## **CITY OF WINTER PARK**

# COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS MAY 11 –JUNE 4, 2011

**Facilitated by** 

Ms. Marilyn Crotty Ms. Michelle Gardner Florida Institute of Government University of Central Florida

## INTRODUCTION

The City of Winter Park convened a series of informal meetings where residents, the business community, civic and religious organizations, and other community stakeholders shared their hopes and aspirations for the future of the city. Through facilitated discussions and small group interaction, participants provided suggestions to the Mayor and City Commissioners who were in attendance to listen to the conversations. The meetings were held on May 11, 16, 20, and June 4, 2011 at a variety of locations throughout the city.

Participants at each workshop were asked to identify the treasures and values of the community, the things (whether physical places, or intangibles like community character) that they love about the city and want to see continued, protected or improved.

They were then divided into small groups and asked to discuss the following: Identify community needs - something, not now in place, that would improve the general quality of life or the business environment in Winter Park . Identify opportunities - conditions or features that have potential to contribute to a better quality of life or business environment if used wisely.

After reports from the small group discussions, the attendees were asked to state one thing they would change about the city.

The Florida Institute of Government at the University of Central Florida designed and facilitated the workshops. This report includes a summary of observations and conclusions of the entire initiative as well as a compilation of the findings at each session.

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

## **SUMMARY OF**

## **OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS**

The Community Conversations initiative provided a wonderful opportunity for Winter Park's citizens, businesses and organizations to share thoughts and ideas with each other and with their elected officials. The participants were, for the most part, very positive about the city and contributed creative ideas for its continued success. While the numbers and the people who attended the workshops represented some segments of the community, they did not reflect the size and diversity of the city's population. Despite numerous efforts to publicize the initiative using a variety of mechanisms (press releases, web site, Facebook, Twitter, E-News, Update, direct e-mails, posters, and flyers), the 80+ participants were a small fraction of the 28,000 residents of the city.

When asked to identify the **treasures and values** of the city, the responses from all four sessions coalesced around the following issues:

- The people of Winter Park who are seen as friendly, concerned, and possessing integrity
- The natural environment of the city including the lakes, the trees (canopy), parks and green space
- Park Avenue with its shops and small town ambience
- The cultural and educational amenities available including the museums, Rollins College, the library, schools, and special events

Most people expressed a love and appreciation of all the things that make Winter Park the city it is and a desire to maintain the essence of the community into the future.

During the small group discussions of **needs and opportunities**, the participants identified numerous issues and suggested some solutions. At times they had difficulty understanding the difference between a need and an opportunity, so there was overlap in some of the priorities that were designated. In looking at the **priority needs** that were agreed upon at each session, **transportation** arose as the most common issue that was identified by every group. This included multi-modal transportation, additional walking and bike routes, sidewalk maintenance, intra-city transportation (mini-bus) and improved traffic flow throughout the city.

There was consensus on other needs focusing on:

- Sustainability
  - Economic improved tax base

- o Environmental
- Appearance
  - o Gateways
  - o Cleanliness
  - o Roadway beautification
  - o Set backs
  - o Undergrounding of electric lines
  - Code enforcement
- The People
  - o Engage youth
  - o Citizen involvement
  - o Civility

The **priority opportunities** linked closely to the identified needs with **citizen engagement** as the most frequently stated item. Suggestions under this topic included a citizen think tank; greater use of friends groups and advisory boards; better use of social capital; increased voter registration and turn out; and outreach to youth.

Consensus on other opportunities centered on:

- Transportation
  - Rethinking modes and patterns
  - Parking with one-way streets
  - Park Avenue without cars (special events)
- Environment
  - o Access to lakes
  - o Mead Gardens
  - o Sustainability
  - o Green technology
- History
  - o Preservation
  - Promotion of heritage

The final activity of each workshop gave the participants the opportunity to suggest **one change** they would like to see in Winter Park. The overwhelming response indicated a desire to increase **civility** among the elected officials and the citizens; to change the tone of the City Commission meetings; and to listen with respect to others' opinions.

At the conclusion of each session, the facilitator asked the participants to comment on the Community Conversations initiative. People liked the format and were appreciative of the opportunity to share their ideas and concerns with each other and the elected officials. Many expressed disappointment at the small turnout and acknowledged the difficulty in engaging citizens. Most felt there was great value in this type of interaction and hope the city will benefit from the ideas that were generated.

## SESSION 1 Mount Vernon Inn May 11, 2011

#### **TREASURES AND VALUES**

Approximately 25 people attended this workshop and identified the following as important to the community. The number or percent after each treasure indicates how many people included the item in their list.

Downtown central business district (80%) Library (6) Rollins College (7) Full Sail (1) Central Park (60%) Village concept- walking distance (6) Lakes (2) Tree canopy (3) Historic preservation (12) Parks and open space (12) Public events (15) Quality of life-safety and services Small businesses (2) Concerned citizens (6) Loyalty Volunteers (4) Size- small town (5) Residential community (6) Historical west side (2) Accessible sidewalks and access (4) Brick streets (1) Authenticity Museums and cultural activities (4) Places of worship Pet friendly Golf courses (2) Police and fire department (3) Location of city Livable human scale of buildings (8) YMCA

Vision for city Comprehensive plan (1) K-12 schools (5) Tennis courts Elected officials, advisory boards, staff Scenic boat tour (5) Top restaurants (1) Farmer's market (2) Casa Feliz

#### **SMALL GROUP REPORTS**

#### Group 1

#### Needs

The following needs were identified with consensus on the asterisked issues as the priorities: \*Code enforcement- revenue stream, fines for violations, better enforcement,

maintenance of main roads and trees, (what makes Winter Park, Winter Park), not a "brand" but trees, parks, lakes, no cars parked in yards.

\*Clean streets by merchants at opening and city trash Saturday removal.

\*Identify vacancies and put displays in windows (museums, city, possibly by Chamber or Rotary) A downtown market – Corner of Park Ave and Comstock

Respectful dialog

Preservation of community character by boards

Keep Post Office downtown

Maintain scale and character of development

Improvements:

Roads

Expand Central Park Post Office

Clean sidewalks on opening by stores

Displays by museums/city in vacant stores

Better code enforcement- make Winter Park look like Winter Park- lighting, parking on grass,

cars and boats, trash accumulation.

Improve entries to Winter Park (Aloma and Lakemont)

## **Opportunities**

The following opportunities were designated as priorities:

\*Better code enforcement of ordinances and collection of fines

\*Better entrances to City at Lee, Fairbanks and Aloma

## Group 2

#### Needs

The following needs\* were identified with consensus on the asterisked issues as the priorities: \*First do no harm - re: Carlisle- out of character

People tired of fighting large scale development on Park Ave. \*Recognize and protect community assets \*Draw the line on Park Ave. as a community asset to preserve \*Promote Hannibal Square and Park Ave. as equally desirable destinations (education/marketing) More civility in commission meetings- more participation Put historical plaques on buildings Larger historical Museum One way streets- Park Ave./New York (parking improvements) Pedestrian nights – twice a month Criteria for acceptable board members/appointees Relocate City Hall to State Office Building and rent existing city hall for retail New library- more space/more parking= more efficient Centralize community assets, walk to community services Develop old driver license building for more parking- Winter Park Village Bike friendly paths **Bicycle shop** "X" exclusive mindset- retail/stores **Retail hours - longer** More dining on Park Avenue

## **Opportunities**

The following opportunities\* were designated as priorities: \*Focus on history and preservation of downtown historic area \*Parking via one-way streets

- \*Criteria for candidates for boards/appointments (civility).
- \*Retain assets- lease not sell

Advertise in other cities

Identify assets underused, i.e. parking garage on Denning across from Winter Park Village Rethink current assets i.e. barber shop, Pittsburgh Glass, repurpose existing. Keep WP Identity

## Group 3

#### Needs

The following needs\* were identified with consensus on the asterisked issues as the priorities: \*Shops open at night \*Better walk and bike routes

\*Retain single family density (8,000 SF, 4000 MF)

Fairbanks west

Angel investment group

Glassblowing add to Morse

Maintain small town character and pass on to future generations

Clean up dog park

More street lights

Better landscape- library Getting answers Four/five star hotel Better traffic control Aloma- 2 lanes Renegotiate YMCA agreement to expand services Keep charities in Winter Park Increase philanthropy in Winter Park 1500 seat performance center Question Canton/NY development area benefits- what are they? Promote entrepreneurship Quiet train crossings

#### **Opportunities**

The following opportunities\* were designated as priorities: \*Mead Gardens \*Access to lakes \*No cars on Park Ave all the time More marketing - promote Winter Park Focus on local business Use of our parks Protect the quality of public education Mini-mall, walking retail on Lee Road Further expansion of Morse Make sidewalk 5' wide WP Institute program- new Animated Magazine New Rollins hotel 500-2000 hotel rooms Increase retail opportunities- Morse/New York Tours- Historic homes, Rollins

Christmas village around the ice rink

#### Group 4

#### Needs

The following needs\* were identified with consensus on the asterisked issues as the priorities: \*Underground utilities, master plan \*Beautify public roadways

- \*Expand library services, update technology
- More public lake access
- Expand historical museum
- Increase bike paths
- Integrate infrastructure- East/West/Old Winter Park
- City processes that are more user friendly

## **Opportunities**

The following opportunities\* were designated as priorities:

\*Cultivate private donors to improve city projects

\*Citizen think tank- ongoing basis

\*Model integrated technology community- library, city services, wifi, underground utilities, Winter Park app

## One thing to change...

All of the participants were asked to identify one thing they would like to change about the city. The following suggestions were made with the number in () indicating repeats: City committee meetings (shorter) Tone and atmosphere of Commission meetings (3) Park Avenue open at night Defense of the Comprehensive Plan and historic district (1) Revenues to maintain public services Too much development on 17-92 and Lee Rd. Quality of life issues Business development center pillar- charm and beauty of Winter Park Long range view of city history and assets- city staff, commission, developers Focus on people, not development Enforce ordinances and code throughout Winter Park Balance in development, occupy empty space Negativity during campaigns People before politics Preserve downtown Concentrate on the positive possibilities Master plan Dream, more heart Historical plaques on buildings

## Session 2 Winter Park Library May 16, 2011

## **TREASURES AND VALUES**

Approximately 20 people attended this workshop and identified the following as important to the community. The number or percent after each treasure indicates how many people included the item in their list.

Park Avenue (8)

Natural bodies of water (5) Parks to residents ratio (3) Central park (5) Open green space (3) Golf course Recreation programs (4) Library (8) Rollins College (5) Morse museum (cultural corridor) (6) Museums (3) Casa Feliz Performing arts groups and activities Right size buildings in right places (9) Police and fire departments- award winning (6) Tree canopy (4) Uncluttered streets without street-side mail boxes (3) Historic period buildings (6) History of the City of Winter Park Commercial/professional services convenient to Winter Park (2) Art festival (5) Special events (8) Character of Winter Park (sense of place) Foster: Environment (3) Diversity (3) Democracy (charter form of government) Civility (2) City employees (3) Quiet Residential character (9) Schools within community Health services, hospital Churches Farmer's market

#### **SMALL GROUP REPORTS**

#### Group 1

#### Needs

The following needs were identified with consensus on the asterisked issues as the priorities: \*Multi-modal transportation plan Bike accessibility to downtown Reduce rough brick streets (Pennsylvania, Lake Sue specifically) Mini bus, circulator bus \*Environmental/ quality of life Improved recycling Improved care of tree canopy and parks Underground electric Reconfigure Fleet Peoples Park (people's use of amenities) Observe setbacks for new construction

\*Mixed use downtown

New library - accessible library Downtown market (food-grocery) Downtown post office

Higher level of senior services, youth services (teens) Provide tour bus parking. Market this to conventions, hotels Affordable housing in downtown area (meaning not luxury housing)

## **Opportunities**

The following opportunities\* were designated as priorities: \*Gateway development \*Community outreach to our children

\*Downtown movie theater

*This group also identified a value for the city:* Aging in place - "Front desk" or "concierge" programs in other towns

#### Group 2

#### Needs

The following needs were identified with consensus on the asterisked issues as the priorities: \*Welcome new citizens and integrate into the community (hospitality/information) \*Broad citizen involvement in city concerns

Time constraints of families and jobs- how can we make it convenient? \*Maintain character of neighborhoods- more green / size (FAR) Unobstructed sidewalks Aloma Avenue traffic ? Improvement of gateways to Winter Park More foot traffic on Park Avenue Civility

## Opportunities

*The following opportunities\* were designated as priorities:* \*Rethinking transportation

- a. Trains
- b. Buses
- c. Traffic patterns

\*Citizen participation in city projects other than \$

\*Future homes and commercial buildings fit the character of the community

## Group 3

## Needs

The following needs were identified with consensus on the asterisked issues as the priorities: Traffic flow \*Getting around our City - traffic, sidewalks, bikes, public transportation \*Controlled growth: comprehensive plan, concurrence, parks ratio, village scale \*Full disclosure, democracy and civility Intra-city transportation- clean alternative vehicles Wider sidewalks- Aloma and Osceola Avenues- better maintained Better bike paths Uncluttered streets- remove curbside mail boxes Controlled growth of Winter Park Scale and density of buildings Green space- more park space Adherence to comprehensive plan Protect level of service: concurrence Bring pensions into line with private sector Civility- Mayor/commission and citizens Upgrade commission salaries Full disclosure (and more facts) about city issues (SunRail, library, city hall, state office building)," more honest pros and cons", SunRail, traffic flow issues New headquarters for Winter Park Historical Society Finish construction projects Stop block voting! **Opportunities** 

The following opportunities\* were designated as priorities:

- \*Capture additional revenue from tourists/visitors
- \*Increase voter registration and turn out
- \*Make Winter Park more environmentally sustainable and profitable; increase eco-tourism.

## One thing to change...

All of the participants were asked to identify one thing they would like to change about the city. The following suggestions were made with the number in () indicating repeats: Political Civility (3) "Form Based" zoning code Rough bricks Remove curbside mailboxes Disclosure- more information, transparency (1) Fairbanks- matches City of Winter Park Increase environmental conservation Underground utilities (power) Fiscal balance of commercial/residential, appropriate development Building community relationships- youth, seniors, newcomers

## Session 3 Winter Park Welcome Center May 20, 2011

#### **TREASURES AND VALUES**

Approximately 20 people attended this workshop and identified the following as important to the community. The number or percent after each treasure indicates how many people included the item in their list.

Sense of community (4) People in Winter Park (1) Historic value (3) Far seeing spirit Long term value Small town quality (5) Easy access to city officials (3) Family focused Safety Cleanliness Landscaping/flowers Green space (5) Lakes Parks (9) Work of advisory boards Tree canopy (9) Residential neighborhoods Variety of architecture Community events Cultural facilities Rollins College- relationship with community Character of residents Integrity Caliber of citizens City services: water/power, level of service Park Avenue charm Scenic Boat Tour

Locations for community involvement- "Third Places" Attraction to new residents Diverse communities Generational Churches Schools Dog friendly attitude Egalitarian feel Active lifestyle

#### Group 1

#### Needs

The following needs were identified with consensus on the asterisked issues as the priorities: \*Cultural consortium \*Return mini bus \*Commission needs to stop micromanaging boards, procedures, city departments More employees Quadruple city forestry department Enlarge and/or construct event center/venue Improve recycling/garbage pickup Increase town hall meetings Council of elders for venting and vetting

#### **Opportunities**

The following opportunities\* were designated as priorities: \*Utilize social capital – Rollins, seniors, students \*To broaden view of Winter Park, not downtown only Streamline development process- user friendly Recruit businesses for jobs Interlocal services culture, art Strengthen town 'n gown relation Enhance Showalter/Ward to become destination Uniquely postponed to talk about large community assets

#### Group 2

#### Needs

The following needs were identified with consensus on the asterisked issues as the priorities: \*Improve traffic/aesthetics on entrances to city

Welcome to Winter Park sign

Limit cut-through traffic

\*Improve tax base with reasonable commercial development near Winter Park Village, Lee Rd./Aloma (within Winter Park city limits)

Support local businesses, encourage shop local campaigns Balance economic development/ quality of life Support comprehensive plan with routine review

\*Engage youth for future leadership

Youth advisory board Mentoring

#### Civility

Avoid conflicts of interest Eliminate personal attacks Evenhandedness Mutual respect/courtesy Open- mindedness Reconcile perceived political divide

More walking and bike paths

#### Opportunities

The following opportunities\* were designated as priorities: \*Tying Rollins/city together Joint events Education of citizens \*Redevelopment to compliment quality of life \*Joint effort to promote heritage tourism/community Rollins, chamber, city, arts/museums Encourage community support of small/local businesses Reinstate community schools

#### Group 3

#### Needs

The following needs were identified with consensus on the asterisked issues as the priorities: \*Generous set-backs for future development \*Service alleys for future development \*Keep sidewalks clean and in good repair Revise election cycle Guidelines for friends groups Strategic trash and recycle receptacles Limit vacancies Expand usage potential of Fleet Peoples Park Increase maintenance level of Mead Gardens

## Opportunities

The following opportunities\* were designated as priorities:

\*Great resource in the friends groups in concert with the city

\*Strategic planning, business development in zones outside the CRA

\*Maintain numbers of advisory boards and volunteer members

## One thing to change...

Eliminate Tree Preservation Board Civility- improve the level Less micromanagement by elected officials Chamber of Commerce - embrace all of Winter Park community Increase collaboration Improve gateways into the City of Winter Park Embrace tourism and non-residents Sustainable environmentalism for profitability

## Session 4 Winter Park Presbyterian Church June 4, 2011

#### **TREASURES AND VALUES**

Approximately 17 people attended this workshop and identified the following as important to the community. The number or percent after each treasure indicates how many people included the item in their list.

Park Avenue (6) Natural Environment (90%) Lakes Tree canopy Parks Open green spaces (3) Friendly community (4) Safe community (4) Police Fire Personal safety (6) Small town with lots of amenities (10) Rollins College (4) Commitment to excellence Government and citizens Out of the box thinking Special events (3) Christmas parade Art show

Public school support Library (5) Variety of housing Few gated communities Mixed Churches (4) Mix of opportunities (5) Community Residential Sports **Balanced** community Golf course (6) Generations continue, young people return to live in Winter Park Engagement of young people Family friendly environment (3) Winter Park Health Foundation Morse Museum and all others (90%) **Educational opportunities** Life long Private and public institutions Lots of free activities **Chamber of Commerce Civic Organizations** Women's club Cautiously progressive Citizen involvement in city plans (for example Park Avenue renovation) Measured use of technology for progress Peacocks on stop signs Sense of place and pride Utilities Cleanliness Population density-reasonable Scale of buildings Shops on Park Avenue - quality Trains Transportation systems Bikes Pedestrian Limit trucks Opportunities for public service Advisory boards **Commission meetings** Transparency Vibrant community

## Group 1

#### Needs

The following needs were identified with consensus on the asterisked issues as the priorities: \*More entries- gateways to city

\*Sustainability of the economy

Rounding out commercial property for tax base

\*Undergrounding

\*How we talk and listen to one another, respect differing opinions More money!

Less money-lower tax base= less services (less money = fewer people) Consideration of non-taxable property Use branding that is already out there Embrace changing ways that younger people shop Green spaces- maintaining them adequately Library- what next? Assessment of community (10 years old) Includes parks, facilities, demographics of families, schooling

State office building- do something!

Feeling that the police officer is here to protect me and not just sitting in wait

#### **Opportunities**

The following opportunities\* were designated as priorities: \*Willingness to listen and accept difference in opinions \*Promote green technology- green city \*Buy local- shop local Technology used to increase volunteerism Willingness to tax ourselves for what we value Close the avenue quarterly for street parties Safe streets initiative- sidewalks, crosswalks, bike lanes Imperative to listen to resident's suggestions and ideas Quiet zone between Whispering Waters and Cloisters

## Group 2

#### Needs

The following needs were identified with consensus on the asterisked issues as the priorities: \*Sidewalks throughout city

Completion/repair of needed sidewalks

\*Way to cross the street at the Winter Park Towers

\*Gateway image (Fairbanks, Lee Rd., Aloma Avenue, Northside of Park Avenue)

Public transportation within Winter Park

Traffic calming for drive through traffic

Palmer

New York (Post Office) Lakemont near Towers Cortland (near Brewer's Curve) More lake access- public Brick entry to Waterbridge needs attention (Lakemont) Repair brick streets, in disrepair Post Office area needs to be cleaned up Traffic pattern for pedestrians on Park Ave during outdoor dining Clutter, tables, posters on sidewalks impede passage Trash pick-up on weekends in public spaces on Park Avenue Videotape commission meetings Trees need trimming or signs raised to see the signage

Program to upgrade

Street lamps Mailboxes Cable/power boxes Street signs

## **Opportunities:**

The following opportunities\* were designated as priorities: \*City owned property is better utilized State building \*Public transportation within Winter Park \*Program to upgrade street lamps, mailboxes, cable/power boxes and street signs. Train- Sunrail Sidewalks throughout city Lakemont to Showalter Field Grow tax base responsibly Pedestrian Mopvement Way to cross street from Winter Park Towers- button to push to change light to pass or traffic light at Towers exit Merchandise or market city pins

## One thing to change...

Civility

Election process Establish a code of conduct Collegiality and courtesy among elected officials Move the gazebo to the opposite corner of the west meadow Adopt "Change Starts With Me" program Change the perception of being unwelcoming to new businesses

Continue sidewalks from Lakemont in front of Presbyterian Church from Dundee to Showalter Field

Phone system queue notification that will let you know where you are in the queue – "you are number \_\_\_\_\_ in line"





At the June 27, 2011 City Commission meeting, the Commission directed staff to continue its COMMUNITY *Conversations* online. For a two-week period from **Monday**, July 11, through Monday, July 25, 2011, the community had a chance to join in the conversation via the city's website.

#### LORIDA to the GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS EMPLOYMENT VISITORS RESIDENTS MEDIA City Inte City Inte Community Converse **Community Conversations Home** City Info Home City News Community Conversations Blog > Community Conversations Survey + Election Infe Community Conversations 2011 Report all Giving Proc ng Bod State of the City Add stainability Prog

A total of 77 people participated in the Electronic COMMUNITY *Conversations*. The following is a breakdown of the number of people via each method of conversation:

- 68 people participated in the COMMUNITY Conversations blog
- 7 people participated in the COMMUNITY Conversations survey
- 2 people submitted emails to <u>TownMeeting@cityofwinterpark.org</u>

Attached are the unedited responses to the Electronic COMMUNITY *Conversations* that are included as an addendum to the original COMMUNITY *Conversations* report.

## CITY OF WINTER PARK

401 Park Avenue South

Winter Park, Florida

32789-4386





VISITORS RESIDENTS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS MEDIA EMPLOYMENT

## Community Conversations Blog

 What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The things (whether physical places or intangibles like community character) you love about the oty and want to see continued, protected or improved.

 What are the needs for Winter Park? Something not in place now that would improve the general quality of life or the business environment of Winter Park.

3. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Conditions or features that have the potential to contribute to a better quality of the or business environment if used weeky.

4. What is the one thing you'd change about your city?

#### What Others Are Saying

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**City Info Home** 

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2007 State of the City Address

2008 State of the City Address

 
 Previous Projects and initiatives
 666
 What are the treasures and values of Winter Park?

 State of the City Addresses
 Bark Avenue has never looked better! The Rovers, street scope and expanded park are fantastic, And Morse Boulevard is spectacular. The resolution was thoughtful and careful and it is fatulouis. Thanks to the City for such paratiking planning and execution. Bravel There the sense of community 1 get from Wing in this wonderful, and, oh so beautiful town.

 What are the needs for Winter Park?

 The city commission meetings should be tolevised. Most othes, and many, much, much smaller than Winter Park, belowed the proceedings and then run them on a public access channel. 1 think you'd see greater public partopation in city affairs and at the polis.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Agatha FRANCES	A.Frances@me.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Village atmosphere. Ability to live and work here v What are the needs for Winter Park? Comprehensive affordable worksite housing plan. So workers can afford to live here. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Redevelopment of Fairbanks and lee road corridor. Housing and business growth. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Racial divide breeding Economic divide. Lip service projects that don't get to root problems. Habitat homes with high utilities bills defeat purpose of low housing cost.
Ann Saurman	annsaurman@yahoo.bom	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Central Park and other parks When the commuter rail station is in operation Central Park may become a bus terminal. We all know that bus terminals are usually dirty and the buses are waiting with their motors running. This is going to have a very negative effect on the park and downtown with the traffic problems and litter. I think you are going to need to plan very carefully to be sure this doesn't destroy the golden egg.NeighborhoodsPark Ave.Churches and SchoolsRollins CollegeMuseumsCommunity SpiritTrees What are the needs for Winter Park? Do you do exit surveys when businesses go out of business? You could keep a record of what goes wrong. Interview those that have been here a long time to find out what they feel has contributed to their success. Have this information available for new businesses. Was it the rent? the fact that there were already 10 jewelers etc.lt would be good to have regular times for collecting hazardous waste and electronic waste. The outdoor seating should not be allowed to take over the sidewalks. It is difficult to walk past some of the restaurants.It was too expensive, but the former mini buses were very helpful for getting around town. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Continue to manage the lake quality.Restore the creek in Mead Garden What is the one thing you'd change about your city? I am not against growth that is in scale with the city. I believe that the fact that Winter Park is copied means that we have something special here. I don't like to see neighborhoods completely rebuilt. I think we need to continue to look for fair ways to control the amount of building on properties.I think we should try to keep interesting types of architecture from certain eras such as the city hall and post office. This is what gives a city character and intergrity. These buildings may not be historic now, but if they are torn down they certainly have no chance of becoming historic. We have examples in Baldwin Park and Celebration o
Annie Sher	anniesher@gmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The open parks, lakes, and trees are what make Winter Park such a beautiful and quaint town. The peaceful streets and small town feel help to preserve the city's authentic and welcoming character. What are the needs for Winter Park? A good solution to the East-West traffic flow that will be a result of the SunRail stop in WP. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Development on Fairbanks.
Betty Jones	bcjones@rollins.edu	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Winter Park is very quaint. The Rollins College campus reminds me of New England. The shops downtown are unique and interesting. The food is good, and it's a great place to mingle with friends and colleagues. What are the needs for Winter Park? Shuttle services to downtown area from some central parking facility.Fast food on the right side of the road on 17-92 (heading south bound). What are the opportunities for Winter Park? The downtown area seems to be representative of the Winter Park area. To outsiders, the quality of life may not seem to be an issue. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? The cross walk from the parking garage to Rollins campus is dangerous. I would suggest that this is changed to a catwalk.
Bill Walker	wwalker787@aol.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The gentle feel of our central and other business areas when economically vital and welcoming to fresh entrepreneurs. Our special places of beauty and rest, both for body and soul. Our focus on quality and public well-being. What are the needs for Winter Park? Improving ease of transport at all levels, so that our citizens can move about within and without the city with greater ease and efficiency. At present, choices to do so are limited. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Easing the tension which resides around how tightly to control the future. Remembering that this special place got to this point with a balanced approach to implementing change. Trusting the future with gentle but clear regulations. Continue the current focus on transparency and both informative and facilitory communications to and among our citizens. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Not much. Yet I am open to change that becomes possible and which is reasonably nexus to our past and current character. What we have today is the result of thousands of instances of change.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Bud Perry	bperry@oakleyusa.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Beautiful downtown and lovely neighborhoods surrounding the downtown area. Probably the best in Florida! What are the needs for Winter Park? Clean up Fairbanks corridor, it is a disgrace for the main entry into the City. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Take advantages of UCF an Rollins, these are tremendous assets to our community. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? The permitting process for getting new projects approved in Winter Park is the most time consuming and costly process I have encountered anywhere. This is somewhat discouraging to those of us attempting to help create new jobs in this community.
Charles Brenner	Charlesbrenner@gmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The winter park community has a unique placement in my mind,I am proud to tell many people about winter park in my travels,I am also glad to come back home to this city,The Fairbanks issue needs to be addressed,an adminstrive order to commercial zoning needs to be done on the north side of Fairbanks,this would allow the shallow depth on the exist commercial to be extended to the properties on there north,this would allow new business,to start coming into this area with the new sewer and road upgrades What are the needs for Winter Park? See last comments,eliminate any alcohol hours restrictions on restaurants What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Ease the time frame to get projects built and expedite the procedure What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Bickering,among the citizens in hateful manners
Charles Kulmann	ckulmann@gmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Park Avenue has never looked better! The flowers, street scape and expanded park are fantastic. And Morse Boulevard is spectacular. The renovation was thoughtful and careful and it is fabulous. Thanks to the City for such painstaking planning and execution. Bravo! I love the sense of community I get from living in this wonderful, and, oh so beautiful town. What are the needs for Winter Park? The city commission meetings should be televised. Most cities, and many, much, much smaller than Winter Park, televise the proceedings and then run them on a public access channel. I think you'd see greater public participation in city affairs and at the polls. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? I hope that Sun Rail is successful for central Florida and for Winter Park. I am concerned about the impact of the station on the park and the commuter bus traffic around the downtown area. Suggest we approach these construction and execution issues with the same care that we have with the downtown improvements. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Same as #2
Chip Weston	cweston1@cfl.rr.com	What are the needs for Winter Park? A more balanced economic and tax base with a larger reserve in the city and larger endowments for major organizations like the Chamber. We need a better organization to promote the sustainability of of our major cultural organizations and events. We need to consider predicted changes in demographics and the likelihood of regional challenges in regard to water, transportation, and an overall changing economic base. We need a better integrated educational system, both public, private and lifelong, that meets the demands for the high communication and technology future. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? The City has an opportunity to promote density adjacent and within walking distance of the new SunRail station. There should be a comprehensive study of what can be accomplished in this regard over the next 20 years so that growth is sustainable and adds to the diversity of our tax base. We need to do a better job of trying to integrate all citizens into the fabric of our community. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? The city and government need to be regional participants. Too often, Winter Park takes a backseat at best, or is xenophobic and myopic at worst. As the economy comes back, density will increase on our borders We need a comprehensive plan related to annexation to promote greater diversity, control crime, manage transportation, etc.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Clyde Moore	iluvwinterpark@earthlink.net	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Character and charm. HUGE Spanish moss-covered Oak trees and noisy, bumpy brick streets! Definitely dog-friendly downtown, the way merchants put out water bowls for them. EVENTS! Quaint and charming, amazing courtyards. Openness of Central Park much of the time how really quiet it is. Interesting and diverse mix of businesses. The plantings along Park Avenue are always so beautiful! What are the needs for Winter Park? I have no children, but had a parent mention to me that there is really nothing for children to do in Central Park. I think a few swings, or simple pieces of equipment, chosen for a certain aesthetic could be wonderful LUV the diversity, but honestly, I wouldn't mind seeing a high end burger joint or the like. Events are wonderful, but also wouldn't mind seeing even MORE of those! I think we could do with more CELEBRATING of what makes Winter Park unique and wonderful! What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Opportunities are surely many, but I'd like to see them whatever may be suggested be FUN! What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Not a big fan of the train noise when they come through Central Park or block streets and I'm afraid of what that may be in the future. There's always terrific debate around each year's spring election, but the rest of the year it would be WONDERFUL if there was more common celebration of just what a unique and wonderful community it is we all call home!
Don Rudolph	donaldjrudolph@aol.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The better maintained areas of the city. Park Ave/Central Park, the golf course, trees and parks. Lake Island Park What are the needs for Winter Park? More commercial development to support a tax base. The makeover of Fairbanks Ave will not be enough as it is planned now. Proactive policies to move used car lots and empty buildings to make way for a Park Ave streetscape needs to be done. Parking nneds to be improved. How good is a great park if I can't get there to enjoy it. I would also favor safer bike routes. Just carving a strip from a busy highway and declaring is a bike lane is not safe. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Underground utilities are a good thing to maintain electric service and keep trees growing the way they should.(better quality of life) Increase the commercial tax base in the appropriate areas of the city. Encourage class A development and not maximum permitted use. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Add and upgrade the parking around Park Ave. Change the zoning to prohibit industiral loading docks and machinery to be adjacent to residential areas.
Dorothea Fox	dodicpa@embarqmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Treasures include the beauty - landscaping, etc, Rollins. Dog friendly. What are the needs for Winter Park? Less argumentative government. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Get Sunrail back. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Less arguing among politicians. Easier parking downtown. Allow dogs more downtown.
Erik Larsen	elarsen@cfl.rr.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Not very imaginative, but here's my list of places: Rollins College, Central Park, Morse Museum, golf course and the lakes. As to character, the pedestrian-friendly nature of the city is not fully appreciated. When you compare downtown WP to any other community, what immediately sets WP apart is the fact that people actually get out of their cars and walk. People can only enjoy WP (and spend money) when they are not in their cars, and we need to do everything possible to make this convenient for our visitors. What are the needs for Winter Park? We need to encourage pedestrians by providing even better walkways downtown and throughout the city. Sidewalks downtown should be wider. There should be a wide walkway or promenade defining the west side of Central Park. We need to provide more parking that is visible. The "Meadow" was one of the most harmful things that has ever happened to WP merchants. All of the events in the "Meadow" would be much better on pavement! The fashion show, the skating rink, the car show, etc. We have plenty of grassy area for Easter egg hunts and concerts. Remember - we residents know where to find parking - people who live in Altamonte Springs don't! What are the opportunities for Winter Park? The west side of Central Park is a beautiful asset that is ignored, which is the reason for the promenade I suggested above. Meade Gardens should be developed and improved with walkways, bridges, usable picnic areas, etc. Then perhaps we could restore the "Meadow" as an attractive, pedestrian friendly "car park" that can used for special events just as the Meadow is now. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? It's not here yet, but Sunrail is not going to help WP; on the contrary, I think everyone will be surprised at how disruptive the trains are, and how empty they are.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Es Cohen	es.cohen@jfsorlando.org	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Park Avenue and Central Park!! When I have guests from out of town, I always bring them to Park Avenue. It has such a "good feeling". We need to maintain various types of businesses on the avenue and it is nice that there is growth coming off the avenue. We are also very fortunate to have Rollins College in Winter Park. It is a school of excellence. I especially love the Philanthropy Center and all that it offers! What are the needs for Winter Park? As prior responses have said, a hotel.
Frank Ferrell	Frank@FerrellRealtyInc.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The local parks are significant to the beauty of our city and benefit most of its citizens. What are the needs for Winter Park? Improved streetscape of West Fairbanks Ave as the gateway to Winter Park from I-4.
Gerry Marino	gerrymarino@bellsouth.net	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The treasures of Winter Park is Central Park, the shops, the trees and the beautiful streets. The city and the chamber are always proactive on its business community and social life. It's alive with many activities throughout the year and I am able to be part of a culture that has been fostering throughout its history. I read last week that there were issues in Eaton Ville, and the public service officer informed the residence and the visitors of what is happening in the neighboring community. What are the needs for Winter Park? The main concerns is the avaibility parking, parking has always been an issue when there are events in the park or on the avenue. I think the city trys to accommodate the publics needs. Not living in Winter Park its hard for me to give you things that are needed for improvement. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? The opportunities are endless, you can take advantage or you can leave. Its your choice! I think the Sun Rail is a great opportunity for the community and the surrounding community. It it will generate growth and commerce in the community. It generate revenue through sales and people wanting to visit Winter Park. Bring new businesses and add new members to the chamber What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Again, I am a visitor to the city, I shop, relax, and work in the city. The culture of the city is up beat and friendly. There is alot of history in the city. I myself have taken advantage of Leadership Winter Park, been on the Board of Directors for the chamber and is part of the Council of Leaders. I am fully engage and enjoy all aspects of the city. In my eyes I like everything about the city. Why don't I move to the city? The reason is that I am in beded in my community of Winter Springs as well. I would not change a thing.
Gwen Lennox Dee	gwen.lennox@grg.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? It "feels" good to drive into Winter Park from North Park Avenue, pass the beautiful landscaping of homes, past the lovely golf course and, when you reach the main downtown area, it feels like exactly the place you want to be! There is nowhere like it anywhere else in the state. The charm is palpable. What are the needs for Winter Park? We must make development more practical. Too many dilapidated homes and yards are mixed among the well-tended ones. Too many stores and buildings on 17-92 and Lee appear rundown and sad. Developers believe Winter Park has a "Not Welcome" sign posted and that keeps us from having the fresh new look we need badly. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Yes, we must maintain high standards, but we need to adjust current rules and regulations to make development once again feasible and to build our tax base. As residents, we have to move past the divisive Carlisle issue. Today's "post-recession" environment requires that Winter Park must woo new development, not push it away. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Some homes have yards so overgrown they present a hazard to drivers/walkers/bikers by blocking visibility. The unsightliness of these homes affects neighborhood values. I would ask the city to give notice to the owners of such properties to clean up.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Holly Luisi	Holly@TheBohemianBaker.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The ambience of Park Avenue. The beautiful park that is also on Park Avenue. The beautiful trees throughout. A wonderful variety of shops, restaurants. The Park Plaza is an Icon we can be very proud of. The shop owners by and large are very friendly and hospitable. The Art Festivals, The Farmers Market. What are the needs for Winter Park? more parking. More convenient parking. Less harassment by parking patrol matrons who by and large have very nasty demeanors. Most unfriendly and hostile. I have experience this over and over in the past 12 years. Seems like it must be a criteria for the job is to have an unpleasant disposition. We have far too many visitors for this behavior. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? To attract even more Artisan businesses. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Overall, parking is a problem. Even in shopping plazas, they are governed by rules which are too strict.
Jane Hames	jphhoosier@aol.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Tree canopy, old oaks, parks, park benches, sidewalk dining, street-closures for big events, dinner on the Avenue, Polasek Museum, Casa Feliz, Morse Gallery, Tiffany Collection What are the needs for Winter Park? The new Rollins hotel that will facilitate classy events, bring additional fine dining to the neighborhood and offer a fantastic new lounge that will recreate the old Langford style gathering spot! What are the opportunities for Winter Park? The responsible redevelopment and reinvention of the old state office building site will broaden the commercial tax base, extend the vitality of downtown Winter Park to 17-92 and provide an elegant anchor entrance to Morse Boulevard and the WP Civic Center. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Infuse the senior city staff, city attorneys, members of the advisory boards and all the elected officials with an energized, can-do, how-can-we-get-this-done approach to guarantee that good opportunities for the future are not missed because of bureaucratic lethargy.
Jeffrey Cooper	jlcdctalk@gmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Trees, trees, trees. Most visitors that I bring to this area appreciate the lack of dense development that gives WP such character, compared to bigger cities like Orlando. The many opportunities to view the lakes is also a blessing. What are the needs for Winter Park? Gas stations why are we taking them away? What are the opportunities for Winter Park? We can capitalize on our new historic designation by marketing to heritage travelers. We can also plan and encourage office development on Fairbanks. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? I would like to see a dedicated funding source at the county level for SunRail operations and maintenance. The current funding plan for SunRail puts an unfair burden on WP's taxpayers.
Jeffrey Eisenbarth	jeisenbarth@rollins.edu	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Rollins College, a gem in the community that provides considerable cultural, social and economic benefit. What are the needs for Winter Park? A new hotel! Coming soon! What are the opportunities for Winter Park? City staff, Commissioners, Planning and Zoning and other elected officials working together for the benefit of the community. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Everyone working together on a positive note and I believe we are making good progress in this important area.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Jen Bloodworth	JBloodworth@whww.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? - All the park space (Central Park, Hannibal Square area, Lake Island Park, Showalter, Ward Park, Cady Way)- Park Avenue and Hannibal Square shopping and eating districts- Rollins- Historical buildings at the Ninth Grade Center- The lakes, canals, and the boat tour- WPMH and the new WPMH Dr. Philips Baby Place (amazing!)- the new street-scaping down Orange- the museums- all of the "neighborhood" events:-dinner on the avenue-holiday parade and pancake breakfast-fourth of july-art festivals (spring & amp; autum)-movies in the park-sip-taste-all other events that bring people out of the homes and into to WP for fellowship and fun What are the needs for Winter Park? 1 - increased street-scaping on other gateways into WP (Fairbanks, Lee Road for example)2 - increased incentives for more professional businesses to relocated to WP. With the SunRail, it will be that much easier for people to have offices here but still be a part of the bigger Orlando community (this means a need for things like more class A office space)3 - more hotel space4 - a focus on and pride about areas outside of Park Avenue and the immediately surrounding area. I understand the City focuses on all areas, but the residents need to see the gems, focus on, and help promote and support all areas outside of the Park Avenue eintly. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Winter Park has the ability to be a thriving business community as well as the great shopping/eating/living community it already is. With SunRail stopping here, it will be easier to bring more professional businesses here. This is important because it will present an opportunity for more money to be earned in WP and to remain in WP (both through an increased tax base, and through more people moving to the area where they work and spending their money at the shops & amp; restaurants here]. Also, the MBA program at Rollins presents another opportunity to attract new potential business owners to the area. What is the one thing you'd
Jerryjuska Juska	jerryjuska@hotmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Our museums, including the largest collection of Tiffany glass in the world at the Morse Museum, and also the Pollasch and Cornell Museum. Our reputation for education, especially the highly respected Rollins College which has both national rankings and recognition for excellence. Our beautiful environment of trees, flowers, lakes and the green parks in many places around the city. Our rich heritage of nearly a hundred and fifty years. What are the needs for Winter Park? For business, more high tech start-up companies and developments. For culture, more arts & amp; entertainment, like the Winter Park Theatre, or other venues for quality music, exhibits, and enjoyment, like Casa Feliz. Basically, more "big city" things without having to leave Winter Park. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Sun Rail and the related transportation system, if properly planned. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Absolutely nothing, but there is always room for improvement.
Jill Cooper	fooders@aol.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The wonderful sense of community and family. Longevity of businesses in this area. The most dependable fire and police forces. What are the needs for Winter Park? More incentive to work together . Protect and inspire the businesses that have survived the test of time. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Responsibility of community, as far as redevelopment and improvements. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? More communication with business owners and residents about what is happening in their backyard. There are so many wonderful, positive things to focus our attention on!
Jim Madison	choppyIII@aol.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Lakes, Park Avenue, The Villages, tree lined streets, beautiful homes (well, many homes), parks and green spaces. What are the needs for Winter Park? Approaches to Winter Park need cleaning up. Burdensome regulations and ordenances in severe need of improvement. Taxes (assessments) too high. Enlarge civic center on Morse. Encourage developement of the old Langford property on New England What are the opportunities for Winter Park? WP Chamber of Commerce. Volunteer citizenry What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Clean up and develope Morse Blvd west of Denning to 17-92 and north of Fairbanks to railroad tracks

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Joanne Werntz MD	joannewerntz@gmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The historic downtown, brick streets, community activities around the holidays. What are the needs for Winter Park? More downtown activities. I am concerned about keeping the quaintness of downtown with the plans for commuter rail and where the cars will be parked without another ugly large parking garage. The Rolllins/Suntrust garage was tastefully done - the garage by the Morse museum remains an eyesore. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? The dog park. I am a physician and I am very concerned about the health issues of the dogs' waste products contaminating the water. Winter Park has made efforts to clean up the lakes, but ignore the hazards of fecal contamination at Peeple's park. This has to change. Winter Park residents should not be carrying the financial burden of the dog park when it is mainly used by nonresidents. Let us be fiscally responsible and look at this issue from a nonpolitical perspective.
Joe Regner	regnerjoe@gmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The ambience of Park Avenue, Central Park, the Brick Streets and the working relationship between the City, the Chamber and the Business Community. What are the needs for Winter Park? The continuation, review and the updaing of the comprehensive plan for the City and the ongoing forward thinking of the community leaders as it relates to future controlled growth of the City and it's surrounding area and protecting the exisiting ammendaties of our City. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Seeking input from the business community and the residence and working with the County and other comunities to ensure continuity between the leaders of the surrounding area. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Not sure we need to do anything major at this point. The leaders in our community need to have a positive outlook for the future of our community and to ensure the betterment for future generations.
John Skolfield	john@skohomes.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The vibrancy of Park Avenue and Hannibal Square. The continuation of infrastructure improvements such as bricking streets, under-grounding power lines, beautification of Fairbanks, 17-92, and Lee road. Healthy city initiatives. What are the needs for Winter Park? Improve the aesthetics of the city by enforcing he sign ordinances quickly removing tacky signs illegally placed in the right-of-way. If we deputized all city workers to grab them as they see them then the signage would stop appearing. More aggressively control the overgrowth on foreclosed homes. Nobody wins when minimal yard upkeep is ignored. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? The gap between the ambience of Park Avenue/Hannibal Square and other Central Florida dining areas is increasing in my opinion making this a dining area of choice in Central Florida. We can't make a local business overcome poor management or a bad business plan but taking every step possible to keep the couple or family telling their friends that they had a wonderful time in Winter Park should be job #1. Marketing, branding, the coolness of the wonderful landscaping in the beds next to the Avenue all help with this. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Take steps to insure the city is run like a well oiled corporation. I can't imagine the CEO of a \$150M company being being shoved out at great cost with the assistant manager moved up. A well run \$150M company would not have done this! Perhaps it was the right call, I lack the knowledge to weigh in on the success of this but suggest this is not how successful corporations operate. Police and walk on water. Maybe they do, maybe they don't. There must be objective metrics for this with thousands of like sized cities across the country. Are we raving about police and fire out of an objective metric-exceeding performance or political standard procedure. Once again, perhaps there's no room for improvement here. Perhaps there is.
jon gutmacher	office@floridafirearmslaw.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? great dog park, nice village like downtown What are the needs for Winter Park? less stupid speed traps for speed trap sake. Parking for festivals (art shows)stinks. Partner with banks, college, etc - to expand it, and same with city garages which are empty but mostly closed to people at events. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? read #2

Community Conversation participan	t Email	Comments
Joshua Marinov	jmarinov@lammco.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? It is the upscale village ambiance and feel that rivals great communities like Carmel, CA Palm Beach, Greenwich Ct, etc. It is a character that has evolved over the last 100+ years. It cannot be replicated by design and that is what makes Winter Park special. In addition, there are incredibly intelligent, successful people that live in Winter Park. The residents and businesspeople have tremendous intellectual capital. What are the needs for Winter Park? The gateway corridors are atrocious. We need to create an economic and political climate that encourages businesses to redevelop these areas. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Winter Park is the envy of Central Florida. This cachet can be levarged create a dynamic community that balances the old world charms with new business opportunities to keep the City healthy. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? 1. We need to get over the fear of redevelopment. Redevelopment done well is a good thing. 2. Winter Park has a bad habit of constantly revisit issues that have been decided by the people. It seems that a referendum is not good enough if does not decide in favor of certain groups in the City.
Karen Price	kphossell@gmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? I first laid eyes on Winter Park in 1990 while I was on the Amtrak train traveling from visiting my family in Pasco County after a divorce. I was going back to my home on Long Island and I'd been considered relocating to Florida (I lived in Port Richey all through high school), but wanted to live in a place that looked more like the North, with big trees and older buildings. While sitting at the WP train station I saw Park Avenue for the first time and it looked so charming that I wrote "Winter Park" on the back of my check book and decided that when I moved back to be closer to my family I would live in Winter Park, and I didl So the two things I've loved most from the start have been the trees and the architecture, the way so many of the buildings and homes have their own characters and how it blends together. What are the needs for Winter Park? This is taking me a while to come up with because I like so many things about Winter Park. I'm sure a lot of people would say traffic and parking, and I'd agree with that, although I don't think it's terrible, and since the two parking garages have been built parking has been a lot easier. I never park in the garages, but I guess other people dol Outdoor air conditioning would be nice during the summer! Just kidding of course, but the heat is probably my biggest complaint, and there isn't much we can do about that. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Hmmm, not sure. I hope businesses keep coming in, and I'd hate to see empty businesses with "For Lease" signs on them; I think that would be a terrible thing for the community. I love the dog park and the art festivals and would like to see even more community events in the parks. Also, I am a many-times-published writer, and I'd like to see the restoration of the grant the library has offered off and on for someone to research and write about the city. I've written dozens of history books and would love the opportunity to be that person, but I guess it's been disc
Kathryn Grammer	kgram333@cfl.rr.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The trees and open space and authenticity of the village center. A sense that WP has been here for a long time. Its setting among a chain of lakes. What are the needs for Winter Park? Continued focus on redevelopment that is in keeping with the character and values of the community. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Greater efforts to fill empty stores and working to keep retailers from moving out. The Chamber of Commerce and its members play the most important role in this. For example, shop owners should make sure that policies of exclusivity do not prevent others shops from competing freely. In the long term free competition benefits everyone. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Naturally, the divisiveness whether real or imagined. Commissioners should make sure for their part that they don't inadvertently perpetuate rancor and forget their pledges to bring the community together.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Kay Griffith	gkaygriffith@yahoo.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Treasures include the Park on Park avenue, the family parades during holidays and special events, the trees and landscaping of the city.Quain, safe and wonderful environment to live in. What are the needs for Winter Park? Frequent and long power outages are a problem. the dying trees which fall and are a dangerous city hazard. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Nurture the small businesses on Park Avenue and around Winter Park who employ and add to the tax base. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? So much property is owned by Florida Hospital and Rollins College and they do not add to the tax base as non-profits. They are valuable citizens of Winter Park but hold too much control and property.
Kevin Barry	kpbarry32@me.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? intangibles: community, character, charm, pride of the residents in our community. Walking community. A place where you can get out and walk without getting run over by traffic. A place where mothers can bring their infants and strollers to spend a day out of the home. Great food. Boutiques not chain stores. Unassuming luxury. Oak trees. Outdoor events (Dinner on the Ave, concerts and movies in the park, arts festival, parades, etc.) Peacocks. Road races. I would like to see more outdoor events where we block off Park Avenue and let people walk around with a beer or glass of wine and enjoy what Park Ave has to offer. I also love hearing a great saxaphone player out on the Avenue in the evening. What are the needs for Winter Park? I would like to see a much nicer performance stage in the park. Can we ever get rid of the Post Office??? We need "A FRESH COAT OF PAINT." Start a community wide project to tear down unsightly overgrowth, pick up trash, paint buildings, green-up buildings, etc. As residents, we should be outside building sweat-equity in our property values. I know I'm in the minority but, I think we need a new City Hall and a second-to-none train station. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Fairbanks Ave improvements and re-development. Lee Road and 17-92 development. Keep working on the Pennsylvania Ave intersection (it's looking much better). You can annex the 8 houses on Harmon Ave, near Clay, into WP. My house is one of them. Call me and I'll help you get the votes :) While you're at it see if you can drive K-Mart out of town and revamp that entire shopping center. I would still like to see the Enzian somewhere near Park Ave with their small children during the weekdays? That seems to be a great opportunity for some of the merchants. Tear down the state building if you're going to leave it empty. I'd love to see 10 buildozers go to work in this city for about 10 days. Then, let the landscape architects go to work. What is the one thing yo
Kevin O'Donnell	kodonnell35@yahoo.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The community as a whole. People are proud to be from Winter Park. What are the needs for Winter Park? Ease for business owners. The time and effort it takes to get a permit released is absurd. The right hand does not know what the left hand is doing. A basic set of fee's without interpretation would go a long way. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? More "Local" business opportunities. More community events What is the one thing you'd change about your city? My feeling is that some people do not want progress. They love the city the way it is. My view is that we need to learn to change. In a positive way. More businesses does not have to mean the big chain stores. Supporting the local business and the local residents should be at the top of everyone's list.
Kristin Stewart	KristinN.Stewart@gmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Central Park in downtown WP, Rollins campus, the WP boat tour, cleanliness of Park Ave, the farmer's market, the efforts to beautify/releaf the city What are the needs for Winter Park? a business incubator/space for young startups to launchsomething like this: http://www.turbineflats.org/ What are the opportunities for Winter Park? WP has at least two institutions of higher learning within the city limits (Rollins and Full Sail)there is a steady stream of students coming out of these schools with very bright ideas. WP needs to keep these ideas hereencourage these students (and anyone else with new biz ideas) to stay in the area, start businesses, and grow them. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? the frequent power outages.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
linda cooper	xoxothelinda@aol.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? creating and continuing a successful family business in this beautiful city. our customer base is diverse and we are happy to be such a gathering spot to residents and visitors. winter park is a beautiful, vibrant, safe, place to work and play. the very best police and fire protection. What are the needs for Winter Park? recognition of businesses, like mine, that are outside the park avenue district. park avenue is the crown jewel of our beautiful city, but there are many others that support the city equally and deserve to be at the table as such. infrastructure development like the sewer expansion and undergrounding are critical for business success. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? responsible redevelopment, particulary along the 'corridors' that do not penalize existing businesses. If the city desires improvements, we need to work together and be incentivized in the same way that central district/CRA businesses are. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? incorporate common sense into the governing process. we all are and want to continue to be a part of Winter Park's growth and success.such a great place, the list of improvements are short!
lisa coney	InIc1@yahoo.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? the charm and character, the community pride, exceptional first response providers, arts, parks, lakes and green space, park avenue and outdoor dining, events Winter Park truly is exceptional everyday. A great place to live. What are the needs for Winter Park? streamlining permitting, p/z, canopy management, etc., with minimal red-tape and city support. a chamber that supports the entire city, not only the very valuable park avenue area. need to promote business and support business owners, regardless of their address. support efforts to attract new businesses. undergrounding. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? partnerships and incentive opportunities for businesses outside the central business district as well as within. responsible redevelopment that does not penalize long-standing businesses. recognize value of all our businesses and resources - eliminate the appearance of us vs. them. we all love Winter Park and want to be part of its continued success. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? the perception that the city knows more than the businesses and citizens that support it. eliminate the time spent on counter-productive issues and bickering.
Lynda Hinckley	lyndah@cfl.rr.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Green space (thank you, John Holland and the Parks Dept), buildings no higher than 4 stories, outdoor cafes, brick streets, small town atmosphere (e.g., July 4th celebrations, film flicks in the park), professional and responsive police department, renovated community center, celebration of cultural differences, lack of debris, wide sidewalks on Park Ave, and plantings throughout the city in large pots. Friendly atmosphere. What are the needs for Winter Park? Diversity is shrinking. Hannibal Sq has improved, but with that improvement, we lost a lot of the African American base. West Winter Park will soon look like east Winter Park, only on a smaller scale. Perhaps that's the intention. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Reduce the carbon footprint. Amazes me that restaurants and businesses have air conditioners blasting and the doors wide open. This is particularly true of outdoor cafes. I realize this is FL and it's hot in the summer. Interesting to imagine what will happen if light rail is finally realized. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? I can't think of one thing except possibly to have the city fathers more appreciative of the staff they have in city hall. News suggests staff will consider a union. To not hand out xmas bonuses to staff in 2010(a long standing tradition and at leastfor the Fire Deptthese were used for "feel good projects" like Thanksgiving baskets for the less fortunate, and vote themselves a raise (grantedlater rescinded) was unconscionable. Let's see what the new commission will bring to the table.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Mark Squires	mark.squires@floridamoves.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? In addition to the citizens, Park Ave, Central Park and all the other parks, Country Club, Farmer's Market, Rollins College, Chains of Lakes, oak trees, brick streets, all the downtown and street enhancements, 'old' lights, crosswalks,signage, etc. Best place to live in the United States ! What are the needs for Winter Park? Recognizing the need for tasteful and controlled TOD around commuter rail station not in Central Park and directly on Park Avenue or east side of New York, but between back side of Park Ave and Interlachen and between west side of New York and Hannibal Square and south of Central Park. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Responsible in-fill development in the Fairbanks, 17-92 corridors in addition to TOD mentioned above. Referring to height and density improvements in Comp Plan, coupled with site plan studies and approvals. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? BETTER SIGNAGE FOR CHAMBER BUILDING !!! Directional signs are badly needed on Park, New York, Morse etc. to direct new people and residents alike. Should read Winter Park Chamber of Commerce and Welcome Center with appropriate arrows. And better/bigger signage on building
Mary Abram	maryabrams@selectmagazineusa.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? the wonderful peoplesuch treasures What are the needs for Winter Park? communication What are the opportunities for Winter Park? communication with those outside our bubble What is the one thing you'd change about your city? parking
Mary Laessig	marylaessig@yahoo.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? A sense of community, a city rich in culture and beautiful landscape, Rollins College, our own utility company, a great mayor and commissioners, and especially the current Chamber of Commerce staff!! What are the needs for Winter Park? A nice hotel; golf and tennis shop; activities for small children; a quality home furnishings store like Kreiss; another quality grocery store to compete with Publix. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Winter Park is more than Park Avenue. There are some great restaurants and shops in Winter Park Village, and along 17-92 and Fairbanks Ave. and professional buildings along Lee Road to attract businesses to Winter Park. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? I would like to see better ratings of all public schools in Winter Park, whatever it takes. Also, I would like to see improvements along Fairbanks and Lee Road areas which are "first impressions" when entering Winter Park from I-4.
Mary Rumberger	maryrumberger@gmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? My friends. Hands down, this is what keeps me here in winter Park. I find that they are a very prayerful group of people who care how you are and respond in a moment's notice if any thing is needed. Next is the real beauty of the town. It us uniquely lovely and there is not a bad place to bike, walk, etc. What are the needs for Winter Park? I think a focus on the health of our citizens is prbably the most necessary. If our residents have their health, they can accomplish anything. I believe that we are blessed with organizations which are emphasizing health and that we have to pay attention to what they are offering in the way of education and programs. I also believe that this climate of health should be offered to our surrounding communities, i.e. Eatonville and Maitland. Their health and wellbeing would only enhance and contribute to that of Winter Park. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? The creativity of this business community knows no bounds. They should be encouraged to have a running dialogue about the future businesses they would like to welcome here which would complement what is already here and what is new and cutting edge. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? The fighting between two imaginary groups of citizens, and the landscaping in front of the Winter Park Post office.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Michael Dick	communitysolutions@embarqmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Wow, so many. The City can retain its architectural heritage while promoting responsible redevelopment opportunities. Weigh the City's historical success and how we got there vs. "feet on the street" respectfully- it can be done! What are the needs for Winter Park? The small percentage of citizens involved in the City's governance would absolutely say something not in place now is community alignment- still "them vs. us" and it's getting old! Next in line, revenue enhancement generated RESPONSIBLY and RESPECTFULLY, taking into account the City's heritage and recent Historic Designation. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? In general, my thoughts on opportunities include:1. Responsible redevelopment of the existing post office site- convert the current building site to park land and the northern portion (arrowhead) for City government or commercial redevelopment compatible with surrounding parcels.2. Responsible redevelopment of State Office Building site and former Casto site.3. Continue redevelopment plan of Fairbanks Ave. between I-4 and 17/92. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Promote a form of City governance/decision making where core development and historic preservation philosophies cannot be unreasonably altered with each City Commission election. Then, Commission candidates would only have to spend \$10,000 to get elected instead of \$40,000 and maybe we'd get closer to being the community we were 10+ years ago! Sheesh, if only
Michael Hsu	tarheel93c@gmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The true community feel, the cultural offerings, focus on both business and residents as a vital part of maintaining the community. What are the needs for Winter Park? Continued economic growth via new businesses. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Continue to tell its story and raise awareness of the community and it's offerings. With the approval of SunRail, this should provide an opportunity for growth along this new transportation corridor. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Unsure.
Michelle Chapin	michellechapin@yahoo.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Park Avenue and Hanibal Sq, as well as, Rollins and the parks. A strong and vibrant business community is paramount to quality of life in WP. What are the needs for Winter Park? State office building site is a huge opportunity. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Better and more effectively promote the arts and cultural treasures. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? petty, petty politics
nancy port schwalb	nschwalb@bellsouth.net	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The Park The character and culture of the city would like to see some modification or control of the pets on the avenue at restaurants at tables eating with guestssome control of motorcycles, noise ordinance. continue the wonderful landscape services. What are the needs for Winter Park? additional pet ordinance regarding dining facilities noise ordinance regarding loud cars and motorcycles stores keeping later hours is imperativeit is impossible to spend \$ if you are a working professional and not available to shop on weekdays. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? more restaurant choices. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Just stated in above comments.
Pamela Peters	pamelaapeters@yahoo.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Downtown "village character", I.e., no buildings taller tnHan 2 stories, with appropriate streetscape and classy, traditional ambienceCentral Park preserved as place of quiet, contemplative enjoyment with emphasis on landscaping and quality outdoor art.Priority of well-maintained parks and green space. What are the needs for Winter Park? Establishment of policies and practices to enhance community character such as Pedestrian Safety, bike paths and walking trails. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? The contentious political environment fueled by rumor, innuendo and special interests.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Pamela Roush	proush3@cfl.rr.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Small buildings, open spaces, architectural styles that are not all the same, but that agree. Traffic is not a huge problem in most areas. Keep homes proportionate to the lot size,no mega-homes overpowering lots. I love the undergrounded power lines. I love the golf course and the Casa Feliz. I love the village look that is for pedestrian enjoyment. The parks and open spaces are so important. I love that we have the historical designation. What are the needs for Winter Park? Please do not allow a mega development community on Lee Road or change the traffic on Denning. We could use rent control to keep shopkeepers from having to move so often. Development on Lee Road, Denning, and Fairbanks that is more appealing. Spray to kill mosquitoes!!! No huge or tall structures in the business district or Hannibal square. More hotels that are high end. We need to protect the downtown area from tasteless overdevelopment related to the rail transportation for commuters. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? We can and need to do a traffic study to decide where the commuter rail station cite is best located. We need to make sure overdevelopment does not occur to around the commuter rail station if it is located in the downtown area. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? I think we are on the right path, but beware of developers who try to force their own image on the city.
Peter Weldon	peter.weldon@gmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Tree lined streets. Residential focus. Vibrant and unique downtown. Smart people. What are the needs for Winter Park? Viable plan for redevelopment of commercial areas that attracts private development while adding to our quality of life and tax base. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Winter Park is positioned long term to further its position as the most desirable residential community in central Florida. Wise redevelopment and management of the impact of Sun Rail and the commercial corridors is required to assure this opportunity is realized. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? We need to attract more experienced residents with proven judgment to participate on city boards and in the local political process.
Pitt Warner	pwarner@winterparkland.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? public schools, public safety, low taxes, nurturing of our non-profits-Rollins,foundations. WP Hospital What are the needs for Winter Park? eliminate supermajority on comp plan changes. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? The ridiculous tree ordinance. If this is such a wonderful place to live why am not trusted to raise a tree or cut my tree, in my yard, down? Somehow I've married, raised 2 kids and paid my bills and donate to my community, but I am too stupid to take care of a tree? It's ludicrous nanny state government.
Rick Frazee	mog4@earthlink.net	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The size and scale of the community both social and physical is importaint to my life style. New buildings are importaint for the economy of our city but they must be built to fit into a scale that puts people at ease and provides the services to residents necessary to live well What are the needs for Winter Park? Historic Winter Park signs (BROWN) on the I-4 exits. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? There are commerical sections of the City that while not photogenic are absloutly necessary to provide services residents want and need to complete our life style. We need to recognize that rezoneing these areas often forces the small businesses located with in them further out side of our city making it not as liveable as it once was. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Would trade the Commuter Rail for a Light Rail system that goes from Deland to the Orlando International Airport.
Robin Thomas	rvtwp@aol.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? love the brick streetsgreat shopping areasparks and fountainsmuseum and historic housesprotect pedistrian areasprotect quiet neighborhoods from traffic and train noise What are the needs for Winter Park? add roundabouts and other road enhancements to slowtraffic on busy neighborhood streets What are the opportunities for Winter Park? moving traffic out of neighborhoods to larger roadwayscleaner lakesbrick more streetscontinued speed control on palmer, temple, aloma, etc. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? more community activities to promote interaction between neighbors

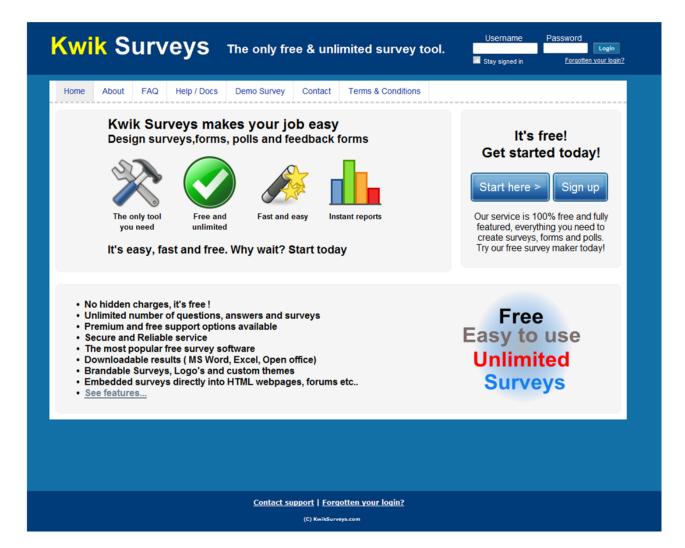
Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Rodney Kincaid	Kincaid@kincaidconstruction.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Winter Park is a town like the one I grew up in, but has not let that special feeling fade away. Just take a walk around the town and everywhere you will feel something quite special that is reflected in the character of the buildings, streets and landscaping. I started my business in Winter Park in 1963 and was proud to associate my company with such an amazing town. What are the needs for Winter Park? I would recommend signage at the intersection of Orlando Avenue and Fairbanks directing traffic north to Morse Boulevard. That entrance to Winter Park best represent our beautiful town. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Attract more companies to locate their corporate headquarters in Winter Park. A current example is Ruth's Cris Steak House, Inc. operations. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Encourage more businesses to upgrade and maintain their landscaping and create a monthly award to be presented at the "What's Up in Winter Park" meetings.
Roger Rebman	roger@rebmanproperties.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The CSX railroad right-of-way [ROW], soon to be SunRail, through our city is a long overlooked asset that needs some attention. What are the needs for Winter Park? Now that SunRail will soon be a reality, we should be cognizant that even the ROW through the city will be on daily display, not only to visitors and business people riding Amtrak, but also to our neighbors, commuters from towns up and down the rail corridor riding SunRail, coming and going to work at businesses and industries, as well as to sports and arts venues, with the added attraction of stopping to shop and dine. Those commuters are us, and if we want them to remember places they pass on their way through the city and want to visit at a later date, we need to make their passage as memorable as possible. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Now that FDOT, and not CSX, is the new landlord, the City and Chamber should consider it a joint project to make the ROW more presentable by encouraging property and business owners and tenants to fix up and paint up, and haul away the accumulated trash behind some of the properties, screen the dumpsters, and make extra efforts to make the rail riders' trips more memorable so they want to come back to visit and shop and attend our functions. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? The Winter Park Community Redevelopment Agency [CRA] has a Business Facade Matching Grant Program that has been successful in financially incentivizing the aesthetic appearance of buildings within the CRA area on a 50-50 basis. In October, 2010, the match was lowered to 25-75. I believe the matching grant needs to be returned to a 50-50 basis because now the aesthetic appearance of the rear and side facades fronting on the rail ROW will soon become just as important as the front facades.
Ron Lowry	rwl@rlfae.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? small city, low stress, quaint, friendly, safe,family oriented, cultural, small shops and nice restaurants, caring and helpful police force, durable tree canopy, well maintained homes and properties, code enforcement as required, stability, continuous improvement, under-grounding initiative. What are the needs for Winter Park? better code enforcement, better opportunities for growing businesses to remain in Winter Park. Concerns about handling of commuter rail - concerns about additional strain on parking and road system, as seen in many other communities. Prices sky rocketing near train terminals. Undesired elements known to frequent this mode of transportation. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Continue to carefully control density and locations of growth. Continued street beautification, under-grounding, enhanced water quality of lakes (that is a tough but necessary goal). Please don't forget who we are and how we got here. I love this city. I moved here nearly 32 years ago. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? The mayor, commissioners, and senior staff members should learn (perhaps with professional help) to respect and deal with each other in a more open and healthy manner. i know a lot of them and they are good and caring people. I believe in transparency as opposed to opacity. I would like to know who is doing what to whom, and how they really feel.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Sam Stark	wpstarkfamily@gmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Our history, our Downtonw Business District, our college and our general commitment from residents and businesses to keep/make WP special. Our library is also special and needs "protection and improvement" What are the needs for Winter Park? Permanent funding to market Winter Park as a visitor destination. The chamber/Park Ave Assoc do an amazing job, but they are working with very limited resources. Also, we need some new, vibrant development at the old State property, Progress Energy site and a redeveloped Fairbanks. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Our opportunities are the traits we inherantly have that make us unique in Central Florida. We need to market that better and more regularly. We need to use the traits (Central Park) for more activity and special events. What is the one thing you'd change about your cit?? Winter Park needs to grownot only in our tax base (commercial development) but in our ability to market ourselves as a real, viable visitor destination. We make too many assumptions that people know us or will find us. Today, that's a mistake in judgement. By growing our commercial tax base, within reason, we can do more, be more and offer more to our residents.
Sandy Womble	swomble 902@aol.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Historic FLORIDA architecture, widely diverse community, tree canopies, cultural and art museums, walking golf course, green space, excellent sports facilities, beautiful lakes, vibrant Park Avenue and engaged citizens. What are the needs for Winter Park? I'd like to see more positive collaboration between all parties. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? I hope we can cash in on our Commissioners' relationships with Tallahassee and Washingtonif it hasn't already started. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? More bike friendly and connectivity: Palmer, Fairbanks, Lee, Park Ave (although that's probably impossible) and Interlachen. I have noticed as a walker who lives near downtown that more people are biking to work. Yaay!
Sara Cooper	snccoop@gmail.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? I like the mature trees and the open park space on park avenue. What are the needs for Winter Park? To have leadership that is more intune with the citizens. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Taking advantage of our Historic Designation and marketing the area for travelers. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? The inconstancy of the building sizes. Stick to what already works. Stop trying to make our town into something its not.
Sara Van Arsdel	svawpk@cfl.rr.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Community character (except the politics and the focus on non-issues like dog parks), trees, bike paths, cultural institutions like Polasek Museum, Rollins College, Morse Museum, the Winter Park Historical Museum, distance between things, proximity of schools and retail areas to residential. Trees need to be better protected. What are the needs for Winter Park? More trees, more places for youth to have recreational opportunities, more recreational opportunties other than private like the YMCA which is so expensive. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Sun Rail, better use of parks and recreation facilities. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? I would make it easier for children to play pick up games in the parks and allow residents to use the recreational fields when not rented. It is sad that residents (who pay taxes) can't do that.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Scott Hillman	scott@fanniehillman.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Central Park/Park Avenue, Rollins College, Winter Park High School, chain of lakes, community pride, the hospital, police and fire department, the library, What are the needs for Winter Park? a nice hotel, more parking, What are the opportunities for Winter Park? upgrade the sports facilities such as cady way, the baseball fields, showalter field, the fields at lake park, these facilities are used a lot and some type of annual improvement or repair should be scheduled and I don't mean normal maintenance to maintain the status quo. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? I would like to see civil exchanges and tones between the different minded people in our community. Somehow in our society (community)compromise has earned a designation of a sign of being weak. I believe most of the good that has been done over time has come through some type of compromise and we should embrace the notion.
Sharon Conway	dreamer@cfl.rr.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The historic buildings and homes. More restoration and saving of what makes Winter Park unique. Not the shopping. I had a visitor recently who said Park Avenue (except for the fact that it was a street) was "just like" the shopping center in West Palm Beach. What they found unique were the trees and the variety of older structures (and of course the museums). What are the needs for Winter Park? Replacement of trees. More canopy would improve the walk-ability in Winter Park. AND, more attention to the needs of an aging and appreciative population. Less new shopping and more accessibility right here in the city for our many residents who make- up our community. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Again, trees, trees, trees. This definitely offers a variety of benefits: (1) uniqueness in Florida; (2) a cooler place for walking; (3) the slowing of traffic. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Greater appreciation for what exists rather than what can be developed. It is amazing when you see what people value. Most people travel to see established cities and towns - not another new development. Winter Park is this. Let's focus on the positive assets we have and keep our city unique.
Thomas Nicholl	Tom@ThomasNichollLawFirm.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Quaint setting, bricked roads, a definite difference, and in my opinion a pleasant one, from "Disney - like" perceptions of Orlando What are the needs for Winter Park? More parking and more exposure, e.g. Sanford has an "Alive after five" every month What are the opportunities for Winter Park? See 1 & amp; 2 What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Make it affordable, but don't attract undesirables
Tony Bazile	tony@tbazile.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The Winter Park Country Club, aka "lil augusta" aka "Winter Park National" is a true gem that has been in our community since establishment. I play the best courses in the country but still manage to play "lil augusta" at least once a week. Central Park is another gem, I visit northern states such as NY, CT, MAplaces our town was modeled after and Winter Park has done a tremendous job maintaining the park for residents to use. My family has picnics weekly and loves riding bikes to the park. Our chain of lakes is another treasure. I live on Lake Maitland and cruise the chain several times a week, even in the heat of summer. The beauty of our lakes make Winter Park what it is and are priceless. What are the needs for Winter Park? The surrounding area coming into Winter Park need to be cleaned up. Fairbanks and Lee road have needed work for a long time. As these are gateways to downtown Winter park they still reflect us and need attention. Dog Island needs to be controlled better as far as trash cleanup and allowing fires. Tough to monitor but needs to be done. We need to maintain our character, keep the small business owners alive and fix the brick streets so they are easier to drive on. We also need to take a serious look at the new brick stickers that line our walkways. Brick stickers are possibly the tackiest decision I have seen winter park make. We have beautiful historic roads lined with fake brick stickers? Must have sounded better on paper and needs to be considered for changed, especially so close to park ave, rollins, new england etc.

Community Conversation participant	Email	Comments
Wanda Salerno	wansal1@aol.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The beauty and ambiance of Park Avenue. The longest running attraction in central Fl The Scenic Boatand the treasure of our three world class museums. What are the needs for Winter Park? More events in Central Park. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? I feel that there is not much to be done to make ourCity better than it is. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Maybe better transportation to other parts of thecounty.
William Leary	bleary@learygroup.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Park Avenue, parks, lakes, dog friendly, Farmers market, golf course, trees, brick streets. What are the needs for Winter Park? Diversified businesses, especially along Fairbanks, 17-92 & amp; Lee. Provide incentives to bring and keep businesses here to help reduce our tax burden. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Light rail, upgrade Fairbanks, What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Political divisions & amp; lack of voter participation. We should all take a more active interest in getting properly informed and not believing rumors
Woody Woodall	wwoodall@cfl.rr.com	What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? Sense of community, friendliness. What are the needs for Winter Park? Toilet facilities in Central Park. What are the opportunities for Winter Park? More events down town. What is the one thing you'd change about your city? Make city hall easier to get along with. It takes far too long to get things approved.





What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The things (whether physical places or intangibles like community character) you love about the city and want to see continued, protected or improved.	What are the needs for Winter Park? Something not in place now that would improve the general quality of life or the business environment of Winter Park.	What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Conditions or features that have the potential to contribute to a better quality of life or business environment if used wisely.	What is the one thing you'd change about your city?	Community Conversation Participant	Email
The trees. The simple beauty of the botantical gardens and green spaces. The peacocks and birds of all kinds that harbor here, including the cranes that nest at Kraft Gardens. The canals and waterways. There is plenty of commerce and recreational space. I hope the governing bodies are fore- sighted enough to conserve the majesty of our town, for the future. Every place has shops and restaurants. We have the wealth of an Eden. PLease, Please be good steards and preserve what we have.	Years ago, back in the '70's there was a Winter Prk mini-bus program. Tis was a wonderful way to come downtown and not have to worry about parkng. First it was a free service, then it as very low cost, before it went away entirely. We had one that went down Lakemont and Aloma and brought folks to downtown then to the old Winter Park Mall and back. It was especially lovely during "festival" times, as we could get a ride from a dsignated parking lot elsewhere and bus in to downtown, then ride back to our cars. Less traffic, less cars on the road, saves gas and confusion for toursits! It was a very good asset.	I think not everything has to be bigger to be better. Perhaps concentratngon shoringup what we currently have, reinvesting the the assets that makes Winer Park unique and beautiful is the way to go. Using fiscal resources to better existing programs rather than stretching what we have to accomodate new.	I'd have the city become part of the Orange COunty library systm. I know. I know. It's been exlained to me the reasons hy it was kept separate. However it would be more convenient for everyne who uses it. Cetainly extending the time for checked out resources would be a benefit. Other than that, I really lovemy city. I came here in 1969. My daughter was born at Witner Park MemorialHospital. While we have lived elsewhere at times, we keep coming back. And for her, a native, Winter Park has spoiled her for anywhere else. It's a standard that is difficult to meet much less exceed.	Kends L. Musselle	GoddessofheUniverse@cfl.rr.com
The downtown area - quaintness and small town feature I love the Farmers Market on the weekends Love the cultural aspect and museums		Water activities, like a water park Better access to library programs use of train depot for small excursions	Fix up the outlying areas so they also represent the downtown area. Use of more flowers throughout the city for a pleasing experience	Rita Guy	RitaKayGuy@gmail.com
The tree canopy. Please continue with the undergrounding project started by David Strong. This makes such a difference in our beautiful city.	How about having the mayor and commissioners (particularly the mayor) practice the civility they are always preaching.	Follow the Comprehensive Plan especially on Park Ave. and around the park and save development for the commercial corridors of the city. also many of us would be truly grateful if you would re-route that @#\$% freight train around the city. It just cannot be that difficult.	That stupid train. Why on earth are we, as a little city of 28,000 souls, subsidizing CSX? What are you people thinking?????	Anne Mooney	annemooney@earthlink.net
Central Park want it protected from commuter train buses and people. See the Post Office Property become more green space and the PO moved to the Arrowhead. Keep the City's "old and small town charm" We are not Palm Beach Want to be sure that the West Side is not further pushed aside by those who only want to make money with no thought for the people who live in the City	Need small shops that are not chains. The Land owners need to understand that their greed for high rents hurts busineeses of the kind we should havefrom being on Park Ave. That in turn hurts our property values.	Keep the Historic feel of downtown. Keep the Neighborhoods from building out of character houses. Ie the House at the end of College Pt. Way out of character for the neighborhood	I wish I could keep Sun Rail from stopping at Central Park. You will see in time that it will hurt the charm of our wonderful town. Wish We could have civility starting with the Mayor	Sally Flynn	flynnlinks@aol.com

What are the treasures and values of Winter Park? The things (whether physical places or intangibles like community character) you love about the city and want to see continued, protected or improved.	What are the needs for Winter Park? Something not in place now that would improve the general quality of life or the business environment of Winter Park.	What are the opportunities for Winter Park? Conditions or features that have the potential to contribute to a better quality of life or business environment if used wisely.	What is the one thing you'd change about your city?	Community Conversation Participant	Email
The downtown area is essential to the whole feel of Winter Park. It offers a chance to leisurely sample some of the best restaurants in the area and shop for unique, non-department store goods.	I would like to see a park with playground equipment for children in the downtown area.	A support-your-downtown effort that is subscribed to by more residents of Winter Park. If we provide what is needed in terms of tenant mix, etc. residents could find everything they need within 5-10 minutes away.	The permitting process is too onerous and restrictive. Change is inevitable - so let's get in front of it instead of dragging, kicking, and screaming to fight it.	Susan Lawrence	slawrence@restrategies.net
Trees, parks, Park Avenue, Ungated housing areas, Parades and other activities on Park Ave., Museums, Real small town feel, Upgrade in former African-American area and attempt to preserve some of it, Cultural opportunities at Rollins, Crealde and others Sense of community	More parking downtown is needed. Maybe a parking garage incorporating the post office. I'm not sure of the status of that property. Parking and shuttle bus service will certainly be needed when Sunrail opens. Let's plan now, the way that Florida Hospital is doing, instead of waiting until it becomes more complicated and expensive. Sunrail should give Park Ave. a boost if handled carefully and correctly. Commuters and visitors will need a way to move beyond the station, although we hope that many visitors will stay to enjoy all of our wonderful features. We mustn't be fearful that "outsiders" will ruin everything. LaJolla, CA, Newport, etc. have been changed but not ruined by their many visitors. Of coure, we all yearn for the good parts of the good old days, but Winter Park cannot stay alive with only ancient residents to keep things going.	See comments of #2.	I often feel there is a sense of we vs them, olde Winter Park vs everyone else. It is difficult to face up to change, but the streetscape improvements on Park Ave. and elsewhere have certainly been for the good. The Morse Museum has given us an improved status world wide. I remember worries about other past improvements. As far as I know, the Morse has not brought an undesirable element to town. We are all in this together and I hope various factions can come to see this.	Teresa Gillam	tsgillam@yahoo.com
Residential areas and low rise downtown. Central Park. Lakes.	Ekectronic renewal of licenses	Preservation of Park Avenue	More transparency in city business issues	Ned Cooper	nedcooper@gmail.com



## **Clarissa Howard**

From:	James Hanson [hansonj@hansonmed.com]
Sent:	Monday, July 11, 2011 8:29 PM
To:	Town Meeting
Subject:	Comments

Thank you for allowing me to make a few comments.

As I travel throughout the U.S. I notice that other small charming towns, for example in California (Napa and Sonoma Counties, Carmel, etc.) or New England (Vermont towns, etc), all have bed and breakfasts and/or nice, quaint hotels in them. Winter Park has none, except perhaps the very small Park Plaza Gardens right in the middle of town. Why are there not these kinds of places in Winter Park, while at the same time there are, for example, large, ugly recreational vehicle dealerships, old window glass company buildings (PPG) at a main (confusing) intersection, and all kinds of other ugly commercial buildings (used car dealerships are some of the worst) along your roads? On a side note, many of our friends wonder why some streets (Temple Drive for example) in Winter Park are partially paved and partially bricked when they are simply one road. It looks confusing and ill-conceived. My visitors also see large yellow pavement painted "bubbles" sweeping out into turn lanes at intersections (for example, going east on Fairbanks and turning north onto New York or Park Avenues, that prevent drivers form getting in to the turn lane earlier and so most drivers ignore these and go ahead get over into the turn lane early so they don't block traffic behind them trying to go straight—the cars really ignore these "bubbles" between 3:00 pm and 6:00 pm going north on Lakemont Ave. and turning west onto Aloma Ave, otherwise the cars would be blocking the go straight lanes going north on Lakemont over Aloma. The streets department could use a lot of assistance.

Additionally, when we have guests come into Winter Park, to prevent them from seeing so much of the ugliness (Fairbanks, etc) of Winter Park, I have to direct them (because this is not a marked route into Winter Park—where are the blue direction signs?) to exit I-4 at Princeton, go through the attractive the art museum areas, down to Mills Ave. and attractive lakes, and take a left on to Mills (Hwy. 17/92--why so many names?), then right on to Orange Avenue (which has been spruced up and looks good), and into Winter Park.

If it wasn't for so much of the beauty of nature, Winter Park would be seen as being done-in by poor City Planning and improper developer influence over the years.

Best regards, Jim Hanson Winter Park, FL 32789-1300 From: Sent: To: Subject: mw32789@gmail.com on behalf of Macauley Whiting, Jr. [mwhiting@deckerenergy.com] Monday, July 11, 2011 4:06 PM Town Meeting Community Conversation

In response to the 4 questions:

(1) I love the small town feel of Winter Park. Our city has a real identity and isn't a faceless bedroom community like most of the rest of Florida. Also, we have a vibrant downtown area, which other cities can only dream of.

(2) Winter Park needs less red tape. It is exceedingly difficult to do business here. Some regulations are necessary, but we go overboard. Even though my company is located in downtown Winter Park and I love the Park Avenue amenities, I'm glad we do all of our business elsewhere.

(3) I see the opportunities for Winter Park as more an effort to avoid threats. We have a great community, but I'm worried that we're going to screw it up. Our charming downtown is threatened by development pressures to build bigger, denser buildings. We cannot ever allow another supersized Carlyle-type development to happen in the central business district. New development is essential to keep our community vibrant, but it must be consistent with the existing scale and character of the community.

(4) The worst thing about Winter Park is traffic. We suffer from being in the middle of the metropolitan area, so many people have to drive through our town going somewhere else.

Mike Whiting