

## POSTCARDS TO THE FUTURE

Numerous themes are present in the comments, including roads/bridges, the environment, public transportation, parks/trails, affordable housing, public safety, and the maintenance of basic services. They are summarized under the focus area categories.

### Community Partnerships & Collaboration

Several themes emerged that would require the county's partnership with area agencies and governments, and three main issues were identified for collaboration: the creation of a new animal shelter, a regional transportation system, and health care access.

### Economic Development & Tourism

Job growth was the main economic theme, as many comment cards discussed the need to secure quality jobs through affordable housing, viable transportation options, and workforce development. Comments about tourism focused on historical preservation.

### Environment & Sustainability

There were at least 12 comments regarding greenspace, green buildings, green energy, and reducing carbon dioxide emissions. Curbside/improved recycling programs were also discussed on a few comment cards.

### Growth & Planning

There were at least five comments regarding the need for affordable housing in Platte County, and there were many comments against urban sprawl and too much growth.

### Parks & Recreation

Most of the parks comments suggested that there is support for the renewal of the parks and recreation tax, and two comments stated there should be no new trails. There were three comments suggesting that Platte County should fix Shiloh Springs. Dog parks and bike trails were the most commonly cited amenities that should be added to the community.

### Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness

Public safety was another major theme from the comment cards. People stated that there should be more emphasis on emergency preparedness, and some felt that the radio systems should be updated or improved.

### Transportation & Infrastructure

Roads and bridges garnered the most comments. People stated that it is essential for Platte County to maintain and fix roads and bridges. A few people commented that a roads tax should be implemented rather than a parks and recreation tax. Public transportation was another theme. People suggested bus lines and rapid transit as ways to improve public transportation.

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- 1 Form partnerships with animal organizations to develop shelters and have a dog park.
- 2 Improve and add parks & ball fields. Use bus lines. Slow down multihousing units. Continue improvement of Shiloh Springs Golf Course. Make known requirements for being a first responder & offer training.
- 3 Above all, concentrate on basic services (safety, roads, infrastructure, etc.) all other concerns will follow. Insist on results that will prove Platte County to have a reputation far above averages (in public safety, roads, economy, quality of life).
- 4 Develop more advanced professional standards for all county government. Continue planning for future growth budgeting for future problems growth entails higher crime rates, road repairs, and more maintenance on facilities as they get older. More communication on emergency preparedness down to grass roots level, (i.e.) block captain level to city official level.
- 5 Appreciate the money allocated to smaller cities in the county for Parks & Rec. will help to build the base of our county, the children. Would like to see the county enforce more laws in the cities (trash on property / trailers). Make sure cities are following county laws, not making their own. Also like to see bridges updated (fixed) in northern part of the county (main bridge into Dearborn).
- 6 No more money on new parks!! We have enough to maintain. Expand prosecutor's office. Raise salaries of Deputies and pay our Sheriff more. He's worth it. Take parks tax that will expire and put money into roads. Update computer equipment for more public access! More dollars for domestic violence prevention. Hand powered emergency radios!
- 7 Renew Parks & Rec. tax. Adopt occupancy statute for assessing new home construction. Support PC CVB & EDC effort to increase tourism & economic development efforts.

8 Community Economic Development. To increase sales tax revenues, create jobs and improve communities, the county should take the lead on applying for community development funds for all towns. Parkville, Weston, Dearborn, and others are attractive to tourists. However, the small towns do not have the capacity to apply for funds to “dress up” their towns. Funds should not go to one place but rather many that would make Platte County active to tourists.

9 Promote small businesses. Curbside recycling. Acknowledge Platte County’s growth by ensuring county & city employees within county have a professional attitude.\* Parks & Rec. Sports programs for kids. Skate park. Send out pamphlets as reminders or checklists for emergency preparedness. Especially in regards to spelling and grammar on official documents.

10 Historical Development has progressed greatly and continues to do so. Parks, trails, and green belts progress as well. The law enforcement, fire, and ambulance services have combined to better serve the county. Light rail has grown from the starter route in KC to reach the airport and incorporates a bus/rail system. Town growth is controlled to preserve the quality of life. Nature is preserved everywhere if at all possible. The parks tax continues and should because of the great good it does for the citizens through the parks system and boosting the arts. Developers are required to pay for the roads for any construction instead of the taxpayers.

11 Help attract businesses with good jobs. Radios that can talk with all areas (cities/counties) in case of catastrophic disasters. Light rail to KCI & downtown airport build blvds. with trees.

12 Disc. Golf course, bike trails to host triathlons. Try to collaborate with others to a common goal. Barry Road – 4 lanes – safer for high school kids.

13 More east/west roads. Establish neighborhood emergency groups (help those with special needs). Continue Green Build program light rail to airport. Pass Parks Tax again – outdoor music / drama / arts facility. Require underground utilities in new developments.

14 There are affordable homes in Platte County so young families are moving here. There are more first responder people and facilities available. We have county wide recycling. There is convenient transportation (public). Good use of TIF. Curbs & gutters with sidewalks. Pass parks tax again and have plays in parks.

15 I would like for Platte County to work towards having sustainable, large companies. However, the charm of living in Platte County is rural, green space that we have. I would like a consolidated emergency management program in the county. Keep the roads nice & wider before it needs to. Preserve green space. We need a dog park. Continue & pass the park tax. No more trails, get light rail.

16 Economic Development – More affordable housing. More historical preservation. Promote Green Build program. Light Rail & Bus Transportation from Airport to Downtown & Plaza. Promote sustainability. Pass Park tax again. Need for outdoor amphitheatre. Cooperate in Regional transportation project.

17 Transportation for city to Platte City – bus service. Do not allow eminent domain.

18 Having more homes for new family. EMS – more information to older people. Getting to & from airport – buses to and from Platte City. Try not to cut down trees when building. Pass park tax again.

19 Have some more plans for senior housing. Public safety. Parks & Rec. want to continue tax plan.

20 Affordable housing. Historical preservation. Sustain your life style. ½ cent sales tax for parks and recreation for culture events.

21 Economic Development & Tourism: More emphasis on historical preservation; publicizing tourism. Land set aside for larger residential estates. Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness: Knowledge of those individuals who are vulnerable in disaster situations. Environment & Sustainability: Publicize good environmental policies and enforce among gov't officials. Land use plan – not allowing an the land to go to high density housing. Growth & Planning: Preserve lots of open spaces even for large residential est. acreages. Parks & Recreation: Sustainability – Platte County does a great job here. Pass parks tax again. Community Partnerships & Collaboration: Emphasis on partnerships with faith based groups.

22 Affordable single family homes. Preserve historical Platte County. Pass Parks tax again. Partnership for health care. Consolidate. The county will have provided infrastructure to handle the future growth. We will live in a community that does not have traffic problems and be over ran with development. Proper mix of rural heritage and growth. East / West Corridors. Place higher requirements of developers to provide better infrastructure. Park based concerts, indoor, outdoor or both.

23 Complete the “studies” of KCI for future expansion plans – including commercial development. Complete the public transportation “studies” & implement as soon as possible. (I want to ride on some at my tender age)! Major traffic ways need Platte County dollars to keep complete – jointly with the cities contributions. Commercial developments should help immensely to keep our residential real estate taxes at an advantage to our people. Continue with present parks and recreation programs.

24 Eco. Development – Work with existing businesses to attract new employers, not so much retail, but jobs with benefits. Public Safety – coordinate County wide or northland wide emergency drill each year. Parks & Rec. – Improve and/or rebuild, replace Shiloh Springs. New golf course before land is unobtainable. Roads – Improve access into cousin’s develop., I-29 & Barry Road & Zona Rosa & I-29 & Tiffany Springs.

25 145 uniform jobs available in 2 prisons in Cameron – plans for bus to take workers there for 3 shifts. Zoning – an apartment only has parking for 2/3 of residents.

26 Try to continue the type of development that has occurred. Better public transportation. Educate the public about services that are available for emergencies. Preserve open space. Maintain parks and develop more as needed.

27 Eco. Dev. & Tourism – More houses & Arterial streets (= labor force) Transportation – Fix road districts!

28 Support Economic Development – Need infrastructure (roads) wider & improved. Better street lights. Keep street tax. Establish master plan for green space parks & dedicated space in subdivisions. Preserve green space & agriculture land. Put parks and recreation tax issue back on the ballot when it expires.

29 Airport – Economic engine of Northland – support & improvements. Energy – uninterrupted, clean power supplies, green concern. Riverfront – Develop for public, recreational, & profit.

30 Tourism – Parkville, Weston – via train / tours. Agri tourism – Wine industry  
Fix 45 Hwy to I-435 – safety. I question increased county gov’t – it all cost money – with limited productivity

31 Economic Development: More affordable housing and better transportation for the work force. Public Safety: Coordinate between agencies; public education. Environment & sustainability: Incentives to citizens who make their homes more “green.” Keep growing park areas and more greenways. Growth & Planning: Don’t allow developers to out – pace actual growth of population & ability to provide infrastructure. Parks & Recreation: Give Brian a raise...What a great job!!! More biking trails. Partnership & Collaboration: This should be in all categories. Transportation: Simplify the entire grid and increase the quality of sheets.

- 32 Work closely with developers to make sure parks & trails are incorporated into development plans. Improvements in county roads are needed. County bridges must be upgraded & maintained. It is much more important to have planned growth that is balanced, than simply to have growth.
- 33 Better mass transportation, develop sustainability master plan, preserve green space.
- 34 Public transportation. Road repairs & safety lighting, & traffic lights. Include a carbon-neutral requirement to area industries, existing & new. Continue the development of the trails and parks system.
- 35 Road & Blvd. planning larger, more efficient exit & entrance to I-29. Better roadside trash pick up and fewer on more pleasing fences along I-29 & outer roads. Better maintenance of landscaping efforts.
- 36 Minimize tax abatements, TIF/Chapter 100. School resource officers – county wide. Aquatic center in partnership with PCR-3 and Northern area schools (WP NP) (Let's NOT miss this opportunity again!) Nice work on roads & bridges!
- 37 Transportation systems – linking the metro KC area – to downtown, to KCI airport, to other areas. More affordable housing. Bike & pedestrian paths or lanes so we don't have to drive everywhere. Shaded walking trails through the county. Continued road work is important – continue to widen – Green Hills, 108th Street & Tiffany Springs.
- 38 Need to control growth so Platte County's rural atmosphere and green spaces are preserved. Don't say yes to every developer.
- 39 Keep our marketing efforts up to date, Coop with "MARC" replace Peter Fullerton, need new perspectives – ideas. Maintain tornado warning system – best we can have. Maintain & increase more green space, light rail – AG Land. Parks & Rec. – continue tax Partnerships – Promote more to reach out. Transportation – Continue tax – money stays for our county.
- 40 Promote wind farms. Continue to purchase park land. Consider a MO river access point.
- 41 Historical marker at the site of Red Crown Tavern near I-29 & I-435. Build awareness of aquatic center & YMCA's Parkville & Platte City. Thomas Street Road & Bridge opened first weekend in October, it's beautiful.

42 Affordable housing for work force. Bid for nuclear plant for electricity.

43 If we are going to emphasize economic development, work force development is key. Employers may not relocate or expand if they can't get workers. Enhance the sports venues. The economic impact of baseball, soccer, softball tournaments is significant. Support transit – helps with work force development.

44 Economic Dev. – Public transportation – Less multiple developing, more road & highway to facilitate growth / traffic. Emergency Prep. – Coordinate communication systems for all departments. (fire, police, state & fed., etc.) Infrastructure in place before building anything. Continue parks & red development & maint. – Fix up Shiloh Springs G.C. Continue road tax.

45 More athletics & activities about physical health like community walks, runs, dances, sessions of diet study, all directed toward the non-professional group. Mark more walking and bike trails. Open the levee for pedestrians. Hold open mic meetings for citizen feedback. Use LP, Hr, or electric vehicles for municipal furnished cars, trucks, & buses. Establish a wind and solar demonstration project for general education & display. Develop a recycling center and promote re-use if used materials.

46 If there is in fact a tremendous growth in Platte County; for example, Zona Rosa, Tuilleries, etc., why was there such a large property assessment? I know Betty said she didn't know much about this area, but as a home owner it is very frustrating to see the huge increase in my taxes. I see all the commercial growth and that should be easing some of the tax burden of the residential community, yet we received and increase in our taxes. I have a friend that had to sell her property because of tax increase.

47 Transportation, transportation, transportation. For people of Platte to be able to access readily all of KC area. Need public transportation for all residents, students at universities, residents of *[illegible]*, assistance for seniors, underserved, and elimination of greenhouse gases!

48 The worst department in Platte County is the Road and Bridge Dept. The second is the commissioners when they fired Dale Thomas without an explanation. It appeared dirty politics was in the works. I believe in firing people, but I like an explanation why. As a taxpayer, I believe we deserve better.

49 We need better roads on Hwy 45 with shoulders on the side. Don't do a half road and let the others go to dirt. Weed and tree trimming need to improve.

50 Hope air pollution will be no more in 20 years. Right now, coal plants in Platte County put bad things in the air we breath (Orange Alert). Is bad for everyone's health. Cars we hope, trucks also, would be using clean fuel. Cell phones used while driving cause car accidents and kill people. Solve that problem. Also, Germany is using lots of sun and wind power. USA and Platte County should use sun and wind power and not coal.

51 On 45 Highway right now, the Platte River Bridge is terrible - would hope it wouldn't take 20 years to get a new one. We need a new bridge now. Also, small bridge between Farley and Waldron corner - bad and narrow and dangerous. Hope it won't take 20 years to put shoulders and better surface on 45 Highway.

52 I want to live in a county with "good" roads and not so many trails that only a small percentage of people use. Roads are something that 100% of the residents use. Platte County is growing so fast, the elected officials must look at things for the whole county and not just a few. Roads and bridges are a must for the future.

53 Hopefully, 20 years from now, Platte County will have its road and bridge issues resolved, with well-maintained, paved roads and bridges that are in good repair as well as good traffic control. It is also hoped that P.C. will continue to expand its law enforcement and funding for such so that the security of the county is not subject to funding cuts by the commissioners. It may be time to consider a tax that is dedicated strictly to Platte County public safety.

54 It would be nice to see Platte County take an interest in the green movement and consider public transportation options from the Northland into downtown KC and back. It would also be great if something were to be done about the excessive noise created by the trains.

55 Reserve land for agricultural use; protect and preserve historic buildings, cemeteries, etc; keep county roads up throughout, not just in certain areas; provide good parks and recreational areas for all

56 Donate land to Friends of Parkville Animal Shelter to build a new facility and Dog Park so they can continue to serve our community. We need a shelter for the animals.

57 Better streets, curbs, and sidewalks. Street lights, sewer systems, improved police protection.

58 I'm not speaking for all of Platte County but want to impress upon you the need to limit commercial development near Parkville. Parkville Commons, Tuileries, and Zona Rosa - not to mention the retail development starting near Zona Rosa are all within 5-10 minutes from Parkville. We don't need the Barth family developing the land near Hwy 45 and K into anything but acreage for new homes. How much retail can an area support? If I wanted that retail juggernaut, I would have settled in Overland Park or Olathe.

59 We like this area; it's not overcrowded. We call it part country and part city. It doesn't need anymore change. Too much change takes away the look and the feel. It's nice and quiet. Why not keep it this way? It's gotten too busy around us. - Parkville Resident

60 Platte County is NO LONGER filled with history and charm. A rural setting in the midst of chaos - that is what Platte County was - now it is another Overland Park - congested empty buildings - overpopulated & over polluted. Ran by real estate developers eager to get rich on the backs of property owners.

61 Since moving from Virginia to the Platte County area of Missouri nine years ago, we have experienced a great deal of change. The rural atmosphere that charmed us back then is quickly diminishing. We worry (and many of our neighbors worry) about the urban sprawl that is encompassing the Platte County area. Hopefully, city leaders will step back and take a long hard look at the development of Platte County before it is too late. How many shopping areas are too many? How many apartment complexes are too many?

62 Love going to the major rugby events. The high schools playing before the national teams was great. The lack of organized east-west/north-south roads is a problem. Control the growth. Be green.

63 Please put me on your mailing list. KC is reworking their GP zoning around the airport. I'm sure you will want to work with them on that.