

I want to thank all of those that braved the weather and came to the Buckeye Lake Strategy Session on Saturday. What a wonderful turn out. It goes to show that we have people in this community that care about the lake and the future of the Lake Region. This past year has brought us all closer together.

Those who attended were elected officials, Business Owners, and residents.
(Approx. 250 People.)

Mr. Yaromir Steiner from Steiner and Associates along with the Urban Land Institute created an open session atmosphere for everyone to share ideas in small groups and one presenter from each group presented the ideas regarding:

- Vision for the future
- Assets around the lake
- Liabilities around the lake
- Opportunities for the future
- Our Core Purpose
- Our Core Values

Notes were gathered by the ULI group throughout the day. His team will go through the ideas and material submitted by the attendees, then summarize.

There will be many wonderful ideas that come from the summarization of the groups however there was a consensus on a few points:

- * Water quality and dredging was at the top of the list. “The lake is our Gym”, it needs to be clean, deep and safe.
- * Beautification and cleaning up the areas around the outer region on the lake itself.
 - Zoning needs to be reviewed in all areas around the lake. “Enforcement of the zoning”.
 - Keep the local flavor with unique boutiques, lodging and restaurants, bringing jobs to the area.
 - Don’t lose our community feel.
 - Each village should create an image keeping local roots in mind.
 - 3 county leadership:
 - Connect the 3 villages with either bike paths, walk able paths or golf cart access.
 - Preserve our natural resources.

Some of the Assets and Liabilities that went along with the vision sessions were:

Assets:

- Proximity to the highway.
- Organizations working in collaboration to bring you updated information: Buckeye Lake Civic Association/Chamber/Museum

- Fishing/boating/hunting
- Marinas
- Natural resource such as the bog
- Yacht Club
- Rural aspects with a community feel
- 4th of July celebration (fireworks and boat parade)

Liabilities included:

- Lack of transportation in and out of the city or around the lake
- shallow water
- lack of zoning
- lack of jobs
- Infrastructure such as roads and connectivity of the villages
- Aging Demographics
- Canadian Geese
- Lack of focus from the state
- Drugs in our community
- Poverty in our community

Once Yaromir's team reviews the core values/core purpose and summarizes the vision and opportunities another meeting will be scheduled later down the road. They have also asked for volunteers in many areas to help the community move forward, such as infrastructure, water quality, boating (fishing swimming), restaurants, agriculture, etc.

We look forward to having more constructive meetings for our community to have input into the development process for the Buckeye Lake Region.

If you are not a member of the Buckeye Lake Area Civic Association we encourage you to become a member. It is only \$15.00. Visit our web-site for calendar activities, updates and a membership form. Our membership drive starts April 1st.

www.buckeyelakecivicassociation.org

A big thanks to Yaromir Steiner for taking time out of his busy day to meet with us.