



FINAL COMMITTEE REPORT
PRESENTED DECEMBER 12, 2022

VOCATIONAL EXPLANATION FOR YOUNG STUDENTS

EDUCATION

Community Vision

As part of the community desire to develop a suitable workforce, it was suggested that we introduce Grades 4-8 to various careers that allowed them to consider vocational education.

Desired Outcome

Early introduction to vocational education establishes a foundation for students actively considering their future career paths. The increased exposure to vocational education may drive their primary and secondary educational goals.

Potential Funding Sources

Current Educational Budgets
Grants
Philanthropic Avenues
Delta Regional Authority
Local/Regional Business and Industry

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Mayfield Independent School System
Graves County School System
Mayfield-Graves Co. Area Technology Center
WKCTC Diesel Technology Center and Skilled Craft Training Ctr.

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Broaden career exploration exposure in elementary and middle school students.
- ☐ Develop a logistics plan for hands-on demonstrations to 6th grade students to further develop their interest and exploration of business education, industry, and trades.
- ☐ Secure funding for possible summer camp for 7th-8th graders in different trade fields for an intense, one-on-one experience.
- ☐ Promote vocational training through community education/marketing campaigns.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Fall 2023 or Spring 2024 and ongoing
Summer camp plan 2024-2025 and ongoing

ESTIMATED COST

Field Trips Hands-on Experiences - min. cost
Summer Camp - \$120 per camper

The public input meetings identified a need to introduce students to career exploration at an earlier age. At younger ages students may be more open to developing interests in trades and ATC programs as well as post-secondary educational and training options.

Starting in 4th and 5th grades, students will be introduced to—and begin to understand—various career options in the trades fields. They may learn about vocational skills training through the Area Technology Center, monthly “Trade Days” where instructors, current ATC students and those currently employed in those fields, attend established events and provide a hands-on experience to local students. This can include speakers, field trips, and other experiences to increase interest. The cost for these experiences can be covered by an already established educational budget.

With older students, 6th, 7th and 8th grade students, a summer camp will be provided to allow for a more intense learning environment of the vocational educational offerings. These students would have more hands-on experiences as well as projects. Field trips to WKCTC’s Skilled Craft Training Center, the WKCTC Diesel Technology Center as well as the WKCTC campus in general. This would allow them to gain knowledge and experience as well as access to local and regional career opportunities in developing fields.

This provides a first-person experience for students that includes options outside of the standard four-year university path.

PROMOTION OF LOCAL SKILLED TRAINING CENTER

EDUCATION

Community Vision

Public input was straightforward with the idea of skilled trade training being offered locally. A key way to attract business and industry to our small western Kentucky town is to provide a workforce that is educated and trained in what those industries need.

Desired Outcome

High School students become aware of career choices and educational offerings available at the Skilled Craft Training Center; which in turn provides an alternative path of post-secondary education and skilled trade education with the potential local or regional employment.

Potential Funding Sources

Business and Industry
Grants
Non-profits

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Mayfield Independent School System
Graves County School System
Homeschool Coalitions and Programs
Mayfield-Graves Co. Area Technology Center
WKCTC Skilled Craft Training Center
Local/Regional Industry and Business

ACTION STEPS

- ❑ Partner with Educational Outreach at WKCTC to develop an awareness campaign
- ❑ Partner with local high school counselors to increase interest in WKCTC's Skilled Craft Training Center—including admission, programs, and financial aid available
- ❑ Work with local high school teachers to develop opportunities to showcase the Skilled Craft Training Center's programs and process.

Raising awareness of the local West Kentucky Community and Technical College's Skilled Craft Training Center is a way to help develop our workforce to better serve industry needs in the coming years. This, in turn, creates a desirable workforce for industries looking for a place to call home.

This project would directly connect the local educational sector with business and industry to coordinate needs and provide insight into what industry will look like in these student's life times by educating and preparing students for trade industry employment.

"After all, college is not the only path to a successful career," was a statement we heard many times. Since we have access to a Skilled Craft Training Center, we need to increase awareness of this facility and its post-secondary educational and training offerings.

As students are educated, we can encourage them or introduce them to an interest, in these paths. These introductions can lead not just to employment, but could become an entrepreneurial incubator where our youth are encouraged to explore a path they may not have previously considered. This in turn, creates a workforce that is desirable to industry and businesses looking for a place to land in the ever-competitive economic development arena. This is an obvious opportunity to collaborate with the Business Committee's Makers Space.

This project allows students to enter the workforce faster, bumping our economy in a very positive manner. In addition, this project encourages our youth to stay local and to help grow our community.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

2023-24 School Year with ongoing development

ESTIMATED COST

Minimal cost anticipated

Community Vision

Continuing with the community's desire to develop a workforce that is sustainable to business and industry by helping community members develop the soft skills necessary to be successful in both employment and life in general.

Desired Outcome

Community members, including local students, will be able to expand skill sets through school-based and/or community based educational opportunities that will improve their personal and professional lives.

Potential Funding Sources

Grants
Non-Profits

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Mayfield Independent School System
Graves County School System
Local/Regional Business and Industry
Graves County Extension Office

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Work with both local school systems to establish contacts with life-skill instructors.
- ☐ Partner with local organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce; GCED; West KY Workforce Development; and others that benefit from a well-rounded workforce.
- ☐ Survey community members for needs and interests for continuing education.
- ☐ Partner with schools and other organizations for the development of a soft-skills Academy.

Community input in our public meetings indicated a need for life skill education beginning at the middle school level and continuing to community members at-large. Life skill education, such as financial awareness; food and nutrition; family and consumer sciences; resume writing skills; and general communication skills are offered in our schools as electives and are not required subjects. Classes may bring in speakers from financial institutions to talk about financial literacy—opening and operating a bank account and the importance of saving; human resource personnel that help with resume writing skills; and other general soft-skill education. We can increase the awareness of community education classes that include cooking, sewing, gardening and employee soft skills through better marketing campaigns and being sure

classes are offered at convenient times for non-traditional students.

Partnerships with local business and industry where students are given the opportunity to shadow a career would allow students to see why soft-skills are important. Creating a Soft-Skills Academy within the school systems would increase the opportunity for students to learn etiquette and manners—and why they matter; the appropriateness of greetings (handshakes, etc.); making eye contact; appropriate dress (including tying a tie and interview dressing); and how to correctly record personal expenditures to maintain checking balances and paying debts, understanding time management, developing organizational skills. All of these things create a personal ability to be successful in not just employment, but in life in general.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Immediately to several months

ESTIMATED COST

Minimal Cost

Community Vision

The Business Committee received many “sticky notes” requesting support for small businesses and entrepreneurs. Our community wants a way for people to experiment with ideas. We want to build our businesses back by feeding our imaginations.

Desired Outcome

We will construct a maker's space to support crafts people, hobbyists; and trades for citizens to learn, develop and further their skills in a collaborative workshop setting. This will generate new small business ideas and engage young entrepreneurs in a setting where they can advance their talents and ideas.

Potential Funding Sources

Red Cross
Community Businesses
EDA
Non-Profits
Long-Term Recovery Groups

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Graves County Economic Development
Mayfield/Graves County Chamber of Commerce
City of Mayfield
Local Businesses and Industry
Purchase Area Development District

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Conduct survey to gauge community's areas of interest
- ☐ Identify a location
- ☐ Submit initial funding grant to Red Cross
- ☐ Determine operating costs and management source
- ☐ Secure an architect
- ☐ Purchase equipment

Without a doubt, one of our citizens' biggest concerns is rebuilding Mayfield and Graves County with new businesses and industry. We are doing our best to see the events of December 10, 2021 as the turning of a new page in the life of our community. A Maker's Space is the ideal project to foster this idea.

Creating a collaborative space where ideas can be explored and defined in a way that gives them life in a profitable manner and that allows interaction between citizens. We see benefits for all of our community—businesses interested in new technologies; hobbyists wondering if an idea could be profitable; artists trying mediums new to them—benefitting from a space that allows them to experiment before committing funds and resources.

A Maker's Space could be a draw regionally as well as a showcase project for our community as a way to grow industry and business.

The business committee met regularly for over 3 months and identified potential components of the proposed Makers Space. A site in the core area of Mayfield has been identified and a grant application to the Red Cross is underway for the first stages of the project.

The costs will include the building, equipment, engineering and architectural design as well as part-time employees and project implementation.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

December of 2023

ESTIMATED COST

\$1,500,000

Community Vision

Promoting local small businesses will not only help support current businesses but will encourage other companies to locate in a community where they can thrive.

Desired Outcome

Buying locally supports a strong and resilient local business community and prevents dollars from leaving the city. This project will increase the ability to have more business and service offerings.

Potential Funding Sources

Local businesses

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Mayfield-Graves County Chamber of Commerce
Murray State University Center for Economic and
Entrepreneurial Development
Murray State University Business Department

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Gather data on the impacts of money that leaves the community to illustrate the effects of “economic leakage”.
- ☐ Seek support from local university to develop a Shop Local marketing plan.
- ☐ Contact local businesses to create short video promotions for podcasts and use on social media.
- ☐ Create campaign kit to be distributed to local businesses including posters and other supporting materials.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Less than a year

ESTIMATED COST

Minimal Cost

Many small locally-owned businesses face challenges with rebuilding and managing disaster recovery. These businesses support the wider local economy and community. It's an excellent opportunity to see new businesses continue to open and prosper. In turn, thriving independent businesses can help boost the prices of homes and properties within the area.

Multiple studies show that these small businesses reinvest in the local economy at a higher rate than chains do. For every \$100 spent at one of these businesses, for example, \$68 stays in the community.

Local businesses support good work in our community. “Studies show that nonprofits receive 250 percent more support from small businesses than large ones.”

This project can be implemented through local organizations, such as the Chamber of Commerce and in partnership with students/ interns at local universities by developing a marketing campaign.

Some ideas may be - producing short videos highlighting local businesses and testimonials by customers that can be used as podcasts, intense social media campaign, billboard, print, radio and tv advertising. Other events, contests and promotions can help to encourage the community to support their neighbors to invest more into Mayfield and Graves County.

Community Vision

Input from Mayfield and Graves County Citizens voiced concerns about options our community members have for staying healthy. Their expressed desire is to create a resource data base that is easily accessible to all where community members can find what they need as their needs evolve.

Desired Outcome

All community members will benefit from having access to a current list of available health resources. This data base could include not just physical resources, as in agencies, but also lists of local parks and activities that help to foster safety and health.

Potential Funding Sources

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Jackson Purchase Medical Center
Graves County Health Dept.

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Gather information on current health/mental health providers
- ☐ Gather information on current support groups in the area
- ☐ Design a data base to be updated on a regular basis and include in an online format
- ☐ Promote availability of resource guide through healthcare providers, social media and other outlets

It is vitally important after such a terrifying event as the December 10, 2021, tornado that community members have access to support in whatever area they deem necessary. The aftermath of an event that threatened our very lives often exacerbates problems that existed previously. While many support groups meet locally, such as Alcoholics Anonymous; Al-Anon; Grief Support groups; and others, knowing where and how to reach those groups may prove difficult.

The maintenance of the page will be updated by local hospital personnel, though it may require some work from community members to stay up to date on local support groups. The committee sees this page as also including lists of parks and green spaces available as we want it to encourage community members to engage with nature as a mental health positive. More than just a page listing resources, we want it to be a page of encouragement. Perhaps with a tip of the day for both our physical and mental health.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Short-term project within one year

ESTIMATED COST

Minimal cost anticipated

Since our local hospital is in the beta process of designing a web page that planned to include local resources, now is the time to make sure we join this effort. If the page is already planned to be in the design, it can easily be adjusted to make it broader and community oriented.

SUPPORT INITIATIVE FOR ACCESSIBILITY

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Community Vision

Members of the Health and Welfare committee addressed concerns for identifying public spaces that need to be accessible for people with disabilities, such as sidewalks and green spaces.

Desired Outcome

Everyone should have the right to fully participate in community life, including, dining in public restaurants, shopping, enjoying community park facilities, as well as many other aspects of community involvement. An effort should be made to highlight areas that were not accessible pre-tornado, as well as ensuring all ADA guidelines are followed for newly developed areas.

Potential Funding Sources

Grants
Non-profits
Local and National Organizations

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Jackson Purchase Medical Center
Graves County Health Dept.
Get Fit Graves

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Identify areas that need to be more accessible
- ☐ Collaborate with other groups interested in creating ADA compatible facilities and infrastructure
- ☐ Seek funding for meeting the needs of those with mental and physical disabilities

In order to recover from the disaster of 2021, much of the city of Mayfield will need to be rebuilt. This committee recognizes that this is the time to address some of the existing problems that people with disabilities have faced here. Making public spaces and facilities physically accessible for people with disabilities also makes them more accessible for people who may not have disabilities, including families with baby strollers, skateboarders, and bicycle riders. Paths, streets and sidewalks, are all public ways. Accessibility here may involve curb cuts or ramps and traffic signals that can be both heard and seen.

According to the Center for Disease Control, 26% of adults in the United States have disabilities. Raising awareness and obtaining funding through grants and other means would improve the quality of life of our residents who need better accessibility.

By collaborating with those who design, construct, and inspect buildings and public spaces, and educate them about the needs of people with disabilities, they will be more likely to ensure accessibility in their projects and follow all ADA guidelines. Forming an advisory committee and working with other established groups, our disabled citizens can be better served.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Ongoing

ESTIMATED COST

Undetermined

Community Vision

The inclusion of more green space in the city benefits recreational needs, as well as overall health and well-being.

Desired Outcome

Parks and trails can promote physical activity and community engagement and provide both environmental and mental health benefits. When well designed, parks have been shown to reduce stress and foster community interaction.

Potential Funding Sources

Grants
Non-profits
Local civic organizations

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Jackson Purchase Medical Center
Graves County Health Dept.
National Park Service

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Coordinate efforts with other groups designing concepts for parks
- ☐ Design fitness tracks and trails, open space for physical activities and meditation gardens to promote good mental health
- ☐ Seek funding for providing health components to green spaces

After the disaster of December, 2021, many people are suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Recreational activities are being folded into treatment plans, as they can be an effective prescription to enhance physical, mental, social and emotional health through activities. Recreational therapy provides additional coping mechanisms related to stress by lowering levels of anxiety. Providing social opportunities can create a sense of community.

“Parks are restorative in nature and another healthy coping mechanism for those with PTSD, for both mind and body.” National Park Service

Studies by environmental psychologists show that visual exposure to nature, in the form of trees, grass and flowers, can effectively reduce stress.

Encouraging physical activity will benefit the citizens of Mayfield and will promote:

- Physical wellbeing through physical activity and fresh air.
- Mental wellbeing through stress reduction and attention restoration.
- Social wellbeing through social integration, engagement and participation.

By providing health and fitness information and other means of support to the groups that are developing green spaces in the city, this committee can offer expertise and funding avenues to help promote the health benefits of well designed parks.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Long range - 3 years or more

ESTIMATED COST

To be determined

FARMERS' MARKET

ARTS & RECREATION, QUALITY OF LIFE

Community Vision

Creating a spot for community gatherings that as its anchor provides a Farmers' Market Pavilion was a direct request from our citizens.

Desired Outcome

Providing an avenue for local/regional farmers and artisans to showcase locally grown and made goods would allow an opportunity for community gathering as well.

Potential Funding Sources

Graves County Fiscal Court
City of Mayfield
Hometown Strong Charitable Initiative
KY Department of Agriculture

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Hometown Improvement Project
Graves Fiscal Court
City of Mayfield

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Further Secure HIP funding from Hometown Strong Charitable Initiative
- ☐ Grant development from KY Department of Agriculture
- ☐ Develop Staffing and Maintenance Plan through Parks and Recreation
- ☐ Work with current land owner to facilitate sale of land

Graves County needs an avenue for our local farmers to share their goods with our community and a consistent place where they purchase fresh produce and seek the knowledge of the area's agricultural experts. A group of concerned citizens recognized the value of a facility to serve these needs in 2018 and started the ball rolling, seeking funding and support.

The Hometown Improvement Project has partnered with Mayfield Rebuilds and committee volunteers worked with the Mayfield Urban Planning Team to select an optimal site for the Farmer's Market project. The opportunities for a covered market place can be expanded to include offerings by local artists and musicians, as well as a central point for special events and festivals.

Hometown Improvement Project has identified a site near the community center proposed by a local church, that would allow a coordinated design of the two facilities. These projects will complement each other and create a space utilized by the entire community. They will also bring a complete campus of revitalization to the downtown core of Mayfield in the soon to be designed cultural district.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

2023 and ongoing

ESTIMATED COST

\$940,000

COMMUNITY CENTER

ARTS & RECREATION, QUALITY OF LIFE

Community Vision

Community stated they would like to see a centralized community center that offers ongoing services that fill in the gaps for long term needs.

Desired Outcome

The focus of the community center is to become the hub for community engagement, public youth services, family enrichments and non-profit collaboration, as well as a recreational facility.

Potential Funding Sources

Grants
Philanthropic Efforts

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Kentucky Care Healthcare Services
Local non-profits
Catalyst Community Center
Local School Districts
Graves Co. Court System

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Search for answers to funding
- ☐ Collaboration with community development partners
- ☐ Finalize architectural design

As of December 10, 2021, the quality of life for Mayfield-Graves County residents changed forever. No one knew where to go to get help or what to do next. The vital need for a centralized community space became apparent.

A variety of long term needs will be met by this community center. Plans to include a community kitchen will provide food security for families and a gymnasium provides recreational opportunities while also serving as a storm shelter. Partnering with Kentucky Care Health Services will provide emergency clinical space onsite. The community center will increase community capacity by providing meeting space for long term recovery efforts, encouraging healthy lifestyles and a centralized location for local non-profits to gather.

The establishment of a central space is needed due to the lack of public transportation and the confusion surrounding relocation of service agencies resulting from the tornado. The services provided are comprehensive and include:

Youth services, including child care
Daily meal program
Community event center
Substance abuse recovery programs
Family enrichment programs
Gymnasium for recreational opportunities

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Long-term, 3 - 5 years

ESTIMATED COST

\$9,950,000

FOOD TRUCK PARK

ARTS & RECREATION, QUALITY OF LIFE

Community Vision

In response to the community's request for 'more to do' and places to gather, creating an area to serve as a food truck park and/or outdoor event facility for festivals would answer these requests.

Desired Outcome

To develop a permanent space with utilities available for food trucks to park and other vendors to set up for special events and festivals.

Potential Funding Sources

Grants
Non-profits

Community Partners and Stakeholders

City of Mayfield
Purchase Players
UK School of Architecture

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Review zoning requirements and health department regulations
- ☐ Take inventory of food trucks doing business in the region. Survey their desire to locate in the food truck park
- ☐ Discuss other desired uses of the area
- ☐ Identify potential sites
- ☐ Design a plan for the property
- ☐ Seek funding
- ☐ Acquire Land

Studies have shown that food trucks help to create vibrant public space in a variety of ways. Because they're pedestrian-oriented, they bring more feet onto the street, which can lead to more foot traffic for brick and mortar businesses as well.

As the food truck phenomenon continues to spread, communities realize the benefits of providing a centralized area to bring food trucks to where people gather. Offering affordable food, supporting local businesses and bringing in tax revenues are not the only benefits to these areas. By offering a diverse cultural experience to outdoor events, the community can be enriched.

By placing a food truck/vendor space in the cultural district, festivals and events can be easily served. Utility hook ups, trash cans, picnic tables, pavillions and play areas can be provided to enhance the atmosphere. A stage for live music and entertainment could eventually be added.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

2 - 3 years

ESTIMATED COST

Cost to be determined

Community Vision

Input from community members was clear—they needed—and wanted to take this opportunity to improve the housing situation in our town. The majority of housing units destroyed or damaged were rental units, and nearly all were occupied by our neighbors whose incomes fell from just above to well below our Area Median Income (AMI).

Desired Outcome

To have available, affordable housing that ensures every citizen in our community, regardless of economic status, has good choices in where they live. We believe that high-quality, affordable housing will change lives and transform our community.

Potential Funding Sources

KY Housing low interest bond funds
Low Income Housing Tax Credit financing (LITECH)
CDBG-DR Grants
Local Banks and Credit Unions
USDA-Federal Home Loan Bank Board

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Local Mayfield/Graves County Board of Realtors
Housing Partnerships Inc (HPI)
Community Ventures
Mayfield Housing Authority
City and County Government

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Acquire housing market study
- ☐ Identify project champions to guide local government in ways to incentivize creation of affordable housing developments
- ☐ Guide local, regional, and national developers to select good sites and provide attractive amenities
- ☐ Be creative in ways to use State and Federal resources to provide pathways to home ownership.

On December 10, 2021, over 400 homes were totally destroyed in Mayfield. A total of 1100 homes were damaged, most of them low to moderate income housing, many uninhabitable. Already above the national average in rental housing (64% of housing was rentals as opposed to 35% being the national average), our community realized our housing situation was in crisis and the tornado could be an opportunity to address the issue.

The Housing Committee of Mayfield Rebuilds immediately recognized a new and more focused need after the storm. Our efforts are being directed in the following areas:

- Scattered site development of single-family homes for rental transitioning to home ownership opportunities. This creates an opportunity to spread tornado funds throughout the community and lift our entire housing stock beyond just decent/safe/sanitary.

- Good quality multi-family development for those who prefer to rent- focused on our elderly and disabled population.
- New employment opportunities will create even more demand for housing-employers may consider employer assisted housing options.
- Leveraging the substantial funds available within the KY DLG outlined plan for the allocation of the CDBG- DR funds for substantial rehab of the existing housing stock including build-back on vacant lots.

The housing committee has been researching many avenues for help. A recently completed housing study will bring insight into the needs of our area. Statewide non-profits who have experience and resources to bring projects with sufficient scale have been contacted. Discussions are taking place with regional and national developers of multi-tenant units to serve LMI households, as well as Section 8 vouchers including newly reassigned or acquired project-based vouchers.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

On-Going. Many devastated communities are still rebuilding 10 years post-devastation.

ESTIMATED COST

Unknown. Local government contributions could be project specific, including infrastructure extensions and tax abatement.

Community Vision

To create a transportation system that moves vehicle and pedestrian traffic in Mayfield and that enhances the urban core for all and provide underground utilities where feasible

Desired Outcome

Redesigning traffic flow from the existing one-way couplet to two-way streets, will cause slower and safer speeds, and will enhance the redevelopment of the urban core

Potential Funding Sources

State and Federal transportation funds
Other Grants

Community Partners and Stakeholders

City of Mayfield
Mayfield Planning and Zoning Board
Graves County

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Complete the master planning process for the urban core
- ☐ City Council adoption of the proposed DROP zone and Design Guidelines
- ☐ Evaluate rights-of-way to determine if additional land is needed for planned streets and sidewalks that form the urban streetscape
- ☐ Seek funding to initiate development, in partnership with private development

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Long range - 3-5 years

ESTIMATED COST

To be determined

How transportation and public access are addressed, may be the single most important issue of the ultimate success of rebuilding Mayfield. The committee believes that with the changes identified in here, in conjunction with the updates to the zoning ordinance and design guidelines, Mayfield will be provided with the tools it needs to restore the vibrant downtown we once had and think we can and will have again.

The Transportation and Utilities Committee focused most of its efforts on street transportation and sidewalks, recognizing streets and sidewalks are an integral portion of the urban environment. Eventually, the committee merged with the Design and Rebuild Committee, recognizing the topics are so interrelated.

Many studies have shown that businesses are more successful on two-way streets than on one-way streets. On-street parking and pedestrian-scale lighting will promote more use of the sidewalks and enhance the ability of new businesses to thrive in the downtown mixed-use core area that Mayfield Rebuilds desires.

Underground utilities were a popular request by the public. While the expense is much greater, benefits to burying utility services would include a higher degree of resiliency and would be more aesthetically pleasing

Other streets in Mayfield need to be addressed, as well. Removing the massive amounts of debris has wreaked havoc on sidewalks, curbs, gutters and pavement.

Community Vision

Suggestions from the community included expanding the downtown area with a uniform and timeless look, remove one-way streets and create a multi-use, livable and walkable city.

Desired Outcome

By identifying and designating districts in the downtown, better quality design can be achieved. Design Guidelines will promote better quality construction for all new construction in the area. These areas can be promoted as a destination for shopping, music and cultural events. Wayfinding signage will encourage visitors to move throughout the city and explore different areas.

Potential Funding Sources

Federal and State Transportation Funding
Grants

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Local, State and National Tourism Boards
City of Mayfield

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Consult with design professional for design concepts
- ☐ Identify locations for wayfinding signage
- ☐ Secure funding for signage, streetscapes
- ☐ Promote districts and encourage development

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Long-term, 3 plus years

ESTIMATED COST

To be determined

The Rebuild and Design committee met weekly to discuss our vision for a 'new' Mayfield. We quickly realized there are many areas in and around the downtown that could be revitalized to serve common interests. While the tornado took a direct shot at the core of the city, the opportunity to rethink the uses for several different spaces became apparent.

By implementing zones for development, we can plan the uses and create design concepts for each district. Encouraging like businesses and services in a district provides additional traffic. Some of the districts that have been identified include;

Arts and Culture district - the area has already been defined by the local theatre group - Purchase Players. Locating other buildings that serve the arts in this area will increase traffic to all.

Entertainment district - known as Tobacco Town - this area lends itself to music and eating venues. Several streets still are brick adding to the ambience for outdoor seating. Commerce district - when the tornado destroyed the courtsquare, only one block was available for rebuilding businesses. In order for our town to grow, more space would be needed. Several blocks north of the previous downtown had also been wiped clean, allowing for a new business district to be developed. Governmental district - the area around the courthouse can continue to house governmental buildings, such as the county courthouse and city hall.

Along with designating these areas, wayfinding signage will help people find their way to these destinations.

Community Vision

Citizens are looking for ways to rebuild their hometown to better serve their population in a more comprehensive manner. A place to gather and enjoy a sense of community was a common theme.

Desired Outcome

Creating a peaceful and beautiful park near the new concept of a downtown/commercial area will help to improve the quality of life for a majority of people.

Potential Funding Sources

Local non-profits
Grants
Jackson Purchase Medical Center

Community Partners and Stakeholders

National Park Service
City of Mayfield
Local School Systems
Civic Organizations
Art Guild
Churches

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Identify potential properties for acquisition
- ☐ Seek funding and acquire property
- ☐ Obtain plans to address local needs
- ☐ Seek input from local organizations such as civic groups and school groups to help with implementation
- ☐ Work with health organizations to provide physical and mental wellness in the park

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Long term - 3 plus years

ESTIMATED COST

To be determined

By locating a park near the proposed 'Tobacco Town' district, this can provide a greenspace that connects the new downtown core area to existing neighborhoods and proposed higher density affordable housing developments. Many aspects of our community's desires can be met by creating a beautiful outdoor area in what has been a blighted and underutilized portion of our town.

1. Therapeutic Activities - Experiencing nature brings several benefits, including physical exercise, a place to gather for social interaction and mental health healing. Following the frightening evening of Dec. 10, 2021, many citizens of Mayfield will be suffering the effects of PTSD for years to come. Programs, activities and a meditation garden can help reduce the effects of stress and anxiety.

2. Cultural Significance - Artists can exhibit custom pieces throughout and the history of "Tobacco Town" could be incorporated into the design of the park. The existing grain bins could be repurposed to house a museum to commemorate the resilience of our people, honor those lost during the storm and share our diversity as a community.

3. Educational Opportunities - When children are exposed to the outdoors they develop a love and respect for nature and all that is living. Many things can be learned in a park, such as, identifying plants, learning about pollinators and bird watching.

4. Social Interaction - Those neighborhoods that are within walking distance of this area are made up of smaller homes. A local park would provide a space for those families to gather together when their homes are not large enough.

TREE PLANTING CAMPAIGN

REBUILD AND DESIGN

Community Vision

Estimates state that 70% - 80% of the urban tree canopy was destroyed due to the tornado. A massive tree planting campaign is imperative.

Desired Outcome

Restore trees and other plant materials to the affected areas, as well as in other parts of the city. Engage local youth groups and civic organizations in a grass roots approach to beautify the community.

Potential Funding Sources

Grants
Graves County Extension Office
Forestry Service
Arbor Foundation
Local Nurseries

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Graves County FFA Chapter and Ag Dept.
Graves JROTC
Local Civic and Garden Clubs

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Engage organizations to volunteer their services in determining areas where trees can be planted and provide labor
- ☐ Find sources for donated trees
- ☐ Organize community events to plant trees

While the tornado destroyed homes and businesses, it also obliterated trees and foliage in its path. Replacing this green material is important, not only to improve the visual landscape, but for the long term health of the community.

An urban canopy helps to reduce the effects of a heat island being created. Shade generated by mature trees can reduce temperatures by up to 15 degrees. The longevity of hard surfaces, such as buildings, roofs, and asphalt can be increased by many years when not directly exposed to the sun.

Foliage helps to absorb harmful substances in the air, thus helping to improve human health. Trees and plantings provide buffers for noises and habitat for wildlife.

Tree-lined streets draw more people and increases the walkability of an area.

While trees are mostly beneficial, care must be given to choosing the right tree for the right place. Studies will need to be conducted to find the most appropriate and natural species for our region.

A tree planting campaign is an excellent opportunity to engage local students in becoming involved in their community. School groups such as Future Farmers of America could be engaged to help with all aspects of this project, especially providing labor for planting and maintaining the new trees.

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Spring 2023

ESTIMATED COST

Minimal Cost

RELOCATE DOWNTOWN CORE

Community Vision

The public had several suggestions for new and varied businesses as well as inviting places to shop. Better traffic flow by eliminating one way streets was mentioned.

Desired Outcome

By expanding the downtown area, more space can be utilized for future growth. The core area can be designed to serve the needs of a changing population by increasing the walkability, offering a more connected commerce area and offering multi-use business and residential buildings.

REBUILD AND DESIGN

Potential Funding Sources

State and Federal Transportation Funding
Grants

Community Partners and Stakeholders

City of Mayfield
Mayfield Planning and Zoning Board

ACTION STEPS

- ☐ Update zoning and design guidelines for new DROP (Damage Recovery Overlay Precinct) zone
- ☐ Complete master plan
- ☐ Contact transportation department
- ☐ Seek funding for street beautification, lighting, benches, green space
- ☐ Promote downtown as a destination to draw visitors and new residents

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

Long range 3-5 years

ESTIMATED COST

To Be Determined

The tornado ripped through the heart of downtown Mayfield destroying the historic commerce and central business district. While this was a devastating blow, opportunity awaits.

Over the years, the courtsquare of downtown Mayfield has dwindled to only one block being utilized as small businesses. With the citizens asking for downtown to be revitalized and increase the number of businesses, it was apparent that the boundaries needed to be extended. By working with the transportation committee, an area just North of the square was identified. Bordered by State Highway 45 (7th & 8th St.) and also being a blank slate after the storm makes this location perfect for a new commerce district creating opportunities to utilize transportation monies for streetscape improvements and underground utilities.

The rebuild and design committee took a deep look at other communities to determine what they would want for our city - vibrance, charm, walkability and connectivity to people were all mentioned.

By working with the design professional hired by the city, a plan is being formulated to address streetscape improvements, wider sidewalks to allow for outdoor activities and pedestrians, better parking options, lighting, benches and landscaping. Traffic flow can be changed to two way, slowing drivers which has been proven to increase business. Green spaces are being incorporated in the plan with design guidelines and zoning being implemented.

The new DROP zone will promote mixed uses and a greater diversity of uses in the core area.

Community Vision

Mission Statement

Mayfield Rebuilds is dedicated to devising a blueprint for rebuilding a city devastated by disaster; we will recognize, value, and empower all voices in our community to craft the foundation of a vibrant city guided by a small-town sense of community. We will strive to honor our history while creating a brighter future for all as we work together to realize our collective vision for the City of Mayfield.

Mayfield Rebuilds has led a focused effort to reach out to its citizens for input in how to not only recover what was destroyed but to outline a plan to enhance Mayfield for generations to come.

Desired Outcome

Volunteers have spent countless hours planning and researching the best ways to serve our community in the recovery process. Mayfield Rebuilds has identified projects that will provide a foundation for growth and development. Their goal has been to help Mayfield come back bigger, better and stronger from the disaster.

Moving forward, these dedicated members of the seven committees formed under the umbrella of Mayfield Rebuilds are committed to becoming project champions and continuing the journey to create a vibrant, successful community where future generations can thrive.

Mayfield Rebuilds and the community have demonstrated the drive and dedication needed for long-term recovery. Moving forward, this drive and dedication will be essential in the implementation of the recovery projects. The project champions that support the next steps of the key recovery projects will need support.

Suggestions for Next Steps

1. Appoint recovery steering group or taskforce

By developing a group of concerned and invested individuals comprised of city officials and project champions to push projects forward, find funding sources and report progress, the long journey to recovery can be achieved.

Activities of the committee can include:

- Coordination of regular meetings to maintain momentum.
- Recruitment of volunteers to support project champions.
- Prioritize projects.
- Designate accountability requirements.

2. Designate a recovery coordinator

A recovery coordinator would be the point of contact for project champions and the committee. Some of the tasks that could be supported by this position are: arranging all meetings, providing technical support, answering questions concerning the recovery efforts and reporting to the city council.

MAYFIELD REBUILDS

3. Research recovery methods

Other communities have walked this path before. Early in the disaster, information from towns such as Joplin, Mo. was vital to our efforts. Consulting with city officials and other stakeholders from towns who have suffered similar incidents such as, Greensburg, KS and West Liberty, KY could be a valuable resource for direction.

4. Create a comprehensive list of funding sources

The success or failure of our recovery will depend on which projects can be funded. All efforts should be made to comprise a list of potential funding opportunities. Holding a local funding roundtable could help identify civic groups, churches and other charities that are willing to help implement this plan. State and Federal government sources should be contacted.

5. Identify and establish partnerships

Forming alliances and partnerships can increase any project's success. Partnerships, especially public-private ones, can maximize funding, capacity building and other opportunities.

Seeking support from universities that have offered guidance in specific areas, such as:

- Architectural design - UK School of Archit.
- Planning and zoning - Texas A&M
- Long-term recovery - Texas A&M
- Business and economic development - Murray State University

This project guide is a portion of a recovery plan to be presented Spring 2023. For questions or remarks, please email:

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www.mayfieldrebuilds.com