

DISTRICT 3

MEET & GREET

WHAT WE HEARD



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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the District 3 “What We Heard” Report

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the District 3 Meet & Greet! Your time, thoughts, and willingness to share your insights are what make our community stronger.

After the 2022 District Meetings, many community members asked for more opportunities to provide input on municipal information and to share their opinions during these meetings. We heard you—and we listened. This year, we’ve restructured our District Meetings to make sure everyone, of all ages, can engage and provide feedback on a wide variety of topics.

The following encapsulates “what we heard” from District 3. Similar reports will also be released for each District meeting. These reports summarize the input shared, so the community can see what was discussed. Once all District Meet & Greets are complete, the information from every district will be compiled into a full report that will show how we are taking steps to incorporate your feedback into municipal operations.

At the District 3 meeting, we asked for input in several areas, including:

- **Planning and Development**
- **Engineering and Public Works**
- **Community Programming**
- **Finance**
- **Leadership**
- **Communications**
- **And a special table for our youngest residents to share what matters most to them in their community.**

MEETING ATTENDANCE

The District 3 Meet and Greet was held at the Woodville Community Center on January 22nd, 2025, from 6:00pm - 8:00pm

The meeting was advertised on municipal social media channels, our website, on radio and in print media.

In total 21 people attended the meeting from the Woodville, Grafton, Lakeville, Brooklyn Corner, and Lumsden Dam communities.

OVERALL THEMES

District 3 spoke, and here is what we heard most clearly. The following priorities reflect the shared aspirations, concerns, and ideas expressed by residents, and will guide future municipal planning and engagement efforts.

1. Input and Communications

- Residents want opportunities to provide input into municipal decisions and to be able to see in municipal decisions that their voices were heard.

2. Grant Support for Community Halls

- Residents felt strongly

3. Youth as the Future

- Residents expressed a strong desire to see future generations have opportunities at home. These comments included working toward meaning growth that leads to employment opportunities, affordable housing, addressing the cost-of-living crisis and connection youth and seniors so they can learn from each other.

4. Recreation & Community Life

- Advocacy for a large-scale recreation complex that is accessible to all was of high importance to residents. Attendees highlighted the importance of community health and connection, and opportunities for individuals of all ages and abilities to participate in recreational activities.

5. Senior Programming and Care

- People want to see supports for seniors to be able to stay in their home, more connections to community and opportunities for senior fitness and activities.

TABLE 1 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

At this table, community members were invited to imagine what District 3 could look like 10 years from now. Through “Postcards for the Future,” participants shared their vision for housing, commercial spaces, and overall community development. We received 11 postcards filled with thoughtful ideas and hopes for the future. From these, five main themes emerged, which are highlighted below:

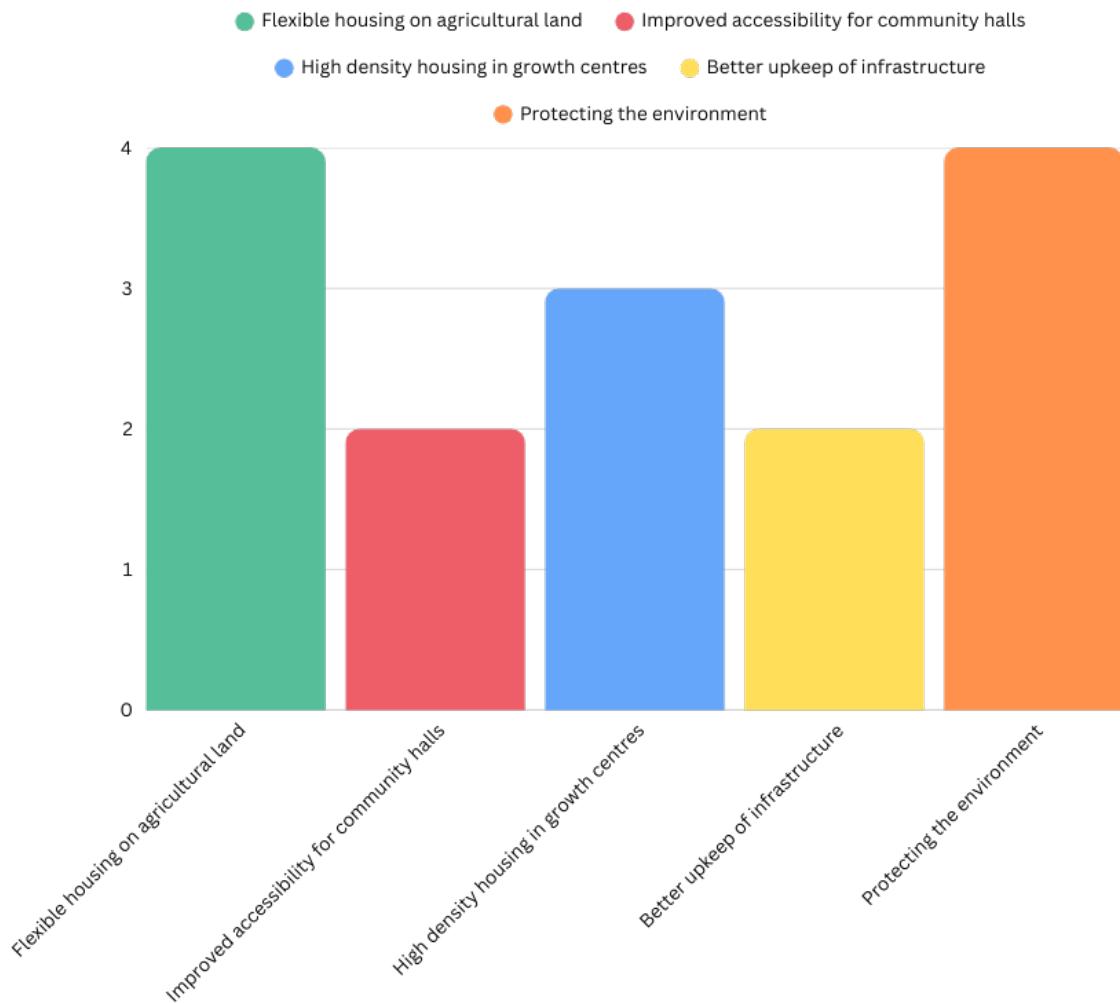
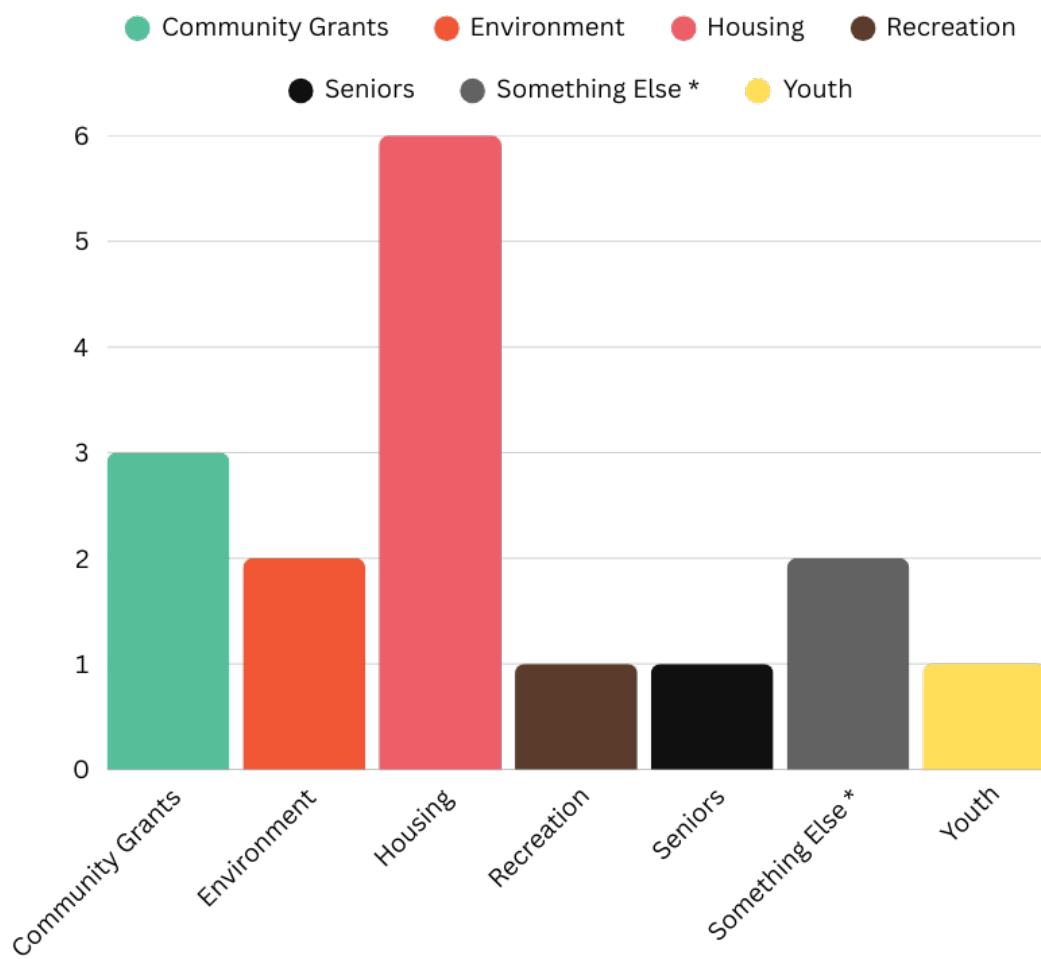


TABLE 2 FINANCE

At this table, community members were encouraged to step into the role of decision-makers and take part in the financial planning process. Many were surprised to learn that most of our budget is tied to mandatory contributions (policing, fire, and education among others.) This means we have limited flexibility and must make tough choices to ensure that the remaining funds support the needs of our community.

A total of 8 participants took part in this activity, each having the option to select 2 areas of importance.



*The “something else priorities” included more investment in sewer infrastructure

TABLE 3 THE LISTENING TABLE

At this table, residents were invited to share the issues that matter most to them directly with the Mayor and the Municipality's Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). The purpose of this table was to foster open and transparent dialogue, ensure that every voice was heard, and establish a clear process for follow-up after the event.

The key topics discussed at the Listening Table are summarized below:

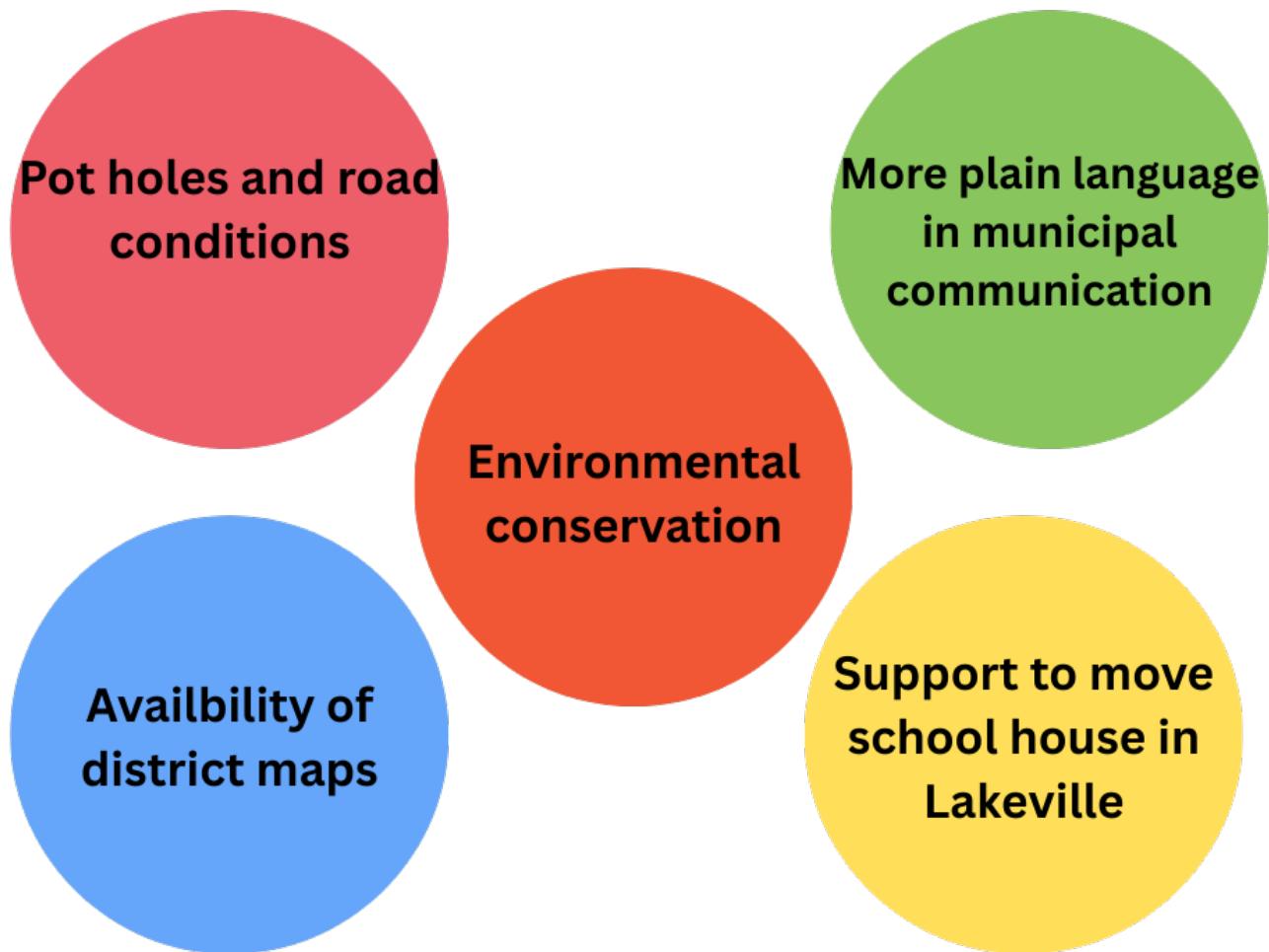


TABLE 4 COMMUNITY

At this table, community members were invited to share their hopes and ideas for the future of our municipality. Conversations touched on a wide range of topics – from festivals and youth opportunities to community safety, facilities, and more.

Below, you'll find a snapshot of ideas that emerged:



Circle size corresponds to the number of times an area of interest was mentioned by residents, with larger circles reflecting higher levels of community interest.

TABLE 5 ENGINEERING & PUBLIC WORKS

At this table, residents of District 3 were invited to share their thoughts on what's working well, what could be improved, and their big ideas for the future of Public Works in our community. Below, you'll find the key themes and insights that emerged from these discussions:

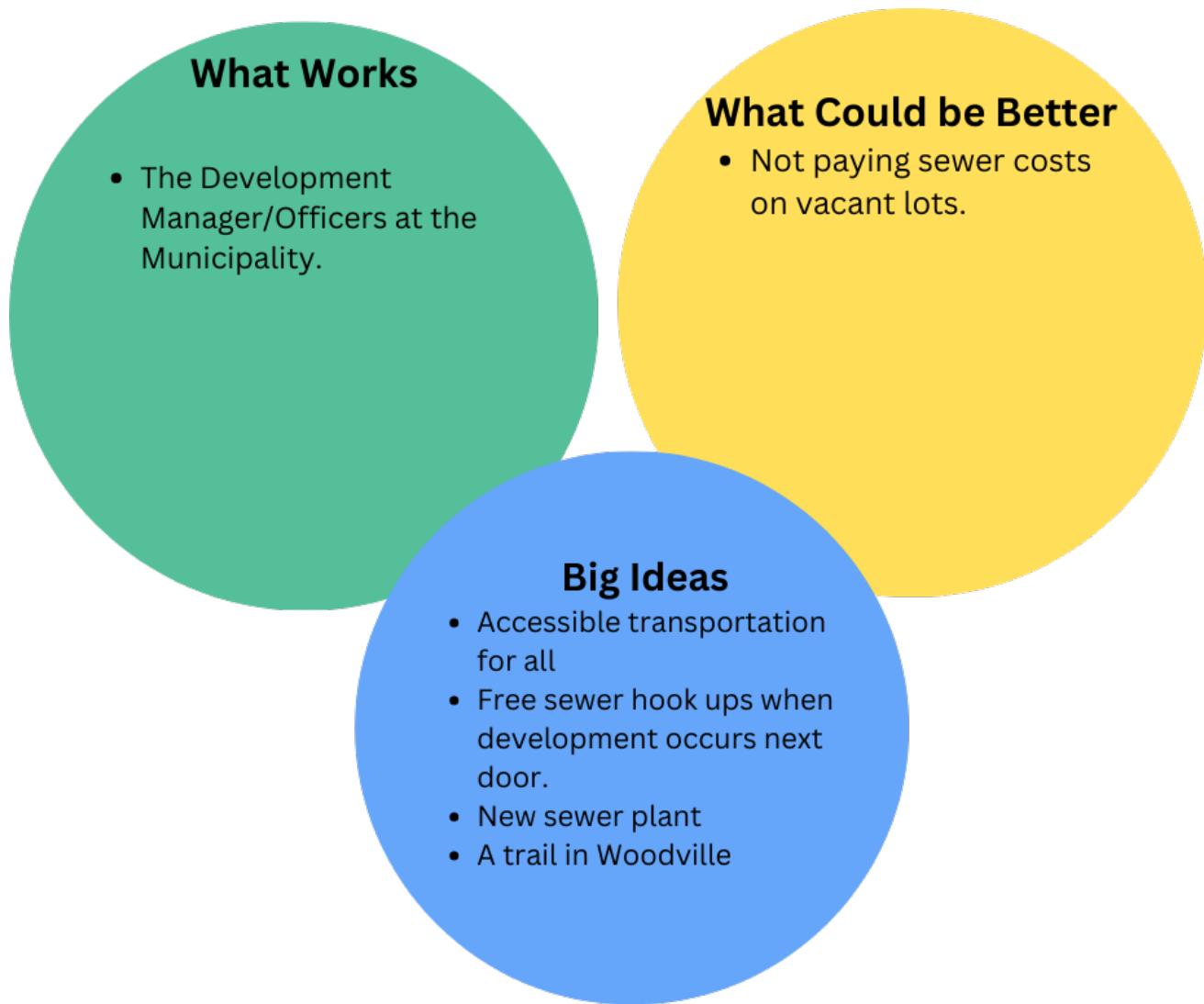


TABLE 6 COMMUNICATIONS

At this table, residents were invited to complete a short survey to help us better understand how the Municipality can most effectively communicate with the public. Their feedback will guide how we share information, updates, and opportunities for engagement moving forward. Below, you'll find a summary of the top 3 answers to how people want to be communicated with, the types of information they want to receive, and barriers to finding information from the Municipality.



DISTRICT 3 PUBLIC COMMENTS SUMMARY

Across all tables, citizens shared detailed feedback reflective of deep care for the future of District 3. From the comments, clear patterns pertaining to **Safe and reliable infrastructure**, **Thoughtful growth and land use planning**, **Improved communication**, and **Recreation opportunities**. Comments have been summarized as follows under these themes:

Infrastructure, Roads and Transportation

Concerns related to infrastructure were raised consistently across multiple tables. Residents highlighted the condition and ongoing maintenance of local roads, the need for long-term infrastructure planning, and clarity around transportation and sewer projects.

Key feedback included:

- The need for improved road maintenance and long-term planning for transportation networks.
- Interest in expanded and equitable access to public transit, particularly for seniors, youth, and residents without private transportation.
- Concerns related to sewer infrastructure, including capacity, billing fairness, and future expansion.
- Requests for clearer communication regarding infrastructure priorities, timelines, and decision-making.

Growth, Development and Land Use.

Residents shared strong views on development, particularly related to scale, density and environmental impact.

Key themes included:

- Concern about overdevelopment or growth that is occurring too quickly, or at a scale not aligned with rural living.
- Mixed views on density with some residents advocating for higher-density development and others expressed a desire for limited expansion especially in rural areas.
- Requests for better planning for farmlands, and the ability to build on small plots of land in agricultural zones.

- A strong emphasis on tree retention, wetland stewardship and environmental protection.

Communication and Engagement

Communication also surfaced throughout all engagement tables

Residents asked for:

- Clearer explanations of planning and development decisions.
- Better understanding of why certain projects or growth decisions are approved
- Communication that addresses individual community specific concerns rather than broad messaging

Community Halls and Recreation

Residents expressed a desire to maintain and enhance local gathering spaces

Feedback included:

- Interest in investment in community halls including Lakeville Community Hall as hubs for programming and connection
- Support for accessible recreation and community programming delivered at the local level.
- Desire to learn more about municipal grant opportunities to support local program delivery.

**Across every table, the message was consistent:
District 3 residents want thoughtful growth, reliable infrastructure, and decisions that protect rural character while planning responsibly for the future.**

OUR COMMITMENT

District 3 residents have shown that meaningful change starts with conversation and continues through action, and this “What We Heard” report is just the beginning. Once we have met with all districts, we will compile the feedback into a comprehensive report, which will be shared broadly and include actionable items of how your feedback will be incorporated. It is anticipated that the comprehensive report with actionable items will be available in late Spring. These reports will help guide the future of our community engagement initiatives and we thank you all for your participation and thoughtful contributions. Together, we’ll keep the dialogue going. Thank you for participating in our District 3 Meet and Greet.