



# Horizon Jenks

## Comprehensive Plan

### City Officials Roundtable Summary

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

On June 26, 2019, the City of Jenks hosted a City Officials Roundtable at The Hive, a local arts facility and event space, and home to the Jenks Chamber of Commerce. The workshop was part of the kickoff outreach process for the creation of the new *Horizon Jenks Comprehensive Plan*. Attended by 13 individuals, this roundtable workshop was an opportunity for members of City Council and Planning Commission to offer their input and feedback regarding the City and the plan. The roundtable discussed issues, opportunities, and key strengths and assets of the City. Input from the roundtable will be directly reflected in the vision, goals, recommendations, and policies of the final Jenks Comprehensive Plan.

The top issues identified at the roundtable were the City's infrastructure and traffic congestion. Participants noted heavy traffic on North/South streets and on the City's main arterials. Participants described the City's infrastructure as needing maintenance, and insufficient to keep up with the City's growth. Commercial and business development was also a top issue for participants.

When asked to identify the assets and strengths of Jenks, participants noted the City's schools, the Oklahoma Aquarium, and the Arkansas River as features that are of great value to the area. Location was another top asset listed, with proximity to Tulsa and regional highway access identified as specific strengths of Jenks' location.

#### *Note on Summary Context*

*The following is a summary of the thoughts, comments, and opinions received in the workshop. Some comments were shared with the entire group, while others were recorded privately on worksheets. The items identified in this summary are not recommendations or observations of the consultant, but rather represent feedback and comments received from those who participated in the workshop.*

## Issues & Concerns

Participants were asked to individually identify the issues and concerns confronting the Jenks community. Next, participants worked to create a single, cumulative list as a large group where each participant shared important issues from their individual list. Participants were then asked to rank the three most important issues discussed from the cumulative list. Below are the highest-ranked issues as determined by this method, as well as all other issues identified throughout the workshop. The number of instances the issue was listed is included in parentheses.

## Highest Group-Ranked Issues

- Traffic (6)
- Infrastructure (4)
  - Capacity of infrastructure
  - Aging infrastructure
  - Maintenance
- Development (4)
  - Residential over-development
  - Lack of commercial development
  - Lack of development in South Jenks
  - Lack of development around aquarium and turnpike
- Lack of business development (4)
  - Not attracting the type of businesses people want
- Lack of restaurants and entertainment (4)

## Other Issues by Category

### Land Use and Development

- Downtown (2)
  - Renovation
  - Beautification
- Lack of large lots to develop parking
- Construction
- Eminent domain not used

### Transportation

- Road maintenance (3)
  - Street widening
- Walkability and bicycle access (3)
- Speeding
- Mobility in and out of Jenks
- Limited connection between Main St. and South Jenks
- Large vehicles

### Natural Resources and Open Space

- Lack of open space (3)
  - Protection of natural resources
- Water Pressure

### Quality of Life

- Lack of resident resources for community and municipal information
- City resources
- Schools
- Public safety
- Tulsa County Library

## Housing and Growth

- Growth for young families
- Isolated single-family subdivisions
- Lack of density and diverse housing
- Old housing inventory

## Identity

- City image – impressions
- Need to be a destination, not bedroom community
- Lack of cohesive look

## Other Topics

- No-kill shelters
- Landlocked
- Partnering with schools

## Priority Actions & Projects

In response to the list of issues, participants were asked to name specific projects or actions that would provide solutions to those issues identified in the first part of the exercise. Recommended projects and actions are categorized below.

### *Land Use and Development*

- Commercial development (4)
  - River district
  - Create facility or attraction unique to Jenks
  - Develop land identified for library for something more beneficial to economic development
- Development south of turnpike (outlet mall) (2)
  - Start laying appropriate infrastructure for the mall/outlet shops
- Rebuild old Downtown
- More active approach to bring business and developers (TIFs)
- Relocate hospital to Main Street and Highway 75 to create tax opportunity
- Acquire portion of land east of Elm Street for mixed used development

### *Transportation*

- Road maintenance (11)
  - Improve major roads
  - Widen corridors
    - Turn Elm Street into a five lane corridor
  - Complete 131<sup>st</sup> Street project to reach Highway 75
  - Alleviate north-south traffic from Downtown
  - Update infrastructure
- Bike and pedestrian infrastructure (3)

- Bridge at 131<sup>st</sup> Street (2)
- Mass transit
- Establish parking and pay-for-parking system

#### *Natural Resources and Open Space*

- Open space (4)
  - Create trail system linking all of Jenks
  - Use dilapidated properties for parks, trails, recreational areas
- Create park system near Polecat Creek
- Design connections to make Downtown Commons Park a part of Downtown

#### *Other Topics*

- Gathering place development (2)
- Bring in a university

## Strengths & Assets

As the *Horizon Jenks Comprehensive Plan* is developed, the key strengths and assets of Jenks should be regarded as areas to maintain and build upon. For the final part of the exercise, participants were asked to list strengths and advantages of Jenks that should be preserved. The following were identified:

- Schools (12)
- Oklahoma Aquarium (8)
- Arkansas River (8)
- Location (5)
- People (4)
- Safety (3)
- Small town feel (3)
- Airport access (2)
- City staff (2)
- Affordable housing
- Parks
- Downtown
- Room to grow
- Potential