



Southside Steering Committee  
City of Paducah | Planning Department | July 25th, 2022

**Members Present**

Mike Muscarella  
Susan Ybarzabal  
Leslie Ballard  
Rev. Charles Dunbar  
Tommy Hollimon  
Kristian Prather  
Connie Ragsdale  
Sonya Thompson

**Members Absent**

Bryson Wells

**Staff/Guests**

Suzi Davidson – Parks  
Melanie Reason – Planning Dept.  
Nic Hutchison – Planning Dept.  
Members of Southside United

**1. Follow-Up Discussion: Recreation at Coleman Park**

- Tentative Date set for October (possibly the 15<sup>th</sup>).
- Discussion surrounded the role of the committee and how they will assist the Parks and Planning Department staff in putting on activities designed to generate data on use of the park's facilities. This data will be used to inform future park upgrades.

**2. Planning Process: Connectivity and Infrastructure**

- Discussion on what makes transportation *good*. Members mentioned the following:
  - ✓ Reliable
  - ✓ Accessible
  - ✓ Affordable
  - ✓ Timely
  - ✓ Comfortable
  - ✓ Smooth roads
  - ✓ Pleasant
  - ✓ Allows for connection
  - ✓ Safe
  - ✓ Many Choices
  - ✓ Protects quality of life and environment
  - ✓ Easy to maintain
- Discussion surrounded transportation equity and the idea that not all neighborhoods have the same level of access to jobs and services, and transportation that doesn't serve these areas equitably have economic and health consequences. Transportation inequity may be observed in groups of people as well as geographic areas, considering those with mobility issues may not be served by sidewalks or public transit.

- Discussion surrounded types of infrastructure that connects communities, and it was noted that Wi-Fi is considered part of that infrastructure.
- Members discussed community values around connectivity and infrastructure, and formulated value statements that will guide the programming and policy related to this area of concentration.
  - ✓ Neighbors can travel safely and easily to their destinations, near and far.
  - ✓ Neighbors can enjoy streets and sidewalks with adequate lighting, shade, and drainage.
  - ✓ Neighbors can enjoy multiple ways to move: walk, bike, transit.
  - ✓ Neighbors have access to infrastructure that is safe, reliable, efficient, and environmentally friendly.
  - ✓ Neighbors have access to a network of roadways and sidewalks that are accessible to everyone, regardless of ability.

**3. Vision: Economic Opportunity and Business Retention**

- Business Development Specialist for the City reported that she will be meeting with Southside businesses for one-on-one meetings to connect with business owners, assess the health of the business climate in this area, and connect businesses with resources.

**4. Next Steps: Next meeting and action items**

- Next Meeting: September 12<sup>th</sup> 5:30p, Location TBD
- Action Item: Every member should ride public transit to understand the challenges and inequities in transit and connections within these neighborhoods.