

Vision and Goals “Results”

Prosperous and Vibrant Means:	Keep It	Change it Like This
Robust Businesses, Industry & Jobs	11	
Stores, Restaurants And Other Services, With Bustling Downtown And Attractive Harbor Area	11	
Good Stewards Of Lake Erie, Conneaut Creek, Turkey Creek, Etc.	10	Old Mill Street near Conneaut Creek needs cleaned up, remove brush and litter Kayak & Paddleboard Launch Area
Quality Recreation Activities - City Parks, Public Spaces, And Other Community Facilities	9	
Clean And Well Maintained Properties (Both Renovation And New Construction.)	9	
Quality Services For Residents And Businesses (Streets, sidewalks, water, sewer, etc)	9	improve sidewalks and trim trees so people don't have to duck when they are walking
The Right Zoning, Funding And Incentives In Place	10	Rezone Rt 20 Broad Street to Business

NOTE: The public comment period was set up as an open house with tables stationed around the room. Attendees were able to visit the tables they were interested in, so the number of attendees who visited each table and participated in the surveys varied for each table.

Goals	Keep It	Change it Like This
Attract more businesses and industry, for a diverse economic base and variety of retail, more residents, employees and tourists to support them.	7	Promote outside of the area to bring in enthusiastic, motivated people looking to relocate. Can store fronts downtown be rented during summer months for businesses to come in seasonally to provide guests' and locals places to shop?
Properly manage growth and development we hope to attract so it occurs in suitable locations.	6	
Preserve and enhance the positive qualities of Conneaut.	9	Historical society has plans to enlarge the lot and building. (518 Mill)
Enhance our image, with quality development (good site design, landscaping, etc.) and property maintenance.	9	
Ensure infrastructure supports our land use and economic development objectives	7	
Preserve the natural environment in Conneaut, and provide opportunities for recreational activities	12	Biking and Hiking! Want to hike Here! And bike Here! No safe roads to bike until PA Biking- The State is trying to change the bike route away from the lake to go through Columbus. Why?
Promote a variety of housing types and enhance and revitalize older neighborhoods.	9	
Promote community facilities to contribute to high quality of life.	7	

Fundamental Objectives "Responses"

Build On Strengths	Important	Comments
Lake Erie	13	
Conneaut Creek & Other Natural Areas	10	
Tourism	8	
Agricultural Community	4	Promote smaller farms and more housing development with these farms with new concepts of construction materials (Zoning?)
Quality Of Life	7	Increase urban gardening in open lots in town
Potential For Economic Development	6	
Top Notch Public Services	3	
Partnerships	5	Promote more partnerships among civic minded organizations Connect with nearby communities "lessons learned"
Variety of Housing Stock	0	
Other Strengths:	0	

Overcome Challenges	Important	Comments
Transportation Limitations	5	
Waterfront Issues	3	
Economic Development:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited Locations 	3	Make more building business ready (internet electrical, renovated)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited Resources 	1	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vacant Buildings 	5	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zoning 	1	Expand zoning, diversify building materials allowance (cobb/straw bale/shipping container)
Need To Expand Sewer Service	4	
Maintain Housing Stock	5	
Managing Green Space	5	
Tourism Needs:		
Services/ Accommodations	3	
Impact On Residential	1	
Seasonality	7	Snowmobilers can't access downtown area due to city and state limitations
<p>Other Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We need city to be more walking and biking friendly. Trim the trees around sidewalks bike awareness signs throughout the city Targeted training for open roles- adult education Make I-90 exit "pretty" Need out of town landlords of retail space to set realistic rents Attract college/education facility First need a plan and budget for development that includes more connects port authority Community seems divided on change. It might have to some what comes from outside. We need family friendly for example miniature golf course and boat rides. Street parking getting out of control! Two points on RT 20 are becoming hazardous; you can't see oncoming traffic Tourist attraction features year round 		

RT 7/ I 90 Interchange Responses

Potential Action Step	Important	Not so Important	Not sure
Allow / attract range of uses:	4	0	0
A) Manufacturing & Light Industry	6	3	1
B) Outdoor Storage	0	9	0
C) Retail and Restaurants	13	0	0
D) Hotels	8	3	1
E) Big Box Commercial (e.g. sporting goods store)	4	3	1
Improve wayfinding signs directing travelers to downtown and Lake Erie	10	0	0
Require high quality development (building design, site design & landscaping standards	8	1	0
Preserve agriculture in the southern end of the City (see map	11	0	1
Expand industrial zone west along Under Ridge Rd. from Dorman Rd to Furnace Rd	4	2	2
Reoccupy / redevelop the former K-Mart Plaza	15	0	0

1. What type of uses or development should NOT be allowed at the interchange?

- Adult stores
- trucking storage/equipment storage

2. Other comments, changes, additions?

- Investigate utilization of K-mart and grocery buildings as satellite hubs for mailing-delivery (for example Costco which is opening mailing service)
- Keep promoting outdoor learning center
- Additional attraction signs on I-90 directing individuals to stores, restaurants, attractions; both directions
- New Leaf Event Center is here- could promote better use of it for events
- Need to remove litter along Rt. 7
- There needs to be a spot in Conneaut where you can eat and shop for essentials, campers/tourists would go here to get things. No need for preservation go modern here.
- Big box stores may take away from what local businesses we have left
- Current way finding signs while attractive are difficult to read unless you are stopped for a light or you make an effort to pull into a nearby parking lot
- Need to slow travelers coming into Conneaut on Rt. 7. Put rumble strips starting at Welton Rd. to slow traffic

Downtown Responses

Potential Action Step	Important	Not so important	Not sure
Fill Vacant Stores	14	0	0
Preserve Main Street "Traditional" Form i.e. buildings close to street, parking "behind"	11	0	0
Keep Main Street for Window Shopping, Retail, and Restaurants	12	1	0
Restrict Liberty Street to Housing and Offices	0	10	0
Retain US 20 Highway Corridor for Auto-Oriented Retail with convenient parking	8	4	1
Foster Building Renovation and Property Maintenance	12	0	0
Increase Parking	6	4	0
Provide Connections to Harbor (i.e. bike, trolley, etc.)	13	1	0
Preserve Historic Residential Areas	6	0	1

Supplemental Questions

1. What would most improve downtown?

- No more junk stores, more retail
- Interesting retail- high interest to tourist. Like Niagara on the lake. This area needs basics too though.
- West side retail desperately needs sidewalks as pedestrian traffic is very dangerous from Dollar General or Save-A-Lot to the apartments for those in wheelchairs, etc.

2. What types of businesses are needed downtown?

- Attractive to tourists (antiques, restaurants)
- Shopping
- Rent out unused buildings for seasonal retail

3. What are downtown's strengths?

- Small town feeling
- Love the older buildings
- keep the old buildings! Take Bridge Street for example, what would the Ashtabula harbor be without them?

4. Other comments, changes, additions?

- It appears that many buildings are owned by outside Conneaut residents. What can be done to make them fix their buildings?
- The historical residential area near the harbor is the oldest part of town (Axis Sally's home 145, Grant St.)
- Subsidize Ohio logo attraction signs on I-90 for smaller businesses
- “auto-oriented retail” is confusing- take results of that question w/ a grain of salt. Retail that caters to auto stuff (like new O'Reilly's) or retail easily accessible by car?
- Traffic coming in and driving out of Conneaut at 7 and Liberty St. need to slow down. Suggesting rumble strips starting near Welton Rd.
- Need more lighting between I-90 and 7 coming into Conneaut. It is dark and people do u-turns because they think there is nothing ahead.

Lakefront/Harbor Responses

Potential Action Step	Important	Not so important	Not Sure
Bring in a hotel	9	2	
Add more boat slips	5		2
Improve amenities for boaters	7	1	1
Add a multipurpose path Connecting Township Park, beach, marina and sandbar	14	0	0
Add a sandbar trail system	2	3	3
Add low impact camping sites on sandbar	1	9	1
Add more stores	13	0	0
Add more restaurants	9	0	0
Add kayak, bike, canoe, etc. Rentals	12	0	0
Add new housing (single-family, townhouses, condominiums, apartments)	4	4	2
Build a public pier/boardwalk over existing breakwall	6	4	2

Supplemental Questions

1. What does the harbor and lakefront need the most to increase its success?

- Need kayaking launching area at harbor and Old Main Street, plus parking
- Camping area for cyclists traveling across country (+1 ditto)
- Activities besides fishing and transient boaters
- We need an upscale lake front hotel that people from all over can come to visit. Every lake front hotel in Erie, Geneva, etc. is full year round. The people will come.
- Repurpose existing homes for tourist rentals, like Lakeside near Sandusky, OH
- Hotel, winter activities, restaurant

2. Who should the harbor and lakefront cater to?

Locals	4
Day Trippers (i.e. fisherman, boaters)	4
Tourists (Multi-day)	7

3. Other comments, changes, additions?

- Hotel/Lake front motel built into hill below Moose
- Need to make it a year round destination. Winery or brewery with fire pit, ice skating, winter carnival
- Attract people other than fisherman
- Have owners clean up Park Ave.
- Clean up existing city property and roads, Lakeview Park, terraced hills. Clear brush encroaching on street by sandbar
- Some cohesive theme needs to be set up to make old harbor a "Bridge Street"
- Recreate Park Ave. to be more charming and inviting
- Concerned about jet ski rentals and safety near sandbar

Green Space Responses

Potential Action Step	Important	Not so Important	Not sure
Add Walking Trail Along Conneaut Creek Connecting Camp Peet To City Schools And North To Downtown	13	1	0
Add Bike Trails (see map)	13	0	0
Convert "Old Mill Rd" to a Bike and Pedestrian Only Trail	7	3	0
Provide Access to the new Turkey Creek Metropark (see map)	13	0	0
Develop Sandbar for Recreation (i.e. Walking Paths, Camping, Birding etc.)	5	8	0
Connect Conneaut Township Park to Marina and Sandbar via Multi-purpose Trail	12	0	0
Provide Cabins / Camping Areas along Creek and/or in new Metropark	12	1	0
Provide More Public Access Points for Fishing, Kayak and Canoe Entry	12	0	0
Add a Dog Park	6	5	0

Supplemental Questions

1. What are your priorities for the City Parks?

Action	No. of Responses	Comments
Fewer Parks \$	0	
Improve Malek Park \$\$	10	-Continue the development of Malek Park arboretum. Don't lose what has been developed thus far. -Improve and maintain Lake View Park. There is no "lake view."
Create More Parks \$\$\$	3	-Add walking/bike trail along creek, add kayak launching area near Old Main St. -Skate park

2. Which recreation facilities do you use most often?

Facility	No. of Responses
City Parks	4
Lakefront/ Township Park	11
Conneaut Creek	6
CYLO fields/Sparks	0
Other	0

3. Other comments, changes, additions?

- Get with Adventure Cycling Association & get on their bicycle registry- bicycle camping, food, showers, repair
- Mill St. for bike path?
- Develop canoe access at Fordham Park

- Signage for kayak, canoe and tube launching
- More bike lanes and bike races
- Definitely signage and trash receptacles
- Connections to Township Park exists on city property. Lakeview Park and terraced hill on North.
- There is another park more convenient in town: Lake View Park
- Camping area along Conneaut Creek
- Best access for me to the lake by bike is Chestnut but it's awful!

Character and Image Responses

Potential Action Step	Important	Not so important	Not Sure
Create a more Consistent "Brand"	11	2	0
Improve Wayfinding and Signage	8	2	0
Improve Services for tourists at the Harbor and Downtown	13	0	0
Improve property maintenance	14	0	0
Retain small town character and charm of older/ historic buildings	8	0	0
Enhance streetscape and improve facades in select locations:	6	0	0
• Along US 20 Corridor	7	2	0
• Broad Street between downtown and harbor	12	0	0
• Main Street from State St (west) to Harbor St (east)	9	0	0
• Harbor Area—Park Ave, Erie St, Lake Rd, etc.	11	0	0

1. What should Conneaut be known for?

- Recreation and amenities for tourists
- easy going, stress free recreation and shopping
- Kindness

2. What actions/projects could most improve the City's image?

- The main street through town should be most attractive, not the most ramshackle. Incentives along these corridors.
- Continue to explore a little house community near the harbor for affordable small business opportunities.
- Better downtown with viable shopping and restaurants

3. Other comments, changes, additions?

- Sidewalk repair
- Improve park and clean up businesses
- Rezone Rt 20 and Broad
- The "Hamptons of Ohio"
- Reinstate old "sharpest corner" slogan-incredible description and unique. We are the only location in the state that could claim that! I don't even remember our newest/recent one because I didn't care for it.
- Housing maintenance

Scans of Response Sheet from Public Forum

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

Choose your preferred options for this area! Review the alternatives below and place a dot in the appropriate column you think is "Important", "Not so important", or "Not Sure" — Then, answer the questions on the right with a post-it.

	Important	Not so important	Not Sure
Fill Vacant Stores	●●●●●●●●●●		
Preserve Main Street "Traditional" Form i.e. buildings close to street, parking "behind"	●●●●●●●●●●		
Keep Main Street for Window Shopping, Retail, and Restaurants	●●●●●●●●●●		
Restrict Liberty Street to Housing and Offices		●●●●●●●●●●	
Retain US 20 Highway Corridor for Auto-Oriented Retail with convenient parking	●●●●●●●●●●	●●●●●●●●●●	●
Foster Building Renovation and Property Maintenance	●●●●●●●●●●		
Increase Parking	●●●●●●●●●●	●●●●●●●●●●	
Provide Connections to Harbor (i.e. bike, trolley, etc.)	●●●●●●●●●●	●●●●●●●●●●	
Preserve Historic Residential Areas	●●●●●●●●●●		●

COMMENTS:

- What would most improve downtown?
- What types of businesses are needed downtown?
- What are downtown's strengths?
- Other Comments, Changes, Additions?

LAKEFRONT & HARBOR DEVELOPMENT

Choose your preferred options for this area! Review the alternatives below and place a dot in the appropriate column you think is "Important", "Not so important", or "Not Sure" — Then, answer the questions on the right with a post-it or a dot.

	Important	Not so important	Not Sure
Bring In A Hotel	●●●●●●●●●●	●●	
Add More Boat Slips	●●●●●●●●●●		●●
Improve Amenities For Boaters	●●●●●●●●●●	●	●
Add a Multipurpose Path Connecting Township Park, Beach, Marina and Sandbar	●●●●●●●●●●		
Add a Sandbar Trail System	●●●●●●●●●●	●●●●●●●●●●	●●●●●●●●●●
Add Low Impact Camping Sites On Sandbar	●●●●●●●●●●	●●●●●●●●●●	●
Build a Public Pier/Boardwalk Over Existing Breakwall	●●●●●●●●●●	●●●●●●●●●●	●●
Add More Stores	●●●●●●●●●●		
Add More Restaurants	●●●●●●●●●●		
Add Kayak, Bike, Canoe, etc. Rentals	●●●●●●●●●●		
Add New housing (single-family, townhouses, condominiums, apartments)	●●●●●●●●●●	●●●●●●●●●●	●●

COMMENTS:

- What does the harbor and lakefront need the most to increase its success?
- Who should the harbor and lakefront cater to? (Place a dot)

Locals	Day Trippers (i.e. fisherman, boaters)	Tourists (Multi-day)
●●●●●	●●●●●	●●●●●
- Other Comments, Changes, Additions?

