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A Framework for Action

Over the last 18 months thousands of East Tennesseans have shared their ideas on what the future of our region should look like. We want to:

- Build **strong towns**
- Grow **quality places**
- Improve **health of people and places**
- Expand **choices for all**

OUR REGIONAL VISION:

East Tennessee will be recognized throughout the nation and world as a premier region of choice and opportunity by virtue of our exceptional quality of life; scenic natural beauty; unique cultural heritage; healthy people and places; strong institutions; talented workforce; entrepreneurial spirit; and prosperous economy.

How do we grow into the region we aspire to be?

What do you think are the most important objectives that will help make East Tennessee a better place to live?

Help us chart the course for a more prosperous future!

In this meeting you will:

1. **Choose your top five goals.**
What are the most important long-term aims to be accomplished in order for our region to become more competitive, healthy and prosperous?
2. **Choose three objectives for each of your goals.**
Which specific results will bring us closer to achieving your top five goals for the region?

Our Challenge: Reaching our vision for 2040.

Step 1: Rank **GOALS**

GOAL: The achievement desired.

What are your goals for the future of our region?

These eight goals represent the input of thousands of East Tennessee residents gathered over the last 18 months. They will serve as the cornerstones of our strategic efforts to become a more competitive, healthy and prosperous region in the years to come.

Review the list on the facing page. Choose the five goals you think are the most important by writing a number in the box next to the name of the goal. Please indicate your top number 1 (one) goal with a number '1' and continue to rank your goals until you get to your number '5' or fifth ranked goal. If you have time, you may prioritize the entire list. You may also suggest a goal not on the list.

Suggest a goal or comment:

GOALS What do we want to achieve?



CLEAN AIR AND WATER

To have air that is safe to breathe and waters in which we can swim and fish, we have to work across town, city, and county boundaries.

Our basic goals of health, safety and expanding opportunities for prosperity can only be achieved by cleaning up our air and water.



CREATE GREAT PLACES

In East Tennessee we value our unique communities, small towns and cities that have grown in the greatest natural setting on earth.

We want to strengthen their identities and enhance their character to make them centers of activity with greater housing and transportation choices.



EFFICIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

Building infrastructure extensions to serve low density sprawl and leapfrog development is not as efficient as developing near existing roads, sewers, and utilities.

To make the best use of our current investment and to keep operating and maintenance costs low, we must fully use our existing infrastructure.



HEALTHY PEOPLE

Because we lack a variety of healthy choices and opportunities, our region has developed high rates of many serious illnesses.

Our goal is to build a diverse, vibrant region that nurtures good health and values a high quality of life.



HOUSING CHOICES

The changing demographics of our region necessitate that we provide a greater variety of housing choices than currently exists.

As the region grows by nearly 300,000 people, we will need more housing that supports an aging population and a rising generation less inclined to want large houses on large lots.



LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION

Growing the region's food systems can boost the local economy, preserve farms, provide healthy food and enhance our independence.

Our prime soils, agricultural heritage, plentiful water and farm-to-market roads can be used to grow the region's food production capabilities into a complete local food economy.



REGIONAL PROSPERITY

To build a foundation for regional prosperity and compete on a global stage, we must make investments in both people and infrastructure.

Investments of local resources that produce educated, highly-trained workers and provide the best infrastructure will help us grow businesses and attract new ones.



TRANSPORTATION CHOICES

Nearly all of our travel is currently done by automobile, most often by people driving alone.

Our goal is to expand the options that we have for moving around the region when an additional 300,000 people call the region home in 2040.

Step 2: Choose **OBJECTIVES**

OBJECTIVE: The specific results desired from our actions.

Now that you've decided which goals are most important to you, help us decide which objectives are the best way to reach those goals.

1. Review the five objectives for each goal.
2. Indicate which three objectives you support as being the best tools to reach each goal by choosing the 'yes' box.
3. For each goal, you may also select one favorite.
4. If there are any objectives you don't like, mark the 'no' box.

How will the objectives be used?

Each objective represents a different way that our region can achieve the goals we have identified for the future. Your feedback will be used to prioritize future actions that will allow our region to become even better than it is today!



GOAL: CLEAN AIR AND WATER

To have air that is safe to breathe and waters in which we can swim and fish, we have to work across town, city and county boundaries.

To improve our air and water quality, we need to:

Select three objectives you would support. You may choose one favorite for each goal.

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Suggest another objective or comment:

OBJECTIVES:

Reduce pollutants.

Reduce the pollutants released into the air, spread on our land and running into our streams and lakes.

Develop commitment.

Develop commitment to address air and water quality issues.

Cooperate across jurisdictional lines.

Recognize that the movement of air and water does not respect jurisdictional boundaries and act accordingly.

Preserve our natural filters.

Preserve natural places such as forests, floodplains and grasslands to provide the lowest cost way to improve air and water quality.

Grow more efficiently.

Grow new areas more efficiently and reuse vacant and underutilized land to reduce driving distances and pollution driving produces.



GOAL: CREATE GREAT PLACES

Strengthen the identity of our unique communities, small towns and cities and enhance their character to make them great centers of activity.

To create great places across the region, we need to:

Select three objectives you would support. You may choose one favorite for each goal.

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Suggest another objective or comment:

OBJECTIVES:

Capitalize on the unique identity of our communities.

Strengthen the unique character and pride of place in our communities, cities and towns that are so highly valued.

Strengthen our existing cities and towns.

Maintain and continue to invest in cities and towns so they become great places to live, work, play, shop and raise a family.

Develop dynamic new centers.

Develop new places that are diverse and dynamic, offering choices that are not currently available.

Redevelop our vacant and underutilized land.

Focus first on re-using buildings, land and infrastructure to turn eyesores into great, fresh, vibrant and dynamic new places.

Transform our streets and create iconic civic places.

Create civic spaces and places that increase property values and inspire investment, including streets for walking, biking, transit.



GOAL: EFFICIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

Maximize the efficiency and value of our current investment and keep operating and maintenance costs low.

To maximize existing infrastructure efficiency, we need to:

Select three objectives you would support. You may choose one favorite for each goal.

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Suggest another objective or comment:

OBJECTIVES:

Adequately fund infrastructure maintenance.

Fund the maintenance of roads, water lines, sewers and other infrastructure to maximize their life cycle.

Extend infrastructure incrementally.

Avoid leapfrog extensions of infrastructure by extending systems in steps from the core facilities outward.

Coordinate across jurisdictional boundaries.

Share information and work together to provide support and backup in times of emergency or need.

Conserve water and energy resources.

Conserve water and energy to extend the life of our resources and avoid the cost of upgrading our systems.

Avoid development that is not supported by infrastructure.

Recognize that building with inadequate infrastructure is not safe and costs us more money in the long run.



GOAL: HEALTHY PEOPLE

Build a diverse, vibrant region that nurtures good health and values a high quality of life.

To promote health and well-being, we need to:

Select three objectives you would support. You may choose one favorite for each goal.

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Suggest another objective or comment:

OBJECTIVES:

Assure the safety of our communities.

Assure safe neighborhoods, communities and workplaces that enhance health and well-being.

Reduce our most prevalent diseases.

Decrease the rates of obesity, diabetes and asthma; our most prevalent diseases.

Address drug abuse issues.

Address the destructive drug abuse that is prevalent in our communities.

Promote wellness

Promote wellness as a means to minimize the physical, mental and social costs of treating sickness.

Encourage activity

Create places where people can safely walk and bike as part of the daily routine of school, work and play.



GOAL: HOUSING CHOICES

Changing demographics require more housing for an aging population and a rising generation of millennials less inclined to want large houses on large lots.

To enable a broader choice of housing, we need to:

Select three objectives you would support. You may choose one favorite for each goal.

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Suggest another objective or comment:

OBJECTIVES:

Maintain and enhance a variety of housing locations.

Provide housing in a variety of places such as cities, urban neighborhoods, suburbs and rural settings.

Embrace a mix of new housing types.

Support development that offers choices of housing types, values and settings.

Support inclusive communities and neighborhoods.

Make our neighborhoods stronger and more resilient by encouraging diversity in age, ethnicity and income.

Create opportunities to live closer to work.

Provide housing options to reduce transportation costs that frequently exceed the cost of housing.

Enable housing diversity within existing neighborhoods.

Strengthen existing neighborhoods through investments in a wider variety of compatible new housing.



GOAL: LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION

Use our prime soils, plentiful water, and farm-to-market road network to grow our food production capabilities into a complete local food economy.

To grow our local food systems in the region, we need to:

Select three objectives you would support. You may choose one favorite for each goal.

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Suggest another objective or comment:

OBJECTIVES:

Preserve significant agricultural lands.

Protect prime agricultural lands for local food production.

Increase demand for locally grown food.

Get commitment from large local food users such as schools, universities and grocery stores to buy what is grown locally.

Invest in local food infrastructure.

Invest in the systems that process, distribute and sell local food products.

Grow farmers.

Prepare the next generation of farmers so that they are ready and willing to take over.

Enable urban agriculture.

Encourage opportunities to grow food within the parks, schools, open spaces and neighborhoods of our cities and towns.



GOAL: REGIONAL PROSPERITY

To compete on a global stage and grow and attract new business that will build a foundation for regional prosperity, we must invest in both people and infrastructure.

To build a foundation for regional prosperity, we need to:

Select three objectives you would support. You may choose one favorite for each goal.

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Suggest another objective or comment:

OBJECTIVES:

Attract and retain talent.

Attract talented workers and keep our locally grown talent here.

Educate and train local talent.

Develop the facilities and support systems to grow our young people into contributing members of the local economy.

Provide adequate infrastructure.

Provide transportation, water and energy systems to support the growth of our economy.

Take advantage of our economic assets.

Use our natural assets wisely and leverage our existing institutions and economic assets fully.

Collaborate throughout the region.

Provide opportunities for regional collaboration, since our prosperity is better if we all work together.



GOAL: TRANSPORTATION CHOICES

Expand the options that we have for moving around the region when an additional 300,000 people call East Tennessee home in 2040.

To expand transportation choices, we need to:

Select three objectives you would support. You may choose one favorite for each goal.

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO	Favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Suggest another objective or comment:

OBJECTIVES:

Provide options for people who don't drive.

Make transportation options available and easy for those people who can't or don't want to drive.

Enhance our existing transit system.

Provide more frequent transit service with more destinations and better facilities.

Expand our transit opportunities throughout the region.

Create connected transit systems that reach communities throughout the region.

Create more walking and biking opportunities.

Create safe, convenient walking and biking options connected to transit and to places where we learn, work, play and shop.

Encourage development that supports transit.

Support transit systems by encouraging the development of nearby places to live, work, learn, play and shop.

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

PlanET will only be successful if a wide range of stakeholders become involved in the process. Please help us understand who is participating by providing us with some information about yourself.

Please Note:

Completion of this form is entirely optional and you are not obligated to provide any information or comments unless you choose to do so. Answer as many questions as you would like.

1. What is your community role?

- Resident Business Owner Property Owner Government Other

2. What is your gender?

- Male Female

3. What is your age?

- 18 or younger 19 – 24 25 – 34 35 – 44
 45 – 54 55 – 64 65 – 74 75 or older

4. What is your race/ethnicity?

- White/Caucasian Black/African-American Hispanic/Latino Asian
 Native American Two or More Races Other

5. What is your residential zip code?

6. In which county do you live?

- Anderson Blount Knox Loudon Union Other

7. What is your household type?

- Live Alone Live with Roommate/Housemate Live with Spouse/Partner
 Live with Spouse/Partner & Children Live with Children or Parent(s) Only

8. Do you rent or own your home?

- Rent Own Neither

9. How would you characterize where you live?

- Rural Semi-rural Suburban Close to town In town Other

10. What is your level of education?

- Less than 9th Grade Some High School/No Diploma High-School Graduate
 Some College Associate's Degree Bachelor's Degree Graduate/Professional Degree

GIVE US SOME FEEDBACK.

Tell us what you thought about today's meeting.

Please rate the effectiveness of this meeting.

Poor

Excellent

1

2

3

4

5

Please rate the effectiveness of the Meeting in a Box technique.

Poor

Excellent

1

2

3

4

5

Did you participate in an earlier Meeting in a Box session (in early 2012 or Summer 2012)?

Yes

No

How can we make Meeting in a Box sessions better?

If you have additional comments about today's meeting, please send them to:

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THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING.