The Executive Inn Property: Our Community Vision













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Why such a forum?

This is an unprecedented opportunity for Owensboro/Daviess County residents. The community has had a meaningful role in the riverfront planning and design, downtown placemaking plan and now can help shape the vision for the redevelopment of the Executive Inn property. This workshop was intended to give officials a stronger sense of what the people of our community hope to see happen on this special site.

Workshop Goals

- We want the results of this workshop to leave officials with a greater sense of what the people want to see happen on this critical 17.5 acres along the riverfront.
- We want to bring forth the ideas and views of people from all walks of life and all areas of Owensboro-Daviess County.
- We want this to be an educational experience so that participants can come to an informed judgment on the choices available to us. We want everyone to understand the complexities, the tradeoffs, the costs and consequences of the various choices.
- We want this dialogue to occur in the early stages of the project before decisions are made.
- We want to dream big with you, and make the most of this unprecedented opportunity while recognizing that our goals must be attainable.
- We want to learn from the experiences of other cities, but we also want something that is all our own. We want to benefit from consultants, but we want to be able to add our own ideas.
- And finally, we want this to be a fun, uplifting experience that brings us together as a community.

Steering Committee

Belinda Abell
Ed Allen
Rodney Berry
Virginia Marx
Larry Miller
Shelly Nichols
Keith Sanders
Nancy Whitmer
Jim Zabek

Sponsors

City of Owensboro
Daviess County Fiscal Court
We the People Initiative
Public Life Foundation
Gateway Planning Group
Downtown Development Corporation
We are Downtown
Region of Opportunity Team (ROOT)
Northwest Neighborhood Alliance
Old Owensboro Neighborhood Alliance

Facilitators

Susann Bartlett
Mary Roach
Bill Craig
Don McCarty
Keith Sanders
Bob Darling
Belinda Abell
Virginia Marx
Patricia McKeegan
Martha Clark
Keith Free

Tracy Marksberry Cindy Bornander Zev Buffman Kathy Olsen Martha Clark Tom Milton Jill Flachskam Mary Embry Neil Bradley Jim Zabek

Tabulators

Tony Sook Chase Hurst

Demographic Summary: Who participated in the workshop?

- 130 participants registered: 160 in advance; 27 walk-ups; 50 no-shows
- 17 percent more men participated than women
- Largest age group represented: those between 45 and 65.
- Young people (18-24) and seniors (over 65) were represented by 7 percent less than the demographic profile.
- We had about the right number of people from 25-44 in comparison to our population.
- The number of minority participants matched up to the population.
- Participants were well-educated: 69 percent had a college degree or higher and 24 percent had an associate degree or some college credit.
- About 75 percent lived in the city; 23 percent live in the county.
- One resident of Whitesville participated.
- Two participants lived outside Daviess County.

Format/Emphasis Dialogue

There were four emphasis areas and ballots for voting. The participants were asked to deliberate after each emphasis area was presented. The Emphasis areas were as follows:

Emphasis 1: Public Assembly and Tourism

Possible projects under this emphasis:

Amphitheater
Stadium
Relocated bluegrass music museum
Cluster of bluegrass music venues
A mix of restaurants
Water Park
Carnival rides

Emphasis 2: Residential-Urban Village Development

Possible projects under this emphasis:

Apartments and condominiums Integrated bikeways, walking paths, etc Linkage to English Park Retail and services to serve the area

Emphasis 3: Community Recreation

Possible projects under this emphasis:

Rec-Plex/YMCA
Marina and water sports center
Linkage to English Park
Tennis complex
Cinema complex
IMAX Theater/Art House
Food court
Miniature golf

Emphasis 4: Some Combination of Emphasis 1, 2 and 3

Note: Following each of the three discussion periods, many other ideas were offered by participants and added to the ballots before the voting occurred.

Executive Summary

- The overall preferred use of the Executive Inn property was a combination of Public Assembly and Tourism projects, Residential projects and Community Recreation projects.
- Of the three emphasis areas, Public Assembly and Tourism projects were the most popular.
- The preferred projects within Public Assembly and Tourism were:
 - 1. Amphitheater
 - 2. Farmers market
 - 3. Outdoor events center
 - 4. Boat dock/access to water
 - 5. Mix of restaurants
- The preferred overall projects were:
 - 1. Farmers market
 - 2. Integrated bikeways, walking paths, etc.
 - 3. Amphitheater
 - 4. Mix of restaurants
 - 5. Outdoor events center
 - 6. Boat dock
 - 7. Linkage to English Park
 - 8. Aquatics center
 - 9. Retail and services for the neighborhood
 - 10. Set aside property for future development

From here ...

Gateway Planning Group will take the results of this workshop and incorporate the preferences, ideas and comments in a revised draft plan. In order to bring forth even more community participation, additional forums are expected to take place within the next few months.

For more information about this report or to get involved in the "We the People" initiative: Contact Shelly Nichols at shelly.nichols@plfo.org or visit our website at www.wethepeopletownmeeting.org

Thank you!







Additional Projects/Rankings & Comments

	Conoral Comments	11
	Ballot 5: General Question	13
	Ballot 4: Some Combination of 1, 2 & 3	
	Ballot 3: Community Recreation	
	Ballot 2: Residential-Urban Village Development	
•	Ballot 1: Public Assembly & Tourism	

U Detailed Ballot Results: Ballots 1 &

Ballot 1: Public Assembly & Tourism T1	Amphitheatre w/ music film fest	Outdoor Events Center/includes combined 2	Relocated Bluegrass Museum 0	Cluster of Bluegrass Music Venues 0	A mix of restaurants 6	Water Park 0	Camival Rides 0	Farmers Market 5	Cinema Complex 0	Boat dock with expansion, touching water 1	Set aside property for future development 0	Expanded Retail + microbrew	Walk of Fame	Aquarium	Tot Area	Dog Park	Expanded Convention Center	Mass Transit & Bicycle Center	Total: 18
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Integrated bikeways, walking paths, public use bikes	က	2	က	7	4		4	9	0	2	6	-		2	2 4	4 5	2	7			က	4						9	72	23%
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Detailed Ballot Results: Ballot 3

Ballot 3: Community Recreation	F	12	T3 T4	4 T3	92	4	8	6	- 0 -	E	T12 T1	T13 T14	115	T16	117	118	119	T20	T21 T	T22 T	T23 T24	24 T25	5 T26	6 T27	7 T28	3 T29	130		
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IMAX Theatre/Art House	-	0	3	0			0		0	2	5 1		0	2	-	2	0	-	2		1 0	-					4	31	10%
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Miniature Golf	0	0	0	0			0		-	0	0 0		0	0	0	0	0	0	-		0 0						2	4	1%
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Detailed Ballot Results: Ballot 4

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Ballot 4: Some Combination of 1, 2 & 3	Amphitheatre	Outdoor Events Center	Relocated Bluegrass Museum	Cluster of Bluegrass Music Venues	A mix of restaurants	Water Park	Carnival Rides	Farmers Market	Cinema Complex	Boat Dock	Set aside property for future development	Apartments and Condominiums	Residential with River Views	Integrated bikeways, walking paths, etc.	Linkage to English Park	Retail and services to serve the area	Community Gardens	Public Pavilion	Recreation Center/YMCA	Aquatics Center	Tennis Complex	IMAX Theatre/Art House	Food Court	Miniature Golf	Picnic Shelters	Public Pavilion	Tot Lot	Expanded Retail + microbrew	Walk of Fame	Aquarium	Tot Area	Dog Park	Expanded Convention Ctr	Mass Transit & Bicycle Center	Mixed Use	Limit Condo South of 2nd Street	Streams and Ponds/waterways	Childrens Museum	Greenspace

Detailed Ballot Results: Ballot 5

Ballot 5: I Prefer a Plan That Emphasizes	F	T2	T1 T2 T3 T4 T5 T6 T7 T8	4 E.	<u></u>	F	8	£	9E	Ę	T12	113	114	T15 T	T16 T	117 11	T18 T19	9 T20	121	1 122	123	T24	T25	T26	T27	128	T29	T30		
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Residential-Urban Village	0	0	0	0					0	0	0	0		2	0	0	2 0		0	0	-	0		0	2	0		0	7	%9
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Official Summary

Tabulators Summary Page

Preferr	ed Emphasis:	Number of Votes	Percent of Total
4	Residential-Urban Village	7	6%
3	Community Recreation	13	10%
2	Public Assembly & Tourism	33	26%
1	Some Combination of the Three	74	58%

Top five (5) project ideas within each emphasis area:

Public /	Assembly & Tourism	Number of Votes	Percent of Total
5	A mix of restaurants	48	13%
4	Boat Dock w/ expanded use/touch of water	53	15%
3	Outdoor Events Center/includes combined	60	17%
2	Farmers Market	60	17%
1	Amphitheatre w/ music film fest	62	17%

Resider	tial-Urban Village	Number of Votes	Percent of Total
5	Mixed Use - Residential/Commercial	25	8%
4	Farmers Market	32	10%
3	Retail and services to serve the area	37	12%
2	Linkage to English Park	43	14%
1	Integrated bikeways, walking paths, public use bikes	72	23%

Commu	nity Recreation	Number of Votes	Percent of Total
5	IMAX Theatre/Art House	31	10%
4	Public Pavilion	36	11%
3	Farmers Market	48	15%
2	Aquatics Center	52	16%
1	Boat Dock	52	16%

Top ten	(10) overall project ideas (from ballot 4):	Number of Votes	Percent of Total
10	Set aside property for future development	16	3%
9	Retail and services to serve the area	16	3%
8	Aquatics Center	24	5%
7	Linkage to English Park	26	5%
6	Boat Dock	28	6%
5	Outdoor Events Center	35	7%
4	A mix of restaurants	35	7%
3	Amphitheatre	47	10%
2	Integrated bikeways, walking paths, etc.	48	10%
1	Farmers Market	69	14%

Tabulators Summary Page

Preferr	ed Emphasis:	Number of Votes	Percent of Total
4	Residential-Urban Village	7	6%
3	Community Recreation	13	10%
2	Public Assembly & Tourism	33	26%
1	Some Combination of the Three	74	58%

Top five (5) project ideas within each emphasis area:

Public A	Assembly & Tourism	Number of Votes	Percent of Total
	Cluster of Bluegrass Music Venues	1	0%
	Carnival Rides	1	0%
	Tot Area	1	0%
	Mass Transit & Bicycle Center	2	1%
	Expanded Retail + microbrew	4	1%
	Walk of Fame	4	1%
	Dog Park	4	1%
	Aquarium	5	1%
	Expanded Convention Ctr	5	1%
	Water Park	6	2%
	Cinema Complex	11	3%
	Relocated Bluegrass Museum	13	4%
	Set aside property for future development	21	6%
5	A mix of restaurants	48	13%
4	Boat Dock w/ expanded use/touch of water	53	15%
3	Outdoor Events Center/includes combined	60	17%
2	Farmers Market	60	17%
1	Amphitheatre w/ music film fest	62	17%
		361	

Resider	tial-Urban Village	Number of Votes	Percent of Total
	Streams and Ponds/waterways	6	2%
	Residential with River Views	17	5%
	Community Gardens	17	5%
	Public Pavilion	19	6%
	Apartments and Condominiums	22	7%
	Limit Condo S of 2nd St	23	7%
5	Mixed Use - Residential/Commercial	25	8%
4	Farmers Market	32	10%
3	Retail and services to serve the area	37	12%
2	Linkage to English Park	43	14%
1	Integrated bikeways, walking paths, public use bikes	72	23%
		313	

Commu	nity Recreation	Number of Votes	Percent of Total
	Tennis Complex	3	1%
	Miniature Golf	4	1%
	Childrens Museum	6	2%
	Cinema Complex	8	2%
	Tot Lot	10	3%
	Recreation Center/YMCA	12	4%
	Greenspace	17	5%
	Food Court	20	6%
	Picnic Shelters	24	7%
5	IMAX Theatre/Art House	31	10%
4	Public Pavilion	36	11%
3	Farmers Market	48	15%
2	Aquatics Center	52	16%
1	Boat Dock	52	16%
		323	

Top ten	(10) overall project ideas (from ballot 4):	Number of Votes	Percent of Total
	Miniature Golf	0	0%
	Tot Lot	0	0%
	Walk of Fame	0	0%
	Aquarium	0	0%
	Tot Area	0	0%
	Dog Park	0	0%
	Expanded Convention Ctr	0	0%
	Mass Transit & Bicycle Center	0	0%
	Limit Condo S of 2nd St	0	0%
	Streams and Ponds/waterways	0	0%
	Childrens Museum	0	0%
	Cluster of Bluegrass Music Venues	1	0%
	Tennis Complex	1	0%
	Public Pavilion	2	0%
	Carnival Rides	3	1%
	Expanded Retail + microbrew	4	1%
	Food Court	5	1%
	Greenspace	5	1%
	Cinema Complex	7	1%
	Residential with River Views	7	1%
	Relocated Bluegrass Museum	8	2%
	Community Gardens	9	2%
	Recreation Center/YMCA	9	2%
	Picnic Shelters	10	2%
	Apartments and Condominiums	11	2%
	IMAX Theatre/Art House	13	3%
	Public Pavilion	14	3%
	Mixed Use	14	3%
	Water Park	15	3%
10	Set aside property for future development	16	3%
9	Retail and services to serve the area	16	3%
8	Aquatics Center	24	5%
7	Linkage to English Park	26	5%
6	Boat Dock	28	6%
5	Outdoor Events Center	35	7%
4	A mix of restaurants	35	7%
3	Amphitheatre	47	10%
2	Integrated bikeways, walking paths, etc.	48	10%
1	Farmers Market	69	14%

Additional Projects & Tallies

(Options recommended by participants)

Ballot 1: Public Assembly and Tourism

Walk of fame	2 votes
Mixed use residential/retail	1 vote
Streams/Ponds	
Sell English Park	
Combine Outdoor events center with Amphitheatre	15 votes
Expanded Retail Boutique	
Dog Park	4 votes
New location of Bluegrass Museum	
Micro brewery	3 votes
New location of the Convention Center	
Versatile Green space	
Children's Museum/Play Area	1 vote
Full Service Marina	
Mass Transit and Bicycle Center	2 votes
Indoor Water Park	1 vote
Pedestrian/Bike Routes	1 vote
Aquarium	5 votes
Expanded Farmers Market	6 votes
Expanded Convention Center	2 votes
Boat dock	11 votes

Ballot 2: Residential-Urban Village

D	
Residential with River View	1 vote
Mixed use	21 votes
Boat Dock	1 vote
Expanded Community Gardens	3 votes
Natural Water/ Ponds, Streams	5 votes
Limit Condos south of 2nd Street	20 votes
Variety of house price options	1 vote
Bicycle Racks	1 vote
Public Access Bikes	8 votes
No residential	1 vote
Selling of English Park	1 vote
Destination for Restaurants	2 votes

Ballot 3: Community Recreation

Green Space	9 votes
Indoor Aquatic Center	25 votes
Childrens Museum	7 votes
Boat Dock	12 votes
Versatile green space	8 votes
Bicycle Center	2 votes
Retail	1 vote

Ballot 4: Some combination of the three themes

Combined outdoor events/amphitheater	14 votes
Mixed use Residential/Retail	15 votes
Full service marina	7 votes
New location of Bluegrass Museum	1 vote
Walk of Fame	8 votes
Childrens Museum	5 votes
Micro brewery	5 votes
Dog Park	2 votes
Large convention center	2 votes
Flexible green space	5 votes
Streams/ponds	2 votes

Ballot 5: General Question

Preferred Emphasis

Public Assembly and Tourism	33 votes
Residential-Urban Village	5 votes
Community Recreation	13 votes
Some Combination of the Above	72 votes

General Comments (in no particular order)

- English Park needs priority for community recreation
- There is too much green space. We need upscale shopping and indoor/outdoor food courts.
- Owensboro is in need of night life.
- We need Friday After 5's every weekend.
- It is very difficult to just vote for three options on these.
- I like green space.
- The boat dock needs to have kayak and canoe access.
- Need to connect Veterans Boulevard and First street all the way to English Park.
- Overall, didn't like the Emphasis 2 (Residential-Urban Village).
- Amphitheatre needs to be just for bluegrass music.
- Too much housing talk at this forum.
- Residential should be kept to Second and Third street areas.
- Retail area should be along existing Veterans Boulevard.
- The boat dock is important and allows the public to get near the water. There may be some safety considerations there.
- Amphitheatre and outdoor events center seems redundant to me.
- Covered amphitheatre sounds great, but an outdoor events center sounds much too large for this community.
- Love the idea of a community gardens.
- What happens to the "Community Recreation" piece in the winter?
- Need to consider the height of structures to keep the river view–very important.
- Amphitheatre will draw people from out of town.
- Multi use residential—one upper level of business—there is a problem with integrating residential and events for the public.
- Like the idea of expanded boat dock.
- There needs to be affordable residential units for young people—there are lots of college students in the area.
- Be careful to build affordable units that maintain the look and feel of quality.

- Young people need to be involved in all facets of downtown living and recreation.
- Downtown must have young people's participation to succeed.
- Amphitheatre needs to be covered or semi-covered for weather protection.
- The Bluegrass Museum relocation is very positive.
- Limit size (8-10 blocks) for downtown.
- Should be an Arts Academy.
- Best ideas I have heard are the ball field and water park.
- We need more retail areas downtown.
- Should poll the "next generation"—high schools students and college students—what do they see for the future of downtown?
- Priority should show retail on ground floor with residential above it.
- I don't like just a plain farmers market-needs to offer more.
- Think about what your Saturday on the river would include????
- Would like to see an indoor aquatics center.
- Keep river view accessible/enhanced green space.
- Events/facilities to attract tourists and residents.
- Area north of 1st be maintained as public space.
- Emphasis on multi-use space.
- Pedestrian/bicycle friendly.
- Should be an outdoor events center that is exciting and draws a diverse crowd–direct river front–two stories or lower.
- I like the baseball stadium idea and think this should be a top priority!
- A cinema is NOT necessary.
- I love the idea of a farmers market and the location.
- The residential piece of this should happen quickly while people are still excited.
- There must be a bike trail and community gardens for people to want to move downtown.
- BASEBALL STADIUM!!!!!!