

# CONVERSATION MATRIX

## COMMON TOPICS

	01. IDENTITY / HISTORY / VISITORS	02. NEIGHBORHOOD LIVABILITY	03. COMMUNITY CENTER	04. FAIRGROUNDS
<b>A. ENHANCE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS</b>	<p>How can we take advantage of Gardner's role and historic connections to the western trails and railroads that might help us spur economic development downtown?</p> <p><b>EXPAND ON HISTORICAL MUSEUMS AND GARDNER HISTORY</b>  <b>TRAIL SYSTEM TOURISM - RAILS TO TRAILS</b>  <b>EMBRACE TRANSPORTATION - RAILROADS AND AIRPORT</b>  <b>BUILD OFF FAIRGROUND MOMENUM - RODEO, MOVIES, ETC.</b></p>	<p>What type of economic development along the corridor would most greatly enhance the livability of Gardner for current and future residents? What would you be opposed to? What role could new housing play along the corridor?</p> <p><b>MOVIE THEATER / PERFORMANCE STAGE / LIVE MUSIC</b>  <b>BREWERY/ SIT-DOWN RESTAURANTS / WINE TASTING</b>  <b>BUILDING PARTNERSHIP WITH FAIRGROUNDS</b>  <b>CONSIDER ELDERLY</b></p>	<p>Do you see the addition of a multi-generational community center as a benefit to Gardner's future economic development efforts? Why / why not?</p> <p><b>YES SOMETHING FOR ALL AGES</b>  <b>DOWNTOWN ALL YEAR ROUND</b>  <b>SWIM TEAM / TOURNAMENT OPPORTUNITIES</b>  <b>HOTELS</b></p>	<p>What are some ideas for using the County Fairgrounds as a catalyst for economic development? Could we achieve more if the Fairgrounds are relocated?</p> <p><b>KEEP PART OF IDENTITY / UTILIZE YEAR ROUND / EXPLORE EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES</b>  <b>MOVE TO TOWN WITH LARGER POPULATION / TO CELEBRATION PARK</b></p>
<b>B. ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE / SENSE OF PLACE</b>	<p>How do you describe Gardner to family and friends that don't live in Gardner?</p> <p><b>GOOD SCHOOLS / ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS / FAMILY FOCUSED</b>  <b>GREAT PLACE TO RETIRE / QUIET / FRIENDLY / SAFE</b>  <b>BEDROOM COMMUNITY / GOOD PROXIMITY</b>  <b>LACK OF IDENTITY</b></p>	<p>What could be done in the Main Street Corridor to improve the quality of life in adjacent neighborhoods / livability of Gardner? How does the railroad factor into this?</p> <p><b>IMPROVE BIKE / PED CONNECTIVITY / ENHANCE RR BRIDGE</b>  <b>RESOLVE NOISE POLLUTION</b>  <b>EXPLORE TRAIN OVERLOOK</b>  <b>REDUCE SPEEDS / CONTROLLED ACCESS ON MAIN</b></p>	<p>If the City builds a new community center, what location would best enhance residents' quality of life and reinforce a sense of place for Gardner residents?</p> <p><b>FAIRGROUNDS</b>  <b>WAVERLY &amp; 175TH</b>  <b>CENTER OF TOWN BUT SOUTH OF TRACKS</b>  <b>SOMEWHERE DOWNTOWN / START SMALL</b></p>	<p>Do the Fairgrounds and hosting the JoCo Fair improve the quality of life in Gardner, and is it a defining part of Gardner's identity? What could be done to strengthen the relationship to Main Street?</p> <p><b>YES PART OF IDENTITY BUT NEEDS TO HAVE YEAR ROUND EVENTS</b></p>
<b>C. IMPROVE CORRIDOR FUNCTION AND CONNECTIVITY</b>	<p>Would you support improvements to the Main Street Corridor that enhance the beauty and identity of the community even if it resulted in a reduction in roadway width and slowing traffic?</p> <p><b>YES SLOW TRAFFIC / REDUCE SPEEDS</b>  <b>EXPLORE ALTERNATIVE TRUCK ROUTE TO BYPASS DOWNTOWN</b>  <b>ENCOURAGE MULTI-MODAL TRAFFIC</b></p>	<p>What could be done to improve all forms of transportation (autos, bikes, pedestrians) to better connect neighborhoods to the corridor and to each other? Does the railroad create a significant connectivity issue?</p> <p><b>REDUCE SPEEDS / PROVIDE TURNING LANES</b>  <b>INCREASE LIVABILITY DOWNTOWN</b>  <b>DEDICATED BIKE LANES / SIDEWALK CONNECTIVITY</b>  <b>ENHANCE OVERPASS</b></p>	<p>Do you believe a new multi-generational community center would be a good addition to the downtown core area / in close proximity to the Main Street Corridor or would it be better situated away from the corridor? Why?</p> <p><b>MOVE FURTHER AWAY TO REDUCE TRAFFIC CONGESTION</b>  <b>KEEP WITHIN CORE, CLOSE TO DOWNTOWN</b></p>	<p>During the JoCo Fair, are the associated traffic issues a major concern for you or do you believe hosting the Fair downtown is worth the temporary inconveniences that come with it (parking, street closures, etc.)?</p> <p><b>WORTH IT / PARKING &amp; TRAFFIC NOT AN ISSUE</b>  <b>NEED PUBLIC PARKING IDENTIFIED</b></p>
<b>D. PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<p>How do you define environmental responsibility as it relates to Main Street and adjacent neighborhoods?</p> <p><b>SAFER FOR PEDESTRIAN / MORE SIDEWALKS &amp; BIKE FACILITIES</b>  <b>PUBLIC TRANSIT</b>  <b>SAFE CONNECTIONS ALONG RAILROAD</b>  <b>BUSINESS INITIATIVE FOR ENCOURAGING LEED STANDARDS</b>  <b>SLOW TRAFFIC ALONG HIGHWAY 56</b>  <b>ELIMINATE NOISE POLLUTION</b></p>			

This project is supported through a grant from the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Planning Sustainable Places Initiative - A regional program funded by the state-allocated Surface Transportation Program (Livable Communities Pilot) and intended to assist communities to explore transportation network improvements that enhance the quality of life and support long-term community growth.