

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE SESSION NOTES

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Sandra Nelson, Facilitator

1. REVIEW OF *PLANNING FOR RESULTS*

2. COMMUNITY SURVEYS AND FOCUS GROUPS

Deborah Duke, Library Collection Management Administrator

3. DEFINE THE IDEAL FUTURE: VISION

Persons with disabilities will

- live in a sensitive and accepting environment.
- have appropriate transparent access to all services programs.
- have higher levels of employment.
- have better access to all public places

Continue to expand and revitalize downtown to create a community center for all people in the city.

Create mass transit for people.

Broad-based mass transit for work, shopping, and travel

Seniors will have

- easy access to services.
- lots of activities (such as entertainment and classes) especially in daytime.
- have access to a variety of activities that do not require membership.

Multigenerational program that is available in the daytime.

More integrated city—interconnected in all aspects.

Everybody lives, works and plays together.

Inclusiveness will be the reality.

All groups will perceive the progress in embracing diversity in the same way.

There will be more multicultural groups.

Focus on regionalization—metroplex

Working together in a positive way

Improve education

Reputation for very good schools

All teenagers will graduate from high school.

Children will get a broad education, including a cultural education so they will become well-rounded adults.

Business and professional people will locate in the city of Fort Worth.
Fort Worth will provide a great climate for business.
Elected officials will have more vision.

More minority engagement in voting.

Agencies will work together to provide connected services.

Neighborhoods will have affordable and accessible cultural facilities.
People will know what is available.
Better public spaces and green spaces

4. REVIEW OF WHERE WE ARE NOW: SWOT ANALYSIS

a. Community Strengths

People feel good about small town feeling with big city amenities.
Diversity is "good."
Cultural amenities
Medical and higher educational amenities
Private sector leadership
Small contributions valued
Crime is under control.

b. Community Weaknesses

Mass transit
Parking downtown and cultural district
Fast growth, too little planning
Lacking inclusiveness--
Does not embrace diversity
Gap between interest in diversity and embracing it
City feels like a city run by exclusive club.

Big philanthropy group supports establishment and money does not get down to
grass roots organization/concerns.
Growing too fast
Retaining green space

Public schools
in the middle of a budget crisis.
crowded classrooms
lots of new Americans
bilingual education
no money for basic services
crumbling infrastructure
private fundraising efforts
test scores are pretty good
not cool to be smart

5. DETERMINE COMMUNITY NEEDS

Integrate everyone into community and provide full access to services
Create a comfort level for everyone
Recreational/cultural services at the neighborhood level—affordable and attractive
Improve education

Mass transit

PARKING

Better strategic planning

Managed growth

Maintaining and expanding the infrastructure

existing

new

newly annexed

Economic base continues to grow

Economic diversity

Better public information—languages

Guard against losing uniqueness of Fort Worth

Maintain strong neighborhoods

More equitable access to services

housing

retail

services

schools

amenities

6. REVIEW OF WHERE THE LIBRARY IS NOW

Deborah Duke, Library Collection Management Administrator

7. THE LIBRARY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE: PRELIMINARY SERVICE RESPONSES

Under Consideration

- Commons
- Cultural Awareness
- Current Topics & Titles
- General Information
- Information Literacy
- Lifelong Learning
- Local History & Genealogy

Not Under Consideration

- Basic Literacy
- Business & Career Information
- Community Referral
- Consumer Information
- Formal Learning Support
- Government Information