

This report was prepared for:

**Clay County, TN
Community Input - Planning Session
December 4, 2014**

Prepared by:
Millie Callaway

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Community Development



Community Input - Strategic Planning Meeting

Clay County, TN

Thursday, December 4, 2014

Millie Callaway, with TVA's Community Development group, facilitated a community input strategic planning meeting in Clay County, TN on Thursday, December 4, 2014. About 45 people were in attendance.

The overall objective was to establish key initiatives and priorities for the community to focus on in the coming years. The areas of focus were: Jobs and Economic Development; Housing and Neighborhoods; Land Use, Infrastructure and Environment; Community Services and Education. The group worked through an idea generation process that focused on those four areas. The group then identified the top two priorities within each area.

The information gathered is listed below. In order to identify top priorities in each area, the group was asked to 'vote' for their top two in each area. The number of votes each priority received is noted, when votes were given, by (#) at the end of the statement. The top two priorities in each section are also noted in **bold print**.

*ideas that have the word AND connecting another idea, indicates that these were different post-its, but they were similar ideas so they were combined for the voting exercise.

Jobs and Economic Development

- ▶ **Codes enforcement officer AND secure codes inspector (14)**
- ▶ **Recruit small businesses such as pizza place or oil change/ tire service place (12)**
- ▶ Get manufacturing jobs (5)
- ▶ Change fishing regulations to be able to host more tournaments (4)
- ▶ Port development – river usage; "commercial" – will bring additional business/ jobs (4)
- ▶ Local jobs (3)
- ▶ Sidewalks city wide (3)
- ▶ Open small businesses – Attract!! (3)
- ▶ Promote products & resources already in the county – lumber, timbers, etc. (3)
- ▶ Diversity of small industrial companies (3)
- ▶ Work with Corp of Engineers to increase use of lake/ parks/ facilities (3)
- ▶ More small businesses (3)
- ▶ Community & economic Development have tourism officer and business recruiter (2)
- ▶ Develop relationships with state officials to advantage of opportunity to get funded for new projects (2)
- ▶ Moonshine & Whiskey production (2)
- ▶ Franchises to come in to benefit all county (2)
- ▶ Seek to bring in international manufacturing/ suppliers (2)
- ▶ More downtown retail (2)
- ▶ Sewer infrastructure (2)
- ▶ Written plan to market/ promote our most valuable resource – water (2)
- ▶ Entrepreneurial program for new businesses to include "benefactor loan " program (1)
- ▶ Buildings for new businesses (1)
- ▶ Call Center AND Call Service Center recruitment (1)
- ▶ Expand sewer to develop housing (1)
- ▶ Promote research & development (1)

Community Development

- ▶ Tourism – promote Dale Hollow Lake (1)
- ▶ 500+ jobs supply the need
- ▶ Further develop tourism
- ▶ Nicer hotel
- ▶ Barrel making! Wine & liquor!
- ▶ Encourage Main Street downtown development
- ▶ Offer more tax breaks/ incentives
- ▶ Brewery

Housing and Neighborhoods

- ▶ **Enforce neighborhood laws on the books now AND regulations – clean, neat, manicured AND enforce city ordinance – codes, keep tidy (19)**
- ▶ **Modernize the town – you can keep older buildings, just spruce up and modernize (16)**
- ▶ Retirement Community – Base Model AND retirement Community – housing AND Affordable retirement housing (12)
- ▶ Create zoning in the community AND zoning (11)
- ▶ Senior citizen housing – non subsidized AND quality affordable senior housing AND more retirement housing AND senior housing units (7)
- ▶ Bring in a “nice” hotel (4)
- ▶ Create a better, cleaner image on the square (1)
- ▶ Alcohol & drug control in federal housing – enforcement (1)
- ▶ Revitalize downtown buildings (1)
- ▶ Motel accommodations (1)
- ▶ Housing repairs (1)
- ▶ Upscale apartments (1)
- ▶ County wide sub regulations property infrastructure
- ▶ Take pride

Land Use, Infrastructure and Environment

- ▶ **Enforce code regulations on properties (14)**
- ▶ **Jail – a new one (12)**
- ▶ Donaldson Park (11)
- ▶ Extend Walker Hill Project to the Kentucky line (6)
- ▶ Pleasant Grove (5)
- ▶ Water park in Donaldson Park or Pleasant Grove (4)
- ▶ Run water lines/ electric to undeveloped areas - Dale Hollow Shores (4)
- ▶ Cumberland River Development (4)
- ▶ Improve Rec Park to host large baseball/ softball tournaments (3)
- ▶ Restoration of Historic Clay County Courthouse (3)
- ▶ Road to by-pass downtown AND work on by-pass around town AND Celina by-pass (3)
- ▶ Fire Hydrants (3)
- ▶ Use parks for promoting Celina (3)
- ▶ Promote Dale Hollow, local business; Ex – Hunting retreats (2)
- ▶ Development of “moto-sports” Park for ATV recreational use (2)
- ▶ Develop Port on the River (2)
- ▶ Road Repairs (2)
- ▶ Camping facilities (1)
- ▶ Bigger water lines(1)

Community Development

- ▶ Renovate all roadways (1)
- ▶ Renovate sidewalks AND Improve sidewalks (1)
- ▶ Seek grant for revitalize the Public Square (1)
- ▶ Moody (1)
- ▶ Expanded utilities and land for industry (1)
- ▶ Utilization of abundant water resources (1)
- ▶ Land develop un-used
- ▶ Promoting Rivers
- ▶ Recruit organic farming, solar use
- ▶ Nature Preserve
- ▶ Paddlewheel Boat
- ▶ Truck Gardens/ Farmers Market
- ▶ Start Fish Fry at Donaldson Park
- ▶ Improve Hwy 52 between Hermitage Springs and Celina
- ▶ Tourist Attraction – i.e. Putt-putt
- ▶ Airport

Community Services and Education

- ▶ **Develop a 'coop' program to give students credit for working – promotes good work ethic AND Develop a trade program for youth – mechanical, bookkeeping, lumber grading, electrical, etc. AND Job Apprenticeship for High School Seniors (15)**
- ▶ **Involve our younger people in community (13)**
- ▶ Teen Center AND Youth Groups or activities AND Youth Community Center (12)
- ▶ Gymnasium, Racquetball, workout, etc. (7)
- ▶ Bigger Library Building AND Larger Library Building AND New Library (7)
- ▶ Promote Trade Education (7)
- ▶ Teach Grant Writing (5)
- ▶ Community swimming pool (5)
- ▶ Transportation service daily for seniors/ special needs (4)
- ▶ Facility for Scouting (3)
- ▶ College classes, nights & weekends (3)
- ▶ Adjust tax structure (2)
- ▶ Formal Organization plans for neighborhood watch, drug watch committees, means to report crimes (1)
- ▶ Public Transportation (1)
- ▶ Employment Security Center
- ▶ Improve Educational Base
- ▶ Positive Attitude to keep up the county
- ▶ Vocational School Transportation
- ▶ Red Cross
- ▶ Educate citizens, change will happen
- ▶ More divers entertainment
- ▶ Trained employees AND Training to work
- ▶ Encourage youth to work harder/ dual enrollment
- ▶ City/County government more aggressively with marinas and LAKK
- ▶ More community and business cohesion – support with event; Ex: Halloween

Community Development



Next Steps

It was recommended that the group use this information to help build out a more detailed roadmap / strategic plan for the county. Starting with the top voted ideas first and working their way through the list as time permits.

TVA will follow up with Clay County officials in six months – June 2015 – to see what progress the group has made on the identified priorities.