



JASPER COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

COMMUNITY VISION REPORT

INDIANA, USA

DECEMBER 2025





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This report summarizes the outcomes from the visioning phase of the Jasper comprehensive master planning process. This visioning phase was launched at Strassenfest on July 31 and ran through the Future Summit on December 6, 2025. The engagement process included an information booth and one-on-one interviews at Strassenfest, a Community Survey, key stakeholder interviews, a Community Profile Report, a two-session Think-Tank Workshop, a Think-Tank Report, 8 project newsletters, Steering Committee meetings, social media postings, and the Future Summit. The engagement process was designed to provide an open, inclusive and transparent platform for community members to help create a shared community vision that will guide decision-making over the next ten years.

These reports and the associated data analysis are available on the project portal:
<https://lab2.future-iq.com/jasper-comp-plan/>

REPORT PREPARED BY:



Updated December 18, 2025



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OVERVIEW OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PROCESS

The City of Jasper has embarked on a 14-month comprehensive planning process that will update its 2019 Comprehensive Plan.

The Plan will guide decision-making for the City for the next 10 years and will serve as a basis for modifications to land use and planning regulations, public and private investment decisions, prioritization for the allocation of city resources, and incorporate smart growth principles to encourage the efficient use of resources. Public involvement and input are critical components of the planning process. Throughout the process, citizens and community partners will be asked to join with the City to identify priorities and establish a list of goals and action steps for implementation. This input will inform the development of an actionable implementation section that will outline and prioritize strategies for achieving the Plan’s new goals and objectives.

The City anticipates the new Plan will express a progressive vision that promotes thoughtful, managed growth and development, promotes the health, safety and welfare of the community and continues to position Jasper as a regional hub of economic and social activity.



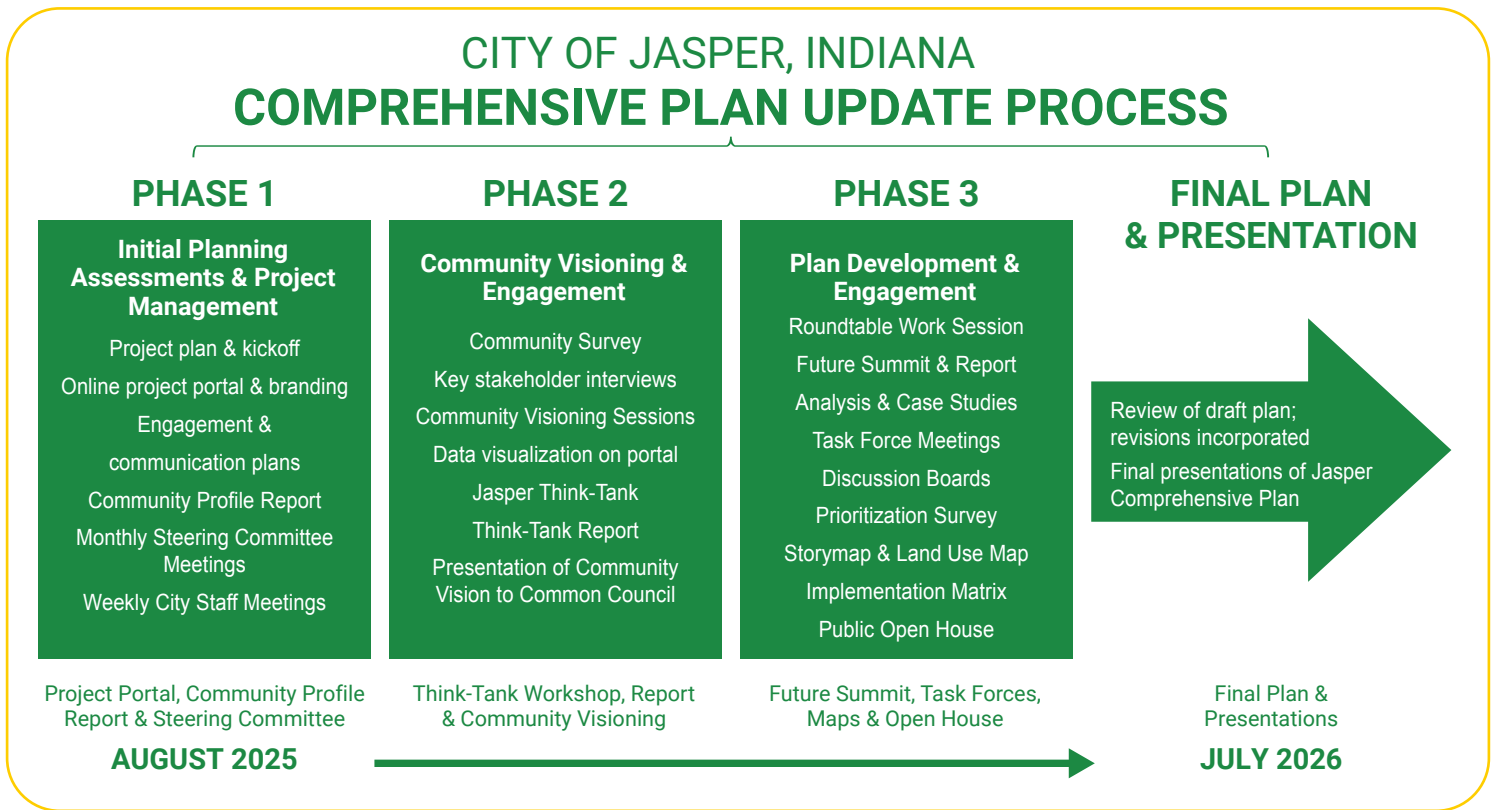
“I’m excited about the growth of community, the square, new pool, future aquatic center. I’m happy to see young and old generations working together to move Jasper into the future.”
- Community Survey Respondent





1.0 | INTRODUCTION – SUMMARY OF THE VISIONING PROCESS

In creating the Jasper Community Vision, stakeholders worked together to explore the community and how it could evolve in the future. The six-month visioning process began in July and ended in December 2025. On December 6, the City hosted a public Future Summit. Participants learned about the outcomes from the visioning and comprehensive planning process thus far, and set the stage for an implementation plan. The Future Summit was the bridging event that launched the next phase of the comprehensive planning process.



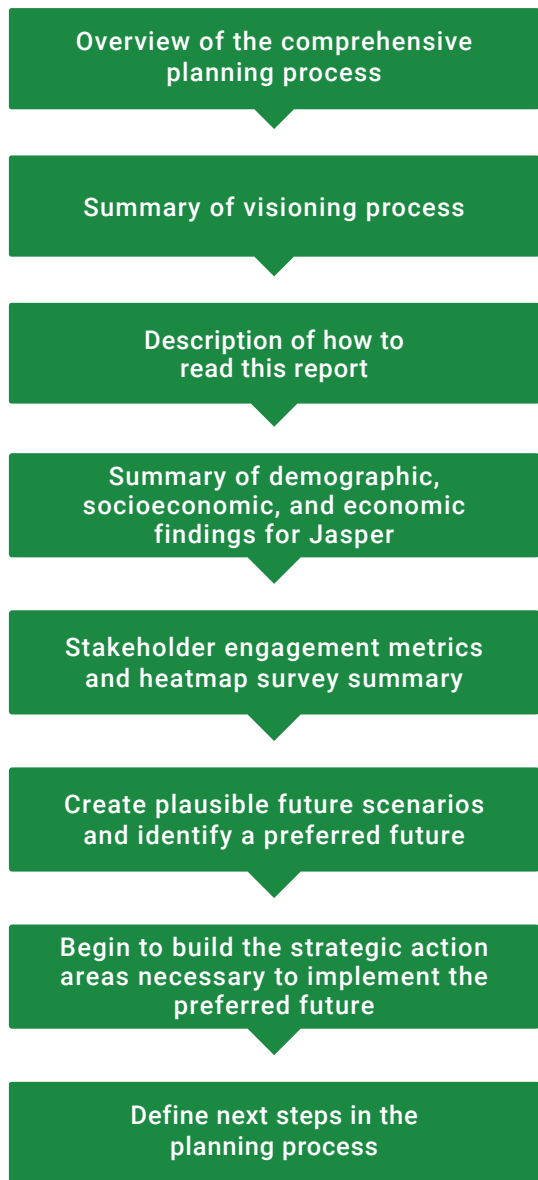
2.0 | HOW TO READ THIS REPORT

This report lays out the findings from each key step in the visioning process for the Jasper Comprehensive Plan. The process moved from background analysis and exploration, to identifying key priorities for the future of Jasper. More details about the overall planning process may be viewed on the [Jasper Comprehensive Plan project portal](#).

This work represents robust ‘future gazing’ where stakeholders considered possible directions and the impacts and consequences of those directions. The process, and the report, then drill down deeper into what people saw as the optimal or preferred future for Jasper. This understanding helps lay the groundwork for figuring out what next steps to take in the next phase of comprehensive planning process. The preferred future identified through this process presents an exciting and compelling vision for how Jasper could evolve as a community looking out to 2040.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, communities across the United States are looking to the future, the ability to anticipate new realities, and being ‘future ready’ as essential for building resiliency in a constantly changing world.

Steps in the process



Sections of the report



3.0 | COMMUNITY PROFILE REPORT - SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

To read the Jasper Community Profile Report, please visit the [Jasper Comprehensive Plan project portal](#).

The Jasper comprehensive planning process blends vision setting and engagement with a data-driven approach, balancing the qualitative aspects and sentiment of the community with specific metrics to quantify the City's economy and future opportunities. As part of the planning process, background research on current conditions was compiled in The Community Profile Report.

Key findings from the 2025 Community Profile Report include:

- **Jasper's population has grown since 2010, with an uptick in recent growth.** Jasper's population is aging, although Jasper is home to many young families as well. Jasper has become more diverse in the past 15 years, with a growing Hispanic population. Compared to the surrounding area, Jasper households are slightly smaller and more likely to be renters.
- **Household incomes in Jasper often fall in the \$50,000-\$75,000 range.** Jasper residents are, on average, better educated than residents of the county overall, with a higher graduation rate and rate of Bachelor's degree attainment.
- **Much of the housing stock in Jasper was built in the 1980s or 1990s as single detached units.** Homes in Jasper generally cost about \$200,000 to \$400,000, with many households paying about 10-25% of their monthly income in mortgage payments.
- Economically, **Jasper is home to a range of industries, with a low unemployment rate and strong labor force participation.** Downtown Jasper provides a strong mix of amenities and neighborhood services for the community.
- Overall, **Jasper achieves a very high livability score** due to its high-quality neighborhoods, healthy environment, and high level of opportunity in the education and employment landscape.



Key insights to consider while moving forward in the planning process:



How much growth does Jasper want to see? Given local population trends, there are a range of different paths for Jasper's future.



How might the Comprehensive Master Plan impact different segments of the community? Jasper is home to people of a range of different ages, backgrounds, and income levels.



What types of homes and residential development will meet tomorrow's needs? New residential development can meet changing demographic factors.



How can we best support Jasper's industries and workers? Through business and workforce support, Jasper can continue its promising economic outlook.



What can be done to make Jasper even more livable? Maintaining a high-quality of life is vital to the community's future.



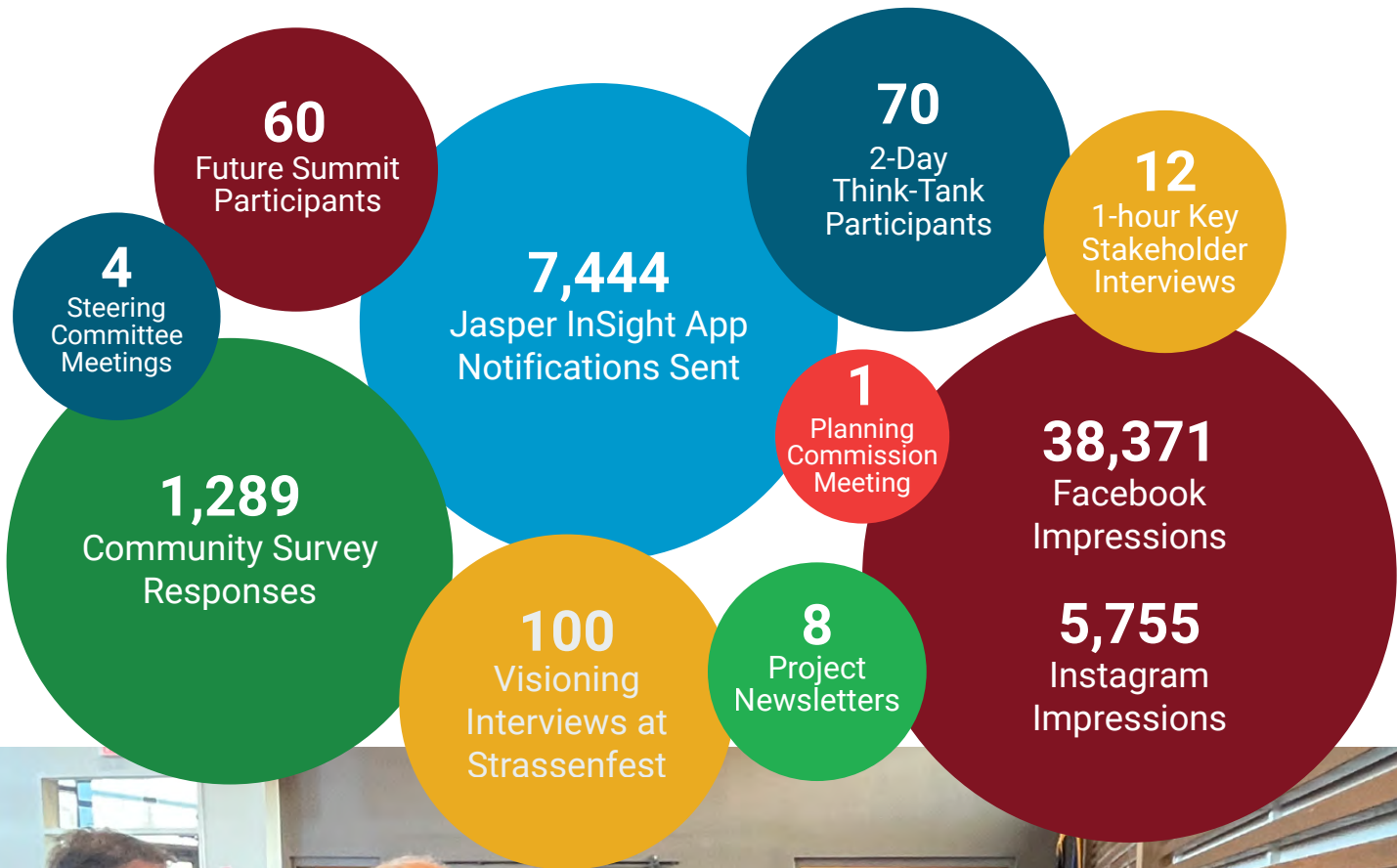
4.0 | COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

4.1 | COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT METRICS

Throughout the visioning phase, the Jasper comprehensive planning process has been built on extensive stakeholder input. The engagement and data-driven methodology progressively focused the discussion on emerging key themes and stakeholder aspirations for the future. The purpose of the process was to arrive at a 'point of consensus' that represents the shared vision for the future of Jasper. The result is a Community Vision with Strategic Pillars that guide the City on the path to that preferred future.

A key feature of the engagement and planning process was the mixture of surveys, newsletters, interviews, and in-person sessions to reach the broadest range of stakeholders as possible.

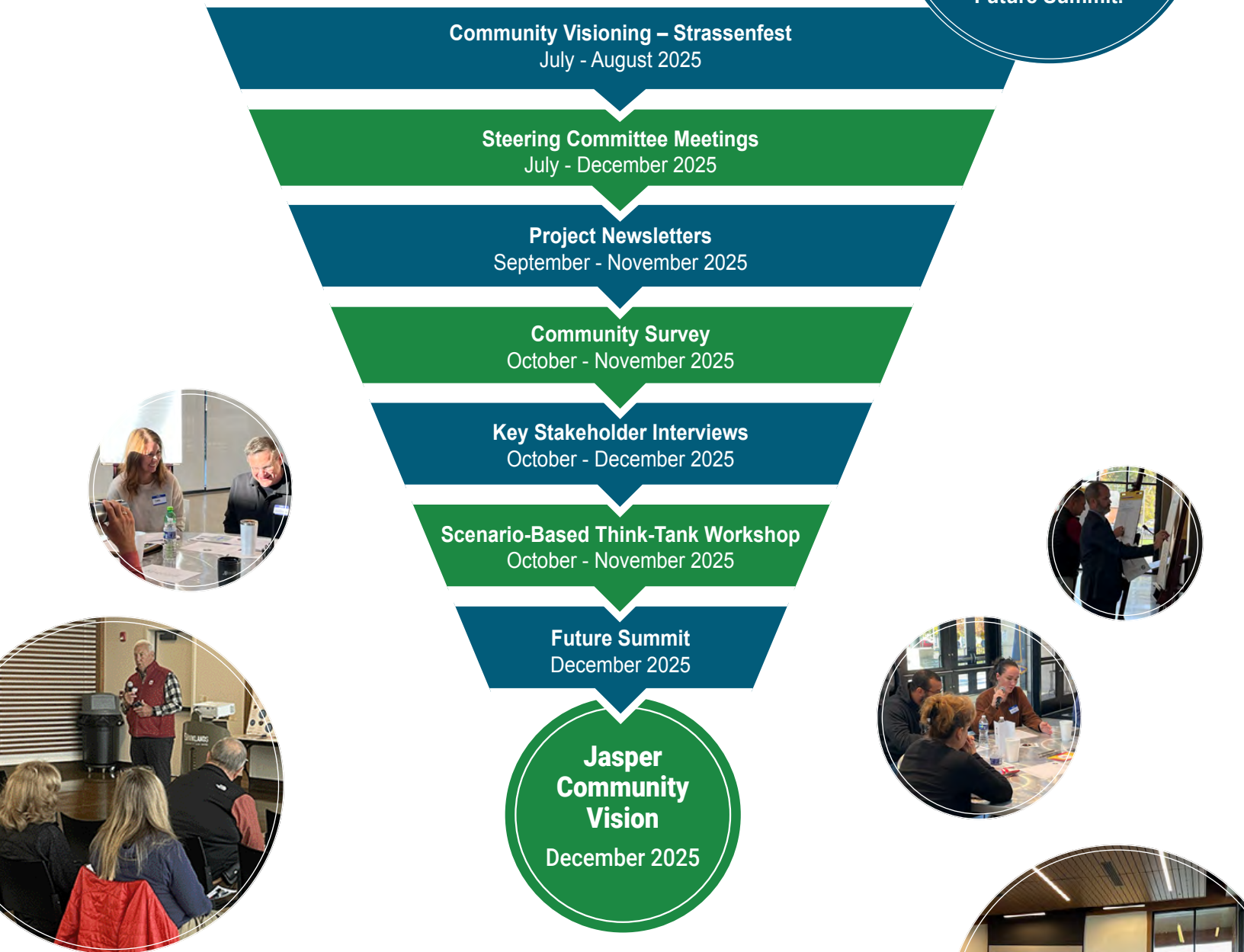
The Jasper comprehensive planning process has involved a wide, deep and transparent engagement process. Reports and survey results were published on the project portal, and the project was widely promoted across the City.



4.2 | COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STEPS

The visioning phase of the Jasper comprehensive planning process has included numerous opportunities for stakeholders to have input. This engagement process was intended to create a unified community vision that will serve as foundational support for the final Jasper Comprehensive Plan.

The stakeholder engagement steps thus far have allowed people to contribute in a variety of ways, including community visioning, survey, interviews, Think-Tank workshops, and public Future Summit.



Data Insights

- The six-month visioning process for the comprehensive master plan has been grounded in a consensus-based engagement approach, with multiple validation steps. This ensures the community vision represents the collective desires of the community.





The scenario planning process encourages curiosity and collaboration by providing a way to explore plausible future scenarios from a speculative standpoint.

5.0 | FUTURE STRATEGIC DIRECTION

5.1 | IDENTIFYING THE PREFERRED FUTURE FOR JASPER

To identify the preferred future or vision for Jasper, stakeholders participated in a scenario-planning workshop called a Think-Tank. This two-day scenario-based Think-Tank was conducted in-person on October 31 and November 1, 2025. Approximately 70 people attended the Think-Tank. The Think-Tank was intended to build coherency around a vision for the future of Jasper that will guide stakeholders looking out to 2040.

The scenario planning process provides a method to explore plausible futures and consider the implications of various future scenarios. The Think-Tank workshop aimed to:

- Deepen the understanding and examination of how external events and local conditions could shape decision-making
- Identify and understand the key influences, trends, and dynamics that will shape the City looking out to 2040
- Outline preliminary results from the Jasper Community Survey
- Create and describe four plausible long-term scenarios for Jasper
- Explore alignment around a shared future vision



The scenarios developed during the planning process are important to provide a framework to discuss future possible outcomes and implications for Jasper’s comprehensive planning for the next 10 years. In addition, the Think-Tank deliberations assisted in identifying key actions for the City and in exploring how various agencies and organizations might collaborate to best contribute to future policymaking. The process involved exploration of local trends and forces of change and the development of a scenario matrix defining four plausible scenario spaces for the future. The event concluded with discussion of the scenarios and selection of a preferred scenario. For additional information and details on the visioning process, please read the [Jasper Comprehensive Plan Think-Tank Report linked here](#).

“It’s exciting to see the arts and wellness focused on. By having more accessible walking pathways and the cultural center, Jasper is showing how small cities can cultivate a healthy and vibrant community. Having public arts (murals) being focused makes the aesthetic of the town beautiful to reside in.”

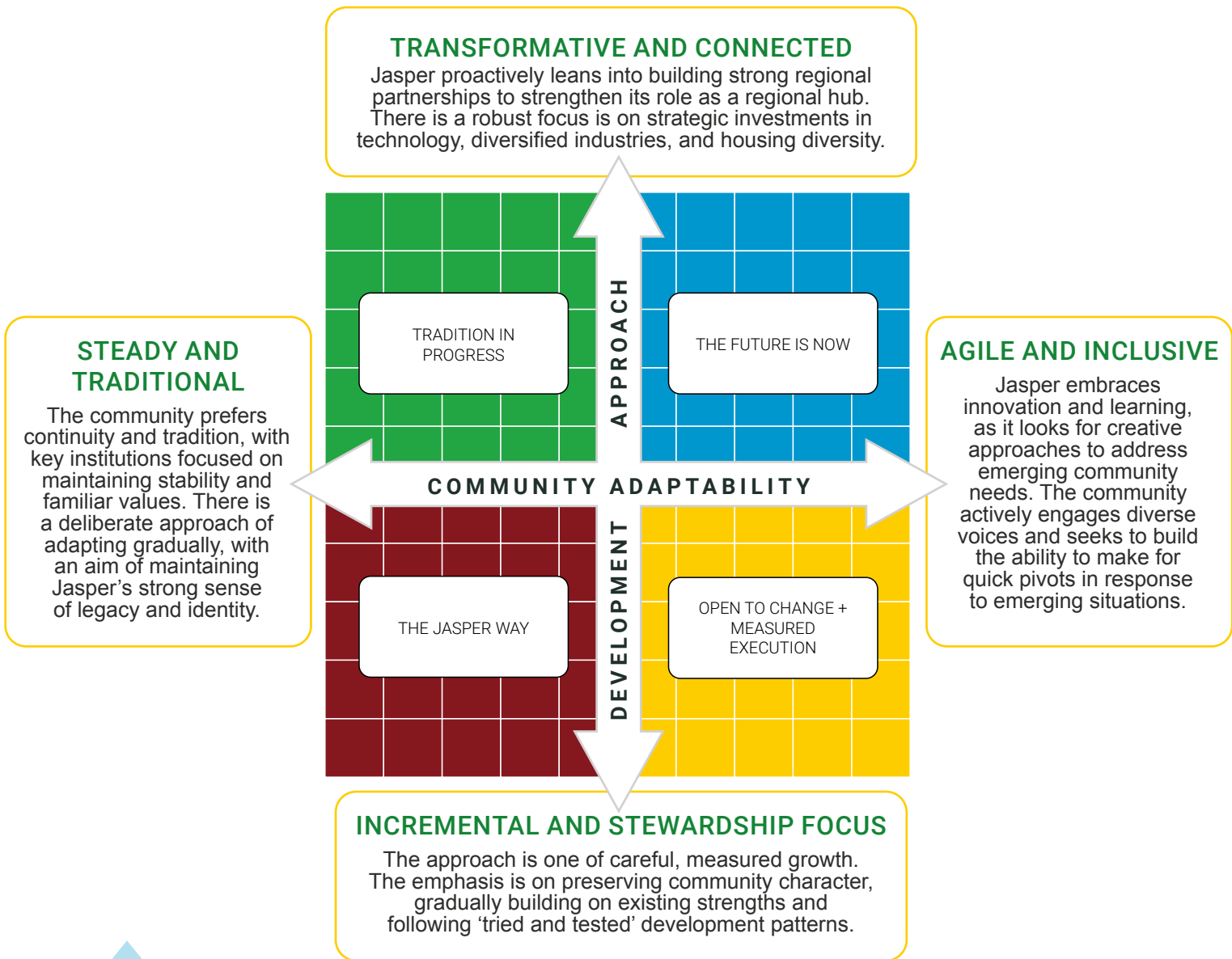
-Community Survey Respondent



5.2 | SCENARIOS OF THE FUTURE – FRAMEWORK FOR EXPLORATION

The scenario development process at the Think-Tank provided stakeholders the opportunity to examine the implications and consequences of different and plausible future directions for Jasper.

During the Jasper Comprehensive Plan Think-Tank, four different scenarios were created. The scenarios were created using the scenario matrix framework that was built around the two macro themes of Development Approach and Community Adaptability. An in-depth scenario planning process over two days enabled the development of four potential future scenarios. For more details on the Jasper Think-Tank, please refer to the published [Think-Tank Report linked here](#).



5.3 | IDENTIFYING THE LEAST DESIRED, EXPECTED AND PREFERRED FUTURES

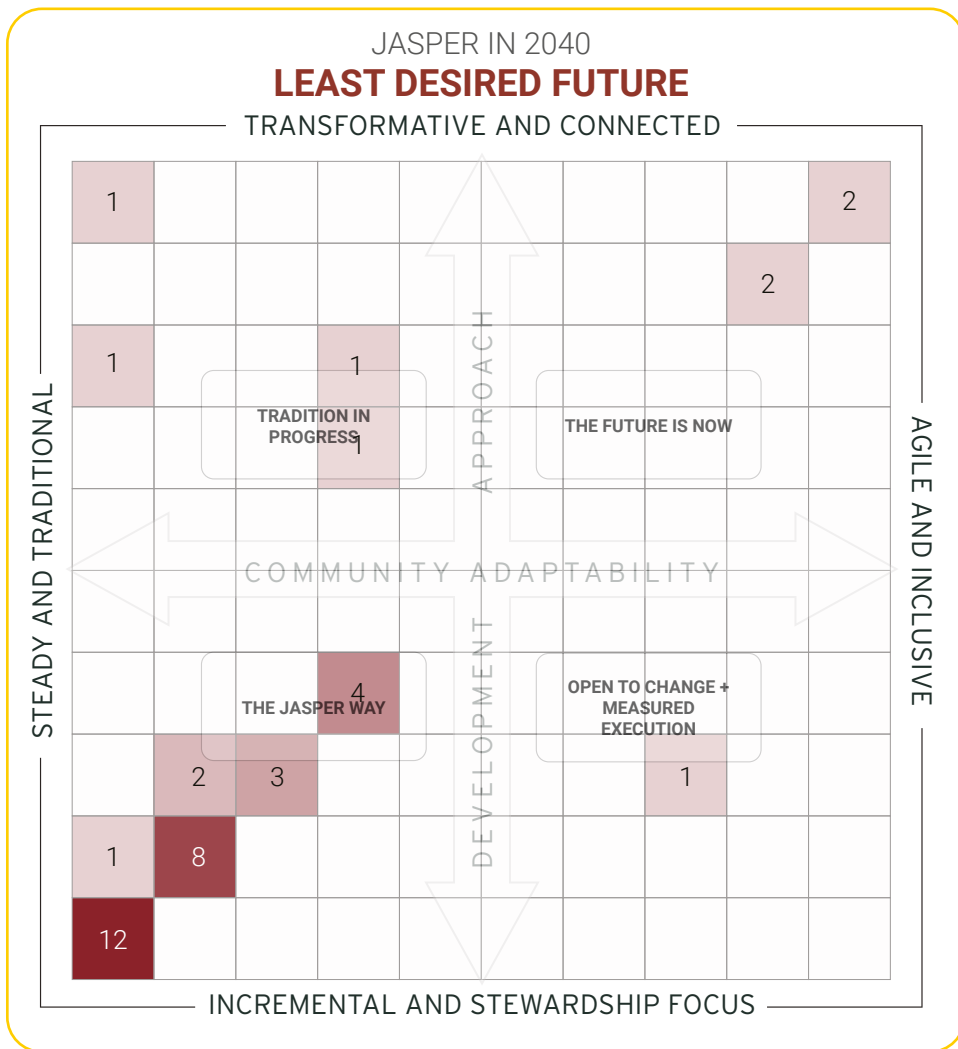
With the identified four plausible futures for Jasper, Think-Tank participants were asked to plot their least desirable, expected, and preferred futures for Jasper in a 2040 using a 100-grid diagram. The charts below reflect participants' Least Desirable, Expected, and Preferred Futures for Jasper.

5.3.1 | LEAST DESIRED FUTURE

The Least Desired Future is defined as 'the future that you think will be the most undesirable (or least optimal or least desired) for the future of Jasper. Most Think-Tank participants considered Scenario D, 'The Jasper Way' to be the Least Desired scenario for Jasper. This should not be interpreted as a wholesale rejection of Jasper's past, but rather choosing to build on the City's current strengths and to proactively seek out transformational change that will enable the community as a whole to thrive.

The Jasper community is at a critical juncture in the deciding how to proceed in the future. The visioning process provides guidance to decision-making and provides an important mandate to avoid the identified least desired future.

"Sometimes, Jasper as a community can be a hard place to live for newcomers because the community is close knit and doesn't always welcome people from different cultures or backgrounds... We have great things like 'downtown chowdown' and the Strassenfest but there could be much more!"
-Community Survey Respondent



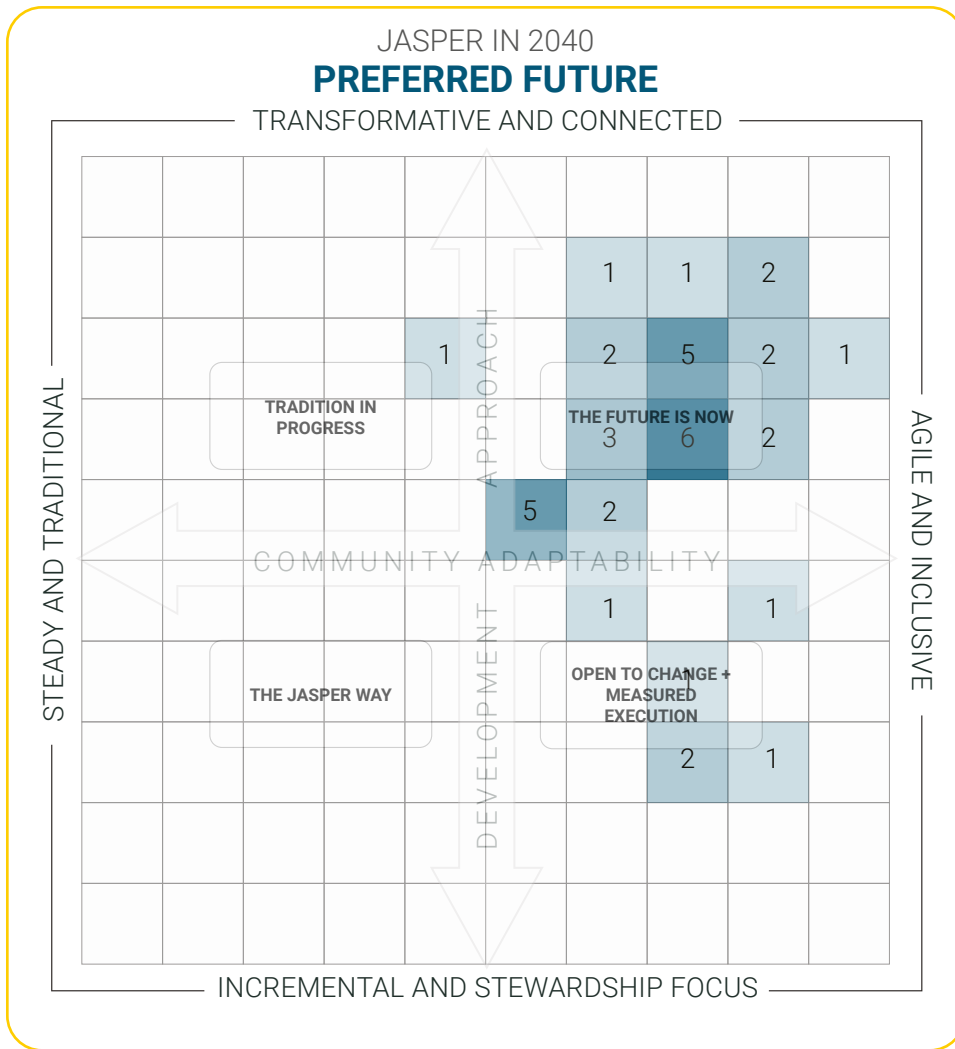
5.3.3 | PREFERRED FUTURE

Think-Tank participants expressed an overwhelming preference for Scenario B, 'The Future is Now' as the Preferred Future for Jasper in 2040. Think-Tank participants discussed the consequences of inaction and the need to take decisive action now to accelerate the City's trajectory over the next 10 years.

There was a sincere desire by participants to build on and leverage the City's history of being proactive, as well as its location and potential for growth, while maintaining the community's commitment to preserving its strong sense of place and community.

"I'm excited about seeing Jasper grow and evolve and how new ideas help the community grow and improve."
 -Community Survey Respondent

Getting to the preferred future requires collaboration, alignment of vision and strong leadership. Think-Tank participants showed a clear desire for change and a willingness to work locally and regionally to achieve the preferred future for Jasper.



Future Insights

- The preferred future is illustrated by the concentration of color in Scenario B, 'The Future is Now'. This indicates a close alignment of thinking among Think-Tank participants, and a significant appetite for change.
- Arriving at a point of consensus among stakeholders about the preferred future is very important to the visioning process as it provides a sense of cohesion, agreement, and balanced solutions going forward.

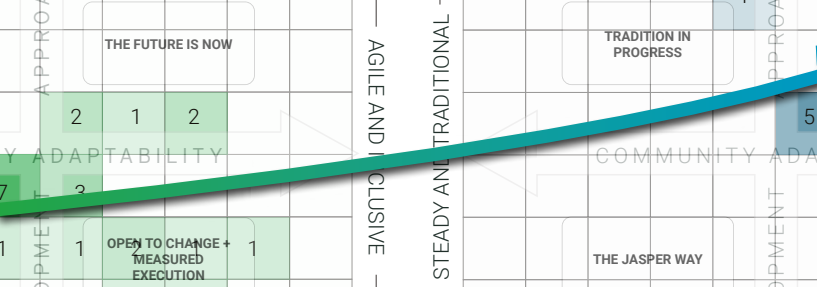
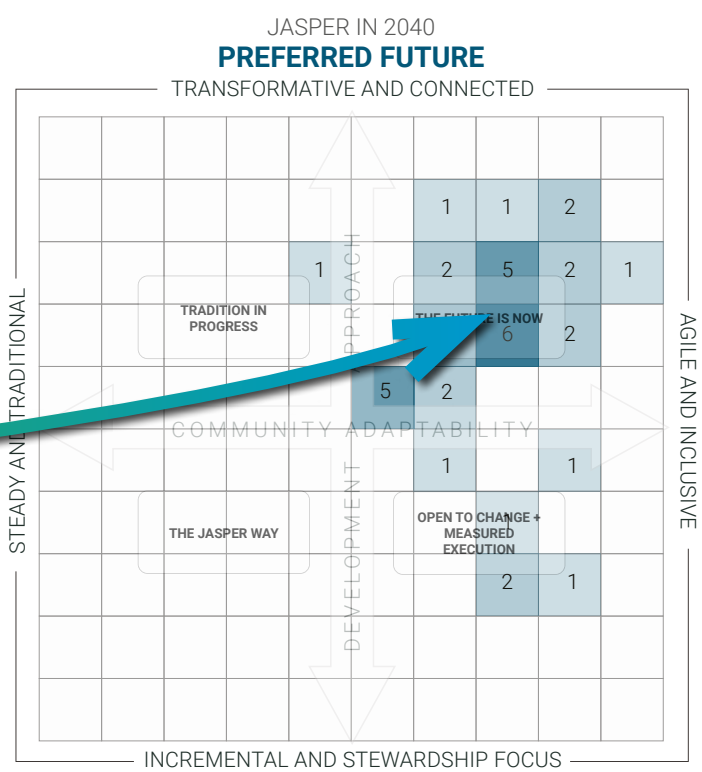
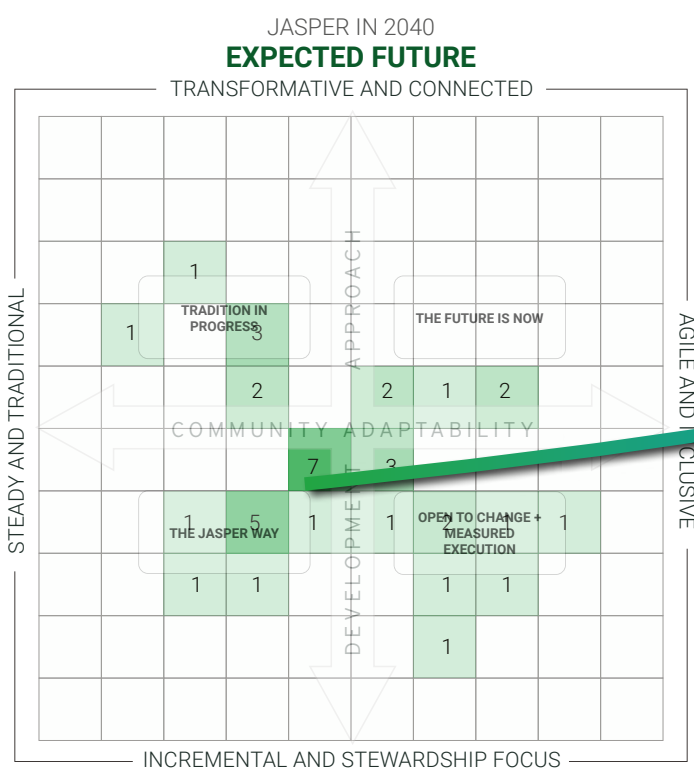




Because of the long-term nature of the scenario planning methodology, stakeholders often see the 'distant future vision (2040)' as unattainable and unrealistic. However, this underestimates the progress that can be made during the intervening years, and the cumulative positive impacts of change.

5.3.4 | GETTING TO THE PREFERRED FUTURE

Think-Tank participants discussed the ramifications and implications of failing to achieve the preferred future. While there was strong alignment among Think-Tank participants that Scenario B, 'The Future is Now,' represented the preferred future scenario, it was also recognized that reorienting the current trajectory from a varied view on the Expected Future will require significant regional collaboration, communication, and leadership in the community.



Future Insights

- The Think-Tank scenario planning process is a significant step in the City's planning process to define collectively how Jasper will strategically plan to achieve its preferred future.
- Consistently and transparently telling the story of how and why Jasper needs to pursue its preferred future will be an important part of how desired changes will be made in the community.

"The growth has been exciting. From my childhood to now in my late 20s, it is amazing how many businesses and people have been brought into town."

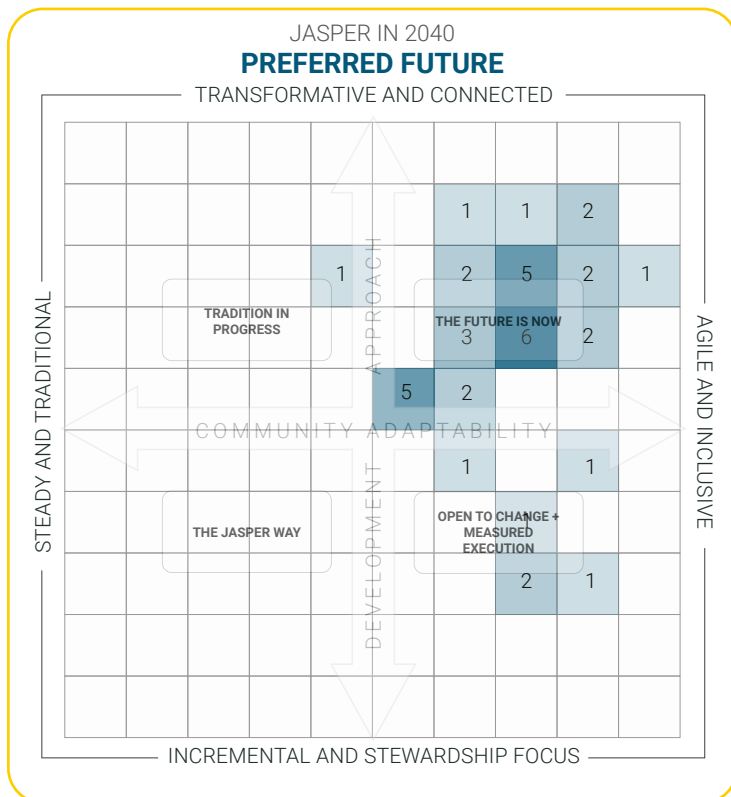
-Community Survey Respondent



5.4 | DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED FUTURE – ‘THE FUTURE IS NOW’

This scenario forecasts a future where Jasper pushes forward on encouraging growth and planning for the future. Strong regional partnerships develop with strategic investments in emerging technologies, diversified industries, and housing diversity. The community is welcoming of new voices and perspectives.

Jasper takes full advantage of migration shifts and influx of population from other areas of the country to grow its workforce to **support its local businesses and industries**. The City becomes a hub for regional activity, embraces alternative energy adoption, and collaborates with other communities on infrastructure projects. **Connectivity is prioritized**, both externally and internally, with sidewalks and trails that enable walkability throughout the City. Housing stock is expanded to support new growth, and the community actively engages diverse voices to **build support for a variety of needs**, including childcare. Youth services, sports, and programming are a focus to retain young families, including health and wellness programs for all ages. Downtown development continues and a burgeoning nightlife succeeds in **attracting and retaining the 20-40 year old demographic**.



SCENARIO SNAPSHOT - FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

- Strong regional partnerships form and connectivity increases, both internally and externally.
- STEAM education and career pathways for students expand, including life-long learning options.
- Housing diversity expands to include more multi-use, condos, multi-family options.
- Diversity increases - ages, socioeconomics, and ethnicity.
- Activities for youth increase as well as Jasper's after 6pm nightlife in the Downtown area.
- City growth is supported by infrastructure development.

6.0 | STRATEGIC PILLARS FRAMEWORK

The key organizing framework for the Community Vision is its five Strategic Pillars. The pillars were developed following the community visioning, Key Stakeholder interviews, the Community Survey, Think-Tank, Steering Committee meetings, and the Future Summit. The pillars represent the major theme or topic areas that underpin the preferred future for Jasper, 'The Future is Now'. The Community and Future Summit ideas for action are structured around these five key strategic pillars which are the fundamental building blocks that support the vision for the City.

The strategic themes and ideas for action for the Strategic Pillars will be further developed in the next phase of the comprehensive planning process.



Objective: Strengthening a vibrant community

6.1.1 | IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY FABRIC

Jasper is a community that has worked hard over many decades to build a unique cultural identity and a tightknit community fabric. There has been a very strong focus on families, and this is reflected in the predominance of single-family homes in the community. However, the community dynamics and makeup are changing. As the population has grown, it has become more ethnically diverse and older. This set of dynamics and trends suggest that the community will change significantly in the coming years, with new people and new voices beginning to more strongly influence local values and the community fabric. The community input to date has revealed that many people think the community needs to work harder to become more adaptable, inclusive and open to new ideas.

The ‘Importance of Community Fabric’ pillar focuses on strengthening a vibrant community. This will help maintain the energy to continue to improve and develop the community. Community connection is very important in Jasper, and this pillar will help explore ways to build these internal connections and strengthen the sense of community.



Future Insights

- **The population is becoming on-average older**, with largest age group now being 60-64 years old (2022 data). By comparison, the largest age group in 1970 was the 10–14-year age group, and in 1990 was the 30–34-year age group.
- One of the key challenges for the future is **attracting more younger adults and families** to the community to fill a ‘missing demographic’ of people in their twenties, thirties and forties.
- Jasper’s **population is more diverse** in 2025 than in any point in the recent past. Residents identifying as White Alone account for 85% of the population in 2025, compared to 94% in 2010. Jasper’s Hispanic population has increased notably, from about 8% in 2010 to 12% in 2025.
- One of the key opportunities is for Jasper to **find ways to include and welcome new voices into decision-making for the future**, and use this process to help build the community fabric.

6.1.2 | IDEAS FROM THE COMMUNITY



The following boxes are potential ideas for actions that emerged from the comprehensive planning community engagement process thus far. These ideas were gathered from participants at through community visioning, Think-Tank, Steering Committee meetings, stakeholder interviews, and survey respondents.

Continue to support the library, arts, and schools.

Create a City-wide calendar to coordinate events and promote what is going on in the City.

"I want to see Jasper as welcoming to all people. Diverse. Healthy. Kind. Encouraging. Neighborly. Friendly. I think we do a good job for the most part. But we can do better. Family life is the key to promoting a safe and healthy place to live."
-Community Survey Respondent

Encourage more diversity and cultural competence; embrace our differences.



We need more communications tools like the Jasper INsight app.

Do more to integrate the immigrant community.

Be aware of the tendency to become complacent with current success; causes resistance to change.

Lean into our sports club community spirit.

Somehow we need to figure out how to keep young people in the City.

More communications in Spanish to address language barriers; interpreters are helpful.

Build our volunteer pool more to support nonprofits.

"Education is vital to the viability of the community."
-Key Stakeholder Interview

Bring back the former Citizens Academy program; was a great way to build community relationships.

What brings people back to Jasper is the small town community atmosphere.

"Fomentar la integración e involucrar a la comunidad latina es importante ya que formamos una gran parte de esta comunidad."
-Encuestado de la comunidad

Events like Strassenfest that bring the community together.

Encourage new ways of thinking.



Find ways to unite the native Jasper residents and the move-ins and the Hispanic population.

Collaborate with environmental activists to improve our environmental health in the next 10 years.

Enrich lives with beauty, nature, art.

Continue to invest in our safe and clean community feel.

Create a space to strengthen all to feel welcome to be a resident – embrace inclusiveness.

Maintain the heritage and charm of this community.

Foster a community where everyone feels they belong.

Ensure that all voices are heard – especially minority families and those often left out of local decision-making.

"...Let's work toward bringing us all together rather than always classifying us separately. Our roots may not be the same, but we share the same home now."
-Community Survey Respondent

6.1.3 | IDEAS FROM THE FUTURE SUMMIT



The following boxes are potential ideas for actions that emerged from the comprehensive planning community engagement process thus far. These ideas were gathered from participants at through community visioning, Think-Tank, Steering Committee meetings, stakeholder interviews, and survey respondents.

Continue to recruit youth and younger generation to get involved in local nonprofits.

Develop and encourage faith community to work together for common good.

Make larger businesses still proud to be located in Jasper.



Find a way to get younger generation and immigrants to these planning functions.

Growth of youth sports facilities specifically a larger soccer complex.

Provide more support for a multi-ethnic festival similar to Strassenfest.

Reach out to high school/VUJC, ALASI, ask to send reps or create intentional outreach.

Find ways to help the Hispanic community to integrate.... language & community events.

Housing provided for college interns over summer.

Biking and walking; healthy community focused.

Specific driven community integration events; diversity events; embrace all residents.

Extensive summer intern options for our college kids.

More festivals and celebrations; coaches can network to help with this.

Reinforce our German heritage but don't overdo it. Balance with allowing and promoting other cultures.

Digital and AI education support.

Promote our community to the diverse cultures here. Have our foundational values.

Primary form should be how we maintain this place as a safe place to raise children.

Provide classes for residents – Spanish, English, other? Help people learn.

Everyone is casually friendly but without family in the area, we wouldn't have found Jasper as welcoming.

We are lacking in community news and information sharing since the loss of the original Herold. Must put focus on communication.

Festivals other than Strassenfest – World Windows; UHL Society; Wood Workers

Embrace Hispanic culture and diversity (and other cultures) Not just German.

Multi-lingual growth development in schools and university.

Grow VUJC or partner with another college (IU or Purdue).

Additional multi-use development; rezoning/updates to improve density and options for investment.

Community Kitchen with certification so you can sell stuff and farmer's market.

More visible signs of inclusiveness (not just German); sign, flags, lights.

Classes for people who want to practice Spanish.

Need more high school and college-age young people involved in this process of putting together our comprehensive plan.

Connect volunteers to organizations; Better support passions to develop new nonprofits, coaching, etc.

Programs for first time home buyers.

Travel club to share experiences and ideas.

Create a City of Feast events approach – celebrations of all walks of life, throughout the year.



Make it easier to access parks within the neighborhood they serve.

Biking and walking on the South Side.

Attract a new local daily newspaper.

Objective: Creating a community rooted in charm, embracing opportunity

6.2.1 | IMPORTANCE OF CITY GROWTH

City Growth is a cornerstone of Jasper's future vision, ensuring that the community remains vibrant, resilient, and attractive for generations to come. This pillar is not simply about expansion, but rather it is about intentional, managed growth that preserves Jasper's small-town charm while embracing new opportunities for economic and social vitality. Jasper's strengths, such as its strong sense of identity, access to nature, and quality schools, are foundational to its appeal. However, demographic shifts, evolving workforce needs, and changing societal values present both challenges and opportunities. Without a proactive approach to growth, Jasper risks stagnation, loss of young talent, and diminished regional influence. Conversely, strategic growth can position Jasper as a regional hub, attract diverse populations, and sustain economic stability.

The City Growth pillar focuses on balancing tradition with innovation. This means maintaining the qualities residents cherish while investing in a future-ready community that honors its heritage while adapting to change.

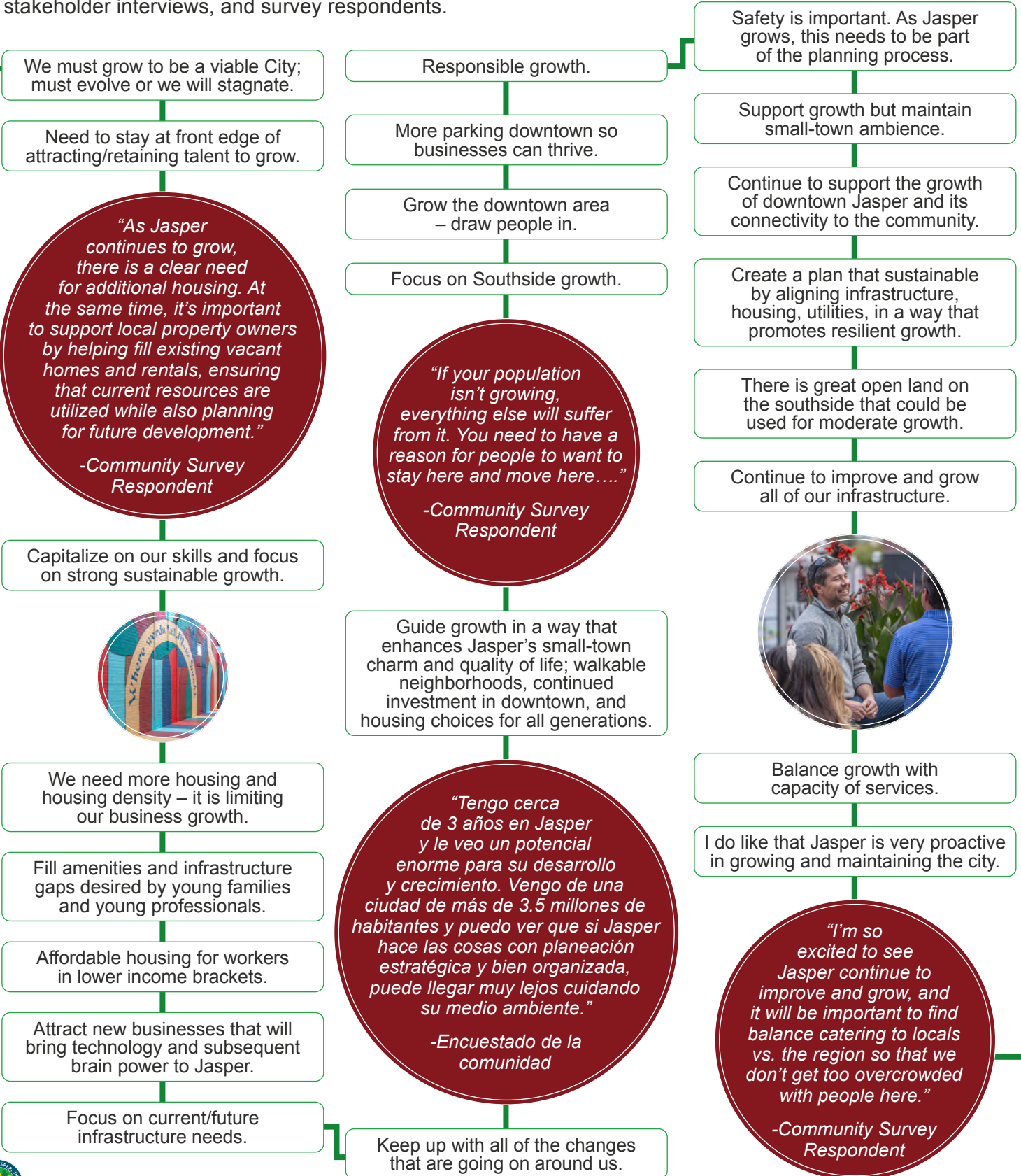


Future Insights

- Jasper's **population has grown steadily since 2010**, with recent years showing an increase in growth. This provides the community with an opportunity to consider its approach to future population trends. Through the planning process, residents will need to decide whether Jasper should continue to attract new residents.
- **Most of Jasper's housing was built in the 1980s and 1990s**, with limited construction since 2020. Future planning will need to determine the appropriate level of additional residential growth and assess its implications for infrastructure and public services.
- The **predominance of single-family housing** in Jasper will shape who moves to the community and how easily residents can relocate. Future planning should consider whether a broader range of housing options is necessary to meet changing needs.
- **Jasper ranks well above most U.S. neighborhoods on AARP's Livability Index**, particularly in the Opportunity category. This strong rating reflects factors such as quality schools, job access, and safe neighborhoods. As Jasper plans for the future, it will be **important to preserve these strengths while addressing emerging needs** like housing diversity and infrastructure improvements to ensure Jasper remains a highly livable community.

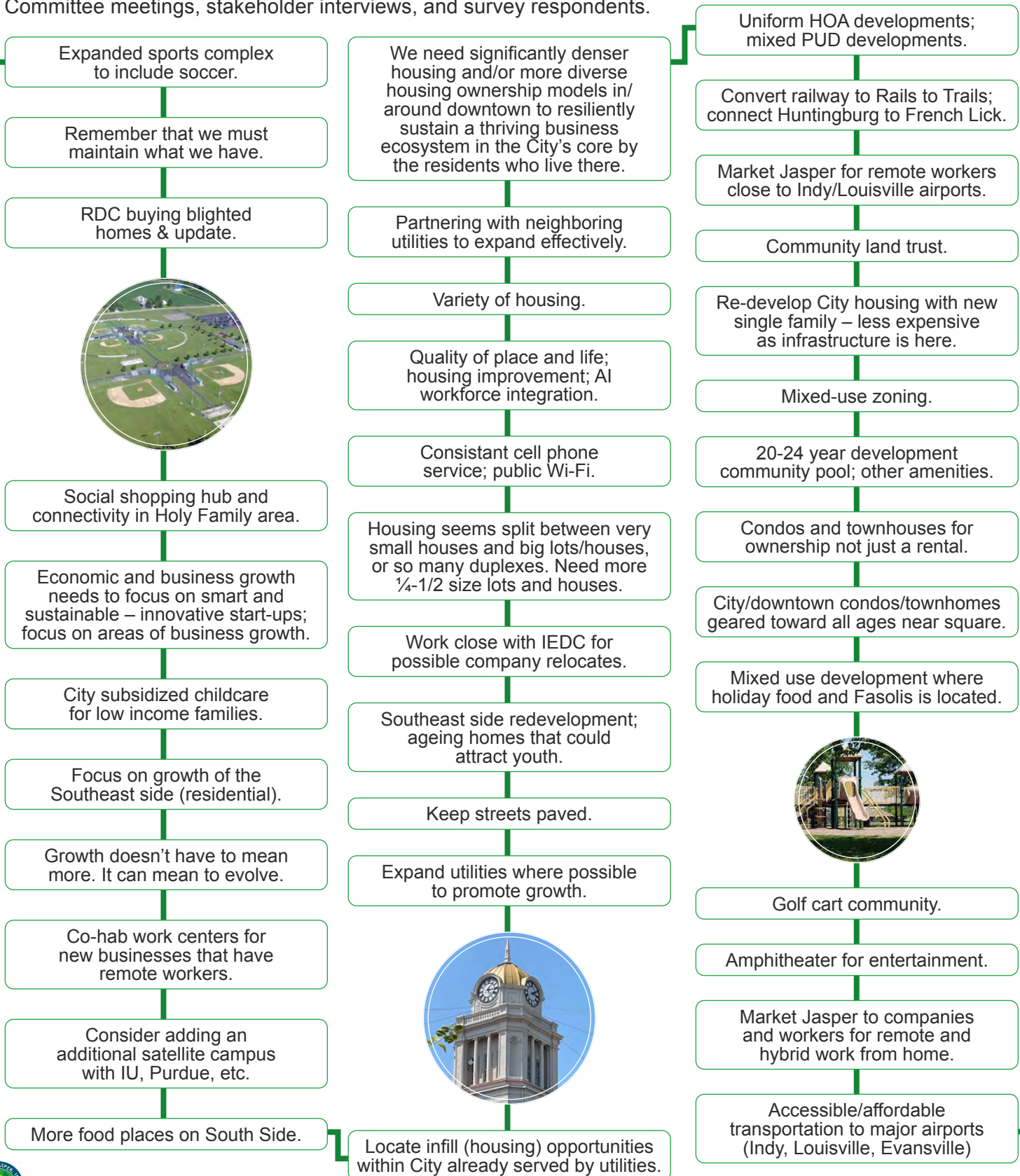
6.2.2 | IDEAS FROM THE COMMUNITY

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6.2.3 | IDEAS FROM THE FUTURE SUMMIT

The following boxes are potential ideas for actions that emerged from the comprehensive planning community engagement process thus far. These ideas were gathered from participants at through community visioning, Think-Tank, Steering Committee meetings, stakeholder interviews, and survey respondents.



6.3 | PILLAR 3: CONNECTIVITY AND COLLABORATION

Objective: Strategic positioning for Jasper

6.3.1 | IMPORTANCE OF CONNECTIVITY AND COLLABORATION

The City of Jasper has been a collaborative partner in Dubois County and the surrounding region, recognizing the importance of working with neighboring communities to address challenges such as housing, transportation, healthcare, and workforce development. Jasper has the opportunity to strengthen its position as a leader through collaborative partnerships and relationships across nearby cities, within the county, and the greater area. This collaboration can enhance physical, economic, and social ties in and around Jasper, while also addressing regional issues that directly impact Jasper residents' quality of life.



Future Insights

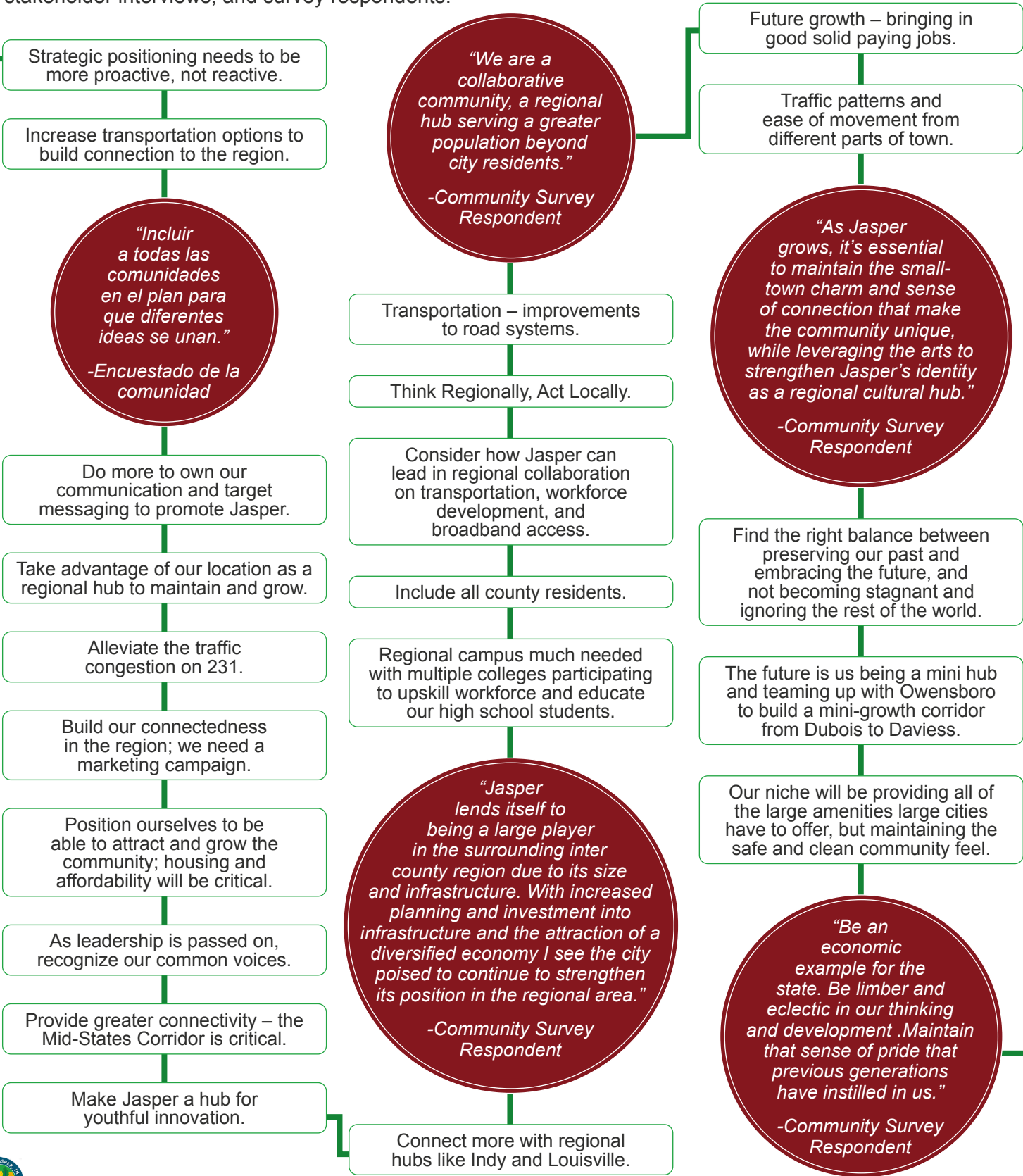
- Traditionally, connectivity conversations have centered around transportation, walkability, and recreation, but there has been a **new emphasis on considering connectivity across social needs** like health networks, community relationships, and digital connectivity.
- In pursuing strategic positioning, Jasper has the **opportunity to strengthen its position as a leader through collaborative partnerships and relationships** across nearby cities, within the county, and the greater area.
- Major catalytic projects, such as community facilities, innovation centers, trail networks, and vibrant districts, increasingly require **public-private partnerships** to garner private investment, generate support, and help projects come to fruition.



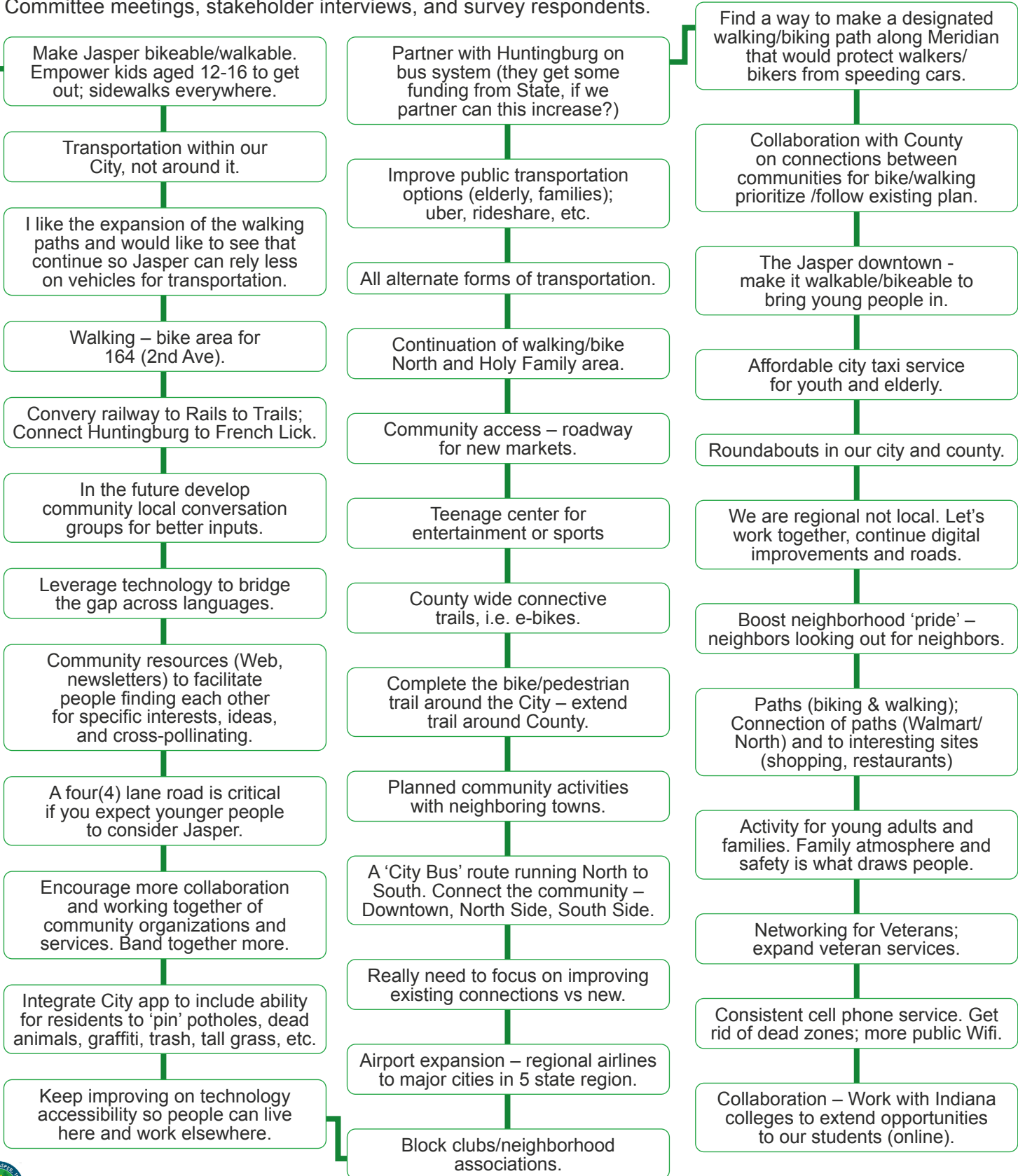
6.3.2 | IDEAS FROM THE COMMUNITY



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6.4 | PILLAR 4: WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Objective: Investing in places and people

6.4.1 | IMPORTANCE OF WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The City of Jasper has a unique economy, balancing its Main Street commercial district of small businesses with its legacy manufacturing and industrial sectors. Continuing the City's economic success will be critical to ensuring a prosperous and vibrant future for the community. This success requires not only supporting and growing the City's businesses but also guaranteeing an abundant workforce with aligned skills to meet businesses' needs. By investing in both the community and its workers, Jasper can bring more businesses to the city, help its current industries position for the future, expand the success of Main Street, and provide meaningful employment opportunities for Jasper residents.

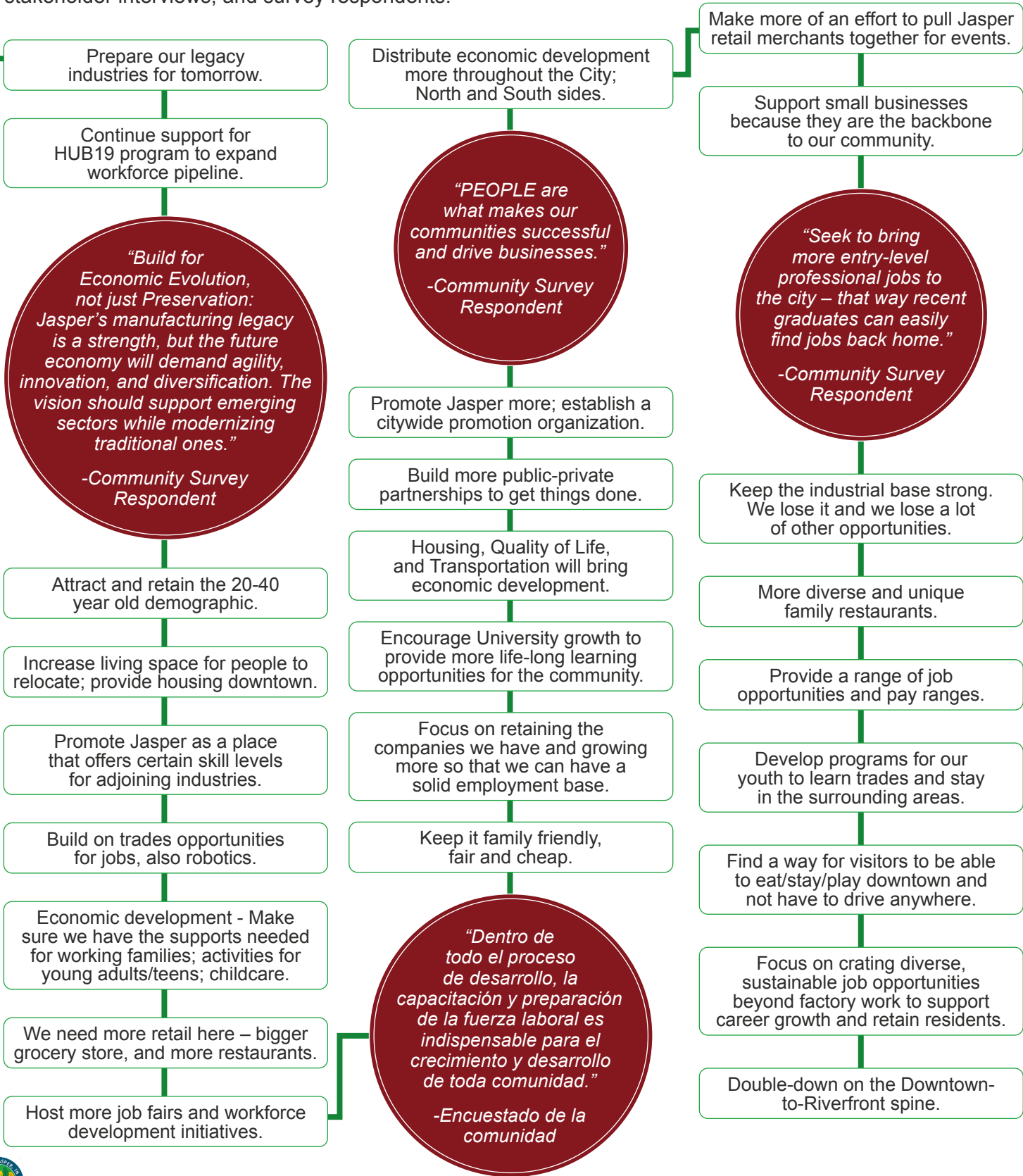


Future Insights

- AI, machine learning, and global dynamics are rapidly changing the way businesses operate, manufacturing processes, and the economic landscape of the future. Businesses and industries must **adapt to new methods, opportunities, and technologies to remain competitive.**
- **Investing in both the community and its workers** provides an opportunity for Jasper to bring more businesses to the City, help its current industries position for the future, **expand the success of Main Street**, and provide meaningful employment opportunities for Jasper residents.
- Workforce development forecasts emphasize the **rapid change in workforce skills, driven by new technology, shifts in higher education, and economic pressures** like inflation and the housing market. Tomorrow's workforce must be able to **continuously learn and adapt new skills to meet industry needs.**

6.4.2 | IDEAS FROM THE COMMUNITY

The following boxes are potential ideas for actions that emerged from the comprehensive planning community engagement process thus far. These ideas were gathered from participants at through community visioning, Think-Tank, Steering Committee meetings, stakeholder interviews, and survey respondents.



6.4.3 | IDEAS FROM THE FUTURE SUMMIT

The following boxes are potential ideas for actions that emerged from the comprehensive planning community engagement process thus far. These ideas were gathered from participants at through community visioning, Think-Tank, Steering Committee meetings, stakeholder interviews, and survey respondents.

Develop more windfarms and solar arrays to provide clean energy.

Enhance the ability for remote workers with Fiber Connectivity 'options'.



Sell Jasper and Dubois County on quality of life, especially for remote workers. Promote to employers in Indy and Louisville.

Incentivize private investment into Jasper. A 'first in' / Income Tax Break approach.

Broaden the types of industries with new companies.

Create exploratory group to go out and recruit new industry to Jasper.

Of our unemployed population, what skills do they possess that are untapped or what skills do they lack that could be taught/learned?

Public owned solar panels on top of buildings to help keep utilities; creating lower job and potential industry.



Solicit /seek another higher etc partner to offer 4-year programs in Jasper.

Cohesive communication systems – instead of inventing individual methods.

More life skills in school – trades.

Broaden educational opportunities – multiple degrees certifications through several institutions.

Health informatics.

Encourage employers to include compensation in job postings.

Improve higher education involvement.

Help support current industries to grow and adopt to a changing workplace.

Focus on smart, sustainable growth companies to bring to Jasper. Focus on emerging vocations.



More focus on building skilled trades post high school.

Online college options for students – outlined so they can stay local if they want.

Advent of widespread remote workers- can we be a destination for them and their families? (affordable/diverse housing and local amenities and family ties).



More mentorships for electrical, plumber, skilled labor.

Bio-med manufacturing, tech companies, recruit diverse industry.

Focus on trades; electrical plumbing and construction.

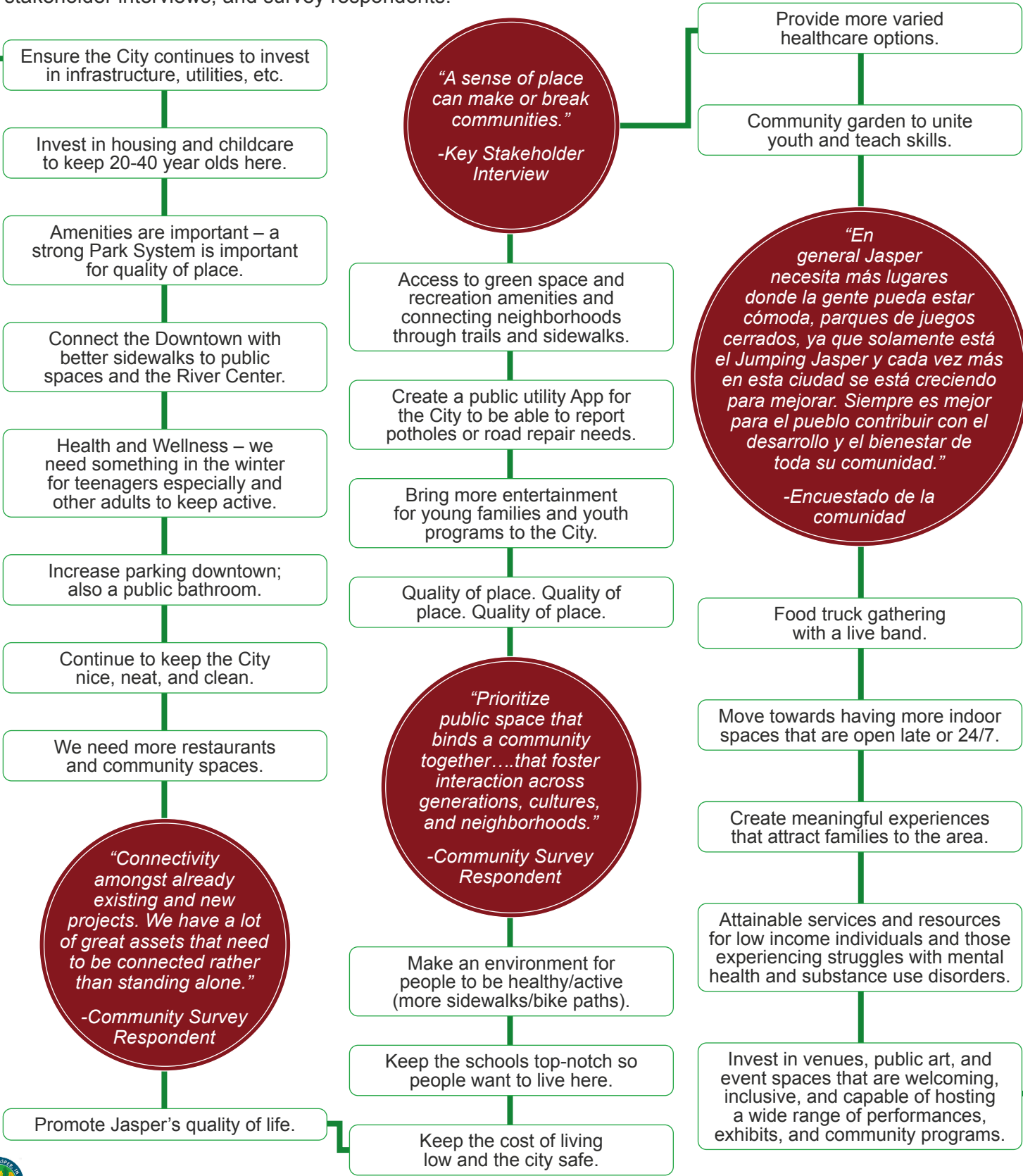
Safe, nuclear power. Don't be afraid!

How are we connecting with Crane - live in Jasper and carpool there.

6.5.2 | IDEAS FROM THE COMMUNITY

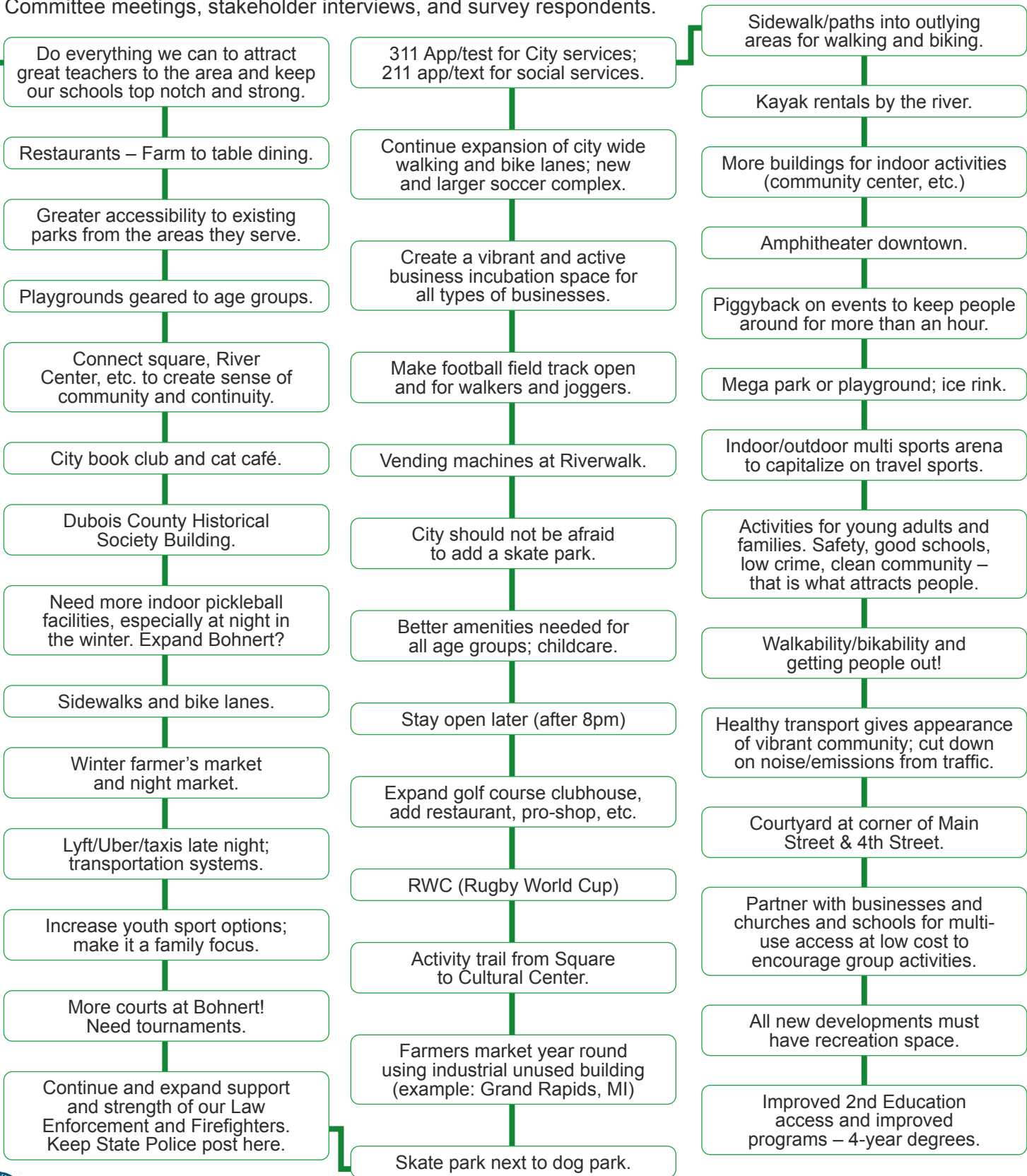


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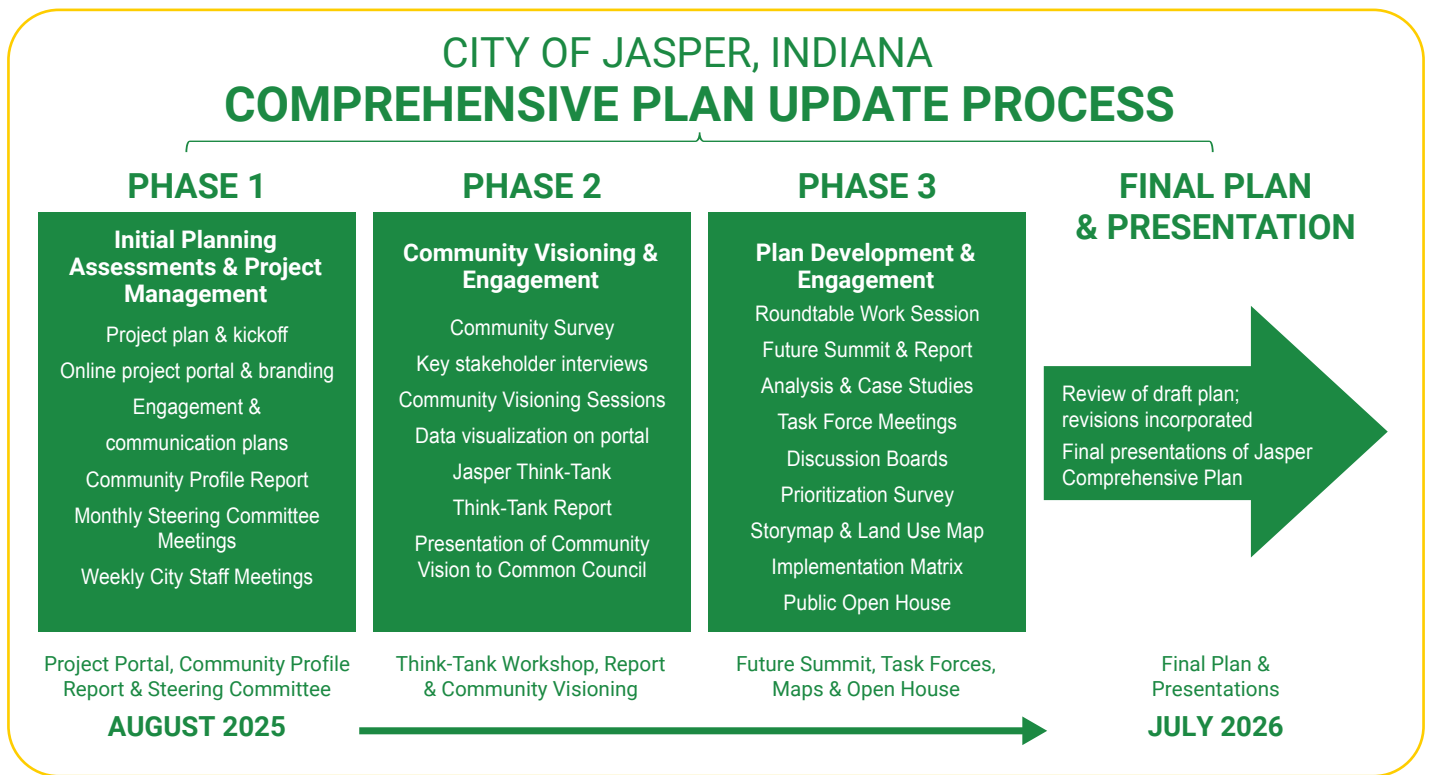


"I'm excited to see all the new opportunities and developments that have come to Jasper and those that are still on the way. It's clear the city is growing, and it's wonderful to watch the community continue to thrive."

-Community Survey Respondent

7.0 | NEXT STEPS

Following the Jasper Comprehensive Plan Future Summit, this Community Vision Report was drafted and published on the project portal. This information will be used to inform the Strategic Pillar Task Force members who will meet over the next two months to develop goals and action areas for the Comprehensive Plan.



- **January – February 2026:** Strategic Pillar Task Forces meet virtually to develop the goals and action areas of the five Strategic Pillars for the Comprehensive Plan.
- **January – March 2026:** The community will be invited to participate in online Discussion Boards for each of the Strategic Pillars. Various topics will be explored and perspectives will be shared.
- **March – April 2026:** Technical work on creating the draft plan and Steering Committee meetings.
- **April – June 2026:** Develop the Future Land Use Map and StoryMap. Distribute Prioritization Survey to confirm and prioritize the strategies and action steps for the strategic pillars. Develop Implementation Matrix for each strategic pillar focused on action steps for the strategies. Steering Committee meetings.
- **July 2026:** Finalize Comprehensive Plan document, final presentations and training.





8.0 | ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Jasper Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee was formed to help guide this project. These dedicated individuals meet monthly to guide the consultant teams and participated in the Think-Tank Workshop. We would like to acknowledge the Steering Committee members.

Additionally, our appreciation is extended to the Jasper Mayor and City Council and in particular to Josh Gunselman who meets on a weekly basis with the project team and provides the local expertise that helps guide this project. His time and dedication are greatly appreciated.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mayor Dean Vonderheide	Ryan Craig	Mary Warner
Josh Gunselman	Bea Cobo	Corie Eckerle
Renee Kabrick	Darla Blazey	Rob Young
Paul Lorey	Nicole Lampert	Colten Pipenger
John Schroeder	Ashley Sendelweck	Chase Rudolph
Andy Smith	Maggie Marystone	Chad Hurm
Matt Kiefer	Kate Schwenk	Nancy Eckerle
Ruger Kerstiens	Peyton Gentry	Carson Powell
Sara Schmidt	Ken Schnaus	Paula Moreno





»»»» 10.0 | FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the Jasper comprehensive planning process, please contact:



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Learn more on the project portal:

<https://lab2.future-iq.com/jasper-comp-plan/>



11.0 | CONSULTING TEAM – ABOUT FUTURE iQ, JS&A, AND WGI



The Future Think-Tank and comprehensive planning initiative is being facilitated by Future iQ (www.future-iq.com), an international research and consultancy company specializing in future planning, WGI (<https://wginc.com>) a national planning, design, engineering, and transportation services firm leading in technology-based solutions, and JS&A (www.stoverandassociates.com), a national economic development consulting firm.

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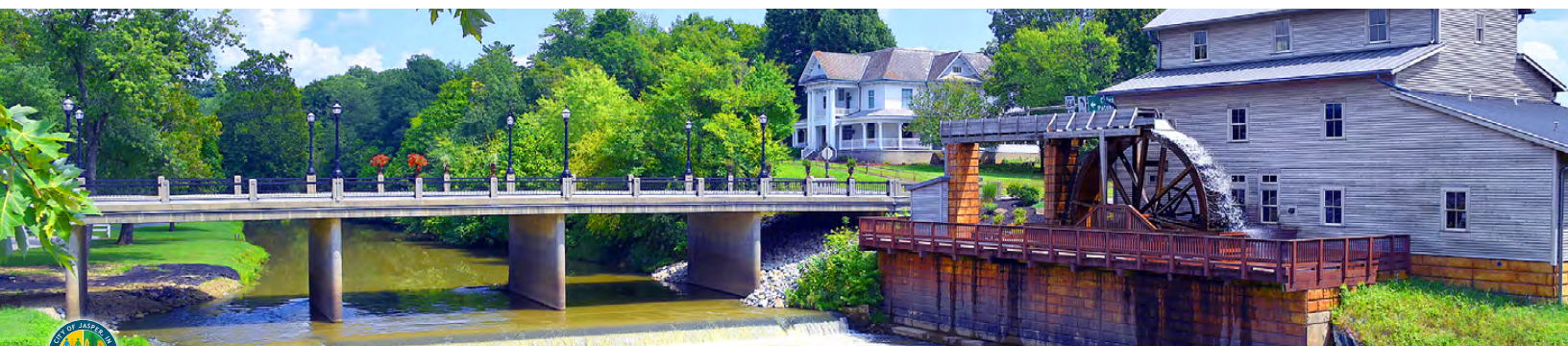
PAMELA NKWANTABISAH



LESLIE GRAY



JON STOVER





———— JASPER COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ————

COMMUNITY VISION REPORT

INDIANA, USA DECEMBER 2025