



## Great Crowd at the First Open House on May 15th

“What exactly is a comprehensive plan, and will this address traffic on Manchester?” Those were just a couple of questions asked by Ballwin residents who came out to the Ballwin Golf Club on May 15 for the first community open house of Ballwin’s comprehensive planning process. At this event, community residents and stakeholders from around Ballwin were able to learn about the planning process, review the progress achieved to date, contribute ideas, and meet members of the planning team from The i5Group, the consultants selected by the city to facilitate and manage the process.

With informational display boards spread throughout the room at the golf club, attendees were able to get fairly quick overviews of the schedule for the whole process - from kickoff this past March through the anticipated adoption by the Board of Aldermen in March of 2019 – and the broad range of information gathered through the data collection and existing conditions analysis phase of the process.

In addition to illustrating information and updates for the attendees, some of the displays provided opportunities for immediate input from attendees. Among the questions asked at some of these displays were “How should Ballwin be different in twenty years than it is today?” “What type of housing is needed?” and “What is missing in the area of commercial and retail offerings / services?”



Pictures from the first open house on May 15th at the Ballwin Golf Club.



Take the Community Survey by June 15th!  
Visit [www.BallwinsBlueprint.com](http://www.BallwinsBlueprint.com)

## Focus Group Meeting with Home Owner Association Leaders on April 17th

On April 17, representatives from 43 subdivisions and homeowners' associations from around Ballwin gathered at the Ballwin Golf Club to discuss their thoughts about Ballwin's challenges and opportunities. Facilitated by planning professionals from The i5Group, the firm selected by the city to coordinate Ballwin's comprehensive planning process, the attendees engaged in focused conversations about some of the topics that will influence the direction of the planning process as it takes shape over the next six months.

Divided into small groups, participants exchanged and discussed responses to questions about the greatest strengths of living in Ballwin, the challenges facing Ballwin over the next twenty years, indications that Ballwin is moving in the right direction, and things they would like to change. The individual tables then reported out to the whole group the common themes and answers to the different questions that reflected consensus opinions. The respectful and healthy dialogue among community residents, including many who didn't know each other before the evening, reflected some common responses to the question about the strengths of living in Ballwin: there seems to be widespread opinion that Ballwin is a place that is friendly and welcoming, with a strong sense of community.

Upon completion of the meeting, as a reminder of what this process seeks to preserve and build upon, participants had one additional opportunity to express their individual opinions regarding what they love about living in Ballwin. Attendees posted their responses to that last open-ended question on the wall for all to see, with responses ranging from "the people" to "safety," "location," "recreation," and "schools."



Picture from the focus group meeting with Home Owner Association Leaders on April 17th.

### Upcoming Schedule

May 1 - June 15th: Community-wide Survey

July 10, 2018: Steering Committee Meeting #3

Late Summer 2018: Open House #2

August: Discovery Report  
(Existing Conditions and Results of Survey)

November 2018: Open House #3

Early 2019: Draft Comprehensive Plan

