



Our Stories: Johnson County

Attendees Responses

1. **What are the strengths in Johnson County and what do you show visitors to the county?**
 - Attraction depends on who it is
 - Growth, we are growing and not dying
 - Strong sense of community, community bonding, small town feel (3)
 - Pride
 - Employer opportunities
 - Different personalities of the county, there are lakes, rural, and city areas
 - Friendly county, nice
 - Generosity of residents
 - Easy accessibility, North and South (2)
 - Access to education
 - Historical downtown Franklin (2)
 - Artcraft (5)
 - Wineries/breweries, Taxman (2), Mallow Run (shows sophistication of county) (3), Oaken Barrel, (6)
 - Locally owned businesses and shops, boutique shops in Franklin (5)
 - Pools, Freedom Springs (2)
 - Parks (2)
 - Walking Trails, expansion, Bike riding (5)
 - Festivals such as Beer and Bluegrass, Farmers Markets, Fair (7)
 - Geocaching, Museum (3)
 - Camp Atterbury
 - Liberal Arts College, Franklin (4)
 - Restaurants, some local still here, the variety of them, Willard (2), Richards Kitchen, Revery (2), Benjamins, Mrs. Curls (2), Jockamos (10)
 - Appleworks (2)
 - Lamb Lake
 - Nature Trail near Trafalgar
 - County Park near Atterbury
 - Golf
 - The local bed and breakfast
 - Greenwood Park Mall

- Cheesecake Factory
- Fireside Brewhouse
- Rural
- Agri-tourism (2)
- Industry
- Education, Schools (3)
- Retirement communities in Franklin
- Connection to Indy
- Strength in leadership of government in the county
- Bargersville and new development

2. What are the barriers to placemaking and what are you worried about?

- Gap in locally owned restaurants and shops
- Too much focus on chain restaurants, more than the population can sustain (2)
- Not enough community involvement
- Need to eliminate the blight
- Inclusion, community isn't accepting of outsiders (2)
- East/West connectivity
- Gateway into Franklin from I-65
- Cost
- The leave us alone attitude

3. What are the logical next steps?

- Create a driving tour of the county
- Walking tour maps of Franklin downtown, Greenwood downtown
- Develop the community snapshot and get community buy-in (2)
- Data is only useful when applied, tell the story of Johnson County use as a call to action
- Collect the stories from residents about JC "tell me something I don't know about this community" Make it a competition or contest
- Through Aspire, begin creating videos of our community and residents (2)
- Consider this, go from "the Carmel side of Indy" to "Greenwood and Johnson County, the Calmer side of Indy"
- Whatever it is, make sure people here see themselves in what is created