health Resources** - Addressing the lack of mental health resources and providing better support for the homeless population are important community health priorities.

**Community Centers** - Developing more community centers that offer a range of services, including training, celebrations, and indoor recreational activities, can benefit residents.

## **Infrastructure and Public Spaces**

**Road Maintenance** - Continuing the improvement of road maintenance and addressing traffic congestion are ongoing concerns that need attention.

**Public Spaces and Amenities** - Enhancing public spaces, such as parks, trails, and recreational areas, can improve the quality of life for residents.