

## GRANT TOWN HALL MEETING NOTES

March 22, 2010

**Meeting Purpose:** Perkins County Planning & Zoning Commission seeking public input on update of Comprehensive Plan.

### **Comprehensive Plan Components & Purpose:**

**Attendees:** (See attached spreadsheet)

### **Current Attributes of Perkins County & Communities in Perkins County – (Strengths)**

- Excellent Emergency System
- Safety
- Good Schools
- Airport
- Clean Environment
- Attractive Farmsteads
- Young People Returning
- Variety of Retirement Facilities
- Youth Center
- Growing Hospital
- Clean
- Storefronts Full
- Friendly Folks
- Ambition
- Prosperous
- Pleasant Landscape
- Big Sky – Green Space
- Strong Financial Institution

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**Vision (Desired Future - What We Want to See in 10-15 Years)**

<b>Priority Score</b>	<b>Projects/Goals/Objectives</b>
28	Sustain health care systems (home roots)
18	Multi employee businesses e.g., IBP
14	Vibrant school systems (enrollment)
14	Entrepreneurial options – vision & energy – young people have a variety of job options
11	Stabilize population base – prefer to increase by 10%
10	Desirable housing options
8	Swimming pool
7	Family entertainment
5	Tracking system for high school students
4	Small, sustainable family farms for local consumption
4	Strong collaborations – agriculture, businesses
4	Clean downtown, paint, sweep, minor repairs
4	Good wages
4	Dining options(s) without driving to Ogallala
2	Churches that attract young people
2	Residents enthusiastic for life
1	Residential lots available
0	18 hole golf course
0	State line road paved
0	Track seniors to use senior facilities
0	Remove dilapidated housing both city and rural
0	Small town spirit

**Assets (What We Bring to the Table)**

**Community**

- Landscape of Rolling Land
- Quiet Relaxing Surroundings
- Collaboration Among Business, Organizations & Public Entities
- Communication
- Organization
- Neat Appearance
- Good Curb Appeal & First Impression
- Store Fronts Full
- Prosperous
- Big Sky
- No Turbines
- Airport
- Good School
- Life is Vibrant Adventure with Rest Points
- Enthusiastic About Life
- Great Plains Communications - State of the Art Broadband Service
- Library
- Pool, Recreation Center
- Republican River Restoration Partners Prepare the Ag Industry for Next 20 Years
- Quality Work Force – Low Turnover
- Perkins County Community Foundation
- Perkins County Youth Development Club
- Grant City Council – Overall Operation and Viability
- Churches
- Working with People at Farmers’ Market
- Volunteers
- High School & Health Services Conduct Career Days & Work/Study Programs to Encourage Local Opportunities
- Plainsman Inn & RV Park
- Thrivent Financial – Area Church Group Projects
- Habitat for Humanity
- Task Forces for Projects
- Work Study Projects
- Art Downtown
- Churches – Food Pantry
- Planning Commission Collaboration
- Rural Enterprise Assistance Program – Microenterprise Assistance
- School & School Board – Connect Students with Businesses
- Nebraska Business Development Center – Business Succession

## **Individual**

- Willingness to Work Hard
- Love Working with Youth
- Medical Knowledge and/or Experience
- Mentor
- Desire for Public Good

- Provide Leadership & Encouragement Especially to Young Couples
- Communication, Collaboration, Organization
- Growing Family
- Web Designer
- Volunteer
- Ability to Get Others to Cooperate
- Entrepreneurial
- Outgoing Personality
- Problem Solver
- Leadership
- Time
- Energy
- Think Outside of Box
- Curious
- Recruit Seniors from outside Perkins County to Our Local Amenities
- Welcoming & Helpful
- Completes Tasks
- 50 Years Experience – Don't Have to Reinvent the Wheel
- Help Others with Goals to Create Beautiful Yards etc. – Beauty to the Community

### **Challenges & Opportunities**

- Combine technology with productivity re: Republican River and water use
- Creating awareness – educating the public e.g., agricultural applications etc.
- More volunteerism
- Young Leaders
- Mentoring (businesses) young people
- Maintaining safety
- Regulations or restrictions on water; environment (Environmental Protection Agency)
- Keep hospital progressive and recruit new people to practice
- Complete globally
- Need good wages
- Maintain vibrant downtown
- Newcomers e.g., how they are welcomed, opportunities to network etc.

### **Trends – (What we Need to Be Aware of)**

- ü Government policy e.g., Environmental Protection Agency, farming, health care, regulations, clean air & water
- ü Water is a valuable resource that is being threatened
- ü Balance between growth and progress vs. keeping area clean, safe etc.
- ü Zoning can inhibit progress