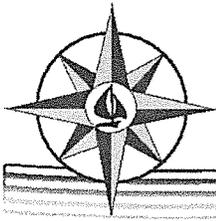


Town Hall Meeting

Willmar Conference Center

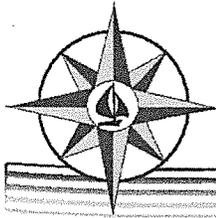
Thursday, March 26 – 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Results



Willmar Town Hall Meeting • March 26, 2015 • 6:30 to 8:30 PM
Results #1: Outcome Diagnosis

	Positive	Less Than Positive
Intended	1) MinnWest Campus	1) Condition of Downtown
	2) Vision 20/40	2) City Government
	3) Parks & Trails	3) Affordable Housing
	4) Increased Diversity	4) Not Embracing Diversity
	5) Regional Medical	5) Economic Development
Unintended	1) Town Hall Meeting	1) Not Embracing Diversity
	2) Diversity	2) Conflict in Leadership
	3) Economic Growth	3) Issues w/ Airport
	4) Population Growth	4) Negative View of Willmar
	5) Community Involvement	5) Cuts To Education



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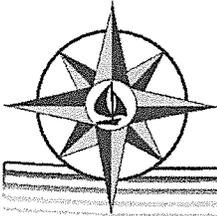
Willmar Town Hall Meeting • March 26, 2015 • 6:30 to 8:30 PM

Results #2: Vision

Step #1: Write items for your new Vision here.

In five years, we will have developed, delivered, & be recognized for...

- Leadership Development and Change (well-functioning, diverse, developed, & trained) (186)
- Economic Development (growth in employment, labor skills, & incentives) (97)
- Healthcare System (increase growth, and be the top regional healthcare center) (71)
- Improved Downtown Area (increase opportunity and image) (65)
- Improved Entertainment Options (recreation, culture, music, art) (55)



Willmar Town Hall Meeting • March 26, 2015 • 6:30 to 8:30 PM

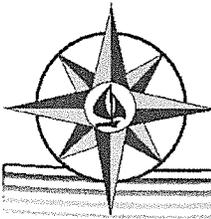
Results #2: Vision

Step #1: Write items for your new Vision here.

1. A diverse, well-functioning city council that plans strategically for the good of Willmar (123).
2. Become a regional entertainment hub for recreational, cultural, music, art, sports (52).
3. Top 5 regional center in MN and top regional health care center (50).
4. Willmar leadership in transparent and truthful without blame and judgment, integrity (42).
5. Revitalize the downtown and Kandi Mall (29).
6. Industrial park development with affordable paying jobs (24).
7. Regional center: our children have the opportunities and desire to come back and make this their home (23).
8. Lure large manufacturing companies to town to help encourage higher wages (22).
9. Downtown-rich in culture, art, entertainment (18).
10. Welcoming to business (15).
11. Education system that addresses the needs of a diverse community (15).
12. Attract doctors and specialists to area (14).
13. "World class" leadership; how we measure our progress (14).
14. Excellent infrastructure (13).
15. Affordable housing-all levels (12).
16. How we filled the industrial park and the mall (12).
17. Progressive and proactive city government (11).
18. A community that understands and embraces the needs and opportunities that come with being a diverse community (11).
19. Great k-12 education (11).
20. Schools are thriving with state of the art facilities, technology, and full of students ready to learn and be our workforce (11).
21. Diverse & integrated leadership in all economic sectors (11).
22. A cohesive community that breaks down barriers, values diversity, and is technological hub strong in RnD (10).
23. Public and private collaboration on large scale projects (9).
24. Top quality school system (9).
25. Open discussion with city issues (8).
26. Improved image of downtown & have it be a desirable location for start up businesses (8).
27. Full service healthcare to promote rural region center of excellence (7).
28. Unified leadership from city government (7).

29. Economically strong and diverse (7).
30. School, city, faith, and elected officials represent the multi-cultural diversity present in our community (7).
31. Vision 2040 goals (4) by 2020 (7).
32. Housing to meet demand, both rental and ownership (7).
33. Need to develop unique attraction for Willmar (6).
34. Clean and prosperous downtown (6).
35. Committed green community/beautiful Willmar (6).
36. A progressive engaging community with a high quality of life (not just surviving) (6).
37. Highest GPA in schools in our area and supports higher ed. System (6).
38. Ample affordable housing (6).
39. Community all inclusive-diversity (5).
40. Improved functional parks (5).
41. How our 20/40 vision has come to fruition (5).
42. Promotion of cultural diversity (4).
43. Reinvest in downtown both public and private money (business) (4).
44. Positive reputation throughout state (4).
45. Strong labor force capable of fulfilling employer's needs (4).
46. Legitimate regional center (3).
47. Occupied building throughout the city (3).
48. More family oriented entertainment and recreation (3).
49. Parks & trails-leading to tourism (3).
50. Regional center agriculture, healthcare, education (3).
51. More affordable housing (3).
52. Infrastructure for business-thriving-locally-owned-entrepreneurial (2).
53. Dynamic downtown development (2).
54. Healthy nutritious restaurant (2).
55. Valuing the strengths of diversity (2).
56. Environment to foster economic development (2).
57. Develop economic incentive plan to attract businesses (2).
58. Common shared community vision that accounts for how we fit in the bigger picture (2).
59. A more developed 1st.- aesthetically pleasing (2).
60. Citizen engagement that's forward thinking and fuels innovative action and community pride (2).
61. Vibrant, vital downtown & local food economy (2).
62. Young families welcomed-good neighborhoods, school, recreation and jobs (2).
63. Regionally competitive wages (2).
64. Reduce dependence on government from residents and businesses (2).
65. Actively looking for businesses to enhance Willmar (1).
66. Reduction in domestic violence (1).
67. Increased integration of government/city offices (1).
68. Revitalization throughout Willmar community (1).
69. More hospitable and friendly community (1).
70. Our progressive climate/environment; jobs, schools (1).
71. Promote recruiting (1).
72. Quality of life/economic growth & diversity (1).
73. Vibrant community (1).

74. Best practices, example-moving community forward and celebrating its successes (1).
75. Develop & deliver better school system (1).
76. Allow elected leaders to be recognized and issues brought through elected body (1).



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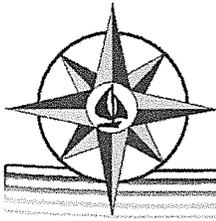
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Willmar Town Hall Meeting • March 26, 2015 • 6:30 to 8:30 PM

Results #3: Priorities

- 1) Strengthen Leadership (increase diversity, training, and accountability) (218)
- 2) Strive for Economic Growth (increase incentives in order to grow and maintain economic success) (102)
- 3) Focus on Education (improve and promote innovation and excellence within the district) (60)
- 4) Focus on the 20/40 Vision (build, expand, and maintain the 20/40 vision) (43)
- 5) Increase Diversity (accept and increase diversity in all areas of the community) (36)



Willmar Town Hall Meeting • March 26, 2015 • 6:30 to 8:30 PM

Results #3: Priorities

1. Recall of 5 city council members (61).
2. Change composition of city council, encourage qualified, forward-thinking community members to run for office (56).
3. Market/promote recreation, entertainment lifestyle possibilities to get & keep next generation families (33).
4. Become top 5 regional center by: improving/strengthening education opportunities, breaking down class/racial barriers to create community, affordable housing, and rehab downtown (32).
5. Foster environment for economic development (29).
6. Cultivate progressive leaders to run for city council (26).
7. Invest in strong education (K-12 & post-secondary) in order to fuel strong economy (23).
8. Develop leaders/encourage citizens (all) to run for office-support them in their candidacy (23).
9. Host more town hall meetings to grow civic engagement (19).
10. Vision 2040 implementation-"all encompassing" (18).
11. More organized efforts at facilitating dialogue between diverse community groups, including groups defined by religion, culture, ethnicity, sexuality, etc. (16).
12. Improve city leadership (13).
13. More publicized business incentives for new and expanding businesses (12).
14. Improving city leadership by at-large city council elections (11).
15. Support school referendum (11).
16. Hold downtown walk the corridor meetings on quarterly basis to build positive relationships with minority groups (9).
17. Completed and well developed 2040 goals (9).
18. Review our approach to governance & strengthen our city charter to create a stronger mayor system (9).
19. Engage all ethnic groups in the visions & plans for Willmar (8).
20. Promote and enhance innovative excellence in education (8).
21. 4 lane transportation to Willmar (8).
22. Education of electorate to recruit candidates for elected officials i.e. chamber workshop for candidate training to become traveling workshop to business/organizations (7).
23. Empower positive & spread it (7).
24. Pass school board w/ Fieldhouse (7).
25. Work to get one new 100+ job business to area each year (7).
26. Move vision 2040 forward collaboratively (6).
27. Collaborative economic plan or region: infrastructure, facilities, Robins Island (5).
28. Require a test of logic & comprehension for elected reps & boards (5).

29. Continue citizen's forum's (ward meetings) (5).
30. Invite-engage-extend (diversity, generational, employees, etc.) (5).
31. Attract tenants for mall & industry park (4).
32. Capture momentum tonight to collaborate and work together through another town hall in six months to review progress and citizen involvement (4).
33. Encourage voluntary resignation of all council members with more than one team on the council (4).
34. Challenge people to step into leadership roles (4).
35. Revitalize downtown by making it more accessible (4).
36. Recruit younger, fresh leadership for city council and other community organizations-transparent, responsive, & representative of the community (3).
37. Improved collaboration Willmar medical community & affiliate with large provider (3).
38. Tools to EDC to be competitive & other incentives to bring business and grow businesses (3).
39. More citizen involvement in 2040 goals (3).
40. Diverse well-functioning leadership in city council (3).
41. A positive image for the city, good infrastructure and support for groups like EDC, chamber and education will attract more industry and commerce (3).
42. Invite minorities to become involved with community issues (3).
43. Forget/acknowledge and move forward (3).
44. Improve transportation (3).
45. Bring business in = better paying jobs (3).
46. Ward level meetings, identify candidates, support and finance them (3).
47. Turn the focus to the positive, away from dysfunction (2).
48. Work on our downtown (good downtown makes good community) (2).
49. Cultivate leadership: younger residents (2).
50. Create city aesthetically pleasing (2).
51. Reimplementation of ward meetings (2).
52. Require city council to attend league of MN cities leadership training (2).
53. Marketing 2040 goals (2).
54. Future meetings: invite/include our minority neighbors/leaders (2).
55. Build upon & expand participation of current 2040 work (2).
56. Transparent government (2).
57. Improve educational system-Pre-K through Grade 12, maybe 14? (2).
58. Recruit diverse people to serve as candidates for city council (2).
59. Need involved citizens holding leaders accountable (1).
60. Keep improving our already good education system (1).
61. Collaborative measurable celebrated regional goals: county, EDC, chamber, DNR, Ridgewater, cities (1).
62. Improve commerce and business by expanding transportation arteries (1).
63. Collaborate efforts for economic development (1).
64. Find/establish a symbol for our community (1).
65. Establish program to improve listening to communication skills (1).
66. High quality political candidates (1).
67. Create environment for entrepreneurship, specifically small business & growth development (1).
68. Require downtown to improve appearance by passing ordinance improving aesthetic standards (1).
69. Utilize vision 2040 to help achieve goals that are identified tonight (1).

70. Increase use of websites of committees, officials and county to keep Willmar citizens informed and involved (1).
71. Private, county, city separate economic/business expansion and recruitment (1).
72. Elected official should follow proper processes that instill public trust (1).
73. Lift the veil on bullying of those who are different: racially, sexually & opinion (1).
74. Greater citizen involvement in city government (1).
75. Active involvement by city government in 2040 visioning process (1).
76. City government be proactive to increase large manufacturing to increase employment, incentives (utilities, land, etc.) (1).
77. New people for boards/commissions (1).
78. Clear, defined government roles-freedom to follow through (1).
79. City has to invest in economic opportunities (1).
80. Expand jobs to support spouse employment to hired workers (1).
81. Friendly attractive community to inside & outside of area (1).
82. Divers industry and economic commercial sector (1).
83. City council to embrace vision 2040 (1).
84. Affordable housing - all levels (1).
85. Public/private collaboration for the "big picture" for Willmar (1).
86. Develop partnership with community entities (1).
87. Community attractions to support new comers to area so they will stay (1).



Willmar Town Hall Meeting • March 26, 2015 Summary of Evaluations • (N=125)

1. What was good & productive about this session?

Trend #1: Positive Atmosphere

- Thinking positively and not negatively.
- Very positive and open thinking.

Trend #2 Community Involvement

- Bringing the community together.
- Coming together as a community.

2. What was your biggest discovery?

Trend #1: Similar Ideas

- Similarity of priorities among groups.
- Many people thinking alike.

Trend #2: Positive Outlook

- The passion the people of Willmar have for their community.
- Positive feelings about Willmar.

3. How would you improve this session?

Trend #1: Cultural Diversity

- Find a way to include all cultural (ethnic) groups.
- Make sure there's representatives from other cultures in our community.

Trend #2: Voting System

- The way we vote could have been a little more organized.
- Dot system should go by groups.

4. What type of follow-up would be of use to you?

Trend #1: Meetings

- Keep the momentum going-more meetings and interactions.
- Future town meetings.
- More meetings to see where we're at.
- More town hall meetings.

How & Where To Get Engaged

Willmar City Council Meetings

1st & 3rd Monday's – 7:00 P.M.
Willmar Municipal Utilities Building

Committee Meetings

Finance Committee

2nd & 4th Monday – 4:45 P.M.
Willmar City Hall – Conference Room 1

Public Works Committee

2nd & 4th Tuesday – 4:45 P.M.
Willmar City Hall – Conference Room 1

Labor Relations Committee

2nd & 4th Wednesday – 4:45 P.M.
Willmar City Hall – Conference Room 1

Community Development Committee

2nd & 4th Thursday – 4:45 P.M.
Willmar City Hall – Conference Room 1

Kandiyohi County Commissioners

1st & 3rd Tuesday – 9:00 A.M.
Health & Human Services Building

Willmar Public Schools Board of Education

2nd & 4th Monday – 4:30 P.M.
WEAC Board Room

Vision 2040 –Go to www.willmarlakesareavision2040.com for meeting calendar and for sub-groups for each goal listed below.

Vision 2040 Steering Committee

2nd Wednesday – 10:00 A.M.
Willmar Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce – EBO Board Room

Goal #1: Attract and Retain Newcomers to the Willmar Lakes Area

3rd Friday – 10:30 A.M.
North American State Bank – Upstairs

Goal #2: Strengthen the Region's Economic Diversity

1st Tuesday – 10:00 A.M.
Willmar Fire Department Training Room

Goal #3: Develop and Enable more "Things to Do"

In the process of being re-organized. Stay tuned.

Goal #4: Develop Next-Gen Leaders

4th Wednesday – 10:30 A.M.
North American State Bank Upstairs

