

Growth and Planning Aug 8, 2019 The Elevator

20 attendees

Welcome from Willie and Karri. Glad that you were able to come. Karri is a business banker at Horizon bank chair for 1.5 years. Willie is a financial advisor at Edward Jones and has been a co-chair for about 1.5 years. Glad to work with Aspire and the team made up of volunteers that are passionate about being involved and making a difference. Some of projects you'll hear about have been several years in the making. Wants Dana to come up and talk – she's a huge reason Aspire is what it is and why we do what we do.

Dana- Executive Director of Johnson County Development Corporation. JCDC is the local economic development office. We focus on working with companies, workforce development, and community development. Companies are looking at our communities to see who has the workforce and is a place where people want to be, have the amenities to be successful. Groups has been around since 2013. Exciting to see this grow. About to have another change- JCDC is proposing a merger with the Greater Greenwood Chamber of Commerce. JCDC will be surviving entity. New organization will be called Aspire Johnson County. As far as our Aspire goes, it's integral to our success. Our group will not go away; we will have stronger resources than we have now. Will continue to have Jennifer and myself. Will still have teams and large group meetings- no intentions of having to pay a membership fee to participate- will be free. They will probably tweak the name of the large group meeting. All work is continuing- only on steroids. Great opportunity- thanks for coming today! Thanks to Willie and Karri for their leadership. We're always around and happy to talk to anyone that has questions.

Leugers Insurance/ The Elevator -thank you to our team sponsors

Jordan Shea- this building is 3 floors. Ground floor- insurance. Eric is the founder of Leugers insurance and is a serial entrepreneur. Dedicated to the community. His mission is serving the community. Fantastic to work with. Chose growth and planning to sponsor because of their dedication to the community. The Elevator was born out of that mentality- is a coworking space, but also host events. There is a co-worker upfront right now. They are all-in with the community.

Jody- I-69

Many names- Growth and Planning-

Started with Corridors and Gateways sub-team in Aug 2013

We've come a long way. First meeting talked about gateway and corridors. Discussed becoming a technology corridor connecting Crane Naval, IU, Butler, etc. Really have nailed it on the mission statement they developed in back in 2014.

Community conversation in April 2015- INDOT presented about their possible routes, Larry DeBoer (how to fund), and Kokomo Mayor Goodnight (talked about revitalizing their downtown).

Average income difference between communities that have an interchange and those that don't is 10%.

Now have an updated county land-use plan for White River Township. Everything that was unincorporated in White River was just listed as residential previously.

Public presentation on the I-69 plan in January 2019 with: INDOT Commissioner, Joe McGuinness, Larry DeBoer, Purdue University, presented how to pay for it, HWC Engineering presented on the corridor study.

Look at bigger picture with MPO and INDOT and see how it all fits together. We want to share what we hear. That's how we got to where we are.

Willie- next project we wanted to talk about ...remiss if we didn't point out Carmen Parker that was crucial to get trails from an idea to getting ink on paper. Invite Jason Griffin from Griffin Collaborative Designs up to present about trails.

Jason- the more we can get support for the plan is wonderful. Thanks to steering committee- Willie, Cindy, Carmen and Dana have been very helpful. Jason has 20-years experience- worked on 10 or more bike or pedestrian & greenway plans. Wonderful getting to know the community. Visit Aspire Explore Johnson County Trails website to see overarching goals (<https://www.aspirejohnsoncounty.org/explore-johnson-county-trails#TrailsMasterPlan>). Governor has created 90 million dollars for trail grants- want to get plan done, identify priorities, and get money when it's available.

Came up with a point system for priority routes with trails steering team. In the process of coming up with support letters for community to use.

Remember Aug 26 at 6pm presenting at the Johnson County planning commission- please come and show your support. Then plan goes to commissioners for adoption.

Questions/ Comments- don't bother with trails to Center Grove Schools as the kids aren't allowed to walk or ride bikes.

Dana- in talking to Dr. Arkanoff- if they had safe ways to get kids there, with trails coming in, their policy could be changed.

Karri will send out copy of PowerPoint to all attendees. Copy of draft plan is also on www.aspirejohnsoncounty.org

Any discussion on pave trails? Gravel trails?

Could do gravel trails, but it's more maintenance. You have to put down stone every year. It has to be firm and stable stone (not sink). It is cheaper in the beginning (something to look at for rural areas) but in the long run, it costs more in maintenance. 2nd phase could be equestrian trails. Needs to be look at by case by case.

Runners like gravel- used on tow path by Butler University.

Jason suggested stone shoulders and runners can run on side. If you're trying to accommodate bikes, strollers, they don't want to use gravel trails. Paved trails want to accommodate the most people.

Wille- support letters will come out through the Growth and Planning distribution list. Dana sent out a template to the stakeholders this afternoon so people can fill in the blanks.

We're an open forum for new ideas- will send a survey to discuss your interest.

Jordan- Pitch Contest-

Familiar with Shark Tank? Know someone that has started a small business, has a side hustle? We have secured the majority of our sponsors- thanks to Horizon and Tax Wright. Looking for those that have a small business that need funding to get to the next level. We want to open the floor and give you the chance to compete and develop your business. We have a cash prize, hours with an attorney, accountant, other business development experts along with a membership to the elevator. Excited to bring this to Johnson County and central Indiana. JCDC is putting in so much work for big employers. Some people really want to start their own business and we want to facilitate that. Will take submissions through January 2020. Hosting educational classes to create or refine a finance plan, business plan and marketing plan. Some may already have those plans, but they'll meet with mentors to edit and develop their plans. Some people may need help with profit and loss sheet or business licensing. Huge opportunity to present if they make it to the final six. Culmination will be at May at the Artcraft. The pitch night will be open to the community. First or 2nd week in May- if you know anyone (high school grads, new businesses, etc.) tell them about us. Applications will be available in January of 2020. Want to help as many people as we can as we whittle down to six compete for prizes.

Karri- Round of applause for our presenters. Very energized and excited by this work and the time and commitment they've put into these projects. Grant dollars and fundraising that Aspire has earned to pay for the draft trail plan.

Maybe you are inspired to get involved or know someone that might be interested. If you want to stay involved and be informed see Karri to be added to our email list.

Next group meeting is Aug 28th 8am at Winchester Place in Greenwood about Trails Plan.

Next team meeting (2nd Thursday) on September 12 from 3:30-5pm.

Please use this time to mingle and learn about the opportunities.