

**MAYOR MARK HOLLAND**



**LISTENING  
TOUR**

## **District 7 Listening Tour**

**SURVEY RESULTS AND FEEDBACK**

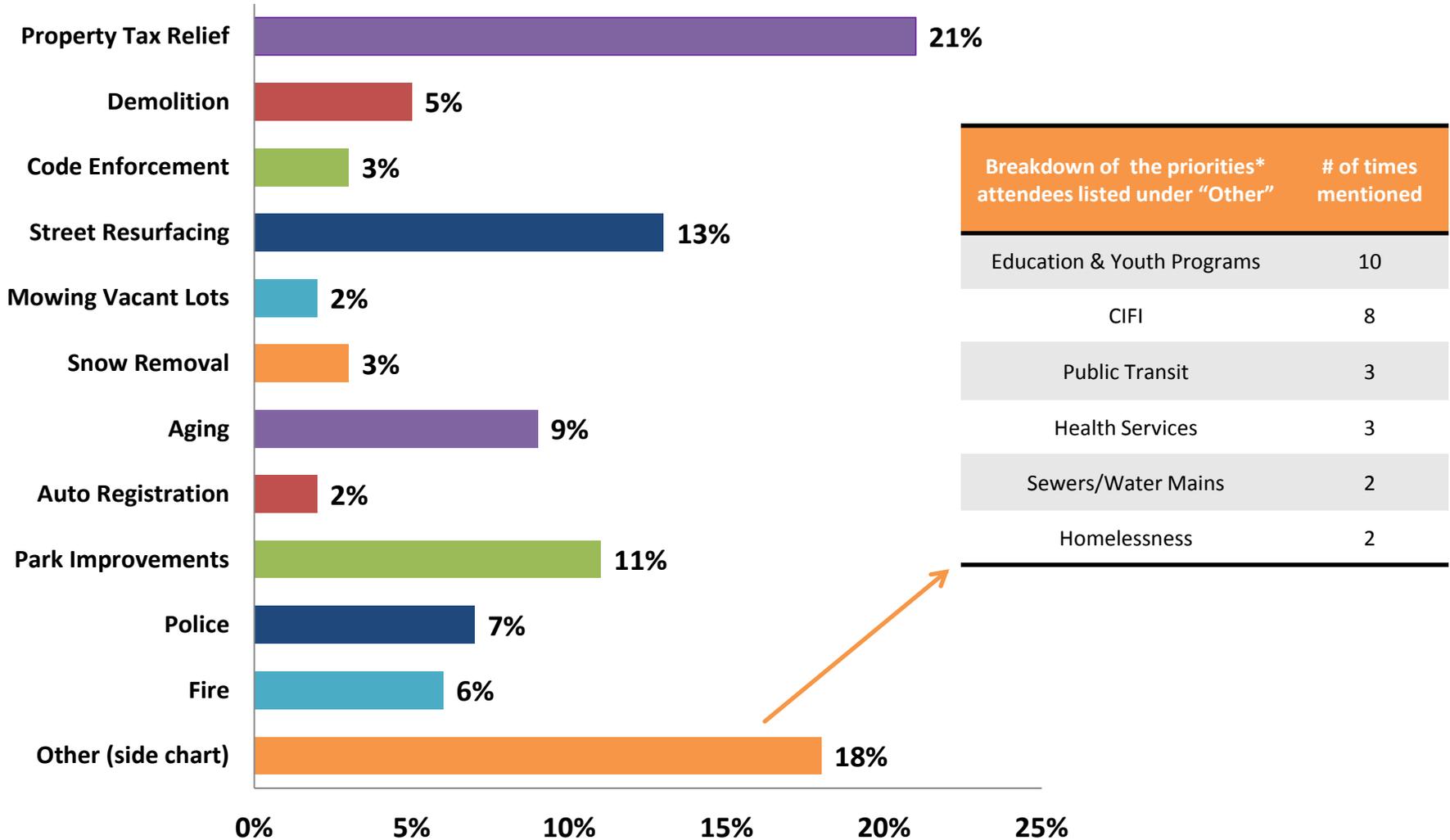
**Meeting Date: November 17, 2015**

**Bonner Springs High School**

81 people signed in at the District 7 Listening Tour. Attendees turned in an individual budget survey and then broke into small groups to discuss their survey responses.

# How would you spend \$12 million dollars?!

The average percentage per service allocated by District 7 Listening Tour attendees



\*Additional priorities mentioned include: Property Improvement Assistance, Consumer Protection, Soliciting New Business, Tech Upgrades, Emergency Preparedness, UG Pay Increases and Non-Violent Felony Rehab.

# Meeting Notes

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

## General Comments

- Careful not to adversely affect schools with property tax relief.
- Healthy communities would tie into the development of a bike trail in Bonner Springs/Edwardsville. Although there are many needs, we need to have a place to live that is enriching and attracts citizens.
- On vacant property build mini houses for homeless.
- Need focus on roads/infrastructure.
- Additional funds should be reserved for non-violent felony rehabilitation services.
- Our water mains are over 100 years old. This causes our water to be hard which breaks our sinks, dishwashers, water heaters, washing machines, etc. When a water main breaks it floods entire neighborhoods. We need to proactively replace our oldest water mains. At \$12 million a year for 6.5 years we can replace all 52 miles of Bonner service lines.
- I want the mayor and commissioners to know that they should 1) lower property taxes 2) lower sales taxes. All \$12 million for property tax relief. No expenditures should be made for anything else. The people of Bonner Springs and Edwardsville will not receive any benefits except property tax relief since we provide our own services.
- There was a vast cultural difference. Rural vs. urban population. Rural were worried about road work and infrastructure instead of the social welfare of the whole city. Homelessness and community resources need the most funding.
- Money applied to property tax relief, is it distributed equal across the county? Are other categories the same as well?
- Where did \$1.77 million for road improvement go?
- More focus on homeless youth.
- Property tax relief is the only benefit Bonner Springs residents can receive.
- Fully enact findings from fire services study.
- Eliminate sheriff patrol division.
- Resurrect the CIFI.
- Eliminate payment in lieu of taxes at the BPU. No raises in real estate taxes for seniors over 65.
- Public safety, transformative seminars for families, non profits, civic reason to develop coaches that are trained in transformative thinking with hopes of ending violence, promoting goodwill, and building healthy communities.

# Meeting Notes

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## Comments about the Meeting Format continued . . .

- Thank you for having this Listening Tour. I feel much more knowledgeable of the workings of our community.
- Reach out to younger demographic for involvement.
- It was a very neat experience, and a very good way for others to share their opinions.
- More info prior to meeting.
- Excellent event. Great way to get real feedback.
- Selective members hijacked the group to use it as a soapbox for their personal causes.
- Some members were not from our community, but Bonner and Edwardsville need a fair share.
- Interesting to hear about the demographic history of KCK as well as the current demographic. I thought the "budget background" sheet was extremely informative.
- I appreciate the Mayor giving historical information and the information giving the amount of mill levy decrease based on million dollar contribution.
- It was a very neat experience, and a very good way for others to share their opinions.
- I'll wait to reserve judgement based on how we actually budget the money.
- Lots of good info, thank you. Could have divided city/county needs better, it was a little unclear.
- Appreciate the ability to interact with the government. Need more of this kind of action. Thank you for allowing us the input. Would like a way for others unable to attend to weight in, maybe online?
- Tonight was a very different approach with the round table. But, the problem is that it needs to touch others that really need the services that are not here. A very unique method to attack these issues and attract more participation.

*Thank you!*