

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

*Green comments are from students at Oak Ridge schools

*Orange comments are from social media

Livability/Beautification (ex: museum, arts, library, farmers market, internet, senior center, etc...)

Need a new senior center

Don't get carried away spending money on a new senior center. I'm a senior and the Civic Center should be adapted to meet the needs of all the community-including seniors. Lots of seniors would benefit more from not spending money because they are too frail to come. PS- Think about Oak Ridgers and not Anderson County!

Greenways on railroad tracks from Elza Gate to Y-12; from Melton Lake along the river to Clinton. Need adequate money for Rec and Parks Department

We live in an older part of Oak Ridge and we have frequent power outages. Very hard on TVs, Computers, etc... When do we get into the 21st century?

Oak Ridge/Oliver Springs entrance on the right hand side is a piece of property that is being dumped on and has been abandoned. It's blighted!

Corner of W Outer & N Illinois. Please clean it up

Do not out-source the Oak Ridge library

We need a new city animal shelter. The one we have now is very rundown. Animal Shelters around our area are much nicer and more things than we have

Keep some park-like settings at AMSE site, new Main Street Center, & elsewhere-make it cozy & cute!

When Main Street is completed, need Manhattan Apts gone as it detracts from the NEW Oak Ridge.

Our housing and apts currently attract low-income people. Need a better mix to attract higher income professionals.

The street drain at 276 East Drive has failed. Pipes are intact but have separated allowing water to damage/wash out my foundation to the tune of a \$14,200 repair-much more to come. This could easily have been avoided if the system was being checked regularly over the past decade. I want to know why this wasn't done and why I am having to fight the city over repairs. It isn't right

New Senior Center. Quit putting the seniors last. We built this city.

provide permanent home for seniors. We are the largest socio group now

rethink the senior center (location, size, accessibility)

Oak Ridge should add upscale and retirement housing within the city center project to provide some 24/7/365 occupancy in the CBD. This could increase usage of the retail stores in the City Center and could improve the safety and security of the area. It would also foster after-hours activities in the City Center and could result in added entertainment and food service activities. Greenville, SC is one example of a revitalized down town that has been very successful. They have the residential/commercial mixed use.

Maintain current infrastructure even if at the cost of future growth

Promote a tree plan that requires multiple trees be plants for each one cut

What's the city doing with old RFB & Dyslexic building? Move storage or admin offices in there

please continue to provide us a great public library

Does Oak Ridge have a dedicated drug & alcohol detox and rehab program? Perhaps churches can partner by offering Celebrate Recovery and similar programs on their premises that residents can be a part of

Seniors need their own separate building

Look at codes and policies-be sure they are competitive with those we contend with

Senior Center? What Senior Center? What services are available for seniors. What an average age of 45+, it seems to me that there must be a high percentage of over 65 in the city population. What services, facilities, and resources are available or in the works

Since OR is a no-kill animal shelter, they need a larger building.

We need a senior center

Great library, arts, music, education

City Council-SUPPORT THE ARTS!

get rid of old sagebrush & chinese restaurants

Silver Springs, MD library has 100s of computers for community use for online courses and job applications. The entire adult community uses them and the library is full to capacity all day long. Please investigate this and envision something similar for OR Library to make it a more shiny jewel for our city.

We have the oldest arts council in the state and we are running in the red. When the City gave away the Secret City Festival, they gave away our operating budget. They need to support the arts in the community

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New library building
Litter at the summit
The summit can be transformed to somewhere to appreciate nature or the sunset. It would be a great place for a drive in movie theater
New venue for concerts for all ages to attend
The senior center should not be held in the same place as the civic center. It is important for the youth to have a place to be themselves.
I would like to see a youth center or someplace for the youth to safely spend time. The Civic Center has the Senior Center now
Would like to see megabit internet service for small/medium/large biz use. Perhaps as part of Oak Ridge electric utility service
Plan a neighborhood beautification day and involve realtors, Home Depot, neighborhood watch groups, TN Achieves students that need to do community service, etc...
Incorporate art into and throughout the town. It allows artists to display their work and promotes creativity.
Move more quickly to raze or refurbish unused commercial spaces
Clean up blighted areas and buildings
Try to remake Jackson Square to resemble a 1940s style. We are a National Historic Park now and Jackson Square is our history. Work with the Grove too
Recognize the unique contribution that the Historic Grove Theater is making to our community. Help the Grove increase its 1940s ambience-not grand but with a 1940s feel
Regulate furniture @ Razzleberry's for uniformity of Jackson Square and to remove obstacles created by the furniture in front of Razzleberry's which is an OSHA hazard-someone could trip. The area in front of Razzleberry's looks terrible, unclean, and cluttered with too much furniture that obstructs the walkway and makes Jackson Square looks bad.
Need a new animal shelter. One more visible to a main road. We need indoor/outdoor runs for each dog.
I would love for the City to build a new facility for an animal shelter
Would like to see electronic sign in front of Civic Center with reader board kept up to date on events
Proposing a botanical garden at Summit Place
Energy efficiency savings for homes with gas
Start a community solar program where residents can invest in panels that would not be feasible on their own roof
Street cleaning- homeowner/resident awareness
Hire a City Arborist
Try [good luck] to control invasive plants and English ivy along roads and green spaces in the City
Water weeds are forming near Palisades. What can be done? Check the culverts for clearance when water is down.
Would love to see EQAB partner with the Arts on environmental education
Corner of W Outer & Illinois concrete dump
The new AMSE museum will need more land for bus parking, more space for exhibits. It's a shame to downsize
Clean the lakes
More native plants around town (sumac, etc...)
Oak Ridge is a tree City-take care of trees we have and plant others.
Ginkgos in median of Emory Valley Road are dying
Make Jackson Square the historic district from Florida Ave to Michigan Ave; Turnpike to Outer Drive (Highland View is more notorious than historic)
A needed project to plan the planting of new trees and planning kinds of trees as well as removing dead trees on streets where dead limbs hang over parking spaces & streets. Examples of needs removal on E Tennessee Ave. A city could not have too many healthy trees
We need to beautify Oak Ridge. Oak Ridge is not an aesthetically pleasing community. We could work to get community/businesses to adopt corners that thy landscape and maintain
Too many street lights-can't even see the stars! Lower wattage and remove lights that are not needed such as every pole has one across the street from them
When trees are pruned back due to encroachment on utility lines. It's often way overdone to the point of butchering the tree
Parks are well maintained, attractive and inviting. Park service is helpful and friendly
The tree planting program is wonderful
Weekly trash pick up is reliably consistent and friendly.
Get goats for all of this kudzu esp. behind Glenwood school
Advice for landowners on trees to plant and where to plant them to minimize future problems
Recommend a tree plan that requires trees to be replaced & additional ones plants (1:1) for each tree removed

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Preserve, plant, and protect native trees and plants
Reduce blight
Remove disfigured trees from under power lines
Plant new trees but not directly under power lines
work to maintain or improve our current quality of water and air. Fight federal regulations/laws/edicts that might threaten this
Our local shelter is old and very out of date. The shelter isn't very inviting for families to go in and adopt animals. We have lots of animal lovers in this town and would definitely support this idea.
continue to have standards for landscaping and protection of important environmental features of industrial areas.
Keep Science Museum Center!! Classroom needed for teaching large groups (not sure if part of same comment)
It would be nice to see more development on the west side of town. For people living near the Westwood area, there isn't a park or a store within walking distance. For people without cars or drivers licenses, it is hard to run errands without the help of another person with these things.
New animal shelter - the current shelter is over 40 years old and falling apart. The Oak Ridge Animal Shelter has been "no kill" for almost 3 years - our citizens deserve better
New animal shelter - our current animal shelter is run down and needs an update. Other shelter in our surrounding areas are very updated and nice while ours is falling apart. We also need to have a more visible facility.
Updated, new animal shelter; please consider updating or building a new modern animal shelter. The current shelter is in disrepair and out dated. They desperately need: indoor and outdoor kennels, proper ventilation, meet and greet area inside and a better, more visible location. Surrounding counties have updated their shelter: Roane, Campbell, Blount, Union.
I would like for the board members to visit the animal shelter and see the conditions for themselves! Thank you
Please give us a new animal shelter! What we have is sub-par and not appropriate for animals or staff. Cities all around Oak Ridge have much better shelters. Its embarrassing.
No mention of the Arts Council OLDEST ARTS COUNCIL in the state of Tennessee. No mention of Arts Center on map page even though they are open 7 days a week.
Oak Ridge animal shelter is in need of help from the officials to speak for them please. They are currently housed in a very outdated, unhealthy environment. They do not have an indoor/outdoor run, their kennels are small, there is no where for the potential adopters to spend any time to meet the animals. Please help, they are living/breathing animals that need our help.
Remove all derelict structures on the main thoroughfares
Animal Shelter: Needs areas for visiting with cats, windows, and a new facility designed for animals.
Our city desperately needs a new shelter. We are now a no kill shelter but our shelter is very outdated compared to other shelters around East TN. Our dogs need indoor/outdoor kennels and the cats need a community room with windows. The potential adopters could go in and meet and greet with the cats. We would also have an area to take pictures for our Facebook pages to help promote adoptions. We have some a long way at the shelter over the past few years but a new shelter is the next step. We have several rescue groups that are working with the shelter. We have SCAR. FORAS and SARG leading the way in this area.
We also need a senior center for our aging population.
We need a new modern animal shelter for our fur babies entrusted to our care. I am in animal rescue and see the need. The animals, staff and community need this.
Need gigabit internet service in Oak Ridge
I would like to see citywide broadband to bring in businesses that are tech oriented and want high speed access. The companies have been relocating to the Chattanooga area since its city owned broadband. Oak Ridge is well positioned to take advantage of these type of higher paying tech jobs.
The city could take a page from Nashville's farmer's market - food court a general city gathering space where citizens enjoy foods from Mexican to Jamaican, Greek, Indian, and Chinese. The city could use an older property (Magic Wok perhaps?) to create an open, modern, indoor/outdoor seating, international food court
According to Knight and Gallup, the one thing that drives economic growth in a town is having the citizens engaged. The only thing that polled across all age ranges is art and culture. If you want to grow jobs, invest in the arts
City needs more curb appeal-literally! Curbs and right of ways on major roads are overgrown especially on turnpike and Emory valley road. Brush along Lafayette between Gettysburg and Illinois is encroaching on the road
We would love to see Grove Center completely renovated (great access to high school students)
Organize a community garden on one of your plots
We need newer books in the public library changing tastes in genres necessitate the need for new books.
60% of population of Oak Ridge is senior citizens. Most of the budget is spent on getting younger people here. I think it is time to invest in the senior citizens by investing in a senior center
Stop the theft of public land given to private parties

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Continue redeveloping Jackson Square
Build new 21st century AMSE and Oak Ridge Visitor's Center.
Corner of W. Outer Drive and Illinois Ave. concrete slab dump.
Create more public space for vegetable gardens and food resources on available land.
Would love to see more community gardens.
Support for the arts is important. The OR Arts Center does a good job on exhibitions. Art shows that bring in people from the surrounding areas. They need support for the building renovation, kilns, etc.
Offer land for new animal shelter. Local 501c3s can help with grants/fundraising for new facility. Ours is embarrassing.
Concern Re: OR Animal Shelter: OR Animal Shelter is in desperate need of a suitable building/shelter for the animals. Current building is outdated and does not accommodate a healthy environment for a living/breathing animals. They have no outdoor run, no place for meet/greet and their kennels are very small. Please dedicate a case manager to actively seek a suitable building. Thanks!
One of the most decrepit facilities in Oak Ridge is the Oak Ridge Animal Shelter. The old RR station is falling apart and is an embarrassment. Even Roane County, Blount County, Anderson County, Knox County put Oak Ridge to shame.
Leave free city maps at gas stations, the electric dept., ORUD, and the library, AMSE, where visitors and new residents would go
Improve/beautify streets through fun competitive drive! Like HGTV block improvements.
New updated animal shelter. A property on a main road would be wonderful! Our shelter takes in over 1,000 animals per year and we have been "no kill" for almost 3 years.
The Oak Ridge Heritage and Preservation Association supports the work of the Land Bank and we need to work together on ways to maintain and preserve our O.R. Historic District. We are part of a National Historical Park now!
Make Jackson Square the Historical District of Oak Ridge. Beautiful Jackson Square.
Take better care of the beautiful trees. We have to plant more. Each entrance of O.R. should have this. This would invite people to come into our town.
Take better care of the trees in the area - and plant more.
AMSE - do not destroy that beautiful museum! It is a shame! If so make a 21st Art Museum!
Landscape area along turnpike need some light and put all plants near the houses on the bank.
A map; tourism on west side???
Keep the animal shelter open on Sunday. That is when families are looking for things to do. I think you 'd have many volunteer "dog walkers"
Designate a building to showcase African American contributions to the secret city/artifacts/oral histories such as Rose Weaver's traveling exhibit.
The Arts Center could use a wayfinding sign
Poor drainage in front lawn of the civic center library- been that way for 30 years
Rainwater drainage issues at the state park is a problem. I fell in an area where standing water had caused a slippery green slime plant like algae to grow
Please do not clear large tracts when you don't even have a buyer!
Please stop clearing land for no reason and concentrate on re-developing brown fields.
Find a better place for senior center than building at Civic Center
Apply brick to exterior of Civic Center during construction of new senior center building to improve aesthetic of facility
Research city-wide facility usage at a rate more accommodating to residents
Leave one/take one book stand boxes at all parks
Need a new animal shelter with updates for a better chance of dogs/cats getting adopted
The library is one of the best parts of Oak Ridge. The children's room is awesome
A Community garden like Beardsley Farm
City needs to hear motions passed by City Boards
Increase library budget! More print books and digital resources needed. Maybe open on Sunday in the summer
Need area beside Oak Ridge vet hospital zoned for new animal shelter and public dog park.
Need to curb electronic signs - too many on turnpike and Illinois. Makes the city unattractive and bothers nearby residents.
Clean up and dress up the entrances to the city. Right now, at least two are messy and don't create a good impression of the city to residents or visitors.

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Provide ultra high speed internet to all houses and business. It would attract new residents and internet-related businesses. If our local hotels had UHSI, ORNL and Y-12 visitors would use them rather than hotels in Knoxville
Paint a mural on the large white tank between Briarcliff and Emory Valley depicting the history of Oak Ridge
With all of the seniors living in Oak Ridge, we could certainly benefit from having a senior living community - not nursing or assisted living- but an actual community for active seniors
Have a city clean up day for major bush trimming
Need to work closely with city planners- enforcement of plan should be primary function - appeals should be based on the city plan as adopted by council
Support the music association. "If music be the food of love, play on." they have free concerts to bring music to young people
Keep Oak Ridge Sportsman's Association open- don't zone it out
Tow broken down cars on the road/side of the highway
Require greenspace in residential areas. Newer neighborhoods should have a park or green space within walking distance
Botanical gardens-conservation, education, & convention center
Support the tree plan! Expand it to private properties
We need our OWN building for seniors
We are in horrible need of a new animal shelter. The current shelter is falling apart. I believe making a better shelter would be an amazing thing for this City to do for the community
Remove invasive plant species like privet along the river walk (OR Marina Area). It blocks the view of the river and is a nuisance.
Don't forget the seniors that built OR-need new safer building and not the Civic Center-parking is bad for handicap seniors
Please provide us a great senior center
Has a survey been done of people over 60 living in the City to determine their needs and to both build a senior center and fit it to meet actual needs such as senior care, medical clinics, abuse problems, food problems, medicine needs, etc. Too many seniors are isolated in their own homes-no outreach programs available. People at high-risk need to be identified
Parking for EVG at Cascade Lane is in poor shape-inadequately sized and a muddy mess
Enlarge/Enhance the public library
create walkable main street
Keep seniors active!
I would like the new downtown area to be walkable
Clean up our roads from junk, wood, cars that don't work, boats, etc. I have called the police and nothing happens - CLEAN UP OAK RIDGE!!
Senior Apartment at convenient area near stores, coffee shops, banks
How to get the word out more about what is happening (events) in Oak Ridge. Explore Oak Ridge website calendar is good but is reliant on groups to enter info. Or need a "community" calendar for local organizations to post. May already exist but I don't know about it
Stop spending money on golf course. Put money on sewer costs
Why have the old Sagebrush and Chinese restaurant buildings (in front of the old K-Mart shopping center) been allowed to sit empty and become an eyesore for so long? These buildings are the first things visitors see as they enter Oak Ridge. If the vacated (but still in good shape) Ruby Tuesday building could be torn down so quickly after the restaurant closed, why haven't these ugly, deteriorating buildings not been torn down?
It would be nice if the railroad would remove the old crossing poles since there are no longer any tracks and there are no lights on them. They are ugly & distracting
I think this town is beautiful but you could clean up the world. I think you should put kids with problems and no parents in a good place instead of with random grown-ups like in a big building called CARE
More homeless shelters, bigger cat and dog pounds, clean up more, help more people, clean up the lakes, arrest drunk drivers, add more stores, more pest control.
Target, soup kitchens for the homeless, more attractions, bigger animal shelters, and more places for kids to hang out
More places for people to hangout for kids and adults, maybe arcades or roller skating rinks and place to socialize.
We need someone to help cars move in the morning so people do not stop in one spot.
We need better car lessons so people do not wreck or go too slow or too fast
AMSE is a golden goose for O.R.
Recognize the Scarboro Community as a historic location and landmark in Oak Ridge
Make the Scarboro Community Center a better priority and more service to community. Use some of the CDBG funds freed by paying off center
As a senior we do not need to spend more money on us. We need to attract young professionals not more seniors and low income families.

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<p>Convention & Visitors Bureau: expand the Atomic Energy Museum</p> <p>Hi! I was wondering who I would need to talk about possibly trying to get an indoor play area in Oak Ridge for our kids. It's getting cold out and the only indoor play area is Chick-fil-A. Maybe we could get something like the west hills mall has or something.</p>
<p>What if, just think about it-we mentioned how we need a newer, or upgraded shelter? Oak Ridge Animal Shelter is still in a pre-war building. And I am talking about WWII! All the great groups that either volunteer or pay for better vetting for these animals, have kept it from being a kill shelter, for at least 3 years now! Go visit and see what we are talking about, and that these dogs and cats are kept well but no outside runs or even windows--Oak Ridgers, please consider.</p>
<p>Maybe this is a good place to bring up our embarrassing ex train station animal shelter? A lot of work has been put into it, but it's still small kennels with none of the modern amenities even the shelters around us have, like the guillotine doors where animals can go to an outside area to potty. Or a place inside to meet the cats and dogs up for adoption.</p>
<p>Hi! I don't know if I'll be able to make the community meeting, because of work. I'd love more of our greenways to be paved. Now, most are more like hiking trails and I've gotten lost on them. I'm not super comfortable alone on narrow, poorly marked, unpaved trails. The paved greenways - wide, well-marked, and therefore much more used, are fantastic! I love having greenways as an option for running or walking, but the choices are currently limited. Knowing there are more greenways, but that I'm not comfortable using them, is disappointing.</p>
<p>I just want the leaves swept up in the neighborhoods. When???</p>
<p>Outdoor sports Welcome Center at NW corner of Illinois and Turnpike. Secure parking for ATV trailers, Wind Rock info, bicycle information (road and trail), hiking info (Frozen Head, Obed), water sports (marina), bathrooms (showers?). The lot has been empty for years, is not suitable for office/retail, but would work well for this purpose.</p>
<p>Develop the east end.</p>
<p>This may already exist, but grants for renovating homes. These old military houses have no character and no aesthetic appeal.</p>
<p>When is The City of Oak Ridge going to start developing the East end of town? Ridiculous to drive all the way to the other end of town to go pick up something at a store. No eating places or much of anything on the East end.</p>
<p>Green way connection from east end to Melton Hill Sidewalk stops at Dollar General. Capitalize on Rowing events by Coordinating city events to keep visitors in Oak Ridge.</p>
<p>I want the constant litter along the Turnpike addressed. In my daily walks, I easily pick up a shopping bag of trash. Would like to see a program developed where those having to perform community service would pick up litter along the streets.</p>
<p>Address the litter problem along Oak Ridge Tnpk. I was told the city does not have a litter department, unlike Morgan Co., and Clinton. How about those sentences to perform Community Service be put to work picking up trash. I average 3-4 shopping bags a week between Weigels and the fire dept. on the west end taking my daily walks.</p>
<p>Here is an idea. Take a look at what is being done at The Southside Social in Chattanooga. This place offers all kinds of things from bowling to corn hole. It offers both indoor and outdoor activities. How about a nicer bowling alley like Sun Valley Lanes in Nebraska (www.sunvalleylanes.com). The majority of the bowling alleys around here are pathetic. A venue like sun valley lanes or something similar would attract for both leagues and open bowling.</p>
<p>(1) I moved back to Oak Ridge after living in Nashville for 35 years and this town has so much of what people want these days. All the original neighborhoods are walkable because of the sidewalks (which need to be correctly repaired--not just another layer of asphalt laid on top). There's free recreation with the tennis courts and Frisbee golf. And the green belts are a treasure! What's missing in my opinion is a juice bar and a large variety of organic foods. I'd also like to see some encouragement to repair and maintain the original, cemesto houses in our original neighborhoods. They have stood the test of time, most are surrounded by mature landscaping and trees, and all have real oak hardwood floors (much coveted these days) running underneath the interior walls which can be moved to change the floor plan.</p>
<p>WILL CITY MANAGER, PROF. MARK S. WATSON BE SHOVEL READY TO DENY SCOR ITS FAIR SHARE OF TAXES. I AS A SENIOR CITIZEN AM TIRED OF ALL MY TAXES BEING USED TO DENY GRANTS FOR A NEW SENIOR CENTER. I AM TIRED OF BUSINESSMEN WHO ACT AS THOUGH SENIORS DO NOT EXIST. WILL THE FOOT PRINTS ALREADY EXISTING BE DENIED?</p>
<p>Litter along the Turnpike is a growing problem. Right now it's left up to "walkers" to pick it up....which I do on a daily basis, but it's more than can be handled.</p>
<p>Abandoned businesses and homes. Either reuse the business or tear it down. As for vacant homes, after 3 years, I feel the same thing about them.</p>
<p>It's time to deal with the non-native invasive plants along greenways. Getting rid of them will allow our beautiful native plants to survive and also reduce maintenance costs in the long-term. And businesses should be encouraged to use plants that highlight our local beauty. The TN Invasive Plant Council has lists of invasive non-native plants and can also provide info and advice on treatment processes and plantings.</p>
<p>A really good senior center!</p>
<p>* Revitalize the Civic Center with upgraded meeting rooms that include media connectivity options (A/V setup); free Wi-Fi; indoor track; patio lounge space and cafe space (bid on by local small business for operation)</p>
<p>* Revitalize the library to include: collaboration rooms that can be reserved for meeting use or student collaboration; a conference center that has minimal cost to residents of OR; a computer classroom; free Wi-Fi. (Good example: https://goo.gl/images/IFUp8c)</p>
<p>* Provide city-wide or neighborhood Wi-Fi Hotspots similar to Xfinity where subscribers are able to access Wi-Fi from wherever they are and non-subscribers can access for a minimal fee</p>

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<p>Repairs to the Civic Center need to be in keeping with what is already there. The repairs to the walkways around the center are not done with the same materials, giving it a patched up looking appearance. I agree with grants to renovate or improve cemestros. A roller rink, a community garden like Beardsley Farm, reusing pre-existing vacant buildings for new businesses, rather than vacant strip centers. Supermarkets or more development in the East Village Area. A daycare center that opens before 6 a.m. for plant workers with families.</p>
<p>Love the community garden idea, maybe the city good look at neighborhood gardens. I live in Highland View and we could surely tear down those God awful apartments and replace with a centrally located neighborhood garden. Great idea!</p>
<p>The Oak Ridge Animal Shelter, currently housed in the old OR Bus Depot building is in dire need of upgrades to current facilities. The Shelter should be moved to another more suitable city owned building that could be modified. Ideally, a new Shelter building should be built in the future. Shelter currently does not conform the Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters*, as written by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians. We need your help for the animals and for the staff.</p>
<p>Shelter SHOULD have, but does not currently have the following facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Indoor/outdoor kennel space for dogs. Dogs are currently housed in chain link kennels with no solid partitions between kennels to separate dogs. There is no place for dogs to urinate or defecate other than on the concrete floor they “live in” inside their caged kennel. This is a huge cleanliness and odor concern, and can pass bacteria and disease to surrounding kennels. They are constantly wet and/or dirty. Neither staff nor volunteers can guarantee that cages are cleaned immediately after elimination. Current Shelter Guidelines (mentioned above) dictate that shelter dogs should have indoor/outdoor kennels as their primary enclosure * Separate rooms for new and nursing mothers with puppies/kittens to alleviate stress. * Separate rooms for sick animals. Currently sick animals are housed with the quarantined healthy animals * Cat room with a window. Cats are currently housed in an enclosed small room with cages on top of each other * Separate indoor adoption room(s) for people to meet and greet potential new pets with their families. The only current place to introduce a potential dog or cat to a new family is inside the cramped cat room or outdoors with a dog * Proper ventilation in each room. Poor ventilation increases odor and spreads disease * Separate staff break room. There is no private place for staff to eat or take a break * Separate food storage space. Food is currently piled up anywhere it will fit and adjacent building cannot be used due to rat infestation
<p>The Oak Ridge Animal Shelter accepted over 1000 animals last year, and 53 animals to date (1.26.17). It is currently run more like a pound, and does not conform to current standards. Oak Ridge citizens deserve an Animal Shelter that can not only offer services that shelter animals deserve but is housed in a facility that provides a better, cleaner, more welcoming atmosphere for potential adopters.</p>
<p>I visited the New York Museum of Science, it was wonderful, full of scientific activities for all ages. Something like this could draw school trips and tourist, I think this is worth checking out since we are a scientific community.</p>
<p>My family and I are currently out of state and unable to make it to this event. But we are saddened by the news that Oak Ridge is suggesting taking away beautiful Elm Grove Park and replacing it with a pre-school. This is our favorite park in all of Oak Ridge. Surely, there is a more appropriate site for this. Such devastating news. Has this site already been decided or is there still a possibility of a different location?</p>
<p>Get rid of the golf course!</p>
<p>When new commercial construction is begun in Oak Ridge, one of the first things done is to dig a catch-basin to trap and hold silt run-off - at least in part to protect area tributaries and lakes. Another area that I would hope that the City could address over time is trapping at least some of the run-off from streets. This is especially important during icy winter weather when tons of salt are applied to streets for safety reasons. Much of the salt water of course winds up in area creeks and lakes, killing some area wildlife and destroying animal habitats and nesting areas.</p>
<p>I could not attend the Blue Print meeting last week but I am going to add my voice to those who think that we need a new animal shelter very badly in Oak Ridge. Oak Ridge is known to be a very progressive place and in keeping with this we need our shelter to reflect the beliefs of the city. The facility is outdated and the size is too small for the needs of the animals. The staff is wonderful and they do what they can as do our volunteers but it is now time for the city to step up and do something as well. I know there are a lot of people in this community who would get behind this initiative and support it financially.</p>
<p>Economic Vitality (include retail and job growth ideas)</p>
<p>Oak Ridge is hard on small business. Consider sign vouchers to the business instead of making us pay to advertise. Just a few a year.</p>
<p>Get a Jason's Deli in Oak ridge</p>
<p>Bring DQ Chill & Grill to Oak Ridge</p>

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More dining at the marina
Schools: Technical career paths for those not a traditional college-bound student right after graduation
Bring more retail space/business to mall
The city needs 24-7 affordable childcare so parents are secure and able to work any shift of the day
We are off to a good start with shopping. We need a Lowe's and a music store
Need a city-center where people can come out and walk around at night. I know we keep trying but brick malls are not the future
More shopping
Why did you kill AMSE??! That's a tragedy. 60,000 visitors per year, wonderful green space connected to ORAU's green campus + our great park. Like we don't have enough strip malls in this town? Why did you offer them Kmart or one of the other bazillion under-utilized commercial properties in this town? What a travesty! Land grab by OR Developers for their benefit at the expense of ours! Very disappointed.
I would like to see more development on West End
Reclaim Pine Ridge and build a 4-star hotel and conference center & nice restaurant.
Build new 21st century AMSE & Oak Ridge Visitor's Center
More retail in East Village (supermarkets, less strip centers)
Publicize playhouse more
develop Jackson Square area
The area around Hobby Lobby and the bowling alley are so run down. They need to be spiced up and good retail needs to be added.
Would like to have more empty buildings renovated for new business occupants
How to get better use of the Civic Center as a hub for events-local and area
West End development: practically no shopping or restaurants past Illinois going west on Turnpike
Look into community partnerships with alternative energy companies like Tesla
Focus on sustainability
Chamber of Commerce: Provide more opportunities for minority businesses to secure subcontracts with large businesses such as the downtown business development
Create a community maker's space with wood tools, metal tools, computing devices and other crafts to accelerate worker training and apprenticeship
Convention & Visitors: Do we still have a convention center? AMSE would be great (if not there now) and currently location is great. Don't move!
Publish more information about Oak Ridge in national magazines
What is the city doing to recruit new light industry? Need to increase local jobs
Encouragement of industry in sites closer to the center of town
More diverse restaurants other than fast food.
Find an investor for the butcher house and make it into an event center
When moving the museum, plan a "discovery" or wonder works in the lower level. It could be a fun, interactive place for adults and children focusing on Oak Ridge or Tennessee type of activities.
Horizon Industrial Park - push development
more manufacturing (like auto, clothes, home supplies)
Sell CROET and get a real developer to promote Oak Ridge industry. They are non functioning.
I do not believe in tax incentives. Why can't we get businesses with the tax incentives?
Do more to capitalize on rowing events
Advertise locally what's available.
Lack of adequate directions to the visitors center and its not adequately staffed.
Go ahead with the airport to attract industry
use limited resources for high visibility projects that make us more attractive to newcomers like trees and fresh businesses
Could we have tourism investment that reflects on the past 20th century, which would exhibit the decades of the great depression, WW II, baby boom era and the Carter and Reagan years?
Fancy restaurants (Ruth Chris)

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

Drive in movie theater at the Summit
Target
More clothing stores
Olive Garden and other fancier restaurants
Horizon Center: Tesla factory
NASA @ horizon center
Can we have a Target in Oak Ridge?
We need more retail food places on the West end of Oak Ridge
Reclaim Pine Ridge from the man who destroyed it. Build a four star hotel and conference center up there looking over the city. Relocate AMSE and Oak Ridge visitor center up there.
The city should encourage the tourism industry by retaining the museum and reestablishing the train tours
Programs for people who want to re-enter the workforce, some incentives to hire?
If a building discusses moving into Oak Ridge, have a small welcome event with some small businesses to start forming a connection with the community they might be joining
Please attract non-DOE, large private business to Oak Ridge like BMW, IBM, Siemens, etc... To create non-DOE employment for OR citizens
Seems to be difficult to bring industry to Oak Ridge. Clinton thrives and grows and collects taxes. Surely Oak Ridge can do better. Are we difficult to work with?
I would like to see more development in the restaurant industry in Oak Ridge. There should be more options for fancier cuisine
Need to investigate what has been gained in jobs & revenue long term (over last 20 years). There is national data that this does payoff - has it actually paid off for Oak Ridge? To what extent, cost to taxpayers vs. gain
Report to citizens on line about IDB investments, abatements, and progress toward ROI
More variety in restaurant options in town
Encourage companies to partner with research at ORAU
Community must be more aesthetically pleasing to draw new businesses and citizens. Better architecture, landscapes, etc.
Put together "welcome to Oak Ridge" package that could be made available at ORUD or Electric company so people new to the area could get info. I've been here 2 years and this is the first time I have seen the East TN Visitors Guide
More retail- Old Navy
My Italian husband requests a real Italian restaurant - no chains
DO not allow a big box store on the land where AMSE is/was located
Perhaps encouraging small business and founding new ones to help improve incomes and variety in shopping
We need a city identity beyond letting any business build any cheap and/or ugly building they want. We are now a national park, based on our history as the Secret City. We have cemesto homes we cannot tear down due to asbestos. Can we conceivably enact building codes on our main thoroughfares that embrace this heritage? Illinois and the turnpike look like we have given up yet our high school is beautiful and we have a lovely park in the middle of town. We could build on the good bones we have but it would require we resist the impulse to let any retail establishment continue to add blight.
Reclaim Pine Ridge and build 4-star hotel and nice restaurant.
Improve efforts to renovate existing strip malls vs. building new properties and leaving abandoned strip malls.
Magic Wok was an Oak Ridge institution for more than 30 years. For generations of residents, Betty was a kind friend, neighbor and purveyor of her own unique take on consistently delicious, yet simple and incredibly affordable, Chinese-American cuisine. Her absence has saddened many of us and left a hole. The recently upgraded building remains but is in need of a champion. The city could invest in Magic Wok and make it a destination. Betty is retired but the city could enlist her help in finding and training someone to take over where she left off, investing funds in revitalizing the vacant property and creating a hub for citizens to gather for classic tastes of Magic Wok while expanding to encompass spaces for other new businesses or organizations. Perhaps, the Oak Ridge Land Bank and Industrial Development Board could collaborate on this idea further.
Low interest loan for retail/restaurant businesses to remodel to a 1940's theme.
Try to prevent the turnpike from being a thoroughfare for by-pass from Knoxville.
Develop a grand vision for marketing Oak Ridge to our ideal candidate to move to our city. I would like think young families, maybe young singles who want to take advantage of our excellent schools. Also market as an outdoor oriented hub - rowing, hiking, biking, etc. to appeal to the younger demographic.
Outdoor café where we can sit and enjoy drinks and eat food. Colorful table setting like European style.

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

Large room where mothers drop their children while shopping. There are caregivers in the room., mothers meet other mothers and talk about their kids. They can have a cup of coffee while watching their kids playing with other kids.
I would like to see a Main Street Oak Ridge with good side walks to kids will want to walk from the high school to the businesses over there. My dad's shop has gone out of business due to road closures and being only accessible from parking lot. His shop was next to Staples.
Heritage tourism for our city would bring in dollars.
More youth jobs/ A place to post them
A place to post volunteer jobs
IDB needs to ensure that it does not further impose on BORCE. The recent proposal to run power lines next to the creek and along the greenways at BORXCE was totally unacceptable. And why? To keep power lines out of an industrial area? That's ridiculous. Also, if you want to attract workers and high quality industry, they will want green space nearby. So please don't screw it up any of the old growth parcels in Horizon Center.
Rezone for more development on the West End
Not keeping local shopping available means we have to jump in the car for everything. These communities were created to be somewhat self-supportive
Would it be good to have amenities like B&Bs, small to large hotels and a grocery mart near Melton Lake to attract more visitors and to serve those who go to rowing competitions?
Citizens would like to see all the empty properties used vs. building new buildings all the time
Bring in craft beer
What about Airbnbs? Can we have them in the city? In any zone?
Please no airport!
Not in favor of airport - will cost to upkeep and will add noise
Try to get more young families in town
Try to get ORNL employees to live in OR
Every city expenditure of \$10,000 or more should have a statement of projected ROI and the basis for the projection
They need more buildings in this town so people can work more, to keep the environment clean and say no to drunk driving, have a mission of hope for people who don't have anything, have shows at every end of the year but with different songs and dances for each grade, have a skating rink
need dunkin donuts next to west side dollar general. Need to get snow days easier
great small businesses (jackson square) and fix up some bad roads and troublesome intersections
I also think we need to add more boutiques instead of like JC Penney or Belk
We need to increase the number of jobs and opportunities for people that come to Oak Ridge to have. Right now, people do not have a reason to come to Oak Ridge but I fell like our population and popularity would grow if people had a reason to come to Oak Ridge
Drive In Movie Theater
Would like to see more planning in Scarboro Community-Business area
Amusement parks
Target we need a TARGET, a Fresh Market would also be ideal, and revamping buildings like the Civic Center, the area is too dated. I love Kroger's but I will drive 45 minutes to get my meats and etc. from Whole Foods Market because they serve grass fed meats and etc.
Enough with the retail development. I didn't move to Oak Ridge 17yrs ago to live in Turkey Creek. Always building more but leaving eyesore around town and half empty strip malls. We should be encouraging more small business owners (e.g. JM butchers, maxed out, the other one, and on) why not encourage a microbrewery, winery, distiller. We need to maintain some character.
We need some attractions I hear they're making y12 a park so why not go off that I don't wanna say copy pigeon forge but let's look to them for inspiration to help build and bring oak ridge to a bigger and brighter future
Can we have a Target, please?
Allow chickens to be kept at home without ridiculous requirements... Bring in actual factory jobs and not just minimum wage retail and food service, and do it in an area convenient to residential areas. Also, work on lowering electric and water rates instead of finding every reason to jack it up. Oh, and present more of the important stuff for the citizens to vote on, since you end up vetoing most things we suggest in secret meetings anywho... the people should be the power, you are just there to enact it.
What I am wondering is I have a small cab company in ca my son lives there and I would like to know is how would people like their own cab company from there

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

I would love to see an Olive Garden for Oak Ridge. Would be nice to see them put something useful in the old Kmart and that eyesore restaurant that's been vacant for the last several years.
I'm a Knoxville native, who just moved to the west end of Oak Ridge a year and a half ago so I'm not well versed on plans for city revival, but I love the history and character of Oak Ridge. It's refreshing to see large lots, unique houses, and yards with trees. With that being said, I feel like there needs to be some kind of initiative to attract younger Generations. That would mean some sort of innovative housing initiative to coincide with the city development plans. The trend also seems to be moving toward downtown development like has been done in Knoxville, Chattanooga, and even in smaller cities like Johnson City. It seems as if Local, artisanal type businesses are in high demand. Based on my observations, I think Oak Ridge could easily support these types of businesses. A string of chain restaurants and businesses is not a forward thinking initiative designed to attract young professionals, so please don't flood this wonderfully historical town with more over-rated big-box businesses. (That being said, a Target would definitely not make me mad!!) The character and experience that my generation is looking for is here; there just needs to be an initiative to motivate younger people to move here initially, move back here after college, or just stay here.
I think the new beer garden/market on the Turnpike will be a good start once it's done!
Amen! I personally hate how many fast food options the city has allowed in. The turnpike looks like one giant strip mall! Personally as a 40 something I look for local, niche markets and love the farmers market. Although it is tiny and could be much larger if combined with the flea market.
All I want is the New Turnpike Monorail and the Gift Shop
We could use some healthy (non chain) restaurants surrounding a place for farmers markets, and pop-ups. Increasing opportunities for local artisans, farmers, gourmets, craft brewers, local winemakers, etc. In an international square connected by bikeways that go out to the marina and on to Knoxville. It would be an extra amount of awesome if said amazing space was run on clean energy with plenty of extra parking and charging stations.
Transportation - Sidewalks
To help with bike and hiking traffic across center city: will building of mall may allow for bike/pedestrian routes
Sidewalks with parking strips separate pedestrians from roads. Oak Ridge has a strange collection of sidewalks that end abruptly. A citywide system will make the city safer and healthier
More sidewalks
Develop sidewalks wherever possible. It is practical, safer, and a way to add community cohesiveness.
Bicycle paths down the turnpike and S. Illinois giving access to the new town center, Panera's, etc. Also completion of the rails to trails project.
Sidewalks on East end to be able to walk to Melton Lake Dr.
Sidewalks on both sides so you don't have to cross to stay on the sidewalk
Sidewalks @ all intersections across Oak Ridge turnpike
More sidewalks - roundabout at malfunction
More sidewalks in the west - similar to trail along Emory Valley Rd. in the east.
Sidewalks (many people walk from/to school) that little football field has no sidewalk just stops after civic center
TSAB - Keep working towards more sidewalks and bike lanes
Oak Ridge needs a transit system.
We need sidewalk on Neighborhood Roads (25 mph) - no on 4 lane 50 mph roads. I have seen so much dangerous pedestrian activities.
Sidewalks - Sidewalks and sidewalks - the city needs sidewalks - fix and connections
I am very glad to live in Woodland with sidewalks for safe walking. I am sorry much of the city has no sidewalks.
Replace sidewalks in older parts of city, e.g., Outer Drive and side streets
Sidewalks & outdoor spaces in town are fantastic. Older neighborhoods could use more attn. to sidewalks thanks for your great work.
Sidewalks & crossing lights in downtown
Sidewalk on East End
Need more sidewalks
Sidewalks or paved over the lawn!
City leaders who live in newer developments don't have sidewalks so maybe they are sufficiently sensitive to the problem
Improved condition of sidewalks for a pedestrian friendly community
I would like to see an expansion of the sidewalk areas on the west end of the turnpike so its safer for kids and family-friendly
More sidewalks and give tickets at crosswalks

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

I'd like to know why some parts of town get asphalt sidewalks/asphalt sidewalk repairs and other parts get cement. Who makes these decisions and what is the rationale? Oak Ridge has WWII-era homes that could really be "urban renewal" gems - but the fact that they rate asphalt sidewalks seems to indicate the city's view of their worth. Either use asphalt for all sidewalks or don't use it at all.

Better sidewalks would be great however sidewalks are for walking. There should be a bike lane put on the turnpike since ORPD is known for taking driving privileges away...

Transportation - Vehicular

City public transportation

How about a left turn signal onto Tulane from Oak Ridge Turnpike (going east towards Clinton)

Recently the cut-off road from Briarcliff to Emory Valley Road was blocked. Seems that part of the new storage tank was allowed to encroach on the road. This slows people trying to make a right turn onto Emory Valley. If the City cannot restore this road they should add a right turn lane to the Emory Valley/Briarcliff intersection. This will require moving a light pole however.

City buses that run on hydrogen

Promote clean transportation-biking and walking-by support greenways expansion and use

Traffic lights need to be updated to have turn arrows at all turn lanes.

Upgrade traffic lights to "smart" traffic sensing lights to improve traffic flow and decreases pollution and decrease fuel usage.

Bus routes in Oak ridge to Clinton and Knoxville

Roundabouts over "malfunction junction" near ORHS would be helpful

Bus pick-up seniors who can not go out themselves, take them to senior center. Give check-ups, exercise, play games, eat lunch, spend time till bus take them home at 4. Family can use that time to do choirs, shop, clean, worry-free, enjoy like 9-4 once a week.

Need more public transportation

New van for the senior center to use. Present one is very unsafe.

Can we put sidewalks and crosswalks on Lafolette? Me and my friend tried to walk from her house to Jimmy John's and there are no sidewalks the whole route. We literally almost died.

Fix pot holes, bad patch jobs, poor paving

Better road striping (especially in rain at night)

Please restripe the side streets

Traffic light timing - can we please have the lights timed East West on Oak Ridge turnpike so that when you start off at one light on green go the posted speed limit then you shouldn't have to stop at any light. I've seen it work well in other cities when I travel somewhere

The lack of good timing of traffic lights encourages driving much above posted speed limits. Examples: Louisiana & Jefferson on Turnpike (caught by one, caught by other); Illinois & Robertsville on Turnpike (almost always get red both places); Unreasonably long red lights: on Tennessee at Jackson Square Tennis Courts, on Turnpike at Square; Fixes for these are very easy. Remember that all lights on the turnpike were once set so that we could drive from Illinois all the way to Florida at 32 mph as posted. We need traffic laws enforced!

Potholes in E. Village River Rd. area

Solway - U Turns from Karns an accident awaiting to happen

Reduce the number of red lights on the turnpike

Add a roundabout somewhere around the mall area

Illinois Avenue is too narrow and cluttered. Widen it and landscape the margin

We need public transportation within the city limits and to Knoxville. It should accommodate the physically disabled as well as able-bodied individuals. There should be regular routes as well as transportation that can be scheduled.

Need cleaner taxi cabs in the city

Consider trolley for central OR main street block when finished.

Red Light cameras at schools would be good

Roundabout @ Malfunction Junction

Missing signs at cross streets, Providence Rd. & Penn Ave, intersection

Who is responsible for reporting traffic lights, street lights, etc., burned out or otherwise not operational

Review timing at side streets on OR turnpike, and also Manhattan businesses center (Food City)

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

I'm in favor of consider replacing malfunction junction (Pennsylvania Ave.) with a roundabout. Be sure to educate the public on how to enter and exit the roundabout before implementation. Explain how it's safe, less confusing, etc. Also consider how pedestrians (and bikers) are to cross those streets.
Reduce speed on Melton Lake Dr. 70 max 35 mph
A way for OR city transit to better serve others-especially elders- would be to have definite hours on a couple of days per week. Could such a schedule be tried?
Seniors need a ,limo van for our field trips.
Need safer van for transporting seniors-limo van type. The one now is very unsafe. I can't even get in it. I have to use a cane to walk
Don't think we need more roads just maintain what we have
Widen Edgemoor Road
Park and Ride to lab
More obtainable senior transportation - I see a lot of carless seniors walking and sometimes they create traffic or hazardous situations.
Work to get Bethel Valley open again. Majority of new development will be west and we already have a massive choke point
Cost of sharing with businesses and city for transportation schedule
Bus transportation to be more eco-friendly and this would be good for low income families
Elder people need public transportation. City provide free pass for those over 80 years old. Needs a good map, route, fare and schedule as well as stop points.
Expand Pellissippi to 4 lanes to minimize traffic before and after work
Public transportation like trolleys in Gatlinburg - also something for senior citizens
Rail systems
Public transportation in Oak Ridge
Would like to see rapid/mass transit from OR to W Knox and Downtown Knoxville
Public transit system in town - regular buses or tram system
City shuttle around downtown from Jackson Square west to Jefferson Circle
Great need for public transportation especially for art events and performances
We need a free or cheap transit bus shuttle to go from HUD housing units to the banks, grocery stores, doctor offices and MMC hospital
Expand regional public transportation
Need to make public transportation more affordable for all especially seniors
I would like to see a shuttle to Turkey Creek on the weekends - perhaps a shuttle downtown as well. I think people would pay since we have to pay for parking anyway
I would like o see more public transportation so that high schoolers have a safe way to get around - reduce pollution too.
A cross-river access at 2 points (bull run and Solway) is severely restricted at times - 2+ miles of slowed traffic. Oliver Springs and Clinton at least have 4 lanes in & out of town. Emergency evacuation would be a disaster. These problems are an aggravation for those working in Knox Co and make Oak Ridge look bad. Miles-long traffic stopped in Woodland needs traffic re-do to help at school pick-up. This affects real estate values and shows lack of planning
O.R. Roads are in the worst shape I've ever seen since the 1960's. Do we have a repave program?
Roads are well maintained.
I hope that suggestions can be left here. Oak Ridge has some traffic issues.
(1) There are so many red lights on the Turnpike and S. Illinois that getting around is difficult, irritating and time consuming. Solutions are not easy. A perimeter road circumventing Oak Ridge may be the best solution. The problem needs to be addressed by the City of Oak Ridge and maybe the Tennessee Department of Transportation.
(2) And, traffic is very heavy on the Turnpike. The easiest solution may be to help traffic that wants to exit the Turnpike to do so as quickly as possible. Exit lanes should be added or extended at as many intersections as possible. For example, adding a turn lane at red light #1 would help eastbound drivers who want to turn onto Melton Lake Drive from the Turnpike do so and allow them to exit quickly instead of waiting for the red-light to turn green. For Turnpike eastbound cars approaching Lafayette Drive, extending the turn lane would help clear traffic off the Turnpike more quickly and improve the flow. An examination of all Turnpike intersections would probably reveal other similar traffic impediments that should be addressed.
(3) Traffic attempting to leave Oak Ridge via Melton Lake Drive at the end of workdays experience lengthy, irritating delays each day as cars approach the intersection at Edgemoor Bridge. This is not only aggravating to drivers but could be very hazardous if a rapid, orderly evacuation due to an emergency situation became necessary. The problem needs to be studied and options determined. It could be that adding a perimeter road noted above could be part of the solution.
Pave the streets.

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

In Lake Drive, just before the intersection with Edgemoor, there is a divider for the facility on the hill. It restricts everyone into one lane which at morning and evening has drivers who wish to turn right held up behind dozens who are turning left. A simple change in the divider would speed up traffic a great deal. The right lane is almost always empty.

Red LIGHTS Not In SEQUENCE They Are Too SOON To CHANGE 10 - 15 Seconds??? It's HARD For WALKER'S CROSSING AT INTERSECTIONS THROUGH OUT The CITY??? ENGINEER For CITY STATES ONCE BEFORE THEY ALL MET STANDARADS SET BY TRAFFIC ENGINEERING??? But I Still TIME THEM THEY ARE NOT UNIFORM ON CHANGING AND AMOUT OF TIME THEY CHANGE OR STAY CHANGED??? DANGEROUS TO CROSS AT INTERSECTIONS CHANGING LIGHTS WHEN YOU ARE IN MIDDLE OF ROADWAY AND TRAFFIC GOES AND I'VE ALMOST HIT SEVERAL TIMES CROSSING!!!

Fill in the potholes please

A transit system on the 1, 2, and 3 winter weather snow plow paths. I have never been a city this large with no public transportation.

Recreation

we need more parks and green space

We need a dog park closer to town

Plans for trail development of greenways.

A new dog park would be great. Visitors are animal lovers too. The dog park now is too far outside of area

It does not work for volunteers to be in charge of trails. Too many are in very bad shape. This needs to be government function

Handicap inclusive park at Melton Lake Park

More activities for teens in Oak Ridge. For example: indoor ice rink or camping ground

Need more space for new AMSE-add classrooms, storage space for equipment, auditorium

Please consider additional space outside of new AMSE location for exhibits such as the flat-top house

I am terribly disappointed with the Oak Ridge rowing. Needs more restaurants and cleaner area

Oak Ridge City Museum dedicated to the history of this area prior to the Manhattan Project

Upgrade outdoor and indoor pools

Drive In Movies

Ropes course at Marina

Restaurants at the marina

Make a variety of smaller parks throughout the neighborhoods within walking distance. This raises property values

More basketball courts around town

Build a small playground in Wolf Creek. It's a new neighborhood that doesn't have any sort of park. Something small could be implemented.

Extend outdoor swimming pool hours-think of more useful ways to use it (ice skating, winter parties, etc..)

Keeping Clark Center Park as a resource for the community is important. It will go to GSA soon and so the city needs to act soon.

There must be a way to highlight the beauty of the Cedar Hill Trail behind the steel bleachers at Blankenship Field. This is a missed opportunity which could truly enhance the Jackson Square area. There should be trail signs/displays pointing to the Cedar Hill Trail and the trail should be paved around the perimeter of the field with seating and stretching exercising areas like @ Melton Lake. This could be a great attraction for people seeking to ride bikes on trails and have lunch after at Dean's or shop at the Farmer's Market

Get more programs and projects designed for and to include teens

More entertainment opportunities for kids/families (mini golf, batting cages, bike trails)

Marina needs to be for everyone not just rower and human powered crafts

Greenway with parking and trail to quarry

Outdoor pool-please don't let this Oak Ridge landmark fall into disrepair

Move more of Secret City Festival to Jackson Square

more support for lavender festival

A number of greenbelt areas have been invaded by English ivy which is killing the trees. AN effort should be made to control and eliminate that vine

Many trees in the internal greenbelts are dying due to overgrowth of the English ivy, kudzu, etc.... These invasive species need to be out back. Good project for Boy Scouts.

Consider Tuskegee Drive for some greenway projects such as biking, jogging, walking, etc..

Maintain green spaces for outdoor activity-trails, biking, kayaking

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

Allow bow hunting within the city limits-with property owner's permission
Promote greenways as a way to attract more visitors to Oak Ridge
Have more festivals geared toward different age groups and genres
More funding for parks and recreation
Finish the disc golf course
Complete the Melton Lake Haw Ridge Walking/bike path along Edgemoor Road to Lafayette. Use old Y-12 train tracks to complete loop back to Melton Lake trail
More greenway paths.
More City youth activities.
Build a walking bridge across the marina water to the Anderson County side and use the land there to establish s? along the river. With Anderson County buy in we could copy Chattanooga
Indoor Tennis Courts. I taught junior tennis (free lessons) and when it rained we went indoors at girls Inc. and talked theory. This was not very interesting for the children. I suggest using an old building e.g.. The Amory or Gym (at the Senior Center) - put in two courts for teaching purposes. Another idea in a big bubble over 4 courts at the OR Country Club, but I don't know about renting the courts from the Country Club. Later we could have a huge complex and lot of indoor courts for competition. We would need fundraisers, donations from former and present players money from the Alvin Weinberg fund etc. and of course support from the City of Oak Ridge to once more make oak Ridge great tennis town.
Promote rails to trails for more biking opportunities
Good that you expanded the rowing lanes. Work to make bike lanes available - wider bike lanes!
Include the wide variety the arts and crafts and musical opportunities available; enhance these as well as other recreational opportunities
Walking trails in place of the unused railroad tracks
Needs to be a billboard for what is going on in the community (organizations/City).
Publicize the rail to trail project but delay until funds are here - we need community clean up first
It would be good for children to learn heritage and have fun visiting "decades of rides and entertainment."
Can we turn the Summit on the way to Knoxville into a public place to enjoy nature and the sunset, or make it a drive in movie theater?
Continue bike paths along the turnpike if possible from Illinois to Melton Lake
Indoor tennis courts
outdoor pickle ball courts
Endorse the idea that greenways bring business to OR and stop making negative comments about greenways
More greenway paths and upkeep of current ones
More city youth activities and advertising for them
Convert old Y-12 railroad tracks to bike path/walking trail from Illinois along Lafayette to Melton Lake path near Elza Gate
Keep Amse at its current location. It is a major attraction at a central location
Please help us finish the mounds disc golf course with tee pads. The club has put in thousands of man hours, trimming, cutting, mowing, anything that needs to be done. Please put us on your radar-we are so close to having one of he premier course in Tennessee
Develop the quarry road into a full greenway trail and add some mountain bike trails
Rent motor boats to people with boating licenses
Rent fishing equipment and have a fishing site
Could we have a walkway bridge over the turnpike as a modern city landmark? It could be both symbolic as connecting Oak ridge's past and future 50 years (and useful for pedestrians and the disabled)
Could we have a bus museum at the old atomic museum site where folks could board old buses to enjoy nostalgia of 20th century??? Also have exhibits at "bus terminal sites" where WW2 workers boarded and what their transportation looked like
Save on AMSE - Support this infrastructure
Make sure greenways and parks and rec are well integrated with land bank planning.
The summit on the way to Knoxville is unused, but very beautiful. It could be cleaned up and utilized as a drive-in movie theater or something to watch the sunset in nature.
Sell more lots to contractors who want to build more businesses and activities for teens.
Hold a community meeting specifically about finding people interested in managing garden co-ops on available properties.

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

Walking tours
Promote outdoor recreation opportunities on our greenspace and water resources.
Increase bike/walking trails on any old unused railroad tracks/line w/town - is the track line near Warehouse Road in use now?
Disc golfers and non-disc golfers alike enjoy the beauty of the Groves park in Oak Ridge. As a disc golfer I believe the course sits on world class property. I have played 177 courses from New York to California and Groves easily makes my top ten best list. One thing holding us back is some of the maintenance issues and lack of cement (or other) tee pads that will last. We look forward to working with the city and will provide all the help we can. We appreciate the time you all have devoted!
Tennessee ranks 10th in the nation in obesity. A great form of exercise that is fun and inexpensive is disc golf. The sport is growing in popularity world wide.
Recreation Dept - Union carbide swimming area development build small lodge for family rain, picnic, overnight stay. Meals like hotel camping out of town folks. City people it would be wonderful for summer time.
Batting cages, mini-golf - more athletic events and practice areas
Provide a venue/gathering place for professionals for jazz and other music. Would also serve as a venue for professional persons visiting the city.
Continue to bring in events such as regattas, marathons and bike races
Let's partner with the EOR app when we get it going - in time for rowing season.
How about a "bowl"/concert/event structure on the water
Clark Center Park will go to GSA soon and so if the city is going to act it needs to be done now.
Need to fully promote the greenways in Oak Ridge & on the DOE reservation
Grow tennis program with Coach Allen
Update current disc golf courses to PDGA standards. Install new courses. We could host some world-class disc golf tournaments
Help develop greenways and green space to promote green/progressive industry
Please think about paving a path around the perimeter of blankenship field with a few benches and exercise areas so as to invite bikers, walkers, and fitness enthusiasts to enjoy the Jackson Square area beyond just eating at Dean's or watching football in the fall.
Work with community organizations to develop youth enrichment programs at the Scarboro Community Center and outside field area that would provide better utilization of the center.
Swimming pool use for rest of year (ice rink, parties, or longer season)
Keep outdoor pool open longer. Closing in early August makes no sense
A city youth recreation league for sports such as basketball, tennis, football, etc..
Splash pad would be awesome for kids. I currently have to go to Farragut but would like to stay in town
Better swimming area at the lake
Basketball courts at more parks
Zip line in the greenway trails
The Oak Ridge Pool is wonderful but needs larger parking as it is hard with multiple children to park far away
The Secret City Festival would be cooler if we really made it more about the Manhattan Project time period (Rosie the Riveter look-a-like contest, jitterbug competition, etc.)
Community Event billboard by the rec center
Keep improving and adding bike trails and lanes
Move parks! More greenspace-connect parks with greenways and bike paths.
Make bicycle commuting possible.
Don't kill Elm Park
We need to bring back outdoor activities like miniature golf, go-carts, and Frisbee golf to attract young families.
Picnic tables in all parks. Bissell Park has picnic tables in the wooded area that you have to know its there. Then if you have coolers or baskets to transport, you have to park on Badger Road to access.
Game days to get the kids off the computer and across from each other at a table
Need to expedite the Rails to Trails project on East End
Perhaps Haw Ridge biking trails could be re-worked to increase the number of mid-level proficiency trails-possibly with resurfacing (gravel or other additions)
Extend bike path from Marina to West End
Let's plan an all-city "homecoming" with parade, music and more

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

Keep pools open longer
connect more greenways
use waterfront more-add concerts or outdoor art shows
Tie rock-climbing wall across from the tennis courts into the Cedar Hill trails which lead to areas where there are boulders that the climbing community would enjoy. The rock-climbing industry is on a sharp upward growth- we are missing the revenues from that group.
Oak Ridge needs more trails, green spaces, and dog parks. Follow Knoxville (especially S Knox) lead. My family moved to OR from Knoxville because of 1. sidewalks in town, 2. parks 7 greenways, 3. water sports
Get Clark Park- please try to keep this wonderful resource for our citizens
Tennis court improvements are not frequent enough. ORHS plays all but one regular season in-district matches there. Should be able to host a district tournament but can't because courts are in too bad of shape. Had to play at Tyson Park last year. I hear the Country Club courts are up for sale. Would the City consider purchasing? Keep as clay courts.
Indoor court facility? I don't want to have to go to <u>Knoxville</u>
On behalf of the OR Garden Club, thank you parks and rec for all your help with the Emma Spray Garden and especially the help with the installation of he Blue Star Marker. I personally appreciate the walking paths and neighborhood parks! My faves are Haw Ridge, Melton Lake, and Emory Valley Road. Maintenance and cleanliness are wonderful and enhance the walks!
Save Bissell Park from anymore encroachment from various sources. We need to preserve green spaces and add to them. There are plenty of vacant buildings for new business to use.
The rowing events are not friendly to non-participating spectators. They need a program that gives more information day and time of each race, type of race, and school participating in each race
Zone for bike/pedestrian access on trails through Oak Ridge. Work with Rails to Trails to develop bike trails
Rails to Trails on the old railroad from Melton Hill to Y-12!
The city should acquire and make a recreation trail of the former RR ROW from Elza Gate to Y-112. DO this before key segments are lost to development
Rail to Trail bike path-Melton Lake past Jefferson Middle to Lab
Disc golf is growing very much in he US, Tennessee, and Oak Ridge. Concrete tee pads would be very beneficial at the disc golf courses in Oak Ridge. The City should support the construction of these tee pads
Softball field lights need to ALL work during season
Seniors need more organized activities
More recreational events: bowling, archer, fishing
Get rid of the money-losing golf course. It does nothing for the City residents
More fields with lights on East side of town
Have programs for youth.
Support all youth programs
Bring Secret City Festival back to the City's control. While it should appeal to those out of town, it is also for the citizens of Oak Ridge
Add lighting to at least one of the city soccer fields: possibly Melt Dickens, Katie Hunter, LaSalle Park, etc....
We could use some tennis courts in the west part of OR. They gave away those that used to be next to the Y
Put up a basketball hoop or two outside
I would like to see the land at Croet turned into soccer fields, tennis courts, etc.... This would bring families into Oak Ridge with children thus increasing the tax base
Thank your parks & rec for supporting the dog park
Oak Ridge Tennis academy: Leagues start in March and the courts are dark
Box culvert @ Ernie's Creek-would open up area for fishing, boating, paddleboard, etc..
Increase funding for green spaces and the maturity of existing parks, etc..
Increase bike trails (Number and types)
Need more organized activities for high school students
Rally as much support as possible for expandable paved greenways
New indoor pools
bathrooms at the outdoor pool
amusement parks

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

Need to have all parks open to the population. Having parks closed to the public is not acceptable-why have parks if they are locked up?
Look into sponsoring a cycling club at the high school to try to get more kids out and/or hiking club. It doesn't have to be through the high school really.
Please support disc golf courses in Oak Ridge
Remove unused rail tracks from streets; make walking trails where tracks run
Rail-To-Trail: continue working to correct CSX rail line to trail in Oak Ridge. In talking to Parks & Recs, sounds like work on this is in progress
Save the MOUNDS
Master Plan for Groves Park
Finishing disc golf course at Groves Park
More funding for parks and rec please
Work with the DOE regarding the transfer of Clark Park to COR and establish trails and greenway
Need fitness boot camp for kid and lights for tennis courts
Would love to see some activities that would draw young families. When we moved to Oak Ridge in 1990 there were 2 putt-putt golf courses, go carts, and batting cages
New indoor pool and new bathrooms at outdoor pool
Do not close Elm Grove for preschool
Create a bicycle-friendly town with connected paths for community to Y-12 and ORNL
Pave Cedar Hill trail beyond Blankenship Field and add benches and exercise areas to attract people to the Jackson Square area
More hiking and biking trails
retain green space and add more
Increase greenways, bike trails for recreation and for general use to travel from place to place.
More multi-generational and multi-cultural events/activities
Safe but "cool" youth center
Complete greenway system around city
Keep working to fund Rails to Trails
I like the parks. They are calm and you can sit on a bench and do homework
We need more activities like laser tag and mini golf
Needs more parks near neighborhoods so the kids can play
More activities, more family hangout place, more stores like Costco and sams, more kid friendly places
It's boring and needs more activities, more family restaurants, more shopping places
more family restaurants, kid activities (jump jam, chuck e cheese)
Civic Center is thriving and gives us a good public hangout area and less restaurants, more activities like skating, arcade, etc..
There needs to be better soccer clubs and we need a Target
I think Oak Ridge needs more entertainment so I think they need to add a trampoline park
<p>Hello! I saw your post asking for ideas to make our community better. I have an idea that would make many parents and kids happy in our area. The faux splash pad installed in Jackson Square was a step in the right direction. While a nice idea, it really isn't meant for kids to play on -- the drain grate hurts bare feet and has cut my sons foot once -- the brick around it and the benches get insanelly hot in the summer, not to mention the safety of letting small children run around the middle of parking lot. And it's so small! Any more than 3 or 4 kids playing makes it an unpleasant experience. Here is my solution, and everyone I have suggested this thinks it is fabulous. The water feature at the library is old and ugly. If it was revamped to a big splash pad that is similar to the one at Knoxville, or heck even the zoo -- it would be insanelly popular. The water is already there, it's a safe distance away from the road and cars, it would greatly improve the appearance of the area. Please consider it!</p> <p>Increase recreational sports. Stop punishing nonresidents with a fee to play when there is better competition nice facilities and officials that are nicer to work / play with in Knoxville, Farragut and Maryville.</p> <p>Why should Oak Ridge charge higher fees, Suppress play and keep poor referees?</p> <p>Lot of empty baseball fields that did get some usage last summer, but little publicity.</p> <p>Thank you my point exactly. The fields are already there and maintained. But yet COR punishes nonresidents that pay for a team to play. So the team pays and the individual has to pay extra above the league fee. It's really the straw that broke the back. Sub-par facility compared to Knox. Higher fee. Drove people out, eliminated competition and so even less played. Went from multiple referees to one. The one is dependable for the city but doesn't compare to what other organization have. And the city wonders why team sports is down.</p>

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

Better year round entertainment. An arcade, a sports center (centralized. not going from one side of town to the other just because I want to play football instead of tennis), a go cart track, a putt putt course are some examples of good ideas. These don't have to be oak ridge funded, just invite some businesses with that kind of stuff out here. They'd make money, and the citizens would be happier. The main complaint I hear about oak ridge, is that it is boring
Climbing wall, connection to Knoxville greenway, dog park at east end, Italian restaurant.
Would love to see better sidewalks for kids on bikes!
Secondly I am a blended family of race and oak ridge has been accepting of that more than anywhere, but the town carries division. We need a community "block party". An event FREE, 100% FREE for all of oak ridge, bringing the city together without the pressures of socioeconomic abilities. Reaching out to grocery stores for donations of water, food, fruit, utilities etc. Requesting local artists from all genres to perform live (clean only for family sensitivities) and games and fireworks at the end. I have been a part of these in a previous community and it works, I would LOVE a chance to sit down in an actual meeting and present this idea and even discuss the benefits and relative ZERO cost to the city but boosting the spirit of community and pride.
More indoor sports recreational buildings to give older kids something to do.
Things for kids to do.
Updated Melton Lake play structure! The jungle gym is outdated. They built a pretty gazebo and the view is so pretty but the jungle gym is awful and doesn't match the area at all. It would be awesome to have something like the Lakeshore park in Knoxville! Also bike lanes!
I think a completely handicap inclusive children's play area would be amazing, preferably at the Civic Center. A dog park on the East side would be really great too.
The boys and girls club is severely neglected, both the building and the fields. There are a lot of youth who need that facility. They're also one of the only places for children to participate in athletics without having to join a league or travel team (which most can't afford). Better sporting facilities would attract more tournaments (besides rowing) to Oak Ridge, resulting in more local revenue.
More sand volleyball courts and a league. Racquetball and squash courts would also be really fantastic.
Let's make an effort to keep the Outdoor Pool open as long as warm weather lasts instead of closing when school starts. Advertise and recruit adults & local college students to provide staff. Don't run out of chlorine so soon, and postpone the 'Puppy Party' as late as possible.
Our "Friends of the Oak Ridge Outdoor Pool" group on Facebook has close to 300 members and growing. I am hopeful many will attend this event and all upcoming budget work sessions. With 90 degree weather extending beyond the start of school we need an extended season. It can be done.
I am a parent who has two children in ORTA, Oak Ridge tennis academy. It has become a very positive experience for them. [The organizer] is excellent with the students and teaches tennis extremely well. There are issues with lights that are not working. This problem affects the time periods that they can practice. I urge the city to replace any broken bulbs and maintain all of those lights.
More activities for children and young adults, less money wasted on golf courses that primarily retired people utilize. Oak Ridge is slowly becoming a giant retirement community.
I was not able to attend the blueprint kickoff meeting but I hope someone mentioned the urgent need for a solution to the parking issues at the Marina during regatta days.
Housing
We have a house across from us that leaves much to be desired. It's for sale now but long before the sale sign went up I was hoping it would go into the land bank. Talked with Matt about it. He was in a fight with cancer and I am afraid nothing came of it. There is a tree on this property that has been allowed to grow way too tall and when it comes down power, cars, and homes will be affected.
Report run down houses and cars parked that are not usable. Trashy yards too
Oak Ridge should foster the renovation of its older housing stock through property tax abatement to individuals who invest in renewing/upgrading their property. The same should apply to small business owners when they renew or upgrade their property. These should NOT apply to big box or major corporate entities. Renewed housing an small business will increase the vitality and uniqueness of our community
The city should lower taxes for people who upgrade their properties. This would help eliminate blight
Let's look into grants and programs that incentivize homeowners to clean up their yards and work to improve landscapes-thus improving home values. This will make our community more appealing to homebuyers
Consideration for allowing transition homes in residential areas-six-month tightly supervised
What are the plans for older housing to upgrade city status as place to live-some are really run down
As a realtor I have had customers ask about building modular homes. Perhaps an area set apart for this type of homes.
Glad you are doing this process. Pay lots of attention to Scarboro

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

Provide some means to improve or demolish old, decrepit homes and apartments
No ridge top developments for aesthetics and to avoid flooding in the valley
establish plan & procedure for upgrading old housing
Applewood Apts being developed for new family housing
create low-cost forms for all households to install energy efficient measures in all homes in the City
Upgrade the old cemesto neighborhoods, replacing run-down housing with new housing
neighborhoods should be neat and clean. Junk should be removed
Enforce city code to keep private property well maintained and free of trash
I would like to see focus on Oak Ridge residency as primary return on investment.
Develop Pine Ridge
Fix Greenwich Village building and parking lot.
Oak ridge needs more better initiatives to address homelessness
As pastor of Glenwood Baptist Church, my chief concern centers upon the decline in the number of owner-occupants in the East Village. The increasing number of rental properties has produced an increasing transient population that is difficult to serve effectively. Much could be done to reverse this trend by offering major property tax incentives to owner-occupants moving into the East village. Incentives for property improvements/upgrades would also prove effective, based on my experience in other cities facing similar issues. Something needs to begin post haste or I fear the trend will soon become irreversible. I would be happy to work with the city to help this become a reality.
Take derelict property and convert to greenspace
Please try to get rid of or bring up to codes the horrible derelict cheap rentals in Highland View. These are not safe and do not attract people to our city. But please keep the trees. Would love to see Y2(sp?) or more of these properties bulldozed and the space left to be green space or adopted/given to neighbors. I moved here from inner city Knoxville - I am shocked at the conditions of these places that people are renting
Offer lots of demolished (condemned) houses at reduced price to adjacent homeowners (if not rental) toe expand the lot size. Makes neighborhood more attractive with bigger lots that are landscaped. Homeowner would have to agree to landscape the lot.
Develop Hillside Apts. that have been condemned into a mid-sized home neighborhood to increase diversity in the Highland neighborhood.
Work on gathering groups of properties for a snazzy development.
Get more blighted properties transferred to make room for development.
I am concerned about the number of rental properties that sprung up on Newridge Rd. in the last couple of years. I know of 4 properties that are rental now. They are not kept up well and tenants change often. They don't even seem to get completely mowed. They have piles in carports and yards. They park cars in their yards.
Look into the house that is blighted at 510 New York Avenue.
I support increased city government funding for the land bank. It's a good bang for the buck.
Butler Rd. (207) blue house blighted abandoned about 5 years. Vacant for so long. Tear it down.
Absentee landlords - really glad to hear about the rental registry!
I'm proud OR city became involved in Land Bank. An orderly way to rid of decaying homes and improving appearance of health of neighborhoods.
Turn land bank spaces into small parks, basketball courts, or community gardens. This would give neighborhood kids close by places to play or a garden would improve the overall aesthetic of the neighborhood.
Grants for rehab of older homes.
Land Bank - Modify zoning ordinances to allow remodeling or new construction to come closer to property lines thereby allowing garages for off-street parking and larger homes that would be more attractive, clean-up degraded communities!!
Plans to help upgrade older housing stock to attract younger generation.
Land Bank - Public should be an active participant on any land sales/give aways?
Land Bank - Attempt to build quality homes as old ones are torn down or replaced.
The land bank is awesome but we need to improve the surrounding houses and neighborhoods.
Could we pursue grants for neighborhood beautification projects?! Homeowners might be incentivized to spruce up their yards and landscapes.
Attempt to acquire entire blocks for redevelopment not just single homes.
Demand strong code enforcement.

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

142 Georgia Ave in terrible shape.
Land Bank - As you restore property, create low income housing as well as shelters for the homeless.
Would be good for 1st time homeowners to get a start on these vacant lots.
I would like to see some of the ABC and D houses that are in good condition be saved to create a secret city behind the fence for tourists. Either at the present museum or at the Children's Museum
Have more affordable housing by allowing (section 8 housing) HUD to build on property owned by the Land Bank.
Need area for tiny houses
Tear down, update, or make livable and appealing the housing tracts above Hillside
Hire a few more code inspectors and train citizen volunteers to assist them.
Re-think your attitude toward the older WWII housing. The lack of parking will go away with the advent of self-driving vehicles. These houses are satisfactory for singles and small families. Hey will last another 50 years if the utilities are updated.
Do something with emptied apartment buildings in the Highland View - they are an eye sore.
AN area set aside for modular homes or tiny houses. Make zoning for this option
Modify zoning restrictions to allow old home to have garages for off-street parking and home additions to make them more desirable to new residents. This may require allowing construction closer to property lines
How can we clean up the older neighborhoods that are looking so run down and uncared for? We need to have pride in all our neighborhoods
Have more strict regulations on people who have lots of trash and broken down cars in their yard
Clean up unused lots
Please allow tiny houses in your zoning ordinance
Would like to see Scarboro area re-zoned
Oak Ridge needs to fix old houses and get like five guys and dicks sporting
Get rid of old apartments like Rolling Hills and Manhattan and get a developer that can build decent housing.
Please allow tiny houses & communities
Pass this on...we need affordable, decent homes. If you don't work for the government, you're out of luck. Apartments we can afford, that aren't roach infested, hud, high crime areas or almost 100 years old would be wonderful. If we wanted to pay Knoxville prices, we'd move to Knoxville. Of course nothing will be done...you are the government after all.
Please, please get rid of all those boarded up vacated apartment buildings on Hillside Avenue. That area is supposed to be historic? I am ashamed to drive down it, and I certainly wouldn't drive my out-of-towners down it. Not only is that area terribly unsightly, but drives down property values and encourages trouble in the area. I feel sorry for the families who have to look at it all the time. This land needs to be cleared asap and could be used for affordable housing. And thank you for encouraging feedback for making Oak Ridge great again haha. There looks to be a lot of good suggestions here, so hope those who can't attend and are posting comments will be seriously heard.
Schools
Preschool should move to golf course
Keep Elm Grove Park as it is. It is well-used and a small area. The golf course is a large area and could easily provide space for the new preschool. The golf course is not self-sufficient as promised by the City Council at its inception
Preschool relocated to Scarboro Center
DO NOT WANT PRESCHOOL AT ELM GROVE
Do not contract out food service or bus service at OAK RIDGE SCHOOLS
Do not put preschool at Cedar Hill Park-it is used often by families that live within walking distance
Need after-school brainstorming study institute for all aged kids from kindergarten to high school. Ask retired scientists- they would love teaching kids
Consolidate the schools to one county school system
Create school projects that interact with the museum. Use not only the museum personnel but volunteers from "the Lab" that can mentor students.
Bring back the elementary school based summer playground program of the 60s and 70s
Closing schools at Hillside and Cedar Hill were probably a mistake. These closings have led to a degrading of 2 major communities in OR.
With the recent proposals for the Senior Center & Preschool pm park lands, we need a comprehensive review of siting public facilities and how many parks we need, how big, and where

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

Preserve Elm Grove Park. Put the new school buildings somewhere else
Locate the new preschool somewhere besides Elm Grove Park. That park is heavily used by the neighborhood & one of the few open spaces for citizens in the area
Keep the parks we have: don't put pre-school or school administration in an existing park; limit loss of land for new senior center
Keep Elm Grove Park solely as a park. It is highly used. No preschool there
Keep Elm Grove Park as it is. It is a small park and very well used. On the other hand, the golf course is a large area and not well used. Suggest putting new preschool somewhere other than the park. Golf course is not self-sustaining as was promised by the City Council at its inception.
Great city but have too many salt trucks. Schools always get cancelled everywhere lese but our schools never do
Get more school supplies for people who can't get it themselves
(2) I also think a sense of neighborhood was diminished when several of the elementary schools closed. Maybe those neighborhoods could be reclaimed just by identifying the original neighborhood boundaries, adding signage and creating Facebook, Nextdoor or Twitter accounts connected to them. Elm Grove and Pine Valley each had a small grocery store and drug store across from them and those buildings are still standing. Maybe those could be branded with the old neighborhood names and new retail efforts could be encouraged.
I'm a single mother of 4 and I am unsure if I will make it to the meeting but I will say that the bus system in oak ridge is ridiculous, asking kids 7 and up to walk 1 or more streets away for a bus. Not all parents have the ability to walk with. But given the recent incident with a boy missing, what will it take, a dead child?
A new Preschool building that can serve "EVERY" 4/5 year old that lives in Oak Ridge.
Safety
In light of alcohol addictions and alcohol-related problems, please do not encourage or welcome more liquor stores or businesses. Be strict on sale of alcohol to minors and on adults who buy liquor for minors' consumption
make texting, drinking and driving at the time illegal and drugs
Keep the people in the loop- early communication
Extremely alarmed by growing failure to keep up with road repair
New safer van for seniors to use for transportation on outings
Striping and pothole filling should be a safety and quality of life priority
Stop sign behind Aubrey's is ignored by many drivers-perhaps view is blocked by parked cars and bushes
Bring back speed cameras
Street lights need to be night-sky friendly--direct light down to reduce glare
Need to clean our streets more often so we don't look like a dirty town
Lights need to be replaces at the tennis courts at Jackson Square. Please make this a priority
We urgently need a coordinated effort to provide social services to maximize resources and avoid duplication of effort. Maybe a "Council of Nonprofits"? Really need a one-stop center where clients can go for a variety of services
Need right turn lane at E Division Road and Turnpike going North and then turning east onto turnpike
Increase focus on storm water abatement, debris collections from streets
Pay more attention to handicap friendly/accessible sidewalks with ramps & handrails. Some locations have steps with no handrails (for example: parking lot at Blankenship down to Jackson Square)
Crosswalks at Montana
Warning signs at the pond and creek and Groves Park (AKA the Mounds) and Old South Hills Golf Course. They used to be there, now gone
Posted information regarding areas of high contamination-radon, lead, mercury-public info needed.
Before moving to Oak Ridge, the number one thing I heard is don't wat anything that comes out of the water. I love fishing and would love to go fishing and eat the fish... if this is only a rumor people should know
Make it obvious how this directly effects us and our environment-more for individual outreach
Get word out that we are a clean town, if indeed we are
Lights in front of houses and shopping areas
STOP PUTTING HAZARDOUS SOIL IN HAW RIDGE PARK
Work with Public Works to replace old sewer/water pipes to avoid contamination

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

Guns: Encourage merchants to prohibit open carry in their establishments. Think of a catchy name like "safety zone." Publish a list of places in the Oak Ridger and many of us will make it a point to do business with these folks!
Better road maintenance on issues such as potholes, cracks, and overall upkeep. Additionally, updated street signs would clear up confusion on old, unclear road areas.
Consider making Malfunction Junction a roundabout.
Malfunction Junction has been a big problem for drivers for years. A roundabout would be extremely helpful.
Pedestrian crosswalk at the marina needs attention. With the construction and 25 mph speed limit has helped with vehicles stopping for the flashing light. Might consider lowering the speed limit permanently and better visibility for crosswalks.
Close the peninsula at Melton Lake Marina to traffic. It is where drug deals go down and it's a dead end. So many cars go up and down for no reason-disturbing walkers, bikers, fishermen, and toddlers chasing geese.
Police presence on all events! Especially on 4th of July, I was very upset at the lack of support on South Tulane and Turnpike in 2016. Especially when someone died in 2015 - I went w/ daughter/son in law and our 4 grand children and no one was directing in the dark! More help at Secret City festival and it is in the daytime! Please help with smaller events!
Would be great if lines on roads were painted more often. Hard to see!
Wayfaring and directional signs are needed to get visitors to destinations. Such as CVB, AMSE, etc.
Remark worn missing road markings
Bring back the traffic cameras!
Crosswalk by CVS with light
Connect all the crosswalks & sidewalks for a safe and walkable city
Traffic lights to cross at intersections need to be reset to at least 30 seconds instead of 12-15 seconds? You will get run over crossing the streets?
Striping on Tuskegee!
A little longer time for pedestrians to get through large intersections.
Change time of Ben Franklin red light from McDonald's watched police officer run light beside me
Need red light cameras back on turnpike and Illinois
Promote safe bike lanes - greenways adjacent to but not separated from streets and roads.
Please fix the potholes including the ones caused by the city digging up the streets. Example: California Avenue headed uphill near the top. Please paint good center lines on streets.
Bring back traffic cameras in all school zones
Fix Malfunction junction (right near high school)
Concern: cars/drivers are ignoring the safety light for pedestrians at Melton Lake Dr. Need action, people on the cross walk have had near misses
Intersection of Kroger and Ivanhoe is dangerous. My car was travelling west of Ivanhoe & was struck broadside by a driver leaving Kroger who said he never saw me. The combination of the Kroger sign and the hill is a problem.
School zones need to be farther from schools. In particular, the one at Willow Brook Elementary's car entrance is only about 500 ft. from the school. Also flashing light added to all schools zones would be excellent.
Pedestrian bridge from high school to civic center.
More school crossing guards.
Clark Lane - dangerous curve
Fairbanks @ Warehouse - dangerous merge for N onto E
Bad lights not on Turnpike - GA @ TN, NY @ TN
Bad lights on Turnpike - Fairbanks @ Turnpike, Lafayette @ Emory Valley
If the City goes the traffic camera method again, then the city should just buy them outright, not split revenue w/private sector
Camera at Illinois Avenue and Robertsville Road was a blessing - slowed traffic to a reasonable speed for school children especially
Increase yellow lights - check all lights for safety concerns.
Add safety features (e.g. guardrail, etc.) to Lafayette
Fix the too-short alternating traffic signal @ Jefferson & O.R. Tpk. (eliminate the "on demand" cycle)
Fix the too short signal @ Montana and O.R. turnpike (Eliminate the "on demand" feature)
The light at the entrance of Y-12 and Scarboro cycles with no on there! (i.e. turns red even though there no cross traffic waiting)

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

Bring back traffic/red light cameras (especially at HS)
Bring back traffic cameras
Bring back red light cameras
Bring back the traffic cameras. If you are not breaking the law, it is no big deal.
Speed limits on ORTP west of Illinois need to be consistent rather than changing. I.e. 50 mph from Illinois to west of gate... then 55 all the way to the city limit
Make the city more friendly to walkers - especially blind ones in their neighborhood!
Traffic cameras! All national studies prove they save lives and serious injury.
Change malfunction junction to a roundabout
Improve all access points to new city center with crosswalks and crossing signals
Bring back the red light cameras
Have a traffic light when you are coming out of Y-12 Bank because it's hard to make a left turn.
Increase the number of policeman/women. Although it may not be a popular duty , foot patrols throughout commercial areas would be good
Public reminders of rules/laws, courtesy via television, radio, newspapers, text would be good
W. Outer Drive is a speedway no one obeys MPH signs
Use orange crossing flags as low cost solution for busy pedestrian crossing e.g. ORHS & Civic Center
Need a crosswalk in front of Doubletree across Illinois
Bring back traffic cameras
Tennis court lights near hospital
Tennis Court lights at high school
The Civic Center park/amphitheater needs some patrolling Wednesdays afterschool
Repaint all of the center stripes and street markings. They have become faint or non-existent.
Sewer pipes need to be replaced sooner than a new golf course
More crosswalks on major streets like Illinois - four crosswalks on the big intersections so people aren't tempted to cross without one.
Many streets in OR need to be restriped. Difficult to see at night especially when raining
Handicap accessible park @ Melton Lake Park
We need all the lights to work at all tennis courts so the game becomes more popular also the courts need some repairing
I envision an Oak Ridge where people didn't run red lights--very dangerous!
Bicycle safety: bicycle lanes over hill on Scarboro-improve safety of route to the lab.
Pave rest of Bethel Valley Road to Scarboro Road for safety of bikers headed to ORNL
The city needs to do better job with upkeep of infrastructure especially the roads
1. The road painting is so out-of-repair that, in my part of town, the lane markers are barely visible at night especially when it is raining
2. The repairs associated with the sewer/water system upgrade mandated by EPA are often atrocious (I invite you to drive up California Avenue; there's a tank trap there)
There is a stinky brown estuary that is unhealthy and attracts mosquitos on the water side of Palisades Parkway. Please fix this poor drainage. It is unsuitable to be around residential property and smells awful. Please make it look like the one off Emory Valley Drive
Look at traffic flow around Kroger to see if we need to tweak something (fatalities and I have witnessed numerous near misses
Pedestrian bridge from high school to civic center
Better lighting around schools and crosswalks
Bike awareness for roadways
Please have police enforce crosswalks
Fix "malfunction junction" - confusing and difficult to navigate especially for new residents and visitors
crosswalks & sidewalks - how to eliminate/reduce dangerous crossing especially on Turnpike and Illinois
All intersections on OR Turnpike and Illinois should have dedicated left turn traffic lights. Too much oncoming traffic to turn left safely
Need to slow traffic down on residential streets like Manhattan, W. Outer, Outer, Hendrix, etc. Use 4 way stops, speed humps, circle stops
Safety for walkers. Make cars stop for walkers

2017 Blueprint Response Cards

I would like to see safer pathways/sidewalks on the west end of the turnpike where many people bike and run
save on traffic jams and accidents if we had a shuttle to Knoxville
Restriping of roads and parking spaces
In the fall, clean leaves from roads, gutters, and drains before rains (not after) so water will not cross roads, protect roads from flooding
Get rid of the Geese at the civic center.
Police are too slow to answer calls of concern
Keep roads in better shape
Paint the lines on the roads again.
I would hope our Police Dept. will put more police on the 7 to 7 shift I hear that there are no more than 4 police cars on the road at night, One from Robertsville Rd West to K25 and Milton Hill Dam and then One from there East to city limits and out to Edgemoor Rd and out to Solway back to Illinois Rd and 2 cars running wild meaning all over, this came from a source within the Police Dept.! There seems like 15 Police on Duty during 7 to 7 on Day Shift! Is the Police Dept. Short on Officers! There have been several break in at a Car Wash on The Corner of Jefferson Ave, This is also a safety issue to the Officers on Duty during the night, I hope the City Council will look into this, spend more money on our Police and less on a Golf Course that is sucking up money and not making any! Our Police Deserve better and our city needs more on the night shift.
Other
need recycle dumpster at Bristol Park
We need a younger City Manager-this one is out of touch- proud of City Council. Keep up the good work
Believe we need more newer, modern apartments to attract younger professionals like Bristol Park near SAIC. Need to replace Manhattan Apts and Rolling Hills.
I lived in those apartments 50yrs ago and they were old then! Hillside/Hunter Hills/Applewood site are terrible eyesores-get a developer to redo this area ASAP.
Don't need huge solar cell arrays in yards like on Delaware Ave-looks awful!
Give back Wildcat Den so seniors can have their pool tables
Dissolve golf course
What is the future input of DOE? They control the release of land. Do they pay their fair share of taxes, water, and sewer. Why is DOE not here?
Police are quick to catch the bad guys and thoughtful to notify community of threats. The text messaging program is fantastic
Take down the poles of abandoned railroads
We need a plan for the whole city that is adopted by the Council and cannot be amended without full disclosure and not to make any changes until it is enforceable
Suspend prohibition of signs during election season. If they can do it, we should be allowed to do it or limit them
Get a new motto for the city that appeals to young folks not seniors. How about "a great place for families with great schools and parks".
Kudos to our city manager and our police chief. Their critics are a bunch of idiots!
Ban dogs on chains 24-7.
Would get rid of some drug dealers and my doctor can get some sleep at night
The Gun Club on the West End is much larger in scope than it used to be. It has risen to the level of bad neighbor
Dumping in quarry close to 95 next to Wisconsin Ave
Try to bring in more electric and environmentally friendly cars to the dealerships of Oak Ridge
Lower the sewage usage charges
Promote use of solar energy-use panels on City Buildings
Encourage use of Ed Westcott's photos all over town. He's ours so let's honor him
Dispose of Centennial Golf Course-an annual financial drag(albatross) to OR
Did I say get rid of Centennial Golf Course-a financial dud from the word go!
Make this brainstorming an annual event-on Ed Westcott's birthday)
Make railroad siding from Elza to Y-12 - RAILS TO TRAILS
Erect a bronze statue to Ed Westcott @ spray garden looking toward the federal building
Erect a statue to Bill Wilcox in the comm. Walk (was it not Bill's idea?)
Merging the local gas company with the city utilities would make billing easier and more convenient for residents as gas is the only service not included in our single utility bill

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Make sure people understand that they can still recycle glass. It was a bit confusing in the newspaper article that said "don't put it in your big bin."
What types of lighting in downtown in living areas? Solar & gas
City should remember that half of it is in Roane County. Really need to focus on our other half
We need to lead the way on air quality control-water at the city owned buildings
Why is there no sign for the Oak Ridge Visitor and Convention Bureau on Tulane?
When you have a meeting and ask for ideas a better system for communication, a pre-communication of what you want when you get to the meeting, possibly in the newspaper beforehand. This experience was simply chaos.
DOE needs to give the City of Oak Ridge more of the land they took or pay us more - much more. Like they do for other cities like Los Alamos.
Incorporate Oak Ridge Animal Shelter in rowing events and other major park events
Emphasize not only WW II history but also Oak Ridge's history since then
Really hate the website - too outdated, no place for feedback and is jumbled together visually. Hard to find.
I don't understand or like the sale of the museum
Oak ridge has a variety of services for the poor such as free medical clinic, ecumenical storehouse, and Food4Kids but how about offering a free vision and dental clinic (sliding scale)?
Get Manhattan Nat'l Park license plate for OR and give revenue from sales to City of OR=not the counties
Let more people know about your organization.
Ask WM to give list of problem sites.
Keep going! So excited about your programs and vision.
Partner with the Public Library for programming and publicity. We'd like to help!
Convention & Visitor's Bureau - Do we even have a visitors center anymore? If not we need one that is very visible.
We need a statue of Ed Westcott in Jackson w/camera pointed toward the Federal Building.
A statue of Bill Wilcox at the Civic Center.
Fire Mark Watson he is useless!
Fire Mark Watson. He has no love for Oak Ridge!
EQUAB - Keep up the good work
When the OR Turnpike was widened the neighborhood sign for Oak Hills Estates was removed and not replaced (@ Nebraska). This very much changed the look of the entrance to the neighborhood. The sign at Wisconsin Ave. was restored. Please replace this sign. Original sign was carved wood with a stone planter.
During the 80s and 90s, youth summits, regional conferences, fitness and collaborative programs were held which improved the quality of life in Oak Ridge
Children's Library is excellent
Remove railroad tracks along Warehouse Road from Melton Lake into town and create a greenway walkway
More publicity for the Rails to Trails project
I would have hoped the Senior Advisory Board and Board of Education would have been part of the meeting. These boards represent a significant part of the community as far as the history and future of the city
Needs a new city building, especially to house ORPD
Communication is the key. The more that is available the easier it is to make a better informed decision.
Encourage businesses with large parking lots to turn off the majority of them after 10pm.
Encourage owners of large buildings to turn off their interior lights after the janitorial staff is done
Expand animal control hours. At least one late night (up to midnight) for barking dogs and other critters that don't come out until night. This shouldn't be a concern for the police to deal with
Why isn't Tuskegee Drive in long-range planning? Seems bike, walking, and jogging trails could be incorporated along with road improvement
What about using Blankenship Field for a location to build new senior center and they can use the track for seniors and the field during certain weeknights for middle school ball games
Middle class needs should be addressed
Where does (1995) Oak Ridge Heritage & Preservation Association fit into the city plan? Losing AMSE site should not happen. It should be improved to draw visitors and guess what they will go to the shopping area. Give them more to come too - not downsize it!
Ed Westcott is a national treasure and should be honored as such

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Our past is a gateway to our future, the sooner the leaders of OR see that you will be on the right road
Keep up the good work
Hoping the city will find a public home for the sculpture in front of the AMSE
If we have a plan and we really think it's a good and ultimately effective plan, let's resist changing the planned zoning when someone comes along and says I've got a better plan that benefits me
Keep AMSE and 17.2 and promote SCF ERC
I give the city credit and am proud of the fact that when a school closes and not replaces, the building is demolished and made into a park. This is a real positive
Illinois Ave is a major transportation route for 5 counties. Consideration for separating thru traffic from commercial activities needs to be made
I like how pretty it is and good schools
I think our city is good because it ended WWII. Get rid of pollution
very clean, more sit down food places, more shopping places like turkey creek, fun places to go like arcades
Love the school system, fix the potholes in the road and repaint the lines on the road, we need a roundabout in certain roads and nice to see we are still the secret city and after-school programs, sidewalks next to busy highways, and more homeless shelters
Oak Ridge needs more entertainment so more people will stay here, it is great that we are rebuilding the mall. When it is done more people will stay here. Add an Under Armor store
Finish mall, add more food places, add more stores, make an area where Lincolns can be used nicer, new Kmart, populate the street that Kroger is used on, Trampoline Park, take care of Oak Ridge public pool
Chuck e Cheese, don't lose high dive, and soup kitchen for the homeless
Take down places that don't matter and make it into something that is better. Make places where people can hang out. I like going to walk my dogs in the park. People pick up trash, help the hungry, make things less expensive
Bus transportation, don't lose high dive at pool, and BMX park.
Why build buildings? We have a ton that are not in use
Oak Ridge, with our history, used to be a super popular town during and after WWII. However, as time has gone on, our town has become less and less popular. I feel like our mall will draw more attention and bring more people to Oak Ridge.
I will likely go, but honestly, this is just a little late, like shutting the barn door after the horse takes off. I refer to the new \$120,000 Golf Course allotment and what I consider a disaster in the plans for the AMSE building and land. I walked around the AMSE building this afternoon, it is the nicest building we have in Oak Ridge and could have been a multi-purpose building to directly benefit the citizens, big enough to house school admin, some senior activities, the big entrance hall could be used for teen dances and coffee houses, and of course, the wonderful Auditorium is a loss for the community. I know we have the high school auditorium, but it lacks the intimacy for a small or medium sized group that the museum auditorium affords. I am disgusted with our city council members as well as their hired manager. This is NOT, in my opinion, good for Oak Ridge.
Yeah I really feel like 99% of suggestions are in Turkey Creek which isn't far at all
I agree wholeheartedly. I keep hearing suggestions about developing the east end. Leave the east end alone. We don't need that congestion.
Light rail
Do something about the garbage pick-up. They always leave garbage in my yard, leave the cans on the street or in my driveway, and sometimes leave full cans of garbage on the sidewalk, unemptied. I've called the city about it but it still happens.
How hard would it be to get the garbage men to just put the lid back on the can so they don't fill up with water?
The garbage pick-up needs to be lowered. \$14.50 is a little ridiculous.
Agree with this. We have street parking, always leave our cans in the yard by the sidewalk, and they always end up either thrown down the yard or in our street parking spot around a blind curve. We have to get out and move them, leaving our vehicles in the street around the curve.
Still more than the west end!!
This complaint comes too late but I will express it anyway. I disagree with the addition of another rowing lane at the marina. I feel this money could have been used better on actual road repair. This has created a hazard for pedestrian and bicycle traffic by narrowing certain areas around the marina. Perhaps the waterway itself may be ideal for these rowing events but geographically this area becomes way too congested for this. I just think the widening was a very bad idea.
Our primary concerns are the loss of the large old shade trees and flat open land that Elm Grove offers. Due to the hilly nature of Oak Ridge, flat open areas for children to run and play are limited. This is a favorite gathering spot of the local neighborhoods for sports and recreation. As a city befitting the title of a "Tree City," preservation of such public accessible natural areas should be paramount. Thank you for forwarding this to the Community Development Department.

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Administrators can be housed almost anywhere it would seem. Is it really necessary to put them in a beautiful park? Here is a link to the Power Point the city presented about the Pre-School.<https://www.oakridgetn.gov/.../Preschool%20Sites...> It may leave the playground intact, but sadly all of the mature trees and beautiful open field will be eliminated to place the building. Ironically, those children need the nature the park provides probably more than the actual structure itself. Fully aware that the children deserve a functioning updated preschool, but I have no doubt there are multiple sites that are more fitting than Elm Grove Park.

I grew up on Taylor Road and went to school at Elm Grove. I hated that the building was torn down. The park really is lovely, and I hope Oak Ridge government is forward thinking and ecologically minded enough to preserve the natural assets of the property. Please protect those trees. They cannot be replaced.

Ahhh. That's how I felt when they tore down Elm Grove Elementary school and made it into a park. The way it used to be, was a combo of both. A school and plenty of grounds for play. Swing set, basketball courts, green grass area big enough to play catch or frisbee with your dog, have a picnic, etc. and a school. Good times oh so long ago.

I hope the City will soon be sharing what the main issues were that were brought out in this meeting and which ones the City are likely to take action on.