

Independence 2030: A Comprehensive Plan

Economic Development Survey

Independence 2030: A Comprehensive Plan is a 20-year plan intended to guide the future development of Independence in a direction desired by the community. The Plan will focus on future land use, transportation, parks and open spaces, historic preservation and economic development. It will be completed over a span of two years focusing on small segments of the Plan at a time.

The City of Independence is currently working on the economic development and housing portions of the comprehensive plan. Economic development is vital to improve the quality and well-being of the City. A healthy economic environment will result in growth, stability, and attraction and retention of businesses resulting in private capital investments, increased employment opportunities and an increase and diversification of the local tax base.

One of the key aspects of developing a Comprehensive Plan is the public participation process. Your input will help city officials and planners gain an understanding of the wants, needs and desires of the citizens of Independence. The choices we make today will have a bearing on the future development of housing, retail, office and industrial space. Please help us to create a better Independence by taking the Economic Development survey below.

Your responses will be kept entirely confidential unless you choose to identify yourself as the respondent.

This survey is also available on-line at: www.indepmo.org/cpsurveypublic

1) What should the City's economic priorities be? Please rank your top four choices from 1 (*most preferred*) to 4 (*4th most preferred*).

- Attraction of new employment opportunities at all wage/salary levels
- Assist in the retention and expansion of core industries
- Revitalization of the Independence Square
- Redevelopment of existing commercial districts
- Redevelopment of abandoned or under-utilized office and industrial sites
- Workforce training programs that prepare residents for well paying jobs
- Development of incentives to attract businesses
- Development of new tourist attractions

2) What types of business or industry would you most like to see more of in Independence? Please rank your top four choices from 1 (*most preferred*) to 4 (*4th most preferred*).

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing | <input type="checkbox"/> Retail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Tech/ Data Centers | <input type="checkbox"/> Health/Medical |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Distribution centers | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional/division office headquarters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Agri-business |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Sciences | <input type="checkbox"/> Entrepreneurial/small business |

3) Looking ahead, how should the City of Independence best utilize its remaining undeveloped land in order to encourage economic development in the City? (**CHECK ONE**)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New industrial park developments | <input type="checkbox"/> New retail development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New business/office park developments | <input type="checkbox"/> Affordable single-family homes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Executive-style residential | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New mixed-use developments (combination of residential, retail and office) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> None; Focus only on redevelopment | |

4) Identify the most important roles the City should play in business and economic development?
Please rank your top three choices from 1 (*most preferred*) to 3 (*third most preferred*).

- Aggressively market commercial and industrial locations
- Assist with new business start-up
- Build relationships between businesses and government
- Develop favorable land use regulations for business development
- Encourage new business park development
- Provide incentives to attract and retain businesses
- Pursue redevelopment opportunities on available sites
- Extension of infrastructure including city-owned utilities to undeveloped areas

5) If you are employed, where do you work? (CIRCLE ONE)

- Independence
- Jackson County (outside of downtown Kansas City)
- Downtown Kansas City
- Kansas suburbs (Johnson or Wyandotte Counties)
- Elsewhere
- Retired or not currently employed

6) How long have you lived in Independence? (CIRCLE ONE)

- I do not live in Independence
- Less than one year
- 1-5 years
- 5-10 years
- More than 10 years

7) If you live in Independence, please tell us where you live.(CIRCLE ONE)(See map of Independence)

- Northwest
- Southwest
- Northeast
- Southeast

Return the completed survey by June 21, 2010 to Independence City Hall, the Sermon Center, Palmer Center, Fairmount Community Center, Mid-Continent Libraries, Mid-west Genealogy Library or Kansas City Public Library (Trails West Branch) or mail to: Community Development Dept., City of Independence, 111 E. Maple Ave., Independence, MO 64050.

Thank you for participating in the survey on Economic Development.

