

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Focus Groups

15 Focus Groups Facilitated by Deb Burnight and Patrick McNamara *See list below

Themes:

1. The need for good jobs, keep investing in economic development.
2. Housing stock, new and revitalize existing.
3. Recreation: YMCA, Recreation Center, trails, clean safe parks and programming.
4. Keeping and attracting young adults and young families.
5. Internships that are connected to local businesses, high school and college.
6. West Broadway development.
7. Education, continue to improve our school systems and preschools.
8. Mental Health and Substance Abuse.
9. Relationships with the community, openness, transparency.
10. Change is happening, leadership change has made a significant difference, keep at it.
11. Infrastructure of the community.
12. Growing Hispanic population.
13. Measuring impact.
14. Think and plan as a region.
15. Maximize our natural assets, the people, we are a transportation hub.

Groups:

- Avoca/Walnut/Hancock
- Boys and Girls Club - Lakin Campus, Council Bluffs
- Boys and Girls Clubs - Carter Lake
- Council Bluffs Chamber - Large business
- Council Bluffs Chamber - Small/medium business
- Green Hills Area Education Agency
- Iowa West Foundation Advisory Communities
- Iowa West Community College
- Micah House
- Carson Community Center
- HSAC
- KTNA
- McClelland
- Neighborhood Center
- WIDA