



PLAN KCK

CITYWIDE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF WYANDOTTE COUNTY AND KANSAS CITY
ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY



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ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

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OVERVIEW



Identifying Our Vision for the Future

PlanKCK serves as a northstar for our community over the next 25 years. Truly comprehensive in nature, the community was asked to provide feedback for each element of this plan - from regional identity to housing to parks and open space. These visions were captured over a nine (9) month period from March through November 2023. We engaged over 5,000 residents, received over 400 survey responses, hosted or attended over 100 events, and made the front page of the first ever UG Spotlight newsletter that arrived in over 66,000 households across Kansas City, Kansas (KCK).

The approach to community engagement for PlanKCK was, like our community, diverse and multifaceted. Outreach was conducted in multiple mediums, including bi-lingual surveys, in-person events (bilingual or in multiple languages at times), pop-up events, presentations to leadership, conversations at community meetings, yard signs, sidewalk stickers, biweekly email blasts, interviews with subject matter experts, and more. The community was invited to request speakers at events, whether to speak about specific elements of PlanKCK or to learn about the comprehensive plan more broadly.

Engagement efforts were led by Unified Government staff and the multiple consultants involved in PlanKCK, including FutureIQ, The Lakota Group, Skidmore, Owings, & Merrill (SOM), Development Strategies, and Shockey Consulting. PlanKCK also collaborated with dozens of community groups and nonprofits, as well as every Unified Government department.

WHAT WE HEARD



What We Heard

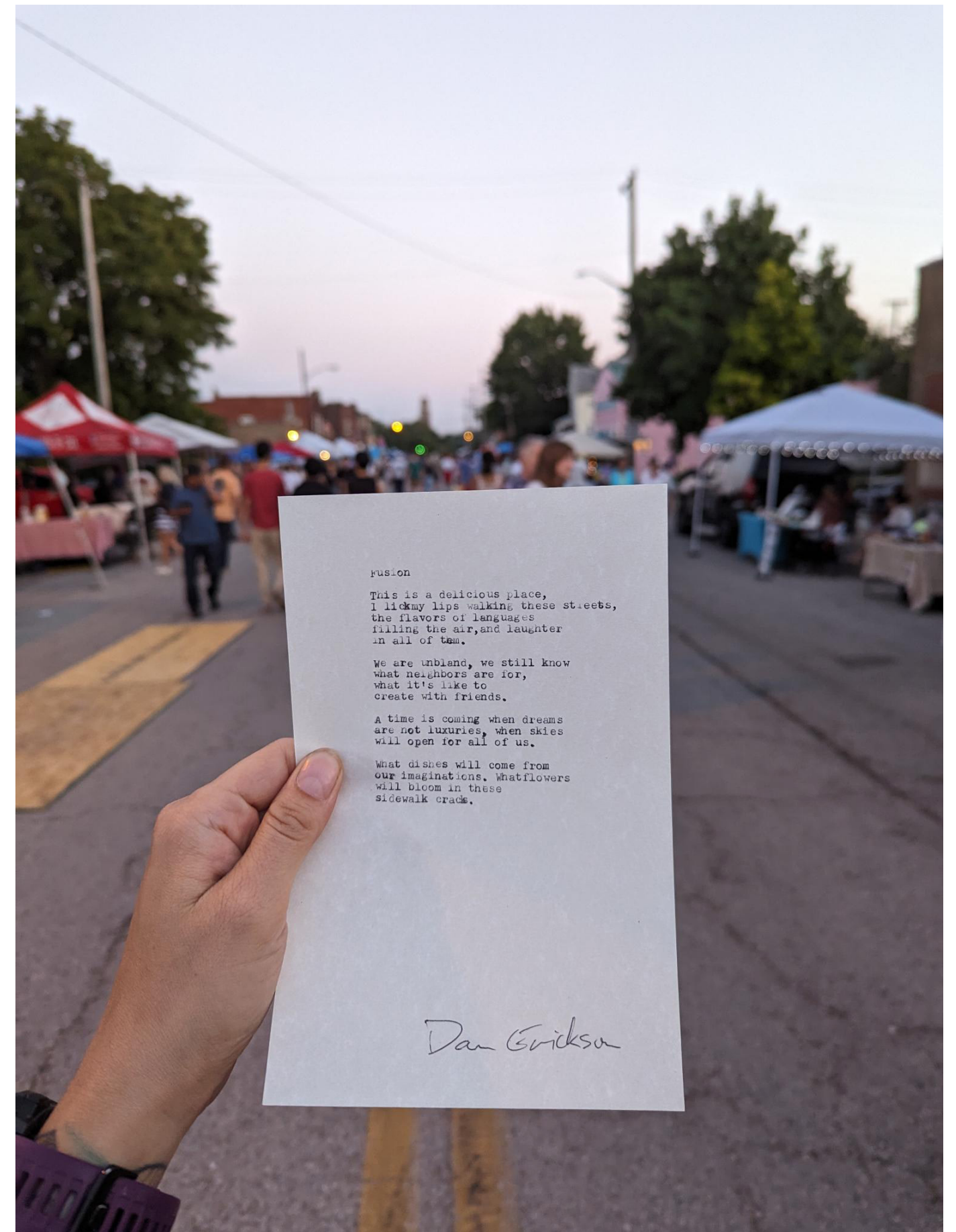
From March to November 2023, the Unified Government engaged the community around PlanKCK. The plan is designed with the community - not for - and establishes a vision for the future that will guide our community towards prosperity.

Broadly, we heard a strong desire for change. A desire for access to opportunities, such as jobs, attainable housing, and reliable transportation. We heard the need for better basic public services, such as waste management and park maintenance. We heard passion around bolstering the arts, culture, and history of KCK. We heard that, while there is pride in being a “Dotte” there is also historic pain and trauma associated with past decisions.

We said that diversity is our greatest strength. Diversity of people, places, food, history, culture, activities. That KCK has so much potential to transform and thrive rather than just continue to survive or sustain. We believe this community can be safe and clean and beautiful.

We want more urban agriculture and access to healthy foods. We want to address historic contamination and legacy pollution through environmental remediation and clean energy. We want to weatherize our homes and lower our utility bills. We want to support local businesses and grow our economy. We want to revitalize our downtown and urban core and breathe life into vacant buildings and spaces.

And most importantly, we want to be a community that is equitable to all. That provides access to basic needs and more. A KCK that heals and regenerates. A place where our health outcomes are no longer the worst in the state of Kansas. We believe in a KCK that can, and will, be a livable, affordable, vibrant community for all.



SURVEY RESULTS



Survey Results

PlanKCK Vision Survey

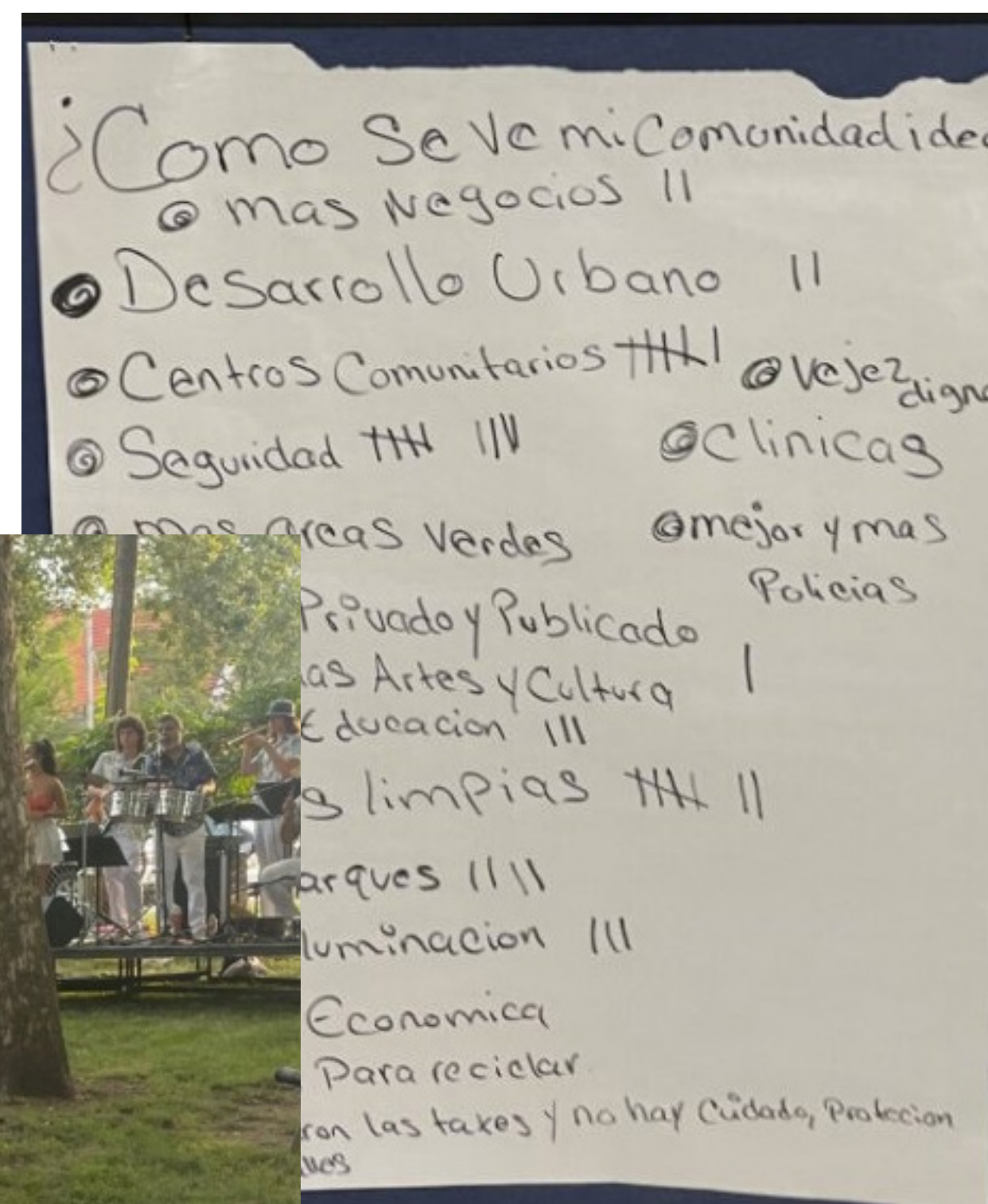
An online community survey was available from July 11, 2023, through October 31, 2023. This method captured ideas about identity, sense of place, strengths and opportunities for improvement in Kansas City, Kansas.

The survey was posted on the project website, advertised in bi-weekly E- newsletters, and was included at presentations throughout the Summer of Outreach sessions.

In addition, paper copies of the survey were available at the Library, Parks building, and City Hall, and at each pop-up event. A total of 200 people responded to the English survey and 15 people responded to the Spanish survey. Demographic questions incorporated in the survey were used to ensure representation from different groups in the Kansas City, Kansas community were present.

Key themes from survey results included:

- More business opportunities (start-up funding, resources)
- Urban development
- Community Centers
- Maintained green ways and open space
- Increased access to medical clinics
- Improved police training and increased police presence to build relationships in the neighborhood.
- Private and public support for arts and culture
- Improved education
- Clean streets
- Parks
- Improved streetscape lighting
- Increased access to recycling



Kansas
Missouri

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ENGAGEMENT EVENTS



ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Interview with Greg Kindle, President, Wyandotte Economic Development Council

Tuesday, March 7, 2023
1:30pm – 2:30pm
Location: Virtual
PlanKCK Element: Economic Development
Takeaways: Focus on raising the median household income to make development sustainable; remove barriers to employment; Improve community health and create a community health improvement plan

Interview with Michael Webb and Bradley Hocevar (City of Edwardsville)

Tuesday, March 7, 2023
10:00am – 11:00am
Location: Virtual
PlanKCK Element: Economic Development
Takeaways: County is an industrial distribution center for growth (mostly built out); Western Wyandotte County has regenerated growth, especially in area of sporting activities/events like soccer; Lack of focus on Eastern part of County has created a belief that there are haves/have nots; The issue is where do the two align – risk of over-building vs. plenty of space; The driving force of the County is Housing – opportunity to improve the lack of supply and quality; Need to raise the value of income levels to raise housing; For KCK: Opportunity of building neighborhoods – possible model is what they did in Fort Worth, TX; created a self-taxing entity and they self-invested in the community

Interview with Sean Pederson (Bonner Springs)

Tuesday, March 7, 2023
3:00pm – 4:00pm
Location: Virtual
PlanKCK Element: Economic Development
Takeaway: Opportunities include Agriculture (Hall of Fame Museum), Amphitheatre (22,000 people per event), industrial region, Medline (medical distribution; Opportunities for relationship building within the County – Mayors meet, but Administrators don’t; would like to have regional meetings Economic Drivers; Need for Workforce development effort (20% taxes go to higher ed).

Interview with Research Division Mike Grimm

Tuesday, March 7, 2023
9:00am – 10:00am
Virtual
PlanKCK Element: Economic Development
Takeaways: Most of the focus is on the western portion of the County; need to move economic development to eastern portion; Workforce is strong; Accessible location – interstate, rail, air Key economic drivers for Wyandotte County.

MARCH

Interview with Amanda Graor (MARC)

Tuesday, March 14
11:30am – 12:30am
Virtual

PlanKCK Element: Economic Development

Takeaways: There are competitive advantages: industry mix, rail/logistics and the regional economy; efforts to revitalize Downtown KCK; Rock Island Bridge Connection. KCK is a broad city – from the Legends to Downtown – there is an opportunity to create planned corridors to provide greater physical connection between the two Business attraction. There are physical barriers to access KCK and a divide between KC MO and KS. Forces playing into disparities include property taxes (residential), the UG struggles with residency requirement, greater housing diversity in MO and we are not as much ‘move in’ ready in KCK; the trust levels are low in local government (perception issue

Interview with Tim Cowden (KCAD)

Tuesday, March 14
1:00pm – 2:00pm
Virtual

PlanKCK Element: Economic Development

Takeways: KCK regionally is a great product: Wyandotte County is cosmopolitan and rooted in history – its history and diversity are strengths that should be leveraged. KCK pride is strong; few places have the degree of pride people feel towards. We need to double down on the strength of diversity.

Special Session to the Board of Commissioners

March 30, 2023
6:00pm – 7:00pm
Attendees: 30

Unified Government City Hall

PlanKCK Element: Economic Development and Housing

Takeaways: David Beurle of FutureIQ and DeWayne Bright, FUSE Executive Fellow and Housing Coordinator, presented primarily findings on the state of economic development and housing in KCK.

Pizza and Planning Meeting

April 18, 2023

12pm – 1pm

Attendees: 16

Neighborhood Resource Center, Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: Received feedback about what engagement would be best for our community; identified who is not at the table, discussed the word “resiliency” and what it means to KCK, and shared examples of how the community has been resilient.

Interview with Kevin Wempe and Lisa Russell, UG Bond Counsels

April 19, 2023

9:00am – 10:00am

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development

Takeaways: UG is a leader in Star Bonds. Key economic drivers of the region include its central location (esp. for warehousing) and industrial work. The single most important topic for economic development is to create a strong economy for the UG, especially in the urban core.

Interview with Edgar Galicia (CABA)

April 19, 2023

11:00am – 12:00pm

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Regional Identity

Takeaways: KCK was impacted in the 1990s (lost 60,000 residents in 1970-80’s due white flight to the suburbs). There is a lack of projects to continue growth in a planned way. Parking requirements are a challenge for new / small businesses and it is not easy to work with KCK.

Interview with Patrick Waters, UG Legal

April 21, 2023

10:00am – 11:00am

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Housing

Takeaways: There is a lack of staff in the UG for economic development process and the department itself. The single most important issue for UG to focus on is housing – all types.



APRIL

Interview with Gabriel Munoz (The Toolbox)

April 21, 2023
1:00pm – 2:00pm
Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development

Takeaways: Approximately 50% businesses the Toolbox helps are in construction or service industry. Language barriers and lack of computer skills are challenges. There are many home-based businesses.

Interview with David Johnston

April 25, 2023
9:00am – 10:00am
Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development

Takeaways: Economic progress depends on a trinity of prerogatives: 1. Pursuit of self-interest 2. Division of labor 3. Freedom of trade. We need to build the UG Economic Development Department from scratch – some things to note around what the Strategic Plan should be: a plan of actions, not regulatory; helps create jobs; consists of multiple strategies. A vibrant economy means small business assistance; we need a center here in the UG.

Neighborhood Roundtable: Demystifying Resiliency

April 29, 2023
10:00am – 2:00pm
Attendees: 51

Eisenhower Community Center

PlanKCK Elements: Resiliency/Environmental Justice

Takeaways: The PlanKCK demystified what “resilience” means to KCK. Attendees identified their shared values, heard about ongoing green infrastructure projects led by Groundwork NRG, and discussed what assets they would like to see in the community.

Shared Values:

#ThrivingCommunity
#youthengagement/futures
#affordablesustainableaccessiblecare
#bekind
#communication
#violencefree
#elderequityspiritualcare
#betterpolicerelationships
#schoolsfirst
#respectdiveristy
#thrivingasneighbors
#listentoyouthvoices
#cleanenjoyableoutdoors
#nomoretrash
#mobility
#reliableservices
#preserveuniqueheritage
#somethingforeveryone
#openspace
#vibrantgreenspaces

#goodsidewalkseverywhere
#maintainstructures&community
#accesstocommunityassets
#beautifulneighborhoods
#accessibilitytonecessities
#neighborstakecare
#everythingwithinwalkingdistance
#lookoutforeachother
#improveinfrastructure
#knowneighbors
#accessibleneighborhoodamenties
#walkability
#supportiveinfrastructure
#diverseexperiencesunfolded
#beautifulhistoricneighborhoods
#equity
#affordableutilities
#havesomeeconomicdevelopment
#reasonabletaxesandfees
#affordableattainablesafehousing

APRIL



Pizza and Planning Meeting

May 2, 2023
12:00pm – 1:00pm
Attendees: 28
Neighborhood Resource Center, Virtual
PlanKCK Elements: General
Takeaways: Attendees grouped shared values from the Resiliency Roundtable into major themes: services, youth, education, community, open spaces, environment, violence free, infrastructure, equity, affordability (utilities, taxes, housing), communication, and neighborhood experiences.

Pizza and Planning Meeting

May 9, 2023
12:00pm – 1:00pm
Attendees: 27
Neighborhood Resource Center, Virtual
PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Historic Preservation, Regional Identity
Takeaways: Attendees gave feedback on a run-through of the presentation for the Vision Summit, including reframing how to identify a shared vision for the future.

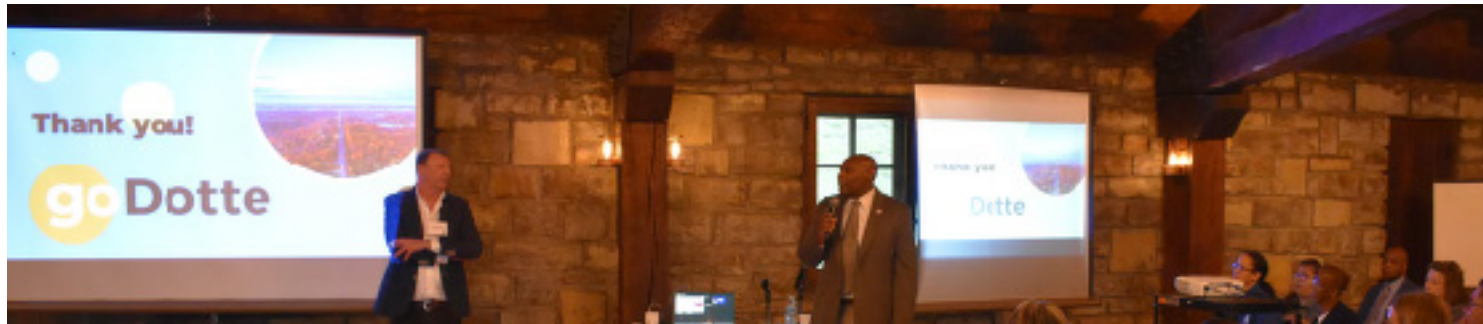
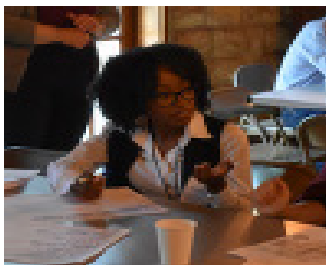
Vision Summit

May 16, 2023
9:00am – 3:00pm
Attendees: 120
James P Davis Hall
PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Housing + Neighborhoods, Resiliency, Mobility, Regional Identity, Historic Preservation
Takeaways: Attendees participated in future-oriented scenario planning to identify a preferred future for the next 25 years. The community expressed a strong desire for change, intentional development, and equitable distribution of benefits as part of the economic development strategy. Diversity was cited as one of KCK’s greatest strengths.

Vision Summit Stakeholder Survey

Available May 9, 2023 through May 16, 2023
Online, bilingual
Responses: 52
PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Housing + Neighborhoods, Mobility
Takeaways: This survey was utilized as background context for the Vision Summit. Responses indicated that there is a strong desire for a shared vision in the community, with a desire to grow economically and equitably. Housing, urban redevelopment, and workforce development were identified as priorities.

MAY



Pizza and Planning Meeting

May 23, 2023

12:00pm – 1:00pm

Attendees: 31

Neighborhood Resource Center, Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: General, Outreach Planning

Takeaways: Attendees discussed how to better reach residents of KCK and ensure everyone is at the table. Demographic groups identified included visually impaired, Northeast KCK, young adults, and those who experience language barriers. Obstacles to community engagement included unreliable transportation, technological barriers, childcare, and distrust.

Pizza and Planning Meeting

May 30, 2023

12:00pm – 1:00pm, Virtual

Attendees: 33

Neighborhood Resource Center, Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: The group brainstormed about the Summer of Engagement, including events to attend and local organizations to partner with.

Conversation with New Roots for Refugees

June 20, 2023

4:00pm – 5:00pm

Attendees:15

Juniper Gardens Community Center

PlanKCK Elements: Resiliency (food systems), Mobility, Housing + Neighborhoods, Economic Development

Takeaways: This meeting was held in four languages: Chin, Swahili, Burmese, and English. Participants indicated the need for additional training for agricultural related businesses (especially urban agriculture), translation services for more languages, a common market for local produce, and increased, reliable public transportation.

Innovation Lab Meet and Greet

June 21, 2023

5:30pm – 6:30pm

Attendees: 17

Donnell's

PlanKCK Element: Housing + Neighborhoods

Takeaways: Participants who signed up for the June 22 Innovation Lab were invited to a meet and greet the evening before. Conversations included the various housing needs in KCK.

MAY/JUNE

Innovation Lab

June 22, 2023

10:00am – 2:00pm

Attendees: 58

First Baptist Church

PlanKCK Element: Housing + Neighborhoods, Mobility, Resiliency

Takeaways: Attendees designed six potential strategies for a community development model to address homelessness, include resiliency hubs and more organizational collaboration.

Innovation Lab Follow-up

June 29, 2023

4:00pm – 5:00pm

Attendees: 12

First Baptist Church

PlanKCK Element: Housing + Neighborhoods, Mobility, Resiliency

Takeaways: Attendees of the June 22 Innovation Lab reconvened to discuss the formation of a new Community Development Corporation (CDC) in KCK.



ProX High School Interns Urban Design Discussion

July 5, 2023

9:30am – 11:30am

Attendees: 8

Unified Government City Hall

PlanKCK Elements: Mobility, Regional Identity, Arts + Culture

Takeaways: The ProX student interns learned about the potential for reimagining the I-70/I-635 interchange that currently blocks KCK's view of the river in Strawberry Hill. The students helped design the PlanKCK Young Artists Competition format.

Homegrown Happy Hour

July 11, 2023

4:00pm – 6:00pm

Attendees: 44

New Roots for Refugees

PlanKCK Elements: Resiliency (food systems), Arts + Culture

Takeaways: Spoke with community members about the need to expand urban agriculture, especially for our refugee communities.

Interview with Community Development Joe Monslow and Stephanie Stauffer

July 11, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Housing + Neighborhoods, Resiliency, Regional Identity, Mobility

Takeaways: There is a need for diverse housing stock, accessible food, and workforce development. Diversity and pride make KCK unique.

Interview with Appraiser Matt Willard

July 11, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Arts + Culture, Regional Identity, Mobility, Housing + Neighborhoods

Takeaways: KCK is a melting pot – it's a diverse community of compassionate people. We need to focus on transit, housing density, and economic development. The UG needs a single management platform for parcel data.

JULY

Interview with NRC Greg Talkin

July 12, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Housing + Neighborhoods, Regional Identity, Economic Development, Mobility

Takeaways: The character of our neighborhoods reflects the diversity of our culture. We need to improve the development process and right-size our infrastructure.

Interview with Phillip Lockman

July 12, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Arts + Culture, Regional Identity

Takeaways: We are diverse – from Strawberry hill to the many taco restaurants, but we need to improve economic development and address poverty. We also need to improve internal and external communication.

Interview with Livable Neighborhoods Kayla Hower

July 12, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Housing + Neighborhoods, Parks and Open Space, Arts + Culture, Mobility, Public Safety + Services

Takeaways: KCK has strong arts and culture, from urban components like Strawberry Hill’s Third Friday Art Walk to Wyandotte County Lake Part out in the rural transect. There is a need for a lot of internal realignment in the UG and improvement of morale.

Historic Preservation Focus Groups

July 17 and 18, 2023

Virtual

Attendees: 30

PlanKCK Elements: Historic Preservation, Housing + Neighborhoods, Resiliency

The Lakota Group held multiple focus groups and interviews over two days, discussing the relationship between disaster recovery and preservation, the role of the local zoning code, preservation advocacy, and how to address the housing crisis using existing historic buildings.

Community Pet Forum

July 18, 2023

5:30pm – 7:30pm

Attendees: 23

Neighborhood Resource Center

PlanKCK Elements: Public Safety + Services

Takeaways: KCK Animal Services, Great Plains SPCA, and other community stakeholders met with residents to discuss how to address animal overpopulation (cats and dogs) in KCK, including expanding resources for spay/neuter and vaccines, educating residents about keeping their pets contained, and partnering across the region to address a shared issue.

Interview with Public Works Jeff Fisher and Troy Shaw

July 18, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Regional Identity, Mobility, Arts + Culture

Takeaways: Envisioned KCK as the “Comeback Kid” in the region, with the potential to create a green, beautiful community that is fiscally responsible. KCK is diverse and has competitive advantage due to its location. There is a great need to right-size infrastructure and re-structure how the UG provides services.

Interview with Accounting Pamela Kahao

July 18, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Regional Identity, Arts + Culture, Economic Development, Parks + Open Space

Takeaways: KCK could be a small town feel with all the amenities of a metropolitan area. It is a generational community and a melting pot of people, places, and activities. We need to focus on cleaning up the city, growing economic development, and maintaining what we have.

Interview with Register of Deeds Nancy Burns

July 18, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Regional Identity, Arts + Culture, Public Safety + Services

Takeaways: KCK can be a beautiful, welcoming, and clean place that celebrates its diversity. We should focus on improving UG efficiencies and customer service, for things as simple as trash service and cleanliness.

PlanKCK Roundtable at El Centro

July 19, 2023

6:00pm – 7:30pm

Attendees: 40

El Centro Academy - Argentine

PlanKCK Elements: Public Safety + Services, Resiliency, Economic Development

Takeaways: This meeting was held entirely in Spanish. The most common priorities include cleaner communities with more lighting and security, increase in small businesses, better public schools, and more green spaces in Argentine.

Shepherd’s Center Strategic Planning

July 21, 2023

12:00pm – 1:30pm

Attendees: 120

Victory Hills Baptist Church

PlanKCK Elements: Resiliency, Housing + Neighborhoods, Mobility

Takeaways: Listened to the Shepherd’s Center discuss potential next steps for improving the KCK community to allow residents to age in place. Part of this action includes pursuing Community For All Ages into all future planning, which is incorporated into the Equity lens of PlanKCK.

Interview with Dominic Genuik

July 21, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Regional Identity, Arts + Culture, Economic Development, Historic Preservation, Mobility

Takeaways: KCK can be a self-sufficient place that is vibrant and celebrates its roots. We need to focus on the urban core, historic preservation, and transit.



JULY

Third Friday Art Walk

July 21, 2023

5:00pm – 8:00pm

Attendees: 50

6th Street, KCK

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: Engaged with residents and neighbors (outside of KCK) about what PlanKCK is and what it will cover. Spoke directly with artists about the PlanKCK Young Artists Competition.

Interview with HR Renee Ramirez

July 24, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Regional Identity, Economic Development, Public Safety + Services, Arts + Culture

Takeaways: KCK can grow to become a premiere employer in the regional that grows small businesses. The community has strong generational ties and is very diverse. There is a need to focus on improving the school district, UG processes, and animal control issues. We should grow our relationships with our higher education institutes.

Interview with Election Commissioner Michael Abbott

July 24, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Housing + Neighborhoods, Economic Development

Takeaways: KCK needs better quality housing and a revitalization of the urban core. We need to improve our election services, such as where voting centers are located.

Interview with KCKPD Chief Oakman

July 24, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Housing + Neighborhoods, Regional Identity, Arts + Culture, Economic Development, Public Safety + Services

Takeaways: KCK has the potential to be an innovative and progressive City that serves as a leader in our region. We have a lot of hometown pride and diversity. The UG should focus on economic development and housing, as well as reintroducing the community to the Police Department.

Interview with Acting County Counsel Angela Lawson

July 25, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Regional Identity, Arts + Culture, Economic Development

Takeaways: Future KCK should be welcoming and cared for, that celebrates diversity and generational ties. Investment should focus on infrastructure and education improvements.

Interview with Treasurer Michelle Wooten, Andrea Vinyard

July 25, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Public Safety + Services, Arts + Culture, Land Use,

Takeaways: How can we integrate technology more effectively to better serve the community? KCK needs new development and revitalization. Opportunities for improvement include land use and development, delinquent real estate, and general economic development.

Interview with Director of Parks and Recreation Angel Ferrera

July 26, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Resiliency, Economic Development, Regional Identity, Parks + Open Space, Arts + Culture

Takeaways: KCK can grow into a walkable, accessible, and clen community that celebrates its diverse and multi-generational history. KCK should improve transit access and infrastructure for Parks and Recreation.

Interview with CFO Debbie Jonscher

July 26, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements:

Takeaways: KCK can be a destination for entertainment. It has many cultures and a strong sense of pride. Public safety needs improvement. We need to better align internal systems across departments.

A La Paz Summer Program

July 27, 2023
Grandview Park Presbyterian
Attendees: 30

PlanKCK Elements: Arts + Culture, Parks + Open Space

Takeaways: Shockey Consulting engaged with youth participating in the “A La Paz” Summer Program. Participants where asked to draw or write about their favorite green spaces in KCK, where they like to ride their bikes, and what they think the future might look like.

Boston Daniels Park Planning Meeting

July 29, 2023
12:00pm -1:00pm
Attendees: 23

PlanKCK Elements: Parks + Open Space, Regional Identity, Mobility, Public Safety and Services, Arts + Culture

Takeaways: UG Planning attending a kick-off meeting for Boston Daniels Park improvements, where residents talked about what they would like to see at the location. Connections were made to the NE KCK Heritage Trail and general connectivity across NE KCK.

Tabling at La Placita

July 29, 2023
10:00am – 1:00pm
Attendees: 20 Bethany Park

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: Shockey Consulting tabled at the weekly Latino market off Central Avenue, informing passersby about PlanKCK and talking to small business owners.



On July 31, 2023, FutureIQ virtually hosted six (6) focus groups on different pillars of the Econonic Development Strategic Plan.

Industrial Development Focus Group

Attendees: 25
PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development

Downtown Core Focus Group

Attendees: 45
PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Historic Preservation, Regional Identity, Resiliency

The Legends/Western Wyandotte Focus Group

Attendees: 21
PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Regional Identity

Quindaro Townsite Focus Group

Attendees: 47
PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Historic Preservation, Regional Identity, Resiliency, Mobility

Small Business Support System Focus Group

PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Regional Identity, Arts + Culture

Attendees: 26

Rock Island Bridge/Connectivity Focus Group

Attendees: 29
PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Historic Preservation, Regional Identity, Resiliency, Arts + Culture, Mobility

Interview with Fire Department Chief Rubin

July 31, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Public Safety + Services, Arts + Culture, Historic Preservation, Regional Identity, Economic Development

Takeaways: KCK has a lot of history and heritage and kind people. We need to prioritize public safety, economic development, and come up with a plan for the unhoused. Unifying the three public safety departments and investing in a regional public safety training facility could create a national destination and workforce opportunity.

Interview with Animal Services Ashley Scott

July 31, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Public Safety + Services

Takeaways: KCK needs more resources to catch up. The community has a significant amount of stray dogs and cats. We need collaboration and creative problem solving.

Interview with Sheriff Soptic

July 31, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Regional Identity, Housing + Neighborhoods, Arts + Culture, Economic Development, Public Safety + Services

Takeaways: In the future, KCK is a place where people want to live, grow, and set up roots; it has safe and clean facilities and streets. Diversity is what makes KCK most unique. Opportunities for improvement include economic development and provide more services.

Interview with DOTS Kevin Bibbs

August 1, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Regional Identity, Mobility

Takeaways: KCK can achieve equitable development and growth with better jobs and mobility. KCK is a caring and diverse community. Improvements are needed in transportation, right-sizing infrastructure, and re-connecting to the Riverfront.

Wyandotte County Back to School

Event August 5, 2023

8:00am – 1:00pm

Attendees: 1,000

F.L. Schlagle High School

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: Attended the Back to School event to inform families about PlanKCK and hand out educational materials in English and Spanish.

Interview with Buildings and Logistics John Kelly

August 8, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Regional Identity, Historic Preservation, Arts + Culture, Economic Development, Housing + Neighborhoods

Takeaways: KCK can leverage its rich diversity and history to create a strong and prosperous community that serves as a regional destination. We have opportunities to improve our “curb appeal” and tell a story through the history we preserve.

Interview with Purchasing Sharon Reed

August 8, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Housing + Neighborhoods, Economic Development, Public Safety + Services, Regional Identity, Resiliency

Takeaways: Our community desires affordable housing, inclusive workforce opportunities, and increased safety. Future KCK can be walkable, transparent, and celebrate diversity. We need to eliminate food deserts, invest in the UG workforce and education more broadly, and a diversity of transportation options.

Unified Government Park Board Meeting

August 9, 2023

6:00pm – 7:00pm

Attendees: 20

Unified Government Community Hall, virtual

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: Provided an overview of PlanKCK and its elements to the Park Board

Interview with Budget Reginald Lindsey

August 11, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Regional Identity, Resiliency, Economic Development, Arts + Culture, Public Safety + Services

Takeaways: KCK can become the center of the region, leveraging our diversity to propel economic growth and rebuild our skyline. We have many cultural events and a variety of land uses, from urban to rural. We should prioritize economic development, small business growth, and arts and culture.

Concert in the Park

August 12, 2023

6:30pm – 8:30pm

Attendees: 170

Rainbow Mennonite Church

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: Shockey Consulting tabled at the Rosedale Concert in the Park, providing bilingual information for attendees.

Community Prosperity Roundtable

August 14, 2023

1:00pm – 3:00pm

Attendees: 100

Memorial Hall

PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Regional Identity, Housing + Neighborhoods

Takeaways: Attendees heard the latest findings from the Countywide Market Analysis, reviewed and prioritized draft economic development strategies, and discussed the theme that has arisen out of PlanKCK engagement: community prosperity.

Brokers Roundtable

August 15, 2023

Attendees: 35

PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Housing + Neighborhood

Takeaways: Development Strategies hosted a discussion with local brokers to discuss the challenges and opportunities around the housing market in KCK.

Interview with Office of Dispute Resolutions Gregory Carr

August 15, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Resiliency, Regional Identity, Economic Development, Historic Preservation, Public Safety + Services

Takeaways: In the future, KCK can be a healthy community for all, with better connections to The Legends and KCMO, and a regeneration of the urban core. KCK can improve upon its affordability, economic development, youth programs, health outcomes, and relationship with public safety departments.

Interview with Human Services Phyillis Wallace

August 15, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Public Safety + Services, Economic Development, Housing + Neighborhoods

Takeaways: KCK needs to be a safe, accessible community for future generations. It is important to focus on upward mobility through employment and education, as well as improving housing stock.

Interview with City Clerk Brett Deichler

August 15, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements:

Takeaways: KCK has the potential to grow as a family-oriented community that is connected to each other and to opportunities. We are diverse and “hometown” proud. Improvements include communication and transparency efforts and performance-based budgeting.

Third Friday Art Walk

August 18, 2023

5:00pm – 8:00pm

Attendees: 130

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: Engaged with residents and neighbors (outside of KCK) about what PlanKCK is and what it will cover. Spoke directly with artists about the PlanKCK Young Artists Competition.



AUGUST

Wyandotte Roundtable

August 19, 2023
 10:30am – 11:30am
 Attendees: 10
 Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Resiliency (Food Systems)
 Takeaways: Shared out previous feedback so far on food systems, urban agriculture, land use, and general food access. Discussed the role of the Land Bank Policy update and changes to land use categories and the Zoning Code in making urban agriculture more accessible.

Interview with GSS Chris Cooley

August 20, 2023
 Virtual
 PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Mobility, Housing + Neighborhoods, Arts + Culture

Takeaways: In the future, KCK leads the way in education, from early childhood to KCKCC. KCK needs greater mobility and access to jobs and housing. KCK has a diversity that is rare. There is a need to increase educational opportunities, transit access, and housing.

Groundwork NRG Jersey Creek Kick-off

August 26, 2023
 11:00am-1:00pm
 Attendees: 100
 Community Boxing Club

PlanKCK Elements: General
 Takeaways: Engaged with residents and neighbors (outside of KCK) about what PlanKCK is and what it will cover. Invited youth to partake in the PlanKCK Young Artists Competition.

Tabling at La Placita

August 26, 2023
 10:00am – 12:00pm
 Attendees: 50
 Bethany Park

PlanKCK Elements: General
 Takeaways: Shockey Consulting tabled at the weekly Latino market off Central Avenue, informing passersby about PlanKCK and talking to small business owners.

Waterway Corridor Kick-off

September 5, 2023
 4:00pm – 6:00pm
 Attendees: 20
 Bethany Park
 PlanKCK Elements: General
 Takeaways: Engaged with residents about what PlanKCK is and what it will cover. Highlighted the focus on mobility and resiliency as it relates to Waterway Corridor.

CABA Dotteversity Parade

September 9, 2023
 11:00am – 12:00pm
 Attendees: 50
 Bethany Park
 PlanKCK Elements: General
 Takeaways: Shockey Consulting tabled at the Dotteversity Parade and engaged residents in an overview of PlanKCK and its elements. Materials were bilingual.

Interview with Area Agency on Aging Ruth Jones

September 11, 2023
 Virtual
 PlanKCK Elements: Housing + Neighborhoods
 Takeaways: KCK can work towards being a community for all ages – one that is intergenerational, walkable, and active. There is great need for housing, especially for seniors.

Frank Rushton Community Meeting

September 12, 2023
 6:30pm – 7:30pm
 Attendees: 20
 Rosedale Church
 PlanKCK Elements: General
 Takeaways: Presented on PlanKCK to the Frank Rushton Community, focusing specifically on elements of mobility (such as Rainbow Boulevard) and Safe Routes to School.

Turner Community Center Meeting

September 18, 2023

6:00pm – 7:00pm

Attendees: 8

Bristol Hill United Methodist

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: Presented on PlanKCK to the Frank Rushton Community, focusing on open space preservation and housing.

Interview with Emergency Management Matt May and Susan McMahon

September 21, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Mobility, Parks + Open Space, Public Safety + Services, Mobility

Takeaways: To become a truly thriving community, KCK must invest in its parks and open space, reduce crime, improve soft and hard infrastructure, and improve mobility. There needs to be more coordination between the UG and BPU.

Interview with UGT Deasiray Bush

September 21, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Regional Identity, Mobility, Economic Development, Arts + Culture

Takeaways: In the future, KCK can be a place where folks live, work, play, eat, entertain, and retire. We are like New York – separate pockets/boroughs – each neighborhood encompasses unique and different culture. Opportunities for improvement include transit, regional identity, and economic development.

Interview with Health Department Ambur Banner

September 21, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Resiliency, Economic Development

Takeaways: KCK needs innovation – it needs to be bold and courageous, forward movement. We have a strong sense of community, but could use improvements in education.

UG Employee Appreciation Picnic

September 22, 2023
 11:00am – 1:00pm
 Attendees: 150
 Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas, Kansas City
 PlanKCK Elements: General
 Takeaways: Shockey Consulting engaged staff in an overview of PlanKCK and its elements.

MARC Planners Roundtable

September 22, 2023
 1:30pm-3:00pm
 Attendees: 15
 MARC Office
 PlanKCK Elements: General
 Takeaways: Provided an overview of PlanKCK to a group of planners from across the metropolitan region.

Interview with Housing Authority Andrea Tapia

September 26, 2023
 Virtual
 PlanKCK Elements: Housing + Neighborhoods, Economic Development, Public Safety + Services, Regional Identity, Resiliency
 Takeaways: There is a greater need for coordination between the UG and the Housing Authority to address KCK’s housing crisis. Housing Authority emphasizes robust, supportive services and a pipeline out of poverty.

Interview with CAO David Johnston

August 8, 2023
 Virtual
 PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development, Public Safety + Services, Regional Identity, Resiliency
 Takeaways: Our community needs to focus on economic and workforce development as a mechanism for upward mobility. We need to be strategic about spending, pay down our debt, and leverage our assets – The Legends, our connection to KCMO, our diversity. We need to be more efficient with our resources, particularly our infrastructure.

UG Employee Appreciation Picnic

September 22, 2023
11:00am – 1:00pm
Attendees: 150
Unified Government City Hall
PlanKCK Elements: General
Takeaways: Shockey Consulting engaged staff in an overview of PlanKCK and its elements.

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PlanKCK Elements: General
Takeaways: Provided an overview of PlanKCK to a group of planners from across the metropolitan region.

Interview with Housing Authority Andrea Tapia

September 26, 2023
Virtual
PlanKCK Elements: Housing + Neighborhoods, Economic Development, Public Safety + Services, Regional Identity, Resiliency
Takeaways: There is a greater need for coordination between the UG and the Housing Authority to address KCK’s housing crisis.

KCKCC

September 28, 2023
11:00am-12:00pm
Attendees: 20
Jewell Student Center
PlanKCK Elements: General
Takeaways: Shockey Consulting provided an overview of PlanKCK to KCKCC students. Materials were bilingual.

Interview with David Rau and AJ Woodsworth (University of Kansas Health System)

October 2, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: Provided an overview of PlanKCK and how it overlaps with ongoing and future development of the Rosedale campus.

Farm Fest

October 7, 2023

2:00pm-6:00pm

Attendees: 45

KC Farm School – Common Grounds

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: Engaged with local and regional residents about PlanKCK, particularly how it relates to food systems. There is a clear desire to grow urban agriculture in KCK.

City Planning Commission Special Session

October 12, 2023

UG City Hall, Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: Provided an update on the PlanKCK so far, including its elements, lenses, and theme of community prosperity. Reviewed community feedback to date.

OCTOBER



Turner Recreation Center Presentation

October 12, 2023

6:30pm-7:30pm

Attendees: 12

Turner Recreation Center

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: Provided an update on the PlanKCK so far, including its elements, lenses, and theme of community prosperity. Reviewed community feedback to date.

Gabriel Munoz (The Toolbox)

October 12, 2023

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development

Takeaways: Discussed the prevalence of small businesses in the local economy and the need for more resources to business owners.

Housing Summit

October 14, 2023

9:00am – 1:00pm

Attendees: 100

Memorial Hall

PlanKCK Elements: General, Housing + Neighborhoods

Takeaways: Provided an update on the PlanKCK so far, focusing specifically on the history of housing in KCK and strategies to address varied housing needs.

Fairfax Industrial District Focus Group

October 23, 2023

9:00am – 10:00am

Attendees: 25

Virtual

PlanKCK Elements: Economic Development

Community Health Improvement Plan Kick-Off

October 25, 2023

8:30am

Attendees: 39

Memorial Hall

PlanKCK Elements: General, Housing + Neighborhoods

Takeaways: Provided an update on the PlanKCK so far, focusing on the relationship between housing and health outcomes.

2023 Neighborhood Summit

October 28, 2023

9:00am-3:00pm

Attendees: 120

Gloria Willis Middle School

PlanKCK Elements: ALL

Takeaways: Provided an update on the PlanKCK so far, including Housing + Neighborhoods, Historic Preservation, Economic Development, community prosperity, and the four lenses.

KC Farm School Fall Workshop

November 11, 2023

10:00am-12:00pm

KC Farm School

PlanKCK Elements: General

Takeaways: Gave an update on PlanKCK, where it is in the process, and a few example of projects identified in the plan.







**PLAN
KCK**