

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Do You Care About Garnett? Attend April 15 First Impressions Town Hall Meeting

Every citizen, or person who calls Garnett their “home”, is encouraged to attend the First Impressions Town Hall Meeting. Nancy Daniels, Director of the First Impressions Program for K-State Research and Extension will reveal the results from volunteer visitors who recently came to Garnett to give their feedback on their first impression. The City of Garnett invites you to attend to listen, observe and give your own feedback. This meeting is meant to create a forum for discussion on how our community is perceived, and where does we collectively go from here to create a community of pride.

The public meeting for the reveal will be held on Monday, April 15th, 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall Center, 125 W. 5th Avenue. Refreshments will be served.

The First Impressions team that visited Garnett in March were asked to give a report to include:

- Pre-visit web search. How easy or difficult was it to obtain information about Garnett, schools, businesses, etc.?
- Five-Minute Impression: Initial drive through town; give your reaction.
- Downtown Business Area – Appearance of buildings, signage, infrastructure, etc.
- Customer service when visiting retail businesses.
- Amenities – drinking fountains, benches, public restrooms, trash receptacles, wi-fi.
- Landscaping and streetscaping. How was finding parking?
- Describe other retail shopping areas.
- Industrial Parks and Commercial Areas. Were they easy to locate?
- Health Care Services – Availability, quality of hospitals and emergency medical services.
- Condition of facilities for physicians, dentists, optometrists and public health providers.
- Housing – Is there available housing to appeal to all income wages? What challenges do you see?
- What kind of rental properties for persons interested in building or simply living in the community prior to buying housing?
- Schools – What is available. Do they appear adequate in size and are they well maintained? Were you able to find online information about the quality of the educational system?
- Childcare – What services are available? Affordable?
- Faith/Religion – Is there a number of denominations? Did you observe any evidence of church-sponsored community services?
- Civic – See any visuals of non profit organizations and clubs in the community?
- Public Infrastructure – Comment on general streets, street signs, sidewalks, parking, lighting, streetscapes other than downtown.
- Comment on city/town hall. How were you received? Was there information about the town available?
- Library.
- Police/Fire protection.
- Recreation/Tourism – Is the community well-known for any particular attraction or event? Do they have a community slogan that capitalizes on that asset? Was there indication of significant events,

significant natural or manmade features (public art, museums, lakes, campgrounds, etc.)? Visitors center or Chamber of Commerce to serve needs of visitors?

- Restaurants, specialty shops, attractions – Are there any that would bring you back to the community in the future?
- Wrap-up comments: Positives, obstacles and challenges. What will you remember most from your visit?

Again, everyone is invited and encouraged to attend this very important community meeting. For more information visit www.simplygarnett.com or contact Julie Turnipseed, Anderson County Economic Development at 785-448-5496, Option 5.

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First Impressions

April 15, 2019

7:00 p.m.

Town Hall Center
125 W. 5th Avenue
Garnett, KS

*How does a
First-Time
Visitor
View Our
Community?*

A Tool for Vital Communities

“First Impressions” is a program of K-State Research and Extension.

The purpose is to help communities learn about existing strengths and weaknesses through the eyes of visitor. The results from a “First Impressions” visit can serve as the basis for community action.

For More Information Contact:

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