

**Community Strategic Planning Committee
Chippewa River District Library System
March 19, 2009**

Community Vision

- Community members were very inclusive in terms of groups they envisioned as a part of the county's idealized future. They included teens, seniors, business groups, "all ages", residents with physical and developmental disabilities, students, musicians, artists, young adults, the homeless, couples without children, young parents, ethnic groups, and families.
- The emphasis on quality of life included a wide range of interests and activities. Overall and as an outside, objective observer, I extrapolated that there was a lot of pride in the community among the participants. In no particular order, these are a sample of the areas that members of the community group emphasized as a part of their idealized future:
 - A safe community environment for all
 - Respect for all age groups
 - Putting local business interests first---especially local "green" enterprises; repeated as a "local first" mentality
 - Intergenerational communication
 - Apprenticeship opportunities for teens
 - Gathering places that were safe and provided monitored, organized activities for children and teens
 - All age groups as an active and vital part of the community
 - Good public transportation available for all
 - Venues for entertainment and cultural stimulation
 - Collaboration of government entities to reduce redundancy
 - Wide varieties of educational opportunities
 - Cultural enrichment
 - High employment
 - A variety of social opportunities for teens
 - Activities for couples (dating)
 - A place of creativity and community
 - A place where people would want to live
 - More diverse technology
 - A better local employment base
 - Better promotion and publication of activities for teens
 - Programs for children 5 and under
 - Family-based activities
 - 3rd space concept for current technology, creative entertainment, and philanthropy
 - Accessibility to universal design
 - Early childhood development is valued and supported
 - Infrastructure is in place where access and opportunity exists for lifelong learning
 - Non-motorized transportation is encouraged and supported

- Contributions of diverse groups are valued and opportunities exist to participate in multicultural activities
 - Safe, interesting, and age-appropriate gathering places
 - Ability for young parents to interact and connect in stimulating ways with other young parents
 - Ability to learn about more cultures and use the information to better ourselves
- This is a representative list (but not an inclusive list) of everything that was recorded on the worksheets. I was impressed with the sense of inclusiveness that seemed so evident in the conversation as well as the eagerness of participants to create an environment that was creative, energized, stimulating, intellectual, artistic, and educational for people of all age groups, diverse groups, and economic groups.

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