

## Community Survey Overview

### 1. What do you love about the Akron and Westfield areas?

#### What we heard ...

- Community and family events are important
- Festivals, Chamber events, holiday decorating, community activities
- People feel safe and like the “community” feel
- Love small size
- People appreciate willingness of community members to help others in need
- Residents are friendly
- People like Akron is a one-stop shop – school, restaurants, pharmacy, grocery, parks, pool, etc.
- Like the choices of restaurants
- There is a nice variety of entertainment – opera house, parks, events

#### More questions ...

- What does “Hometown Feel” mean to you?
- How do we better tell the story of the caring and friendly people in our community, and attract more of them?
- Would you volunteer to help with activities?
- What specific ideas do you have for activities for older people?
- Examples of collaboration in our communities - what has worked well, and where has it not worked so well?

### 2. What would you hope to see, feel or experience here 5 years from now?

#### What we heard ...

- Strong support for outdoor activities and recreation
  - Swimming pool
  - Walking and bike trails, school track, more recreation and athletic opportunities
- Add more events and community activities
- Better streets, sidewalk repair
- More curb appeal, more green, cleaner spaces
- People want the area to keep growing – more businesses, updated businesses, additional jobs
- Continue improving housing options, quality of life
- Continue to improve/enhance education system and opportunities
- Look for additional ways to share information and community activities

#### More questions ...

- What does growth mean to you - more businesses, more population, etc.?
- Who or what would that growth impact – daycare, housing, infrastructure, etc.?
- There are lots of responses about the new pool. With plans in place to move ahead, after the pool is built ... what improvements are next?
- What types of housing – low income, family, retirement?
- How do we better communicate with people who are not on social media and don’t subscribe to the newspaper?
- More specific ideas for improvements/additions for activities for young people and at the school?

### 3. What actions do you think could make our community even better?

#### What we heard ...

- More community events
- More events, especially for young people
- Beautification
- Lots of support of local businesses
- Community cleanliness is important, keep citywide clean-up days
- People want more ways to get information
- Get more people of all ages involved
- Infrastructure improvements – need to keep moving forward, better roads, new pool, new/improved downtown buildings
- The school and school leadership is very important to the community, investing in the school system moves the community forward

#### More questions ...

- People say to support local businesses/projects – any ideas on what could be done?
- Specific ideas on cleaning and community beautification - what areas can be improved?
- How can we share information on community activities and how to volunteer?
- How do we get more people involved?

Thank you for sharing your input! Send ideas to [StrongerTogetherHS@gmail.com](mailto:StrongerTogetherHS@gmail.com) or follow at [www.StrongerTogetherHeartAndSoul.com](http://www.StrongerTogetherHeartAndSoul.com), or **Stronger Together Akron & Westfield Heart & Soul** on Facebook.