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Oread Neighborhood Plan Meeting
February 9, 2009
Lawrence Public Library

At the plan meeting, attendees were asked to brainstorm strengths, weaknesses, issues and opportunities for the neighborhood. These items, including any ideas given outside of the meeting, are listed below. After brainstorming at the meeting, attendees were given 5 stickers and asked to place their stickers next to the items that they would most like addressed in the neighborhood plan. Stickers could be placed across multiple categories. The numbers after ideas below are the sum of "votes" given for the idea at the meeting. The top 10 ideas are additionally summarized at the end of this document.

Meeting Brainstorming Ideas

Strengths

- Diversity in people (4)
- Diversity in housing stock (5)
- Location with respect to downtown and KU (2)
- South Park
- Many mature trees
- Central Junior High
- Sledding hills
- Historic Landmarks-registered and unregistered
- Historic infrastructure-stone curbs, brick streets, hitching posts
- Alleys (1)
- Bars-draws people to the neighborhood (3)
- Sidewalks on both sides of the street
- Affordable housing
- Desirable location (2)

Weaknesses

- Brick streets & sidewalks-not maintained well (5)
- Infrastructure maintenance (4)
- Damage from stormwater (2)
- Bars-trash, behavior, travel through residential areas to get to them, change in drinking age (13)
- Current zoning-too restrictive (5)
- Parking-not enough (10)
- Transient living-rental

Weaknesses Continued

- Lack of greenspace (1)
- Ownership costs high (2)
- Tree roots-damage to sidewalks and foundations (8)
- Owner/city neglect (4)
- Trash
- Parked cars prevent proper street cleaning (1)
- Low owner-occupied homes

Issues

- Zoning conflicts with parking standards (28)
- Landlord neglect of structures (20)
- Existing large housing originally built with the intention to rent rooms
- Appropriate infill-architecture style, type (7)
- Zoning often not consistent with the land use (4)
- More students with less campus housing available
- Trash dumpsters-where they are located, number (2)
- Commuters parking in neighborhood
- Housing statutes & lower tax bills (1)
- Historic homes lost to rental units
- Rentals drive purchase prices too high for owner-occupants
- Boundary-(+/-) adjustments

Opportunities

- More families in the neighborhood-downzoning to encourage (10)
- Trash facilities-more receptacles available for public use both daily and during football games (1)
- Reinforce diversity of uses and structures-single-family, mixed use (10)
- Restore quality of the neighborhood (2)
- Preservation of historic resources and character of the neighborhood(16)
- Neighborhood orientated retail uses (1)

Top 10 Summary

The top 10 rated items are listed below in order of the most votes. These items will be used as a basis to form goals and policies for the neighborhood plan.

1. Zoning conflicts with parking standards (28)
2. Landlord neglect of structures (20)
3. Preservation of historic resources and character of the neighborhood (16)
4. Bars-trash, behavior, travel through residential areas to get to them, change in drinking age (13)
5. More families in the neighborhood-downzoning to encourage (10)
6. Reinforce use diversity of uses and structures-single-family, mixed use (10)
7. Parking-not enough (10)
8. Tree roots-damage to sidewalks and foundations (8)
9. Appropriate infill-architecture style, type (7)
10. Diversity in housing stock (5)
11. Brick streets & sidewalks-not maintained well (5)
12. Current zoning-too restrictive (5)