

# Richfield 2020 Visioning Project Feedback

## General Comments

### FEEDBACK FROM FORUM ATTENDEES

I can tell how much work went into this, and I'm really excited about it. Thank you!

*Your City* mailings are a great way of keeping us informed.

Good comments and input from group.

I hope more progress can be made in providing transportation possibilities within the city. Recreation developments need ways that people can get to them – as do business and economic development schemes.

The Richfield 2020 effort is to be commended. It seems results should fold into an official city planning document, such as the Comprehensive Plan. City-wide distribution of that document and annual updates should be made available to all property owners.

Master Plans for select areas, such as the Lakes at Lyndale, must be included in our Comprehensive Plan. Capital Improvement Program and annual updates should also compliment the Comprehensive Plan.

The semi-private Goal Setting Meetings of the City Council and City Staff to consider the Richfield 2020 goals betrays citizens efforts unless procedures to inform citizens of the results are in place. Similarly, the Planning and Community Services Commissions need to be guided by the City's Comprehensive Plan. Concurrent meeting times of those commissions betrays open-meeting intent and unduly adds to the chore of informing citizens.

Overlap of Richfield 2020 with Richfield Visions, Inc. must be reconciled. At most, one such group should suffice to promote and execute regular (annual) updates to goals, public participation and hand-off to Planning Commission.

I feel that Richfield has a great future ahead of it, but I feel that redevelopment has been sloppy and unwise up to this point. We have a Comprehensive Plan, but the only thing that has been accomplished is something that wasn't a part of the plan. We need to go full force in redeveloping the east side of Richfield, making it a desirable area of the city again. Pump it full of popular stores, viable businesses, parking ramps and affordable townhomes, etc. that blend gradually into the neighborhoods. We should also be concentrating on finishing up in the areas that are going downhill because of unfinished development, such as the Lyndale Hardware site and the block of 76<sup>th</sup> Street and Lyndale. The K-Mart site is another one. Let's take full advantage of these three areas (minus underground roads and skyways – let's be sensible about what Richfield needs). We also need to fully promote the health, well-being and safety of our citizens.

Affordable housing for the elderly and single people who will move here in the future; more stop signs and traffic lights on the busier roads, provisions of shuttles to increase mobility, increase bike paths and walking paths. But at all costs, we must retain the most attractive thing about Richfield – the single family homes that young couples will be seeking to raise their families. No one wants to raise children in a townhome or condominium with no personal yard. We need these families for our school systems, so **LET'S RETAIN THE NEIGHBORHOODS THAT WE CURRENTLY HAVE AND DEVELOP ONLY THE PERIMETER OF THE CITY.** If this is the plan, then we will all be winners.