



Topic Name: Improving the Sense of Community

Idea Title: A Statement to Agree On

Idea Detail: Sanford should be a place where we can live, work, and play (leisure) as a community, with vibrant social and economic interaction.

There are three modern errors in city planning (not just Sanford but nationwide) that stop people from doing the above.

The first is traffic engineering and street planning that is primarily car oriented. Pedestrian and bike traffic are almost ignored. This divides neighborhoods and people by putting 4 lane, 45 mph highways right through the middle of cities. People don't get out and walk because it is often a life threatening adventure.

Second is land use and zoning that separates where we work, from where we live, from where we shop, from where we play. You have to be in a car to get anywhere. This perpetuates traffic problems, which means more highways cutting through out cities.

Last, is the modern trend in architecture to put form over beauty. For years cities have allowed ugly, ugly buildings that do not create a sense of place.

The solution is a return to traditional city planning. Many cities are doing this now. Heathrow town center is just one example. Our own downtown is such an asset because it was built this way.

The roads are narrow, sidewalks are wide allowing room for people to walk, talk, shop, etc. Grid type street layout alleviates traffic & the need for highways.

Mixed use zoning allows for people to live near where they might work. Restaruant, shops, grocery stores, apartments and even homes in walking distance gets people out of their cars where they actually see the face of their neighbors and fellow citizens. Businesses invest in the area because people are there!

Finally, when a city demands buildings be built according to some architectural standards, beautiful places are created, where people are happy to congregate and socialize. This builds community.

I think Sanford currently has future zonning planned with all of this in mind, but we need to speed up the process somehow.

Idea Author: Justin A



Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: We need to blend the preservation of our historic buildings/districts with common sense in the refurbishment/planned use of the area. We just returned from a visit to Ashville, NC where you see a bit of modern blended with historic. It is a beautiful combination... welcoming, business friendly, and eclectic. Lots of glass and wood blend with architecture from days past. What is stopping the the Wells Fargo building being turned into condos? People living in a our downtown area would do much to breathe live into the downtown area. I think people would jump at the chance to live in the historic district. But, you have to make development possible by easing some of your restrictions. Find a compromise that works! | By Jody H

Comment 2: I agree with everything Justin says here. The way we can really stand out here in Central Florida is to build upon our wonderful historic areas by ensuring the new changes follow a very pedestrian/biking-friendly model. Cities that follow this model (as described by Justin) are always considered the jewels of their surrounding areas (whether in Europe or here in the United States). Sanford should--and can--be the jewel of Central Florida and should be somewhere that local Central Floridians and tourists love to visit because it's one of those charming, walking/biking cities. And, of course, this will make for an even nicer place for residents! | By Bridget M

Idea Title: Demolish old buildings

Idea Detail: I would like to see the old condemned buildings - including homes - demolished. A vacant lot even has a better appearance. A prime example is the old building just east of the Amtrak bridge on Hwy. 46 coming into town from the west. It's the first thing newcomers, tourists, visitors, etc. see coming into the downtown area.

Idea Author: Lawrence T

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Renovations for Businesses and houses on 13th ST.

Idea Detail: I would like for Businesses and Houses on 13th street to have renovations for a more modern appeal and have a Community Education center for college students,



scholarships,internships near downtown Sanford.

Idea Author: Kenneth S

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Renovate! Renovate! | By Monica C

Idea Title: One Sanford

Idea Detail: Bringing communities together

Idea Author: Sylvester C

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 6

Comment 1: I say enough already with all the meetings and start acting on the ideas!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
We have too many meetings in Sanford and not enough actopm! | By Ana Y

Comment 2: I meant action!!!! | By Ana Y

Comment 3: Sure; but all this process is working towards a strategic plan which the advisory committee will recommend to the City commission for approval and implementation so keep up with the dialogue and suggestions as this will take a little time to put together properly. | By Sylvester C

Comment 4: Suggest that commissioners get more involved in their whole districts and with each other to bring their constituencies and constituents together | By Sylvester C

Comment 5: I totally agree! It seems that only one commissioner goes to most events in Sanford. If commissioners are really interested in this community then they will support what residents are trying to do. It's frustrating to not have the support from local government. How can Sanford possibly move forward if this doesn't happen? | By Ana Y

Comment 6: Agree. How many even try to attend homeowners meetings or arrange townhall meetings??? | By Sylvester C

