

DESTINATION 2006

A Report Presented to Kent City Council
Concerning Future Community Priorities

MAY 22, 2001



DESTINATION 2006 STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bill Anderson	Caroline Arnold	Ken Coyne	Rob Dinehart
Mike Finley	Doug Fuller	Joe Giancola	Cecil Giltz
Jack Graham	John Gwinn	Aryne Habeeb	Vic Hart
John Lehman	Jim Myers	Maxine O'Mara	Pete Orlando
Fred Pierre	Doug Shaw	Saroj Sutaria	Jim Tomlinson
Robin Turner	Matt Van Note	Harold Walker	

City Staff: Lew Steinbrecher, Barb Rissland, Bill Lillich, Dennis Missimi, Charley Bowman
Marta Stone, Facilitator

INTRODUCTION

Today citizens expect governments to play a larger and more profound role. They must discover what contributes to the quality of life within the complex system. They must dream of possibilities never before imagined. They must design programs, policies and procedures that build on the best of their community. They must join with the citizens in their community to collaboratively deliver those programs in an ever-changing political, social and environmental landscape.

The DESTINATION 2006 Project was initiated by the City of Kent to build on the enthusiasm and synergy of stakeholders who value the City of Kent and its resources.

At the end of 2000 the City of Kent initiated a goal-oriented five-year (2001-2006) strategic planning process to identify the top 12 to 15 priority issues for the city with input from Kent residents. The process was named DESTINATION 2006. A diverse group of citizens was convened to serve as a steering committee for the project, and a facilitator was hired to assist them in their work.

The DESTINATION 2006 Steering Committee was charged with preparing a report that would assist the City in planning and allocating resources over the next five years. This report was to be based on citizen input about the priorities for issues, projects and outcomes that would make the best use of the City's resources.

In preparing for these tasks, the Steering Committee studied earlier planning efforts, including Kent Vision 2000 (1994), the City's Five Year Capital Improvement Program (2000), the City's Sustainability Goals (1999) and the current City Council's Goals (2000). The committee adopted a "report card" type of questionnaire for residents about satisfaction with present City services, and designed public meetings to elicit input on priorities and values for the future. Flyers, news articles and the City Web site were employed to encourage citizen participation in these activities. Over 120 citizens of all ages participated in the DESTINATION 2006 project by attending and participating in discussions about the future of the City of Kent.

"Kent is a great little City with lots of potential. A nice place to live and I want it to stay that way."



The public meetings were held in January and February 2001, in the four quadrants of the City -- Kent State University, Trinity Lutheran Church, the United Methodist Church and Davey Elementary School. All used a standard agenda: Mayor Fender welcomed participants, City Manager Steinbrecher gave an overview of the City's concerns, and small group discussions followed, each led by a facilitator. Participants were invited to share what major issues or projects they thought the City should address in the next five years, and had the opportunity to "vote" for their top three priorities.

The Steering Committee then studied the information gathered at the public meetings and from the questionnaire. Six common themes emerged from these deliberations:

- Community Planning
- Economy– Business Retention – Infrastructure
- Environment
- Recreation
- Relations With KSU
- Transportation



Citizens at Davey Elementary share what piqued their interest in the DESTINATION 2006 meeting.

"I'm on the Steering Committee and I would like to provide input into the process and enhance the quality of life in the City of Kent."

"I plan on staying in the community and feel that if I want a quality community I need to contribute towards it."



COMMENDATIONS

Among the most gratifying results of DESTINATION 2006 were the many positive comments about the quality of life in Kent, and the commitment of residents to preserving those aspects of the Kent community they found most rewarding and valuable.

The City of Kent has many unique characteristics, abundant natural resources, and excellent city services that benefit its residents. Preserving these assets is one of the most important contributions that elected officials and city leaders could make to Kent's future.

Thus, preservation of these assets and continuation of traditions and city services deserve wholehearted commendation in this report. What follows in this section is a listing of assets that were identified by residents at recent community forums and Steering Committee meetings of Destination 2006. Many of these commendations were gathered from the Destination 2006 Community Questionnaire and from the discussions held at the community forums.

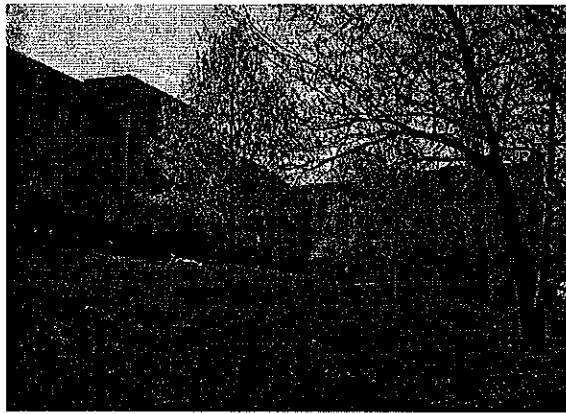
Unique characteristics and traditions have been created and preserved over the years. The existence of Kent State University provides the opportunity for individual intellectual growth and contributes to the cultural diversity of the community. The geographic proximity to Akron and Cleveland offers Kent residents the amenities available in larger metropolitan areas, yet permits the preservation of a small town atmosphere. Events that encourage both intellectual and cultural traditions include art exhibits, folk festivals, Art in the Park, the Kent Heritage Festival, and evening music and dance concerts. Distinct neighborhoods and preservation of historical structures contribute to a strong sense of community. The City of Kent is commended for capitalizing on these assets and for providing the support and city infrastructure that allow these events to occur.

Natural resources have been valued and protected by citizens. Examples of these assets include the Kent dam, the green space filled with trees, the public parks, and the Cuyahoga River. The City of Kent and its residents are commended for valuing and contributing to the preservation of these resources.

City services have been graded well by city residents. Areas of services that have received the greatest praise include: courtesy of the police department, fire prevention, fall leaf collection, brush chipping, curb side recycling program, drinking water quality, treatment of waste water, responsiveness of city administration, and support of community festivals and parades. The City of Kent is commended for providing excellent services in these and other areas.



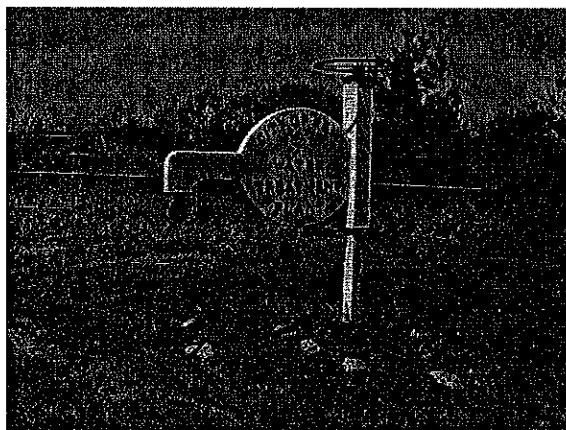
Downtown Kent



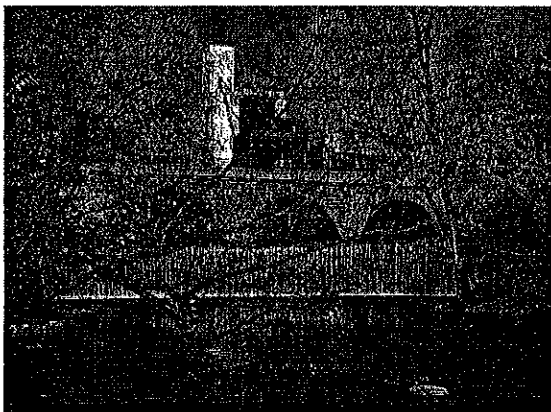
Kent State University Campus



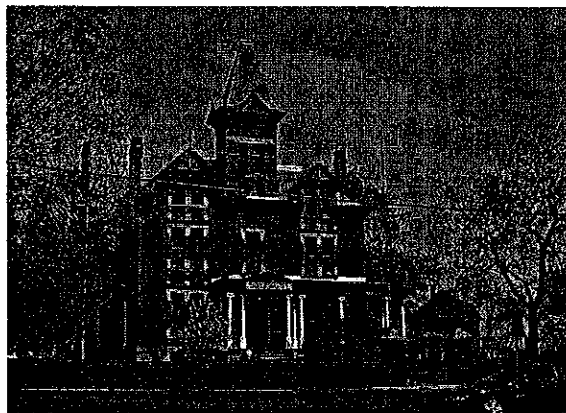
Kent Parks



Water Quality



The Kent Dam



Kent Masonic Temple

"I believe it is important to help plan for the future. If you are not part of the solution, then you are part of the problem."

Destination 2006 Participant

Finally, several other community assets have been mentioned by residents as assets of the community. These include the Kent Parks and Recreation Board, the Kent City School District, and other Kent area agencies. These entities are commended for providing excellent services to residents.

Although not exhaustive, the above list of assets presents a picture of valued resources, traditions, historical architectures, unique neighborhoods, and City services that merit commendations and highest praise. It is included in the DESTINATION 2006 report in order to sustain commitment to supporting what is good for Kent residents.

Clearly, Kentites cherish their heritage and value the many present institutions and qualities of their town. This strong support will be an excellent base from which to launch our voyage toward DESTINATION 2006.

AREAS OF CONCERN AND IMPORTANCE

COMMUNITY PLANNING

Establishing some form of comprehensive community planning was the topic that generated the largest and most diverse group of suggestions at the public meetings. Kentites clearly have strong ideas about the kind of future they want for their city, and expect to take part in planning for it. Participants envisioned planning that would balance growth with natural resources while preserving and enhancing the present small-town character of the City, that would provide for sustainable development. Five values for community planning emerged from the discussions:

1. The sense of community that Kent provides – attractive , friendly neighborhoods, successful downtown and small-town community-wide events like the Heritage Festival.
2. The desirable quality of life with family-friendly, safe, attractive housing, parks and recreational facilities and programs.
3. A strong environmental ethic reflected not only by supporting parks and recycling programs but also noting interests in creating pedestrian friendly crossings, traffic calming and bike pathways.
4. The City of Kent demonstrating leadership and cooperation in regional issues.
5. Strategic Planning for City Services – Based on the Comprehensive Community Plan, strategic planning for sustaining the current level of City services, and associated costs, will be required of the City in order to continue excellent service levels.

Recommendations:

1. Develop a Comprehensive Community Plan that includes citizen participation and covers topics such as: analysis of community trends and conditions, existing and potential future land use, existing and future service demands and resources, recommendations for zoning district updates and changes, historic preservation, community economics, environmental issues and watersheds, issues of development and redevelopment, community demographics, transportation and transit, housing issues, neighborhood issues, impact of and land use linkages with Kent State University.

ECONOMY– BUSINESS RETENTION – INFRASTRUCTURE

DESTINATION 2006 participants recognize the importance of enhancing and encouraging balanced business development to provide employment for its citizens, tax revenues for City government, and value to the community, and to effectively use the inventive entrepreneurial talents of the City of Kent and Kent State University. The development and redevelopment in the City ought to be harmonious with the existing character of the community and its surrounding neighborhoods, both architecturally and historically.

The DESTINATION 2006 Steering Committee recognizes key groups and organizations that contribute to successful economic development for the City of Kent and the region. The Committee values the City of Kent communicating and partnering with the following groups and organizations: Kent Regional Business Alliance, the Kent Chamber of Commerce, Kent City Schools, the Kent State University Office of Technology Transfer, Kent Downtown Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation (DKC), SBA, SCORE, Akron Regional Development Board, NEOTECH and other interested community groups.

Recommendations:

1. Support the new incubator to be built by the Kent Regional Business Alliance to develop the intellectual and entrepreneurial resources of both the Kent business community and Kent State University.
2. Foster the development of sites within Kent to encourage incubator businesses to stay here, and to attract outside businesses to relocate in Kent.
3. Continue the present Ambassador Program and other outreach to businesses.

ENVIRONMENT

The natural and the built environments are important to the life of the City of Kent in the present and for future generations. The DESTINATION 2006 Steering Committee sees great value in the following areas.

The Cuyahoga River, especially its related waterways, watershed and wetlands are a priceless resource for aesthetic and recreational purposes, as well as an essential part of the system of streams and aquifers upon which the life of our community depends. The conservation of water quality throughout this system must remain a high priority.

Recommendations:

1. Maintain high water quality by addressing problems of potential water contamination from storm water runoff, toxic landfills, and other "non-point-sources" of pollution.
2. Create new subdivision design standards and zoning regulations with an eye to protecting adjacent creeks, rivers, wetlands and floodplains.
3. Continue protecting "well-head" water system sources from contamination.
4. Seek a resolution to the dam/water quality problem that will conserve the historic value of the dam as well as correct conditions that compromise the health of the river.
5. Redevelop and make efficient use of vacant and under-used properties.
6. Use the "Goals for Sustainable Development" in the Community Comprehensive Planning process.
7. Plan "inter-modal" transportation, with pedestrian and bicycle access, connections to regional bicycle trails, and enhanced efforts to make public transit a viable alternative.
8. Conserve natural areas, parks, green corridors, and open space, and support public landscaping, architecture and other aesthetic considerations.
9. Give attention to energy conservation, and to exploration of alternative clean energy sources as is appropriate for a municipal government.

RECREATION

DESTINATION 2006 participants are interested in the development of the river as a recreational and outdoor entertainment area. Additionally, participants support the development of an indoor recreational facility designed for meetings, swimming, basketball, volleyball, exercise programs, and other community programs for citizens of all ages.

Recommendations:

1. Develop bike and walking trails and connector trails to enhance pedestrian favorable access throughout the City using existing parkland and green space and designated roadways.
2. Develop the rail-trail corridor between Stow and Ravenna.
3. Develop boat access to the Cuyahoga River and additional park development in the surrounding areas.
4. Continue to work toward a water facility (swimming pool).

RELATIONSHIP WITH KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

Both the Steering Committee and participants in the public meetings recognize the value of a strong working partnership between the City of Kent and Kent State University. Working together is important in drawing upon resources that result in optimal development of our "college town", and in improving access to the University.

Expansion of existing cooperative efforts such as the joint administrative conferencing between the City and Kent State is valued. It is important that there be further partnering, communicating and planning together to reduce perceived and/or real physical separation that exists between the City and the campus.

Recommendations:

1. Drawing upon the resources of the City and KSU, develop incubators for small business.
2. Include KSU in the Comprehensive Community Planning process, particularly in the areas of traffic, transportation and parking, and land uses in transitional areas between the Campus and the City.
3. Engage KSU in discussions regarding neighborhood relations and encourage communications via the City newsletter.
4. Involve KSU in identifying student-oriented businesses and services in downtown area.
5. Explore the possibilities of joining with the University to develop a Cultural/Arts Center in the downtown area.
6. Expand existing cooperative efforts such as joint administrative conferencing between City Council and the Kent State University central administration.

TRANSPORTATION

A safe, convenient and efficient motorized and non-motorized transportation system that is available to all residents and visitors of the City of Kent was a value stressed during the DESTINATION 2006 meetings.

Recommendations:

1. Safety issues involving automobiles, bicycles, pedestrians and public transportation use ought to be addressed in all of Council's planning.
2. Increase bike paths and bike lanes.
3. Improve pedestrian safety and access for disabled persons with a program of regular sidewalk repair/maintenance.
4. Explore alternative transportation modes (e.g., bus service, taxi service).
5. Include KSU transit and PARTA in transportation planning segment of the Comprehensive Community Plan.

SUMMARY

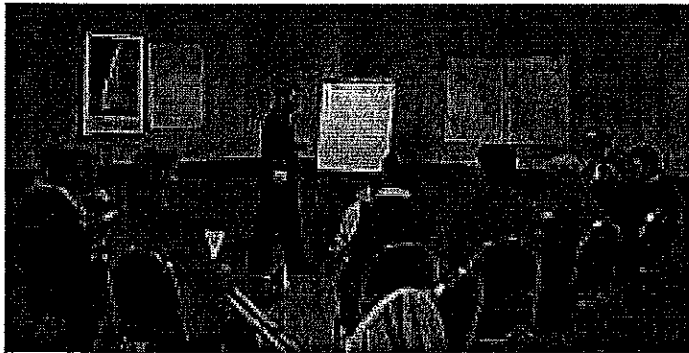
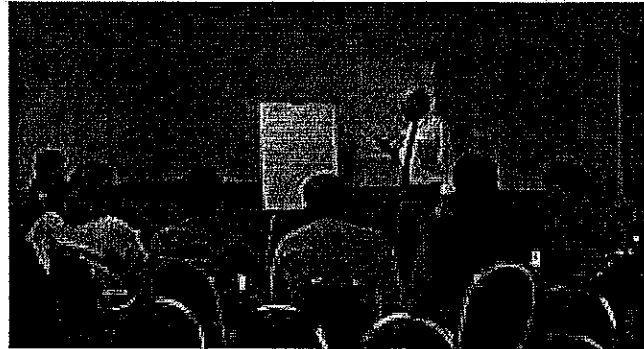
The DESTINATION 2006 Steering Committee appreciates the opportunity to coordinate citizen input concerning priorities for the City of Kent for the next five years. Ideas were solicited from residents during discussions at four community meetings and through responses to a community questionnaire. Although numerous specific ideas were generated, the common themes or areas of concern identified by the Committee were (1) Community Planning; (2) Economy—Business Retention—Infrastructure; (3) Environment; (4) Recreation; (5) Relations with Kent State University; and (6) Transportation. More discussion and suggestions emerged in the Community Planning area than any other, suggesting that a Comprehensive Community Plan is viewed as essential to the progress of Kent. The Committee is making specific recommendations to Kent City Council in each of the areas of concern. It is important to recognize that, although the themes and recommendations in this report are more global than the specific priorities of City Council, most of the areas of concern identified by the Committee are represented in Council's priorities. Thus, it appears that Council is sensitive to issues and concerns that are important to residents.

It is important to those who live in Kent that the City's heritage, which is manifested in its neighborhoods (residential and business) and its community activities and festivals, be recognized, embraced, and preserved. It is also important for City Council to provide a vehicle (e.g., regularly scheduled community meetings) for continuing citizen involvement in discussing the future of the City and providing continuing feedback to City Council about matters that are of most concern to the residents of Kent.



Mayor John Fender welcomes citizens to the meeting at the Kent Student Center.

Charley Bowman facilitates small group discussion.



Mike Finley (above left) and Jack Graham (above right) facilitate groups at Kent Student Center.

Acknowledgments

The City of Kent is grateful to the citizens of Kent who graciously participated in the DESTINATION 2006 public information meetings. Thanks to facilitators Charley Bowman, Mike Finley, Jack Graham and to the DESTINATION 2006 Steering Committee who hosted the public input meetings and worked tirelessly on behalf of the future of the City.

APPENDIX

A

THE CITY OF KENT
needs YOUR
input and participation in the

DESTINATION 2006 Strategic Planning Process

to develop top priority issues for the City to be achieved
over the next 5 years.

Citizen input meetings will be held from 7:00-9:00 p.m. on:

Tuesday, January 23, 2001 –

K.S.U. Student Center Room 302

Free Parking

Tuesday, January 30, 2001 –

**Trinity Lutheran Church of Kent
600 S. Water Street**

Thursday, February 8, 2001 –

**United Methodist Church of Kent (Pierson Hall)
1435 E. Main Street (S.R. 59)**

Thursday, February 15, 2001 –

**Davey Elementary School Cafeteria
196 N. Prospect Street**

**Residents are encouraged to participate in any or all of the
meetings, and join Council Members and the City Manager**

Visit Destination 2006 on the City's web site at www.kentohio.org

Destination 2006 Steering Committee Members

Bill Anderson, Caroline Arnold, Ken Coyne, Rob Dinehart, Mike Finley, Doug Fuller, Joe Giancola, Cecil Giltz, Jack Graham,
John Gwinn, Arlyne Habeeb, Vic Hart, John Lehman, Jim Myers, Maxine O'Mara, Pete Orlando, Fred Pierre, Doug Shaw,
Saroj Sutaria, Jim Tomlinson, Robin Turner, Matt Van Note, Harold Walker

Staff: Lew Steinbrecher, Barb Rissland, Bill Lillich, Dennis Missimi, Charley Bowman, Marta Stone-Facilitator

APPENDIX

B

COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE

While answering the questions below, please feel free to elaborate on your response in the space provided, or on the back of this sheet.

1. What three things would you like to see accomplished or undertaken by the City of Kent between now and the year 2006?

1.

2.

3.

2. From a personal safety perspective, do you feel secure in the City of Kent?

3. How important is Kent State University to this community?

High	Moderate	Low

Why did you respond this way?

What suggestions do you have for cooperation with KSU that would benefit the Kent community?

4. Have you talked with anyone in the City administration, departments, or Council about a concern within the past six months? If so, which department or individual? Were your questions/concerns fully answered? Was the response prompt and courteous?

5. The City is currently addressing the need to redevelop the West River Neighborhood, studying the possibility of a downtown hotel and conference center, and analyzing alternatives to improve water quality in the Cuyahoga River which involves the Kent Dam. Please share any thoughts you may have on these topics.

6. List services, needs, issues or projects you feel the City of Kent should be involved in that are presently NOT provided by the City.

If the City was financially unable to provide your suggested services or projects, would you be willing to pay more in higher taxes? (Why or why not?)

Would you be willing to pay a user fee for such services? (Why or why not?)

7. List services presently being provided by the City that you think should be discontinued or should be provided by other agencies (if so, please identify those agencies which should assume what services).

8. What was most worthwhile about tonight's meeting?

9. What was least worthwhile about tonight's meeting?

Note: If you would like to receive a copy of the Destination 2006 Committee's summary, please write your name and address on one of the envelopes on the table at the entrance on your way out after the meeting. Results of the Committee's summary will also be posted on the City's web site at www.kentohio.org. Thank you.

APPENDIX

C

COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE

While answering the questions below, please feel free to elaborate on your response in the space provided, or on the back of this sheet.

1. What three things would you like to see accomplished or undertaken by the City of Kent between now and the year 2006?

1. 11 development, revitalization of businesses, and planning issues
3 water quality and dam issues
2 maintaining current items, such as streets and sidewalks
3 transportation, other than autos
2 electric deregulation
1 recreational facilities
1 elimination of assessments
1 updating of Zoning Map and Code
1 Stop retail developers

2. 10 development, revitalization of businesses, and planning issues
2 water quality/dam issues
1 job retraining program
2 sale of land banking properties
3 larger library
4 new non-tax revenues
5 closer monitoring of tax abatement
6 better relationship with KSU
7 reinstitute spring clean up
1 Handicapped accommodations
1 Park areas/protection of green space

3. 9 development, revitalization of businesses, planning issues
3 recreational facilities
2 cultural center/ civic theater
1 town/gown relations
2 water quality/dam issues
3 environmental concerns
4 improvement/maintenance program
5 televised Council meetings
6 lower taxes
7 graffiti mitigation
8 elimination of Parks/Recreation Director and board
1 Focus on prevention of youth and gang violence

2. From a personal safety perspective, do you feel secure in the City of Kent?

- 23 Yes, with no comment
- 1 Yes, except for poor conditions of sidewalks
- 1 Yes, except for Franklin St. area in the evening
- 2 No

3. How important is Kent State University to this community?

High	Moderate	Low
18	6	1

Why did you respond this way?

High:

Remarks include number of jobs university creates; cultural center; benefit to business and diverse population.

Moderate:

Remarks include that there are benefits, but also problems associated with students.

Low

No remarks listed

What suggestions do you have for cooperation with KSU that would benefit the Kent community?

Remarks include the following:

- Joint effort to restore the Bujack hotel as a convention center
- KSU would teach students CROSSING THE STREET SAFELY 101
- Use of KSU's expertise in the management of the city
- More affordable access to University facilities.
- More participation from University financially
- Better job by KSU of advising students and their families of Kent's benefits
- Better cooperation
- Getting campus events off campus and downtown for accessibility by the public
- Stronger punishment for crimes
- Discussion with KSU about alternatives for qualitative economic development

4. Have you talked with anyone in the City administration, departments, or Council about a concern within the past six months? If so, which department or individual? Were your questions/concerns fully answered? Was the response prompt and courteous?

No 10

No but sent in a written suggestion

Yes 12 (see comments below)

1 have contacted Planning and Engineering; appeared satisfied with results

1 contacted Mr. Schultz and Fender, felt they were both knowledgeable

2 did not list particular department, but indicated they were always treated with courtesy

1 Dennis Missimi , Director of Public Works about how the town looks.

1 Left message for City Manager; have not been contacted

1 Charley Bowman, Director of Community Development, about the dam

1 Water Department, a "great help"

1 Police Department on non-emergency issue; handled promptly

1 City Council - "most falls to deaf ears".

1 Manager, personnel from Community Development, and personnel in Service Department - courteous, responsive, although resistant to planning and the "regional perspective".

1 Charles Huber, Building Dept. , relating to an electrician and his license. No follow-up has occurred.

5. The City is currently addressing the need to redevelop the West River Neighborhood, studying the possibility of a downtown hotel and conference center, and analyzing alternatives to improve water quality in the Cuyahoga River which involves the Kent Dam. Please share any thoughts you may have on these topics.

WEST RIVER NEIGHBORHOOD:

Redevelopment should be a priority as it is on a main thoroughfare

Redeveloping the West River Neighborhood would be nice

Heard good possibilities mentioned regarding West River; hope these ideas can be implemented. Great possibilities for this area and it will work out successfully and beautifully.

I am for savings as many existing properties as possible. How many of the west river properties do Kent now own. How much money does Kent have allocated to improve those properties. The bissler building and old factory across the street should be #1 priorities. Parking is a large problem. Could Kent build a parking deck where Friendly's was

The west river neighborhood should be designated a cultural district with the Bissler building serving as a community center. This could be accomplished with KSU.

Frustrating. Sad example of too limited perspective in planning. Workable plan would include restaurant facilities, which is inhibited by the exclusion of alcoholic beverages. Never introduced a comprehensive approach to traffic management future. Left without a vision of the "whole", and the project remains hard to sell. Possibly a good location for the proposed hotel-conference center on the west side of Gougler across from the Bissler building.

I favor development of this area ONLY if it is done in a fashion that will support and attract redevelopment of the downtown. Recruit boutiques, not the same major retailers. If planned well, we won't be stuck with a bunch of useless drugstores on every corner.

WATER QUALITY/DAM

Priority is the improvement of water quality in the river. Safe drinking water is very important. I am not sure how the dam fits into that picture.

Please keep needs of people today and in the future as the most important than kudos to history. The dam will eventually crumble; the waterway belongs to all life in and near the river.

Improving the water quality of the river takes priority over saving the waterfall and dam. I love the dam, but our environment and the preservation of it is much more important

I believe water quality is more important than saving the whole dam. Save a portion of it, but put the river back to its free flowing ways.

The dam should remain as is

Start looking at county level to get water from Lake Erie. This will be a big problem in ten years.

Stop letting Ohio EPA bully us.

I do approve the city joining in on the lawsuit with the river. I believe in our taking an aggressive position on it. Also our checking the historical aspect of preserving it. I am against anyone demanding what we must do with our property

Combine with Munroe Falls, Cuyahoga Falls, and Akron to oppose the EPA
Keep the dam

I'm for improving water quality but do not understand all particulars. I do not understand how removing the dam will help.

Kent should take initiative to form a cooperative regional water district with other communities dependent on the resources of the Cuyahoga watershed.

The Dam proposal to save the dam and route the water thru the locks is excellent

This is the result of Akron's diversion of water, and is being done on the principle

that the water is a "property" and may be treated as a "commodity".
Akron's policy is an example of the absence of a regional perspective. Am
hoping for a plan to fully address the water quality issue without sacrificing
the historical values of the dam structure

I do not support spending a significant amount of money to preserve the dam.
Water quality of the river is more important.

HOTEL/CONFERENCE CENTER

Very low on my list of priorities is a downtown hotel and conference center.

I'm ok with new fancy hotel

The City may have to provide it as a downtown service Hotel - I hope the market
is there for this proposal, because it would surely bring more adult life to
the area.

The hotel is a KSU idea; hotels must have 70% occupancy to cover themselves.
Food service may compete with local merchants. KSU has a lot of rooms
for conferences; no corporation would come to Kent for off-site meeting; If
a company wants to put in a hotel, let them cover the cost with KSU;
People won't come to shop because there is a hotel.

I do not see a need for a downtown hotel. We have ample lodging now.

Preserve, preserve, preserve. If you build something new, make sure it fits the
character of the community

They are both great ideas although a conference center may not be used
enough to pay for it.

Downtown hotel will be a catalyst for lots of other changes

Demolish the old downtown hotel and replace it with a new one

Was consideration given to remodeling the old hotel or building on an empty
corner downtown?

Locating a downtown hotel and conference center will be the death of downtown.

Conference attendees do not stray from the hotel to spend their money. Traffic
impact will be negative. Revenues will be siphoned from the community.

Kent will s hoot themselves in the foot because a hotel development will
most assuredly demand tax breaks

How will this be impacted by conference center being built at NEOUCOM

GENERAL COMMENTS:

These are important issues that affect all citizens

Kent City Council members seem undereducated and untrained for the task of
making decisions for a city of the character or size of Kent. I think it is
hard to attract quality businesses to a town with a City Council that
appears impulsive, unprofessional and arbitrary. Do City Council
members get any training for their tasks? Kent City Council is not looking
out for the quality of life of its citizens

The City needs to address basic service at fair/reasonable cost to taxpayers.
Needs to get out of real estate business. Stop wasting taxpayer money.

Make decisions after hearing community views on a wide span and not just from those who attend Council meetings. Use your local volunteer groups to survey, spread the work, and help with issues.

All are priority issues

Protect existing downtown business

Create a downtown cultural center with theaters, restaurants, etc.

6 List services, needs, issues or projects you feel the City of Kent should be involved in that are presently NOT provided by the City.

SCAT transportation in the city.

Commuter rail to Cleveland and Akron

There should be more concerns for the younger generations

More public transportation

Swimming pool; more bike trails, recreation center

More environmental control and green space

City street service and maintenance

Low interest loans to repair Kent's housing stock.

University/City cooperation should be improved

Spring Clean up

Support of established Kent businesses

Provide designated playground facilities for skate boarders and roller skaters

Commitment to sustaining downtown as an historically significant commercial district.

Traffic engineering that promotes pedestrians

Attention to intermodal transportation in the future.

If the City was financially unable to provide your suggested services or projects, would you be willing to pay more in higher taxes? (Why or why not?)

Yes 10

Remarks:

Yes, if property tax, not income tax

If it is worth it

If project/service were absolute necessity

Could be a recreation center, cultural district and/or recreation programs

Everyone benefits, everyone should pay
Being retired, very little of my tax money goes to the City; this should
be corrected.

No 9

Remarks:

Pay if you use the services
People are taxed on taxes now
Kent has enough money now
Prefer a user fee
American public pays too much in taxes now
Once a funding source is started to establish a new program, it usually
stays and grow
We are one of the best funded and highest taxed cities in the County

**Would you be willing to pay a user fee for such services? (Why or why
not?)**

17 - Yes

Remarks:

If established fairway
If it is a small fee
For very good reasons
For compost, fishing park, advanced recreation; not bike/hike trails or higher
recycling costs
For a swimming pool
Yes, as long as it promotes and encourages convenience and safety
They tend to be "regressive", though and may add an unneeded burden on
the lower-income citizens. Businesses should pay a reasonable user-
fee and participate fully in the recycling program.

THERE WERE NO "NO" votes

**7. List services presently being provided by the City that you think should be
discontinued or should be provided by other agencies (if so, please
identify those agencies which should assume what services).**

Park programs as they are cost centers
Land banking
Funding charity/social service groups with general funds
Electric deregulation
Elimination of tax incentives to chain stores with little or no commitment to Kent
Do not create pedestrian island on E. Main Street

8.. What was most worthwhile about tonight's meeting?

Small round table sessions
Opportunity to offer input
Professionally handled and worthwhile
Hearing the issues and concerns of other residents
Time well spent
Exchange of ideas
Impressed with the degree of community involvement
Gross roots citizen input was good; good for citizens to meet the city Manager.

9. What was least worthwhile about tonight's meeting?

Concern about the other ideas not to be included
Acoustics of the room
The refreshment
"Bright children who could not stifle themselves"
Closing comments by city official the he was "unsure" how the results would be incorporated. Felt the time was spent in futility
Another forum for the same tired arguments from the same old no growth people
Will be a mystery until Council speaks
Attendance was disappointing.

APPENDIX

D

COMMUNITY REPORT CARD

DESCRIPTION	A	B	C	D	F	SUM	AVERAGE	GRADE
PUBLIC SAFETY OPERATIONS								
Neighborhood Patrol	20	9	6	2	0	37	2.85	C+
Courtesy of Police Officers	36	9	6	2	0	53	3.12	B
Dispatching	40	9	4	0	0	53	3.53	B
Courtesy of Dispatching Personnel	40	6	4	1	0	51	3.40	B
Fire Protection	16	6	2	0	0	24	3.43	B
Emergency Medical Response	24	3	0	0	0	27	3.86	B+
Traffic Enforcement	12	21	10	0	0	43	2.87	C+
Crime Prevention	8	21	8	2	0	39	2.60	C
Fire Prevention	32	3	6	3	0	44	2.93	C+
Fire Code Enforcement	28	6	8	1	0	43	3.07	B
Neighborhood Watch Programs	8	3	6	2	0	19	2.11	C
Removal of Inoperable Vehicles	12	9	6	1	0	28	2.55	C
Response to Non-Emergency Calls	4	6	6	0	0	16	2.67	C
Other Services:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PUBLIC SERVICE OPERATIONS								
Street Maintenance	4	15	12	3	0	34	2.13	C
Street Resurfacing & Reconstruction	4	9	16	4	0	33	1.74	D+
Snow Plowing	24	27	6	0	0	57	3.00	B
Sidewalk Maintenance	0	9	6	8	0	23	1.35	D
Fall Leaf Collection	44	9	6	0	0	59	3.47	B
Brush Chipping	48	9	0	0	0	57	3.80	B+
Curb Side Recycling Program	48	3	3	0	0	54	3.60	B
Street Sweeping	12	24	4	0	0	40	2.86	C+
Number of Street Lights	24	12	4	1	0	41	3.15	B
Maintenance of Street Trees	24	21	2	1	0	48	2.82	C+
Operations of Compost Facility	20	12	4	0	0	36	3.27	B
Adequacy of Surface Water Drainage	0	15	8	0	0	23	2.30	C
Appearance of Public Places	8	18	10	3	0	39	2.17	C
Maintenance of City Parks	16	18	6	1	0	41	2.56	C
Delivery of Recreational Programs	12	12	8	1	0	33	2.75	C+
Other Services: Courtesy of Snow Plowing Drivers	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	2	2.00	C

APPENDIX

E

Notes from 1/23/01 Meeting

City of Kent Destination 2006

WHAT PIQUED YOUR INTEREST IN COMING HERE TONIGHT?

GROUP I

1. Opportunity to be "part of" shaping the future of Kent.
2. I expect to be living in this area in 5 years and I want to be a part of the City's future.
3. As a member of the Steering Committee, it was important that I provided some input.
4. What are the community's interests?
5. Opportunity to have community input.
6. I see this as an opportunity to improve the community.
7. Dam project.
8. I want to be able to have a "say" in the city I live in.

GROUP II

1. Kent's sprawl of drug stores, shopping malls, increased traffic & noise, decreased safety, loss of trees and green space, downtown business
2. Planning to be in the city for many years to come – I want the city to grow and how DESTINATION 2006 will do that.
3. Ability to have input in downtown development. Want to see bike lanes.
4. I was invited by Dr. Seroj Sataria. After reading about some of Kent's goals, I agree that safe drinking water is a high priority.
5. Concerned about the future of Kent and impact on my life. I would like to see a vital downtown area.
6. I have noted very pro-development \$ signs in yourattitudes in city council. I want to be sure there is BALANCE for environmental concerns OVER \$ concerns. NO MORE MALLS.
7. Interested in good govt. for the people in Kent, P. County and our State & Country. Balance assets with needs & resources.
8. Planning is key to a successful future if we are to improve the quality of life for all citizens of Kent. This is a good first step to the process. See improvements in City of Kent.
9. Public service – also interested in environment

GROUP III

1. West river development
2. Active member of Kent Environmental Council. Comprehensive planning essential. Local & regional. Sustainable community.
3. Kent's future is both a personal and business goal of my company.
4. I live here – of course I'm interested in my neighborhood. I wish to see Kent remain as Kent, not a large shopping community with lots of strip malls.
5. Was asked by a Steering Committee member to participate. Interested in future of Kent.
6. Interested in City's growth.
7. Future development plans and growth.
8. As a resident of Kent, I believe the future of Kent should be decided by its citizens. Especially in the area of economic development.
9. I am most interested in improvements the City could make in its downtown neighborhoods and industrial areas.
10. How Kent City can better support KSU's mission and commitment to the 4 yr. Institution.
11. This happened to be my class requirement. However, I am willing to learn about American City management, I would also like to, if I can, give some different points of view.
12. I've lived in Kent 17 years, am active in the Kent Historical Society and the Chamber of Commerce. I've established my business here and it's been a good thing. I want to help Kent continue to be a good place to live, as I don't really want to leave.

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

January 23, 2001

GROUP I

1. The dam – Keep	2 ☆
2 Development – Environ. Integrity	1 ☆
3. Expanding tax base – Service prov/expansion	1 ☆
4. Clean up graffiti and prevention	2 ☆
5. West river develop–water, issues; impact on development	3 ☆
6. Sidewalk condition for walking	
7. Revitalize downtown–looks, trees	1 ☆
8. Jobs; more industry	2 ☆
9. Social justice	
10. Infrastructure (st,sw,w,s)	
11. Arch review comm. w/authority	1 ☆
12. Downtown parking–not enough and West River parking	1 ☆
13. Sidewalk accessibility–disabled–snow removal	1 ☆
14. Develop more bike lanes/paths	2 ☆
15. Student crossing @Summit/59	1 ☆
16. City to facilitate more neighborhood organizations	
17. Recreation facilities/center	
18. Maintain strong schools	1 ☆
19. Rikker blade/skateboard facilities	
20. Improve town/govn. Relations	

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

January 23, 2001

GROUP I

21. New city hall; centralize aesthetics

22. Hotel and spin-offs

2 ☆

23. Spring cleanup

24. Old hotel building

1 ☆

25. Take advantage of river-community activities

26. Incubators

1 ☆

27. Youth activities (Jr. & Sr. High)

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

January 23, 2001

GROUP II

1.	Amenities for people, not automobiles	2	☆
2.	Noise pollution laws		
3.	Pedestrian safety	1	☆
4.	Definitive plan of action for West River area started and completed by 2006	2	☆
5.	Attention to water use and conservation	2	☆
6.	Plan to encourage industrial development that will provide jobs and tax base	1	☆
7.	Development of downtown area, hotes, stores	1	☆
8.	Clean water for people vs. historical purposes	2	☆
9.	Vision 2000 results	2	☆
10.	Establishing Breakneck creek preserve/water supply including clean up. Toxic landfills that endanger water supply.	3	☆
11.	Storm water management		
12.	Green space		
13.	Water from Lake Erie		
14.	Swimming pool	1	☆
15.	Commuter rail Cleveland/Akron		
16.	To obtain 5% power from Green Renewable resources	2	☆
17.	Insure sustainable infrastructure (sewer/roads/etc)		
18.	Active roll in regional planning and cooperation	2	☆

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

January 23, 2001

GROUP II

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 19. Comprehensive review of city offered services & determine which one continued/eliminated & how funded | 1 ☆ |
| 20. Balance of programs for ALL people & not special interest | |
| 21. Bike lanes on Rt. 43 & 59 | |
| 22. Highway crossings on Rt. 59 creating pedestrian and bike corridors | |
| 23. Enhance the natural environmental restoration of old consequences | |
| 24. Develop new and creative revenue services for Kent | 1 ☆ |
| 25. KSU participate financially, not verbally | |
| 26. Require environmental impact statements on >10 acre projects | |

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

Januray 23, 2001

GROUP III

1.	Appropriate transition from university to Kent downtown area	1	☆
2.	Ban parking in front yard		
3.	Recreation for family and youth	1	☆
4.	Update comprehensive land use plan – in cooperation with adjacent townships & zoning regulations	1	☆
5.	Dam problems (EPA issues)	3	☆
6.	Building Town: _____ relations—take advantage of what KSU has to offer	3	☆
7.	Downtown parking structure	1	☆
8.	Careful redevelopment – comprehensive planning	1	☆
9.	Riverfront development - recreation, entertainment, retail	3	☆
10.	Retain KSU grads as residents. Determine KUS student views of Kent	1	☆
11.	Downtown business development -- maintain historical feature. Preserve historic quality of Kent in general & downtown specifically	5	☆
12.	Planned economic development/expansion in community		
13.	More reporting to community of what's going on at KSU		
14.	Active inclusion of socially & economically disadvantaged and disenfranchised citizens	3	☆
15.	Qualitative development - better utilization of existing business/spaces	2	☆
16.	Better city for bike riding		
17.	Development of areas for industry	1	☆
18.	Improve infrastructure--roads, sidewalks, storm water management, transportation		

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

Januray 23, 2001

GROUP III

19. Inform surrounding communities of actualities at KSU		
20. Pursue very aggressive annexation policy		
21. Safer streets via better traffic control—restrictive left turns	1	☆
22. Start "living wage" campaign—tie abatements to living wage	3	☆
23. Revisit and update intermodal transportation plan—tie in KSU & Kent & public school campuses	3	☆
24. Construct computer model to assist indecisions about dam		
25. Downtown revitalization	3	☆

APPENDIX

F

Notes from 1/30/01 Meeting

City of Kent Destination 2006

WHAT PIQUED YOUR INTEREST IN COMING HERE TONIGHT?

GROUP I

1. To discuss altering the dam by E.P.A.
2. As a student, I would like to put the mounting education & research on environmental issues to good use. Also, to meet people with similar interests & goals.
3. Comprehensive planning for land use and resource use? What sort of community are we aiming to develop?
4. I was finally allowed to go to one of Mom's meetings.
5. Betterment of Kent's new businesses
6. I want to learn what others think is important to the city of Kent.
7. 2006 Future Planning, Better Place, Older – Look Ahead
8. Seeing many of the green spaces of Kent fall to development – many in just the last few years. Hoping we can avoid becoming just one more suburb.
9. To become more involved in my community & to stay up to date w/where the city is going.
10. I plan on staying in the community and feel that if I want a quality community I need to contribute towards it.
11. I came here to find out about plans that I might not agree with. My experience with the city is "you snooze, you lose".

GROUP II

1. I wanted to discuss a community center in the Bissler Building.
2. The chance to contribute to building a shared vision of community for Kent.
3. Record Courier article. Wanted to know more about the items that may be discussed.
4. I'm interested in the future of Kent. I'm especially into preserving greenspace, revitalizing downtown, and creating a cultural arts center downtown.
5. Kent is a great little city with lots of potential. "A nice place to live and I want to stay that way".
6. I'm on the steering committee. I have to be interested. I'm on the steering committee because I would like to see a greater consensus and sense of purpose in the community.
7. Interest in a good financially sound city that can support the visions that all people want.

8. I wanted to see if the city had worked out some master plan for developing / improving city spaces.
9. I am very interested in ensuring that long-range planning include stabilization of downtown with a priority on tax incentives for small, desirable local businesses.
10. Long term planning.
11. Opportunity to make my views known. Find out what other Kentians want. To build a sense of common purpose & pride in our unique community.
12. I want to make sure that future plans include an emphasis on revitalizing downtown, as well as making sure we have a clean & healthy environment.
13. I wanted to see how many citizens of Kent would show up for a meeting about the future of our city (how many really care).

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

January 30, 2001

GROUP I

1. Cultural arts in downtown	7 ☆
10. Develop theater district downtown	
37. Planning to include Kent's artistic resources	
2. Long range planning / update city code	2 ☆
3. Downtown business	
16. Downtown revitalization	2 ☆
18. Create atmosphere that will attract outside attention & improvements	
4. KSU grads as residents	1 ☆
5. River & water quality problems	1 ☆
20. Obtain water from Lake Erie	
6. Attention to & improving greenspace	3 ☆
9. Alternate to mall project	
7. Develop business-friendly environment for new/existing businesses	
8. Business that add jobs/tax base	
12. Attract environment-friendly businesses	5 ☆
22. Encourage enterprises that do not siphon \$ out of community (private local ownership)	
41. Tax incentives to local small businesses	
11. Brown field clean-up / re-develop	2 ☆
13. Recreation center	
14. Improve downtown link to KSU	1 ☆
15. Public transportation – pedestrian friendly	
17. Keep up streets	
19. Develop private hotel	1 ☆
20. Obtain water from Lake Erie	1 ☆
21. Save Bissler Building	
23. Teen center / pool / youth	1 ☆

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

January 30, 2001

GROUP I

24. Improve pedestrian / bike ways	1	☆
25. Sidewalk snow removal		
26. Historical preservation - dam, buildings	1	☆
27. Focus on heart of Kent, not just downtown		
28. Resolve legal water issue with Akron		
29. Regional co-op / plan: KSU, county, watershed	4	☆
30. Muni power gen: alt. Power		
31. Expand recycling: homes/neighborhoods/buildings/computer/furniture		
32. Improve neighborhoods / discourage blight		
33. Industrial development in cooperation with KSU science programs		
34. More intelligent traffic regulations		
35. Kent identity -- Who/What are we?	1	☆
36. Annex more land		
38. Greater equity in distribution of public resources	1	☆
39. Inter urban transportation	1	☆
30. High speed rail connector to Cleveland	1	☆
42. 76 to 480 connector	2	☆

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

January 30, 2001

GROUP II

1. Preserve remaining greenspace	3 ☆
2. Need recreational center, pool, etc. – community/family oriented	
18. Create community center	4 ☆
24. Maintain youth activities presently & develop more	
3. City upkeep	1 ☆
4. Financially responsible land use	1 ☆
5. Downtown shopping	
17. Combine hotel project with downtown parking needs	6 ☆
23. Focus character & durability of downtown rather than sprawl development	
6. Empty buildings	
12. Quality redevelopment of abandoned & underused properties & brownfield areas	7 ☆
19. Old hotel issue	
7. Presereng the dam	
8. Attract \$ to renew sewers	
9. Raise tax base with increasing businesses	3 ☆
21. Raise \$ without raising taxes	
10. Preserve quality of life for residents/businesses who have already chosen to live here	
11. Address issues for university employment	
13. Working cooperatively with other communities' development which is uniquely appropriate to Kent	1 ☆
14. Educating youth in why they should care & how to make a difference	1 ☆
15. Plan new transportation projects, i.e., building (Crain Ave.) with inclusion of pedestrian & bicycle pathways	2 ☆

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

January 30, 2001

GROUP II

16. West river development		
20. Existing infrastructure maintenance		
22. Continued strong support of schools		
25. Expand community theatre		
26. Revision of zoning code with emphasis on redevelopment standards	2	☆
27. Widening of 43 w/caution & assess its effects on resources unique to Kent	1	☆
28. Seriously explore alternative sources for a % of energy usage	1	☆
29. Overdevelopment & its roof effects		
30. Stern water fees to reflect the users contribution to the runoff		
31. Safety	1	☆
32. Preservation of redcreational value of river		

APPENDIX

G

Notes from 2/8/01 Meeting

City of Kent Destination 2006

WHAT PIQUED YOUR INTEREST IN COMING HERE TONIGHT?

GROUP I

1. Planned for a sustainable community
2. General interest in what happens in the city, plus I have a couple of specific items I would like included in long range planning.
3. Interested in the future for Kent & how we can finance the many worthwhile projects. Listen to other people's ideas.
4. The communities and people are interdependent. The future depends on planning ahead.
5. I would like to have a "voice" in decisions regarding my quality of life.
6. I believe it's important to help plan the future. If you are not a part of the solution, then you are a part of the "problem".
7. Industrial development, downtown condos, storm sewer utility
8. The future of my community. The chance to participate in building the future
9. To discover what the majority of people desire for the future planning & to hopefully give some impact.
10. I came to work on citizenship in the nation. I also would feel that we plan well for the future.
11. Because I wanted to see how the city runs, and I did not have a choice to come.
12. To talk about why Kent cannot salt their key roads in the winter cause my grandmother can't drive on slippery roads and doesn't like complaining about it.

GROUP II

1. Interest in city's future
2. Interested in Kent's future
3. Hotel & conference center – acquiring a spot downtown for a parking garage
4. Curiosity brought me here. I'm a KFC member and they have been talking about the process. Downtown development. Kent's future.
5. To see how the meetings run.
6. Interested in Kent's expanding tax base and improving services for the community.
7. How city will solve problems
8. Lived in Kent 18 years, I'm active in some local groups like KACC & historical society & I own a small business. Kent's a nice place to live and I want to keep it that way.
9. New homes, stable family, I like this as opposed to apartments.

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

February 8, 2001

GROUP I

1. Better road construction outer limits of city	1	☆
21. Street maintenance and repair		
3. Downtown hotel / Convention Center		
4. Larger Kent library	1	☆
5. Business that creates jobs & contribute to tax base	2	☆
2. Build another Friendly's		
6. Restaurants downtown	3	☆
24. Free desserts		
7. No more drug stores		
8. Creating more night life, i.e., performing arts, theatre, etc. downtown		
9. Reenfranchisement of disenfranchised citizens through viable employment with livable wage tied to tax abatements	1	☆
10. Recreational facilities made accessible & affordable (outdoor pool complex / Broen Dancay		
16. Recreational facility including natatorium & senior programs & trips	6	☆
27. Roller skating rink		
11. Envision Cuyahoga River as a community resource	2	☆
35. River as resource for entire watershed & community		
12. Appropriate economic development & job development that conserves our natural resources	1	☆
13. School maintenance	1	☆
14. No student driving to KRHS		
15. Envision KSU as a community resource		
17. Work toward obtaining water from Lake Erie	1	☆
18. Keeping run for animals by not building too many homes	1	☆

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

February 8, 2001

GROUP I

19. Become leader in regional cooperation		
20. One stop facility for social service needs		
22. Kent parks expand to bike trails in Monroe Falls & St. Rock & Town Woods	1	☆
23. Better use of abandoned and rundown buildings	2	☆
25. Bike lanes on all streets without sidewalks	1	☆
26. Review ineffective programs & use dollars elsewhere		
28. Attract businesses that keep money locally, pay good money and use local vendors	3	☆
29. Harrassment issues with police/students , DUI/insurance & lack of due to \$	1	☆
30. Raise cooperative spirit within city to hear other leaderships ideas not on own agenda!	1	☆
31. Demolish Bissler/Kemp building & place hotel across street		
32. Specific joint planning between city/townships/county	2	☆
33. The dam		
34. School reform/betterness		
36. Development of river edge up and down		
37. Storm water management that protects natural areas & impervious surfaces, Update zoning		
38. Downtown redevelopment		
39. Miniature golf course	1	☆
40. Protect natural resources		

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

February 8, 2001

GROUP II

1. Downtown redevelopment	4 ☆
8. Preserving heritage of downtown	
23. Hotel/convention center	
2. Roads that have a lot of holes	2 ☆
4. Sidewalks	
3. West river development	
5. Industrial development	2 ☆
16. More industrial development	
6. Assessments for road, sewer, water	
28. Sewer upgrades	
7. How much truck traffic is too much?	
9. Funding for faith based organizations for mental health issues	2 ☆
10. Beautification	2 ☆
11. Careful zoning changes, if any	2 ☆
21. Carefully planned development	
12. Keep the dam	5 ☆
13. General river cleanup	
15. More water for river	
17. Decaying housing stock & volunteer improvement services	2 ☆
26. Better neighborhood development	
18. Become more of a university town—community to campus & calendar	1 ☆
19. Increased sexual abstinence instruction in schools	1 ☆

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

February 8, 2001

GROUP II

20. K-12 safety & security	[PUBLIC SAFETY]	
14. Civilian police review board		4 ☆
25. Increased safety for women on/off campus		
33. Neighborhood watch		
22. Road from KSU to 480/14		1 ☆
27. Rapid transit: Kent to North		
24. Small parks/communal places (about 40)		
30. Community rec center -- not wait for KSU		2 ☆
31. Continue bike/hike trails		
29. Water treatment capacity		
34. Improve traffic - Crain Avenue		2 ☆
35. Restrict left turns on Route 43 (North of Crain Bridge)		
36. Housing for seniors - convenient location -- to stay in Kent	[SENIOR ISSUES]	
32. Volunteer assistance to seniors and disabled		2 ☆
37. More programs to coordinate elderly with children		
38. Restore river without dam		

APPENDIX

H

Notes from 2/15/01

City of Kent DESTINATION 2006 Davey Elementary School

WHAT PIQUED YOUR INTEREST IN THE DESTINATION 2006 MEETING TONIGHT?

Group I

1. I am mainly concerned with the river and its immediate surroundings, ie downtown.
2. Development of downtown: Hotel, W. River
3. Want to see a change!
4. Future – can be planned for – now
5. I am concerned with the city's view and direction of the environmental & development issues.
6. Concern for the future of Kent...especially the environment and quality of life.
7. Business's that create jobs and contribute to the tax base.
8. About too little stop signs
9. Concerns about future development in Kent. I'd like to have input!
10. Citizen input. Concern for environment where I live.
11. Concerned with the way development appears to be going in Kent. Use existing empty structures.

Group II

1. I'm a member of the Steering Committee, but this is my first chance to have input as a citizen. Benefited as resident for 33 yrs, want to pay back to community.
2. Chance to chart a course for change.
3. As a resident I believe it is important to have input into the future of the city and I believe it's important to be part of the solution rather a part of the problem.
4. As the Director of the Chamber of Commerce to provide input on the current and future business environment and help enhance the overall success and quality of life in Kent.
5. Seek balance: resident and business concerns. Worried about the West River neighborhood development, concerned about historic preservation & I plan to live here until I'm quite old.
6. To give my personal input on how the city can improve its community.
7. As a member of the Steering Committee, I felt my attendance was important. I also want to provide input into the process and enhance the quality of life in Kent.
8. I am here because it is a requirement for citizenship in community for Boy Scouts. I think these issues are important.
9. Community Problem Solving Operation ACT.
10. I'm here because me and my friend want to contribute from our class, CPS.
11. Seems to be a good community communication forum. (Vs. council mtgs, etc.).
12. Hear the ideas for improving the city.

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

February 15, 2001

GROUP I

1. Water from Lake Erie to Cuyahoga	1 ☆
2. Process of sustainable development	2 ☆
28. Long term planning & sustainable development plan	
3. Downtown business & retention	2 ☆
4. Urban sprawl & local development	4 ☆
5. Performing arts in downtown	
11. Pass	3 ☆
14. KSU arts in downtown & arts consortium	
22. Artists as resources to redevelop & offer incentives	
6. Continue to develop parks w/develop (& dog, park)	3 ☆
23. Develop river area as trail area (Rails to Trails)	
7. Increase of youth facilities & programs	
8. Too many fights @ Sr. Mead. & downtown Kent	1 ☆
9. High tech incubator & high \$ jobs (now low \$ jobs)	
10. Balance w/city & KSU in terms of business/development resources	1 ☆
12. West River as res. & comm.	2 ☆
13. Improve communication W/city, KSU & community (televised council meetings)	2 ☆
37. Regular community forums & block activities	
38. Public education on muni finances	
15. Address/attack drug problems	
16. Housing stock improvements & programs to assist	
17. Mend fences with neighbors—regional planning	
34. J.E.D.P. Participation for E.D.	
18. Hotel is bad idea	2 ☆

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

February 15, 2001

GROUP I

19. Encourage use of old/existing buildings		
20. Too few police department patrols at night		
21. Youth gangs in Kent	1	☆
26. Gang graffiti		
24. Review programs & funds that are ineffective & reprogram		
25. Share resources w/other communities		
27. Stigmatizing of neighborhoods & racial undertones		
29. Settle dam issue w/least costly alternative	1	☆
30. Add improved traffic control @ schools		
31. Too many drug stores		
32. Planned thought develop that does not negatively impact residential areas	1	☆
33. Long term plan for physical environment		
35. Transit w/rail system		
36. Review policy on street signs		
39. Too many kids on school busses	1	☆
40. City & schools work together		
41. Downtown parking		
42. Increase pedestrian access	1	☆
43. Save the dam	1	☆
44. Save the bog	2	☆

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
WARRANTING THE CITY'S ATTENTION & RESOURCES**

February 15, 2001

GROUP II

1.	More nature, less vinyl		
2.	Reduce pharmacies and use land for more productive use		
3.	Preserve historic nature & appeal of Kent		
37.	Preserve historical sites with attention/concern to natural resources	3	☆
40.	\$ resource for restoration residential / business		
4.	Attention to sidewalks maintenance & safeth & handicap accessibility	6	☆
12.	Street maintenance		
13.	Greater accomodation for disabled		
5.	Meainful business back into vacant storefronts		
8.	Develop & implement policy for sustainable development	3	☆
45.	New zoning reg.		
6.	Storm water improvement		
7.	Development of comprehensive walk/bike trail system – bikers	2	☆
9.	Develop & maintain viable employment w/living wages especially for economic & social enfranchised	1	☆
10.	Improve parental support of children at risk	1	☆
11.	Community/youth rec facility		
15.	Youth oriented center	6	☆
22.	Indoor rec center for everyone (skate)		
44.	Roller skating		
14.	Address loss of businesses in downtown		
16.	Public access to county library branches/computers/education		
17.	Conserve graffitl		
18.	Support arts community/cultural centers	1	☆

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
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February 15, 2001

GROUP II

19. Old hotel issue	
20. Raise beautification, lower vandalism	2 ☆
21. More industry raise tax revenue	
23. Alternative transportation & traffic claming	
24. More community meetings	2 ☆
25. Raise interacial discussion within community	
26. Residential safety (lighting)	1 ☆
27. Take more advantage of KSU resources	
28. New hotel downtown	4 ☆
39. New hotel complex	
29. Embrace & support non-profit & service groups	1 ☆
30. Raise labor pool	
31. River edge development	3 ☆
47. West River neighborhood	
32. Save dam and raise water in Cuyahoga River	
33. Spin off technology into local business community, raise jobs, raise tax	
34. Dog poop removal/respect	
35. Support downtown walking community w/specialty , needed mercantile	
36. Bikers/skateboard safety	
38. Improve existing apartment housing in respect to safety & maintenance	

**WHAT ARE TOP PRIORITY ISSUES & PROJECTS
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February 15, 2001

GROUP II

41. Friendly's!

42. Arts in school & promotion thereof!

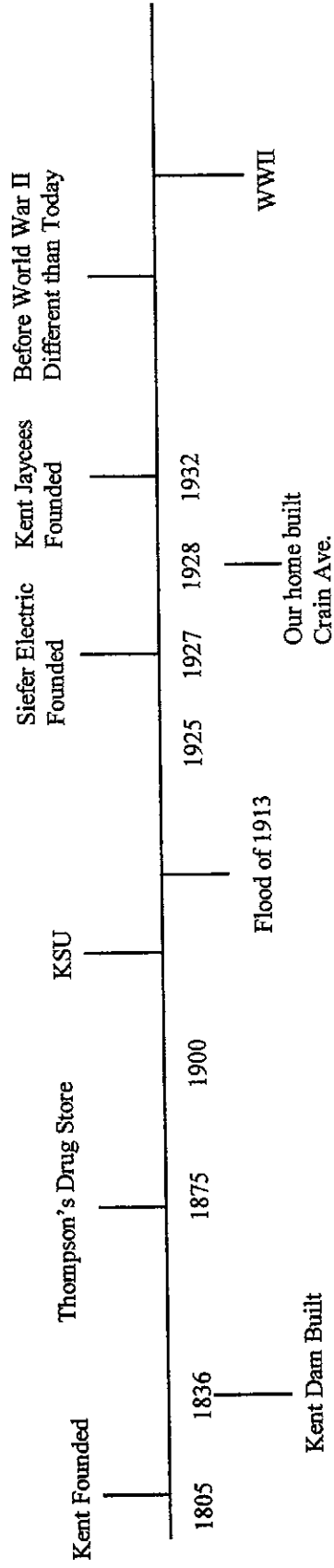
43. Preserve middle income housing

46. Efficient security & safety within community

48. Preservation of Masonic Temple

APPENDIX

I



Recycling Instituted

