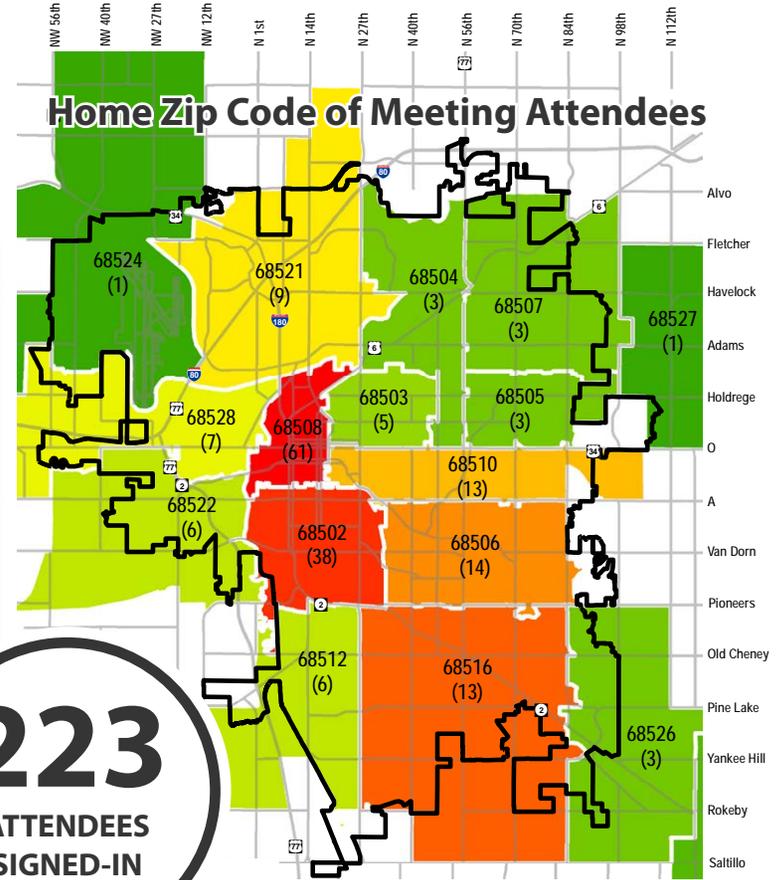
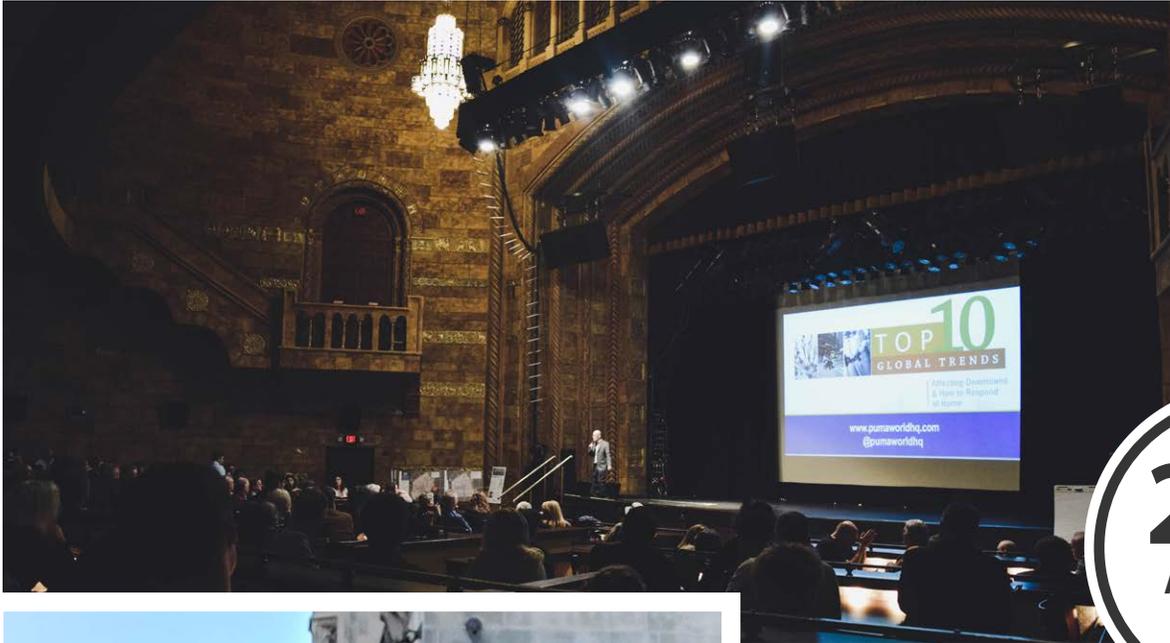




COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INPUT

April 10, 2018 | Rococo Theatre | 6:00 - 8:00 pm



223
ATTENDEES
SIGNED-IN



The open house included a presentation on Global Trends for Downtowns and the implications for Lincoln. The presentation is available on the project website. Following the presentation, attendees were able to visit several break-out stations about specific topics. The stations included maps and other information, and provided an opportunity for attendees to share input with staff. The following pages include a summary of the public input received at each break-out station.

Transportation and Parking Break-Out Station

Parking and Vehicular Circulation

What do you like about driving in the Downtown area?

- Travel time to downtown from anywhere in Lincoln.

What would you change about it?

- Travel time from SE Lincoln to Downtown.
- Better getting Downtown from SW Lincoln (West A St. area to Haymarket).
- Better timed lights when heading North from K St.-O St. on 14th .
- 13th Street should be two-way from K St. to UNL (3).
- Convert One-ways to Two-ways (2).
- P St. bottleneck at Antelope Valley with 17th St. closed M St.

Do you think parking in the Downtown is adequate?

- Parking is cheap.

If not, where is more parking needed?

- Cost of special event parking too high.
- Raise on-street rates.
- Provide residential parking on-street after hours.
- Later enforcement of meters for turnover.
- Southeast downtown/Capitol area needs more parking (State has hundreds on a waiting list).
- Federal garage is a waste of space, needs to be replaced.



Bicycle and Pedestrian Circulation

What do you like about biking and walking in the Downtown area?

- N Street Bikeway.
- Bike share plan.
- Painted bike lanes let vehicle drivers know to watch for bikes and bicyclists know where they belong (not on sidewalks).

What would you change about it?

- 14th St N-S signal timing.
- Easier way to walk from schools to downtown.
- Time traffic lights for pedestrian/ bicyclist traffic (2).
- Additional secured bicycle storage downtown, secured lockers, well lit and approachable (2).
- Add two-way bike lanes on 13th Street (3).
- Jogs in 11th Street bike lane.
- More bike lanes.
- Why are certain streets signed as bike routes, more info about what that means?
- Bikeways that move. "N Street doesn't work for me". Elevated ped/bike ways. Elevated ped crossing to Haymarket.
- Direct Bike Ln/Route RABs?
- No dockless bike share companies, creates lots of problems.
- N-S trail (west).
- Jamaica north trail extends 100+ miles to Marysville, KS. Can't we complete 3 blocks to N Street?
- Protected bike lanes.
- Ped crossing at 9th & 10th Streets (3).

Existing Transit Routes

What do you like about StarTran's bus service in the Downtown area?

- Support autonomous shuttle proposal-similar to elevators without operators.
- I like that some of the routes go straight to campus. I take 49 from 70th Street.

What would you change about it?

- Continuous open air DT/Haymarket Trolley on Weekends.
- Trolleys- free rides.
- Downtown multi-modal hub, local & interstate buses, bike lockers & other travel info.
- Bus available 7 days.
- Oma > LNK Shuttle.
- Accommodating Shuttles.
- Omaha to Lincoln bus or train transportation for husker gamedays (downtown Omaha > Lincoln Downtown (2).
- More ways to transfer bikes on public transit.
- 13th Street should be a trolley from UNL to at least South St preferably Indian Village.

Other Comments:

- Street Performers
- Don't turn Lincoln into an over-crowded compact city like other big cities!!! Mistake. Be careful, build out, not up.

Housing and Downtown Amenities Break-Out Station

Desired Amenities downtown

- Secure, well-lit bike parking – also indoor bike parking in office and residential buildings.
- Full service grocery store.
- Improved transit – multi-modal hub.
- Indoor entertainment, bowling, corn hole, (similar to Punch Bowl social).
- Recreation center/gym.
- Outdoor basketball courts.
- Affordable housing -provide incentives for developers to build.
- Green space/play areas for children, festival space for music events – amphitheater – ideally in central downtown.
- Additional small scale/boutique retail.
- Community garden.
- Dog park.
- Improved lighting for pedestrians throughout downtown.
- Downtown police station.
- 21st century library.
- Gas station.
- Shade throughout downtown – tress and shad structures.
- Design for ethnic variety.
- Medical offices, dental, chiropractic.
- Programming of existing open space – particularly Centennial Mall and Tower Plaza.

Housing Needs & Improvements

- Housing type preference voting exercise: amongst eight housing types, (1) townhomes and (2) historic lofts/rehab were the top two receiving votes.
- Need a wider range of housing options. Specifically:
 - Ownership housing under \$250,000 (and under \$150,000.
 - Affordable housing – more and better located.
 - Need private courtyard housing options – ability to bring the family, the dog downtown.
 - Active senior housing options (especially in close proximity to UNL campus) and multigenerational “independent living”.
 - Housing options for UNL graduate students – most campus housing isn’t built for this and the new off-campus private developments cater to undergraduates.
- Plan for children and the elderly:
 - “Plan for children, and you plan for everyone”.
 - “If you make it work for young and old, it will work for everyone”
 - Families are the roots of community.
- Integrate downtown with south of downtown neighborhoods (those between K and A St.).
- 15th & Centennial corner – a good example of housing.



Urban Design Break-Out Station

- There should be good transit service from the airport to downtown as a way to introduce downtown to visitors.
- Coming in from the airport and I 80, it is easier to miss downtown than to miss Haymarket. It is a simple right turn off of 9th St. into Haymarket but must make a left turn into downtown. 9th and O Street should have wayfinding and gateway elements to encourage the turn into downtown and UNL.
- 9th and 10th are pedestrian barriers between downtown and Haymarket. 9th St travel lanes should be reduced and pedestrian space and crossings should be increased.
- Create a safe and legible downtown for seniors.
- Revitalize Streets south of O Street, more like P Street.
- Need more/ better open space downtown.
 - More family amenities.
 - Dog parks and dog friendly businesses.
 - Walkable, comfortable open space with shade and trees.
 - Introduce the downtown community gardens.
 - Create active open space for sports.
 - Re-design/ Improve Tower Square.
- Bike Facilities
 - Create secure places to lock / park bikes for the day to attract more daily bike users/ commuters.
 - Create better bike connections to south of Downtown.
 - Bike facilities should be incorporated into new Library site, supportive facilities.
- Transportation
 - Create more attractive transportation facilities to encourage better use.
 - Can Haymarket become an active transportation hub?



Economic Development/Innovation Break-Out Station

Ideas for Retail & Services

- Daily needs:
 - Grocery store.
 - Drycleaners.
 - Doctors' offices.
 - Green open space.
 - More places for kids to play.
 - Daycare.
 - Dog daycare/bar.
 - Hair and beauty salons.
- Unique and creative retail:
 - Multicultural open-air market (or closed air) if we can find the space.
 - Public market – small rentable spaces for entrepreneurs.
 - Pop-up shipping container shops (24th and Lake – in Omaha?).
 - Small shops with hip and stylish clothes.
 - Use alleys as spaces.
 - Need more retail incentives.
 - Fill empty storefronts.
 - More retail, dining, bars, breweries in neighborhoods adjacent to downtown proper.
 - Retail trucks.
 - Bowling alley.
- More diverse dining options:
 - Overall, a more open environment for unique dining options (e.g., food trucks) and housing (e.g., additional dwelling units, tiny houses). Our city policies seem fairly restrictive and resistant to these types of things.
 - Food courts (different varieties).
 - Deregulate food trucks.
 - Night market (food trucks).
- New central library with meeting space.
- Addressing manageable/rentable spaces for the young/millennials to spread wings in small business. If they are turning away from college, then they are our new business owners that need space in our downtown. (The rent is too high.).
- Places inside businesses to hang bikes while eating or shopping.
- The Railyard has huge potential but suffers from poor management, programming and leasing. Why are we bringing in startups/businesses in our entertainment district?



Ideas for Jobs/Innovation

- Lincoln is a music city – can we work on developing a specified area that is designated for music/art. It truly already exists.
- Rooftops:
 - Rooftop green spaces.
 - Rooftop lounge.
 - Outdoor working spaces – rooftops?
- Shared offices.
- Work/live spaces.
- How can we make our downtown businesses more accessible to millennials to open smaller home-grown businesses? That way we can keep our talent in our own town.
- Perimeter parking with shuttle or tram type service (especially the Haymarket).
- 13th Street trolley – UNL to Indian Village (and beyond).
- Winter Haymarket – temporary shops with crafty things for the holidays.
- Joint use of churches/faith-based orgs.
- More business friendly – taxes are too high; disincentivizes.
- How will opportunity zones be affected?
- Make downtown brighter and well lit so it feels safer.
- Support small businesses.
- New downtown central library.
- Internship/volunteering opportunities.

