

MAYOR MARK HOLLAND



**LISTENING
TOUR**

District 4 Listening Tour

SURVEY RESULTS AND FEEDBACK

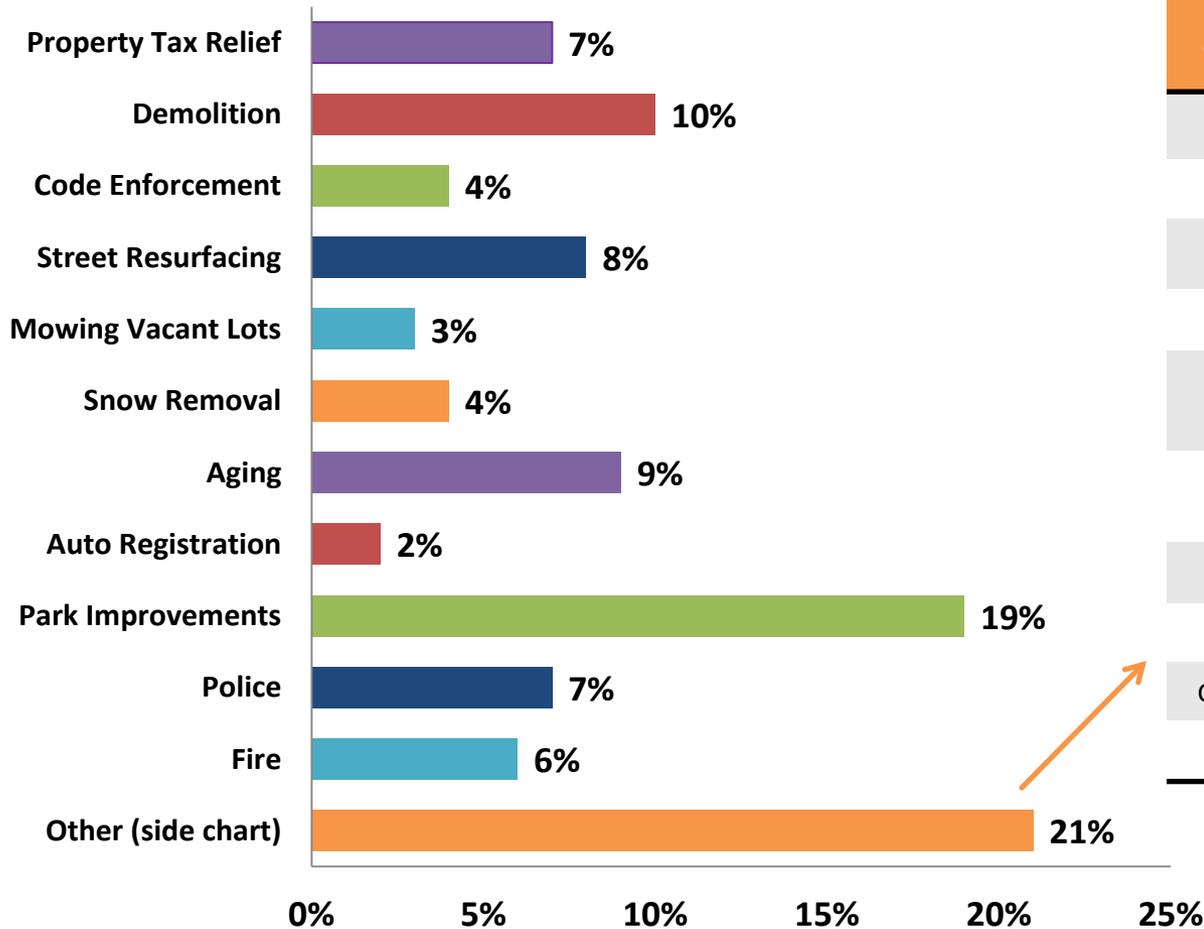
Meeting Date: August 25, 2015

Wyandotte High School

100 people signed in at the District 4 Listening Tour. Attendees turned in an individual budget survey and then broke in to groups of ten to discuss their survey responses.

How would you spend \$12 million dollars?!

The average percentage per service allocated by District 4 Listening Tour attendees



Breakdown of the priorities* attendees listed under "Other"	# of times mentioned
Curbs, Sidewalks	10
Youth Services & Education	9
Reserves/Fund Balance	9
Grocery Store	8
Healthy Campus & Downtown Investment	6
Small Business & Tech/Startup Support	6
Animal Control	6
Recreational Programs & Pools	5
Commercial & Residential Rehab	4
Lights & Camera in Alleys	4

*Additional priorities mentioned include: Inmate Programs, Tree Trimming, Natural Disaster Response, Cultural/Arts, Health Clinics, UG Employee Raises, Indian Springs, Homelessness, Non-Profit Support, Municipal Judges, Utility Assistance, NE Master Plan, EPA Building, Recycling, Handicap Services

Meeting Notes

All bullet points are direct quotations taken from attendee surveys and notes

Aging

- Increase aging-in-place programs to keep people in their homes, fix them up!

Code Enforcement

- Code officers should be trained to work with community members.
- Training! Courtesy! Follow-up!
- Beef up technology to make Code Enforcement more user-friendly.
- Code Enforcement needs only three positions.
- Publish summary of present code enforcement activity in daily or weekly reports.
- Codes officers need training/people skills.

Demolition

- Don't tear down all the houses – repair and sell them.
- Why not fix the houses and buildings with trained workers and pay them?
- Why does it take 15 years or longer to demolish abandoned vacant houses?
- Demolition would raise our property tax.

Fire

- Wait to determining this funding after the fire study.
- Put the money in rehab and building of new fire stations.

Meeting Notes

All bullet points are direct quotations taken from attendee surveys and notes

Mowing Vacant Lots

- Neighborhood groups need to purchase lawn mowing equipment. Then teach and train the youth to keep them occupied and learn a skill.
- Your neighbors could mow the yard and then have the city reimburse the neighbor.
- Pay residents to cut vacant lots.

Park Improvements

- Park looks good.
- Parks need more staff to work on bike trails.
- Parks money should be spent on keeping land mowed.
- Two new Olympic swimming pools, walking and bike trails including outdoor exercise equipment.
- Park improvements allow us to compete and make the Dotte a safer place to live.
- Recreational centers need upgrades.
- Parks and Rec should prioritize Wednesday programs for after school.
- Since we are rated the lowest in health, why are our rec centers so shabby?
- It says there are 110 parks but I don't see swimming pools and skate parks to go play at.
- The NE corner of KCK needs a skate park. Get those kids off the sidewalks.
- Soccer court on old Wyandotte High School tennis court is constantly littered with plastic condiments, water bottles and food containers. There are trash barrels but they are not used.

Meeting Notes

All bullet points are direct quotations taken from attendee surveys and notes

Police

- Doing a great job.
- Need more officers patrolling communities.
- Increased police help with human trafficking/crimes against children.
- Slow police response, times need to change.
- What are the duties of animal control? I think a list of their duties should be published and posted on the UG website.
- Hesitant to allocate funding for police, it may not be effective.

Property Taxes

- Some cut is a must!
- Only reduce taxes for people who pay on time.

Street Resurfacing

- Do it right one time and you won't have to pay again.
- Complete street resurfacing.
- A simple way of helping to make paving last longer. During the bid process specify increasing lbs. per square inch.

General Comments

- You should check out the Innovation Center in independence, incubator kitchen model= job opportunity.
- Do more of this but provide specifics
- I do not think the training measurements for police and for fire should be altered simply to hire more minorities or anyone for the matter. Keep the requirements on a high level in order to be hired they must pass all requirements.
- Things like demolitions, mowing snow removal park improvements have a positive visual impact that can be enjoyed by all citizens. Fix visual stuff first and crime rate will decrease.
- We need more jobs for youth, training and mentorships.

Meeting Notes

All bullet points are direct quotations taken from attendee surveys and notes

General Comments continued . . .

- More money given for non profits (homeless shelter, etc.) and for community development.
- Work with kids and adults to read and go back to school.
- I do hope we start seeing some more positive things in our area. We look and feel very run down. We have little to offer our people from jobs, shopping, jobs that have benefits.
- Wish we could help the KCK school district.
- If a city looks attractive and is well kept and has a low crime rate everything else will fall into place. Wyco is sloppy and gang impacted.
- Tim Nick is the best.
- or 66 years Westvale has maintained four islands in our neighborhood they are owned by the city. We need new curbs in the area the snow plows have destroyed them.
- Healthy Campus is a bragging point.
- Sidewalk linkage.
- People move out and abandon their home because light and gas water cost more than mortgage or rent. No one can live in their house/apartment if utilities are turned off and they have no lights or gas during the summer and winter months.
- The interest earned on our investment can be used for other services as well as having our money make money.
- Instead of personnel in code enforcement and property registration would adopting/investing in new technologies gain efficiency? Vacant lots could city be given to adjacent properties to maintain and forgive property tax or give a specified abatement?
- More cameras in the first district.
- If all funds aren't used can \$ go into escrow and gain interest?
- Invest in downtown improvements. Investments in our downtown (and parks) will continue to pay dividends year after year that will increase the tax base and allow our taxes to be reduced more than just a few dollars a year.
- Demolition and mowing budgets could be further reduced if more building of new houses and small businesses were taking place. A lot has been done. More needs to be done.
- They grocery store promise should be kept.
- Open the bidding process on all services to at least 10 bidders that are family members or friends of Wyco employees. Auction off all vacant lots and give homeowners that pay their taxes first choice. Code enforcement positions with pay at 33,500 including benefits and use painted police cars as transportation.

Meeting Notes

All bullet points are direct quotations taken from attendee surveys and notes

Comments about the Meeting Format

- Loved the participation from citizens and felt my voice was heard.
- I like the Mayor engaging community members.
- Handicap accessibility was not adequate at Wyandotte High School.
- Let's have more meetings like this in the future.
- I am excited about this process.
- Very disappointed that we began late.
- I'll pray for you. This is tough!
- Take into consideration all districts, and not just restrict this to the elite areas. As a whole KCK everyone should be included.
- Future tours should use several spaces instead of a single venue. The space was loud.
- We need to get the youth involved.
- No notification on where to park or enter building – this needed to be communicated in advance. The stairs weren't easy for older adults.
- Come early and get the AC going!
- Spanish
- Hope y'all listen to the people!
- It would have been good if the facilitators had made more of an introduction to the process
- It was an interesting, thought provoking time and allowed us to voice our opinions. I hope to see some ideas implemented.
- It was more than I expected. Thank you for organizing it. It was well worth the time.
- There are many city concerns that could be solved through a meeting like this.
- I think for the first time since I've lived in Wyandotte County, someone is listening to the citizens.

Thank you!