

Coffee with the Mayor

Ser 41 (25-15) Where are we going?

In a previous Coffee with the Mayor, I mentioned the Economic Development Plan completed in calendar 2015. This plan was completed by a joint effort contracted with SDG Planning & Research and Banning Engineering. This plan, coupled with the Comprehensive Plan completed in 2014, provided a lot of background, demographics, and recommendations. The Economic Development Plan was fairly extensive with next steps and timelines. The first time I was aware of this plan was when I found it in a closet in the mayor's office. It was my understanding the plan was briefed at a community meeting. That said, there are several things in the plan that are still relevant and some that are not. I felt it was time to establish an update to the plan. Banning Engineering was contacted and provided an estimate and process to prepare an Economic Development plan in partnerships with Manns Consulting, which they have labeled a Strategic Action Plan.

Their approach was to establish two meetings from which they would obtain input from community members. Their research would update demographics and look at the 2015 plan as a baseline. An additional part of the process was to distribute a survey across the community to obtain a broader input that would go into preparing the plan. The first of two meetings has been held with the second one scheduled. The deliverable is to produce a comprehensive Strategic Action plan based on community input. Once that is provided, a second, condensed version will be made available. All too often, economic development, or strategic, plans benefit the few that provided input with the actual plan eventually collecting dust in a closet. Few know about it and fewer have actually seen it. The intent is to make this upcoming plan more widely known with an executive summary distributed to the community.

I've asked for input on several topics in previous coffee articles and, unfortunately, did not receive a response.

Your voice matters! Please share your valuable insights to help shape the future of our community. Your feedback is essential and will directly inform the **Linton Strategic Action Plan**, guiding our efforts for years to come.

To take the survey and make your voice heard, please click the following link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LintonStrategicActionPlan2025>. You can also copy and paste the link into your web browser. All responses must be submitted by **September 5th** to be included in the planning process. Thank you for your participation!