

Milltown Public Meeting #3 March 11, 2024

Meeting Summary

The project team facilitated the third public meeting for the Milltown Comprehensive Plan, part of the Harrison County Town Planning Initiative, on March 11, 2024. The meeting occurred at Milltown Town Hall at 215 West Main Street in Milltown, Indiana. The meeting was attended by two TSWDG members, the Milltown Town Council, two Milltown staff members, a member of the Harrison County Community Foundation, and several other residents of Milltown. The purpose of the meeting was to present a final draft of the big ideas and a draft of the high priority catalyst initiatives from the Milltown Comprehensive Plan to the community.

Attendees -

- Five members of the Milltown Town Council
- Two Milltown Staff Members
- One member of the Harrison County Community Foundation
- 11 community members
- Hailey Roark TSWDG
- Matt Pytel TSWDG

Overview and Discussion

The project team prepared two boards and two handouts to share at the meeting. The first board presents a second draft of the Milltown Comprehensive Plan's big ideas. There are 17 big ideas divided among six topics: Placemaking, Parks and Recreation, Land Use, Utilities, Transportation, and Economic Development. The big ideas under each topic were narrowed down to nine high priority catalyst initiatives. The catalyst initiatives were presented under their respective topics on the second board.

The first handout was simply a smaller version of the first board with the plan's big ideas. The second handout was a list of the nine catalyst initiatives accompanied with in-depth descriptions. Each initiative had a strategy, description, a list of action steps, a list of partners, and additional tools or resources for the town to use as they follow through with the strategies.

These items were used to facilitate a conversation on whether the proposed catalyst initiatives were actually high priority initiatives for Milltown. The town council and community members agreed on most of the big ideas and catalyst initiatives. However, they had comments for a few of them. A summary of these comments is listed below.

Catalyst Initiative 6

Supports the **Broadband** Big Idea

Utilities Strategy 4.1 – Collaborate with Harrison County and Crawford County to improve access to quality broadband service in Milltown.

One community member shared with the TSWDG project team that broadband service in Milltown is slowly improving. Broadband projects are moving forward to benefit Milltown and the surrounding area by providing the infrastructure and opportunity for improved service. Some of the community members and two Town Council members nodded their heads in agreement.

Utilities Big Idea 2

Wastewater Capacity: Document the capacity of the local wastewater management plant and assess the future need for system upgrades.

One community member shared with the TSWDG project team that Milltown's current wastewater plant is fairly new. The Town Council supported this by sharing some information on the wastewater plant. The facility was intentionally constructed with a high capacity to handle future growth. It was constructed roughly three years ago and is expected to last 50 years before major updates are needed. Therefore, capacity is great and this big idea may be targeting the wrong piece of infrastructure. According to the Milltown Council, the current water and wastewater lines and mains will need general maintenance and upgrades. Ensuring appropriate access to funding for maintenance projects would be helpful in the future.