

## May 20<sup>th</sup> Public Workshop Snow Card Comments from Workshop Attendees

7:00pm – 9:00pm

*Category:*

Redevelopment in Downtown and Glenwood

- “Requirements to rent vacant space”
- “Downtown properties remain vacant because owners won’t rent space to retailers”
- “Concern about vacant retail / commercial spaces for existing buildings and new buildings”
- “Eliminate parking meters in downtown”
- “How to work with building owners to fill vacancies – need ideas from city and other groups”
- “City may be able to provide incentives to help revitalize downtown”
- “Parking downtown – prevent employees from parking right in front of stores”
- “Parking meters – money goes to fund downtown projects (e.g. old Pasadena)”
- “Booth Kelly & Millrace: Holding pond, saw-tooth structures – convert to condos, shops, public open space, etc.”
- “Parking – limit time on meters to one hour”
- “Concern about the cost of retail space in downtown – higher than Gateway Mall”
- “Restaurants to stay open later – reduce the City fee (SDC) to encourage”
- “Downtown property owners won’t rent to retailers”
- “Tax incentives for sharing / making parking more available”
- “Make downtown more beautiful to encourage foot traffic. Also more restaurants and retail”
- “The river – where there are current uses, provide opportunities for high quality development”
- “City employees are taking up downtown parking space”
- “Not enough parking in downtown for many uses”
- “Get density of residential development to create more economic creativity – especially in downtown”
- “Pay attention to concerns about public safety with regards to parking and parking lots”

*Category:*

Transportation Options

- “Incentives for employers to use transit – bus passes, etc. – frees parking spaces”
- “Promote transit use for all types of trips to downtown”
- “Encourage residential / commercial mixed use to decrease transportation and parking issues”

- “Use opportunities for increasing Walkability and bicycling to improve areas. Makes people feel safer – higher quality environment”

*Category:*

Developing Quality Neighborhoods

- “Preserve mature trees”
- “Consider impacts on entire neighborhood”
- “Physical aesthetics”
- “Perceive all as ‘quality’ residents”
- “Pivots around the social community”

*Category:*

Revitalizing existing neighborhoods

- “Expansion of rehab programs”
- “Affordable housing for existing residents”
- “Invest in existing housing to improve existing properties”
- “Concern about investing in housing and having their home taken away (e.g. mobile home parks)”
- “Variety of housing that includes affordable housing”
- “Would like opportunity for inclusionary housing”
- “Range of housing costs to address housing needs over residents’ life spans – young adult through seniors”
- “Need to provide housing in a range of affordability in and around downtown – mixed housing”
- “Provide incentives to build affordable housing (not inclusionary housing)”
- RE: Red light districts: “Require background checks, HIV tests. Don’t allow clubs x feet from some public facilities”
- RE: Red light districts: “No touching; regulate distance for lap dances; require performance stages 18” tall; tips for dancers placed in a container”
- RE: Red light districts: “Red light district would negatively impact any area of Springfield – no red light district”
- “Move industrial from part of the city to planned, concise area. Problem of lack of cohesion in industrial areas”
- “Set design standards in some areas – like along Main Street”

*Category:*

Growing and attracting businesses / Sustainable businesses

- “Big businesses may not bring big benefits – look to variety of businesses – mid-sized businesses”
- “Concern about equity for fees paid by large and small businesses – have sliding scale fees”
- “Cost of development fees is high-discourages small businesses”

- “Build multipurpose buildings – makes the facility usable by different uses”
- “Green revolution – this is an opportunity for future growth – Industries that promote living green life”
- “Focus on core businesses – like agriculture; farmers’ market, etc.”
- “Develop a theme or sets of themes related to Springfield’s history”
- “Don’t give away the most valuable land or money with incentives”
- “Be cautious with the types of businesses we want to attract – businesses that bring value”
- “Stop allowing uses that result in brownfields”