

## Outcome of Visioning Session

1. What is your vision for Williams Creek?
  - Reforestation is quintessential for the Town of Williams Creek, preservation of existing plants and trees and new plantation of native species.
  - Fun neighborhood with volunteer/collaborative spirit
  - Continuation of the town's historic authenticity and provide inclusiveness for sense of community.
  - Preserve the character and history of Williams Creek for the next generations
  - "Gated Community without Gates"
  - "Hiding in Woods"
  - "Feel good neighborhood"
  - 'Safety' and 'Private' are the two main concerns
  - Maintain and enhance
  - Become more sustainable
  - Improved lighting, cameras
  - Reforested
  - "sanctuary"
2. What is or should be the mission for the town?
  - a. Provide safety and service to a premier community
  - b. Sanctuary, economic and aesthetic blockade
  - c. Connected via opportunities to volunteer and participate in events. Equipped with online community infrastructure for ease of communication/problem-solving on issues
  - d. Preserve friendly spirit and neighborliness that make WC a welcoming town
  - e. A city which has common areas. Great landscape, caring and investing on trees
  - f. Enhancing "sense of place"
    - i. Generational experiences, passing along from grandparents
    - ii. Safety, security
    - iii. Improved maintenance, drainage, lighting
    - iv. Perception of community safety
    - v. Independence
    - vi. Variety of old and new people, homes
    - vii. Build "army of volunteers"

3. Given the findings from the field assessment how would you rank the following for priority funding and implementation.

- Reforestation

- Severe loss (maybe 40%) of tree cover, Purdue did a study of tree loss, want a collective reforestation effort (hire arborist).
- Would like to see leaf collection come to their town. Want more electric, solar, and wind power for the town.
- Would like to add shrubbery to hide transformers; do NOT want to paint them.
- Better community communication around tree species loss due to insects, other pests
- Although the WC is in Indianapolis; the place gives the feeling of living in woods and somewhere not in Indianapolis due to the tree cover. Thus, it is needed to preserve the wood nature and grow more trees or replace trees from time to time.

- Common area maintenance

- Williams & Little Billy Creek is growing (eroding) and it cuts into some property owners' land. Additionally, this has allowed many trees to grow wildly and obstructs the view of College Ave when people turn out of town at 81<sup>st</sup> street. No one knows who to call about this issue. Like the idea of benches, but concerned about making a place a person experiencing homelessness might sleep.
- Location of public land at 7979 N Pennsylvania Street as an opportunity for new pocket park design. Having said that there is a huge drainage issue at this site as the land slopes down towards the adjacent property owner that becomes a maintenance issue for the property owner at the moment. Design requirements mitigating drainage issues that promote the public land as a gathering space as its prime location (at one of the entrance of the town). Uses preferred: dog park, landscaping with trails, reforestation of native plants
- In the long term, the town people want their streets to be free from overhead powerlines as it is causing transformer blowouts and power outages. It is one of the major causes for tree cover damage and cutting them down. Concerns were raised to the city council and finding funding opportunities for burying the power lines since it contributes to the welfare of the town for future generations as well as the present.

- The open space at Forest Boulevard and Morningside If landscaping is proposed in that open spaces, it should be low maintenancesoftscaping rather than including permanent structures and hardscaping.
  - Trees are getting to a certain age. Thus, replacing those with new trees is important.
  - Some trees are located along the power lines. So, the power goes in and out.
  - The starting point and the ending points are unknown to make a drainage plan.
  - Visibility is worse in the southern triangle.
  - Yards are very large, and well landscaped in WC. Thus, there's no special need to have more space. But city beautification is needed for the town.
- Traffic patterns, speed limits and pedestrian safety
    - Improve speed mitigation infrastructure beyond stop and yield signs to improve pedestrian safety. Perhaps reduce danger of blind corners.
    - Group was split over adding speedbumps, but had a slight preference for speedbumps over little green men
    - Cars drive too fast on Broadway and Forest
    - More stop signs at Willow Springs and Sycamore, intersections of High Street, Ridge Road and Hillcrest Road.
    - Not interest on speed bumps but speed bumps with modifications and identical to WC is promising.
    - One-way system can be a solution.
    - Right-of-way maintenance and development
- Town identifiers, e.g. signage, lighting, etc.
    - Street lighting is desirable at the southern side of the town that lead towards dead ends in modest numbers (not overwhelming as they enjoy their privacy). The lamp post lighting is suggested to be continued for the rest of the extensions for continuation in the historical look of the town.

- Signages for child safety, stop signs and dead ends are desirable at the southern part of the town (mostly along the High Street) because there is less visibility and streets are highly sloped.
- Street lighting is one solution for the safety issues. Thus, it is better to put lights along the roads.
- Flashing speed signs can be considered as one solution.
  
- Financial matters
  - Better promote town foundation as project funding mechanism
  - Leverage “town discounts” on community services like tree planting, invasive species removal
  - Perhaps institute public-private partnerships for specific, donation-based initiatives like development along Williams Creek
  - Public-private partnerships
  - Create a new fund and use it for town development
  
- How to better utilize our Town Foundation
  - Promote town foundation as a means to solve tragedies of the commons. It seems like not enough of the residents have heard about it.
  - Perhaps create an annual list of town priorities (by vote) on which annual donations in town foundation can be spent
  - Create list of contractors or town experts who can be contacted about issues arising on public works projects
  - Buy trees at volume
  
- Regulatory; pending ordinance recodification, other areas needing regulation
  - Intergovernmental collaboration between WC and Indianapolis
  
- Security

- Would like to be more informed about security issues in town
- Extend camera coverage
- Improve lighting along thoroughfares not just intersections
- Examine the possibility of 24-hour patrol with talks to Meridian Hills and the agreement Williams Creek has with them to patrol each other's area
- No more gateways are needed. Exposing the city will bring insecurity.

4. What funding sources should be explored for implementing these projects?

- There was willingness for public private partnership with the town for development and maintenance of the public land at the entry of Pennsylvania Street.
- The town can reach out to the Metropolitan Planning Office at Indianapolis for major projects like drainage inclusive streets and burying power lines.
- Fund raising events within the community

5. Special Remarks to add for above sections

- a. There is no reference point when it needs to building a house, tearing a house or a subdivision.
- b. Community appreciation holidays in tandem with public services, ie police and fire
- c. Williams Creek is private property, and its non-navigable stream. But it would be great if people could use it for recreational purposes.
- d. Although more space in the town belongs to private owners, there is a possibility of encouraging them to beautify their own yards which creates a positive impact on the whole town. (Positivity brings positivity)