

UW-Marshfield Wood County Forum

Background

The City Planner hosted a forum at UW-Marshfield Wood County (2000 W 5th St) where students could share their hopes and concerns about the direction Marshfield is growing. This event took place on Wednesday, November 30, 2016, from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm. Six students attended the event, plus Sam Schroeder, Bill Penker, Alderperson Chris Jockheck, Fire Chief Bob Haight, and Ron Dickrell.

Discussion

Attendees were asked a series of questions to help articulate the vision and key issues/challenges they saw for the future of the City of Marshfield. Each individual was given a handout with the questions and were asked to write their responses down. Each question was given a few minutes for the group to answer and then we went around the room asking if anyone wanted to share their answers. Below is a summary of the written responses as well as notes from some of the comments made during the discussion.

Question 1. What do you like about Marshfield?

Response
Nice community
Good size – not too big
Friendly
Good, flexible jobs for students
“I have everything I need here”
\$5 movies at Roger’s Cinema
Good biking trails
Free zoo
Great library
Applebee’s

Question 2. What do you dislike about Marshfield?

Response
Roundabouts
One-way streets

Question 3. Where do you see Marshfield growing?

Response
More towards Highway 10
UW Campus attractive to students, including the STEM Building
Would like some commercial/work/shopping options closer to campus

Question 4. What type of uses and activities would make Marshfield a better place to live, work, and play?

Response
More community events
Food: Fazoli's, Buffalo Wild Wings, Olive Garden
Would like to see more coupons or advertising of community events
Better transportation options from campus to other amenities and businesses
More pools
Community calendar
Share volunteer and community event opportunities at student orientation
Coupons for students

Question 5. What is your primary reason for living in Marshfield? If it's for school, what made you choose Marshfield?

Response
Education: Chose the school and area; friendly, helpful teaches; small class size; ESL classes
Many students currently live in the dorms or community from nearby communities
Convenience of living in the dorm – only require an 8 month lease
Difficulty finding decent rentals in Marshfield – no centralized listing
Cheaper for education

Question 6. Are there specific areas of Marshfield could be improved? Where?

Response
Blighted areas along S Central Ave south of V & H Trucks
2 nd Street
Good trails so you don't have to bike on the street

Question 7. When you leave Marshfield, where do you go and why?

Response
Visit home
Visit friends elsewhere in other schools
Go to sporting events such as Badger games
Concerts

Question 8. Do you have an interest in staying in Marshfield after you complete your education? Why/why not?

Response
Would like to stay or come back if work, further education, job, and compensation were similar to other larger communities
Will be transferring to a different school

Question 9. What is the best way for the City to engage students on local issues?

Response
Radio – Wausau stations (95.5 – 96.7)
Emails
Flyers on campus
Facebook

Question 10. What is your primary source(s) for finding out information about your community (circle all that apply)?

Facebook	2	
Newspaper	1	
Online Newspaper	1	
Direct Emails	2	
Other:		