

Conversation Guide

The Next Montgomery County A Community Conversation about Quality of Place

February 28, 2015 —&— March 3, 2015

The goals of The Next Montgomery County conversations are to enable the community to come together and discuss our needs and wants for the future. Working together, these conversations will encourage community members to consider priorities and action steps for improving Montgomery County.

Saturday, February 28

- 10:00 Welcome
- 10:10 What is our current Quality of Place?
- 11:00 Break
- 11:10 Voting on Deliberation Agenda
- 11:20 Deliberation: What are our priorities for improving quality of place?
- 12:10 Large Group Discussion and Concluding Comments

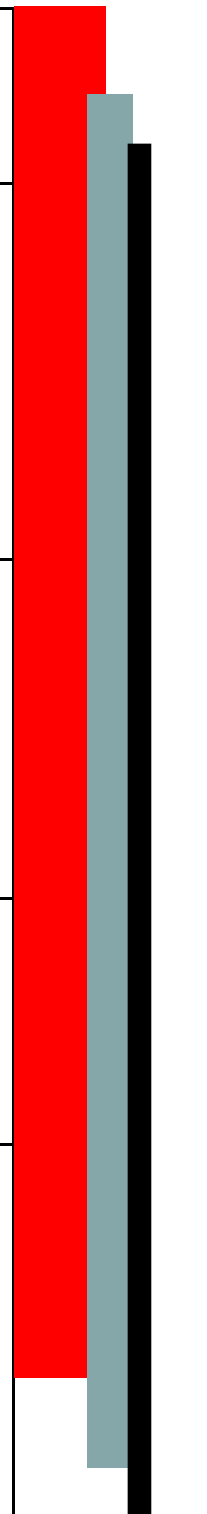
Over the last several months, faculty and students from Wabash Democracy and Public Discourse have been interviewing members of the community and studying other successful communities' quality of place. The results of this research have informed this conversation guide.



Research associated with public deliberation events have been approved by the Wabash College Institutional Review Board, #1409202. Questions may be directed to Prof. Sara Drury, 765-361-6393 or John Lamborn, Chair of Wabash IRB, 765-361-6081.

	Places	People
Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Multiple Parks: Crawfordsville Parks and Recreation, Shades State Park, etc. -Sugar Creek Trail -Recent improvements to downtown in food and stores -Great geographic location adjacent to other cities -Agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Families who have been here for generations are committed to our region -Passionate people in service and nonprofits -Care for neighbors and for one another
<i>Additional Strengths</i>		
Areas for Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Improve atmosphere downtown -Repair or fix abandoned housing -Connect the biking and running trails that go through town 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Foster appeal of Montgomery County to the younger generation -Encourage more integration between the community and Wabash College -Increase the availability of the local work force for industry positions
<i>Additional Areas for Growth or Improvement</i>		

Policies	Things
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Recent renovations to historic buildings are improving the image of Montgomery County -Formalizing trespassing policies, such as the old Mental Health Hospital, are increasing our citizens' safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Farmers Market -The performing arts in Montgomery County -Career opportunities in manufacturing and industry -Drug safety and prevention programs -Strong social services helping community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Pass policies designed to improve the beauty of our community -Prioritize implementing the Bike and Pedestrian Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Improve coordination among social service organizations -Generate more participation from broad groups of citizens at local events -Develop a public transportation plan



Quality of Place



Notes

Acknowledgements

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Questions or comments may be directed to Sara Drury, 765-361-6393.