



Table of Contents

CHAPTER 3. CRITICAL ISSUES SUMMARY2

Top 10 Priorities2

Section 3.01 Vision3

Section 3.02 Future Land Use3

Section 3.03 Parks, Recreation & Institution5

Section 3.04 Transportation5

Section 3.05 Public Facilities6

Section 3.06 Economic Development7

Section 3.07 Positive Community Elements8

Section 3.08 Gateways9

Section 3.09 SWOT Analysis.....9

Section 3.10 *Maintaining Our Quality of Life18



Chapter 3. Critical Issues Summary

The following is a summation of the issues raised during the City of Red Bud’s Town Planning Workshops, stakeholder interviews and monthly meetings that took place throughout the preparation of the Plan with the Steering Committee (Planning & Zoning Commission). These meetings were open to the public and often included the active participation of City Staff, the Mayor and other elected and appointed officials. The demographic and socio-economic trends presented in Chapter 1 “Exiting Conditions” provided “background factors” that influence these major critical issue areas. How the City deals with land use change in the context of economic and demographic change is a key focus of the Comprehensive Plan. The goals, objectives and policy statements presented in the preceding chapter were developed based the findings contained herein. In an attempt to address the collective response of all the citizens and Charrette participants, the concerns were grouped into five (5) categories.

1. Future Land Use
2. Parks & Recreation
3. Transportation
4. Public Facilities & Services
5. Economic Development

Top 10 Priorities

1. The construction of a new civic center /community center is our top priority.
2. Improve the traffic congestion at the 4-way or install a by-pass.
3. Construct the Red Bud Connector (aka- SWIC Connector) to create a Route 3 bypass via Forth Street. Goals of the project include the creation of a lighted, landscaped multi-use path along the connector, the construction of a mixed use neighborhood center and improvements to Lincoln Park.
4. Improve the pedestrian experience along Locust Street by incorporating streetscape improvements, traffic calming and limiting truck traffic.
5. Full-fledge coffee shop/bakery with WIFI.
6. Bring nice restaurants to town.
7. Keep Red Bud as nice as it is during Christmas, year round. Clean up the downtown / bring more businesses downtown.
8. Recruit clean industries that employ skilled salaried workers.
9. More bike and pedestrian trails and use areas needed.
10. Better and more efficient communication with community organizations. Local business organizations and government agencies need to work together to market Red Bud regionally.



Section 3.01 Vision

When asked to describe “your vision” for the future of Red Bud the teams identified the following quality of life elements:

1. Preserve and maintain the City’s small town, family friendly atmosphere. The family oriented component of Branson serves as a nice model.
2. Active living
3. Planned/orderly growth
4. Proactive zoning and housing/development review
5. Stricter, more consistent enforcement.
6. Shielded views between residential and non-residential. Buffering between unlike uses needed.
7. Maintain high standards- housing, school system, commercial development, industrial, public recreation, etc.
8. Controlled, balanced growth- well thought out smart growth- nothing forced. Planned zoning for future growth, don’t hinder future growth, but keep it planned.
9. More retail and restaurants, less industrial.
10. Make downtown as charming as it is in winter, year round.

Section 3.02 Future Land Use

Each participant was asked to describe the strengths weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing the City’s land uses. Broken down by general land use category, the citizen’s described the following land use issues:

a) Residential:

1. Sidewalks, connect subdivisions
2. Increase the confidence to reinvest in existing housing stock. Implement housing preservation/renovation program and low interest loans.
3. Housing – pretty good, nice mix- lots of diversity.
4. Any development is good, we like to see new. Nice to see growth.
5. Loft apartments
6. Unmaintained trailers need removal



7. Housing stock is aging in the northeast part of town and in need of reinvestment or redevelopment. Programs such as low rent loans, energy efficiency, etc need to be implemented here. Pay attention to this area.
 8. Neighborhoods are too dark at night.
- b) Commercial**
1. No big box chain stores
 2. Need a nice sit-down restaurant (Valentine's, Tequilas, and Gallagher's.)
 3. Need a nice casual restaurant with outdoor dining, a great atmosphere, great service and great food.
 4. More specialty shops, a nice clothing store.
 5. A banquet center to hold receptions, showers & meetings
 6. Dry cleaners
 7. Fine clothing and shoe store
- c) Industrial**
1. Keep industrial areas together following the principals of *cluster development* and *low impact development (LID)*.
 2. Recruit industry that creates good, salaried jobs
 3. Foundry is smelly
- d) Downtown**
1. More historic preservation downtown- good job so far, be sure to keep it up.
 2. How can we fill-up downtown with tenants?
 3. Encourage future growth/utilization downtown
 4. Commuter parking lot needed
 5. Foot traffic is needed
 6. Better landscaping needed
 7. Downtown is great, but can be much better.
 8. Historic building stock- but in need of remodeling
 9. Landscaping and planters are good. Keep them up and plan annual improvements
 10. The new town centers are nice; such as the Wildwood Town Center, but Red Bud's downtown is better because it is authentic.



Section 3.03 Parks, Recreation & Institution

Each participant was asked to describe the strengths weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing the City's Parks, Recreations and Institutions. The following findings were reported:

1. Civic Center is needed with the following: gym, theatre, and sewing center, similar to Perryville's civic center. All teams/participants agree; "this is our top priority".
2. New pool needed
3. New High School facility needed soon.
4. Maintain what we already have
5. Park Expansion E of 159, N of 154 & Route 3.
6. 4-Lane highway needed to Red Bud (Route 3)
7. More soccer fields needed.
8. Route 3 will be four lanes
9. Dog park would be nice
10. Sport complexes/facilities are needed; they will help recruit young families.
11. Outdoor activities- bike, hike & snorkel
12. Create something similar to "Art at the Square", in Belleville.
13. Parks and Recreation for kids
14. Lincoln Park Trail is great.
15. Parks are one of the city's strengths.

Section 3.04 Transportation

Connecting residential neighborhoods to schools, business districts, recreation areas and employment destinations are important land use considerations for all Red Bud residents. The following items identify the desired improvements recommended for Red Bud.

1. Field Street: Run Field Street through to Country Club Drive or SKK Subdivision.
2. Pursue Route 3 connector- Route 3 through Lutheran Property w/ Lighted walkway
3. Safer walkways from NE to schools
4. Safer walkways NE and SE part of town to parks.
5. Locust Street carries a lot of traffic, connector needed.
6. Bloom Street is in bad condition
7. Fix downtown traffic (Gridlock at the square 4-way)



8. Better parking
9. Better school crossings- Lutheran School on Rt 3.
10. Better signage needed
11. By-Pass connector needed.
12. Truck traffic: Conduct a feasibility study of Locust and Bloom- what can we do to reroute trucks away from downtown?
13. Foundry
14. Consider a roundabout (circle drive) at high school and grade school
15. Parking- Downtown, school events, sporting events
16. Access- Post Office, Red Bud Pool
17. One-way at Bloom
18. Poor traffic circulation
19. Limited sidewalks
20. Field Drive not in yet, but when it is installed it'll be used for a drag strip.
21. Poor walkability
22. Connectivity, access-multi-modal,
23. Truck traffic- 75 trucks per day. South of Main is bad

Section 3.05 Public Facilities

Participants were asked if Red Bud had adequate public services such as police, fire, school, water, sewer, parks, trails, and recreation, and to provide suggestions on how the City's public facilities can be improved. The findings are as follows:

a) Water/Sewer:

1. Wells on Kaskaskia
2. Aging infrastructure
3. Water main bursts
4. Combined sewer/storm drains

b) Electric: Very good value, few failures.

c) Police Department:

1. Community policing good
2. Need a dispatcher
3. Speeding- Locust, Bloom
4. Use volunteers



5. More safety enforcement
6. Police Department does a good job.

d) Administration:

1. Stricter code enforcement needed.
2. Need a new pool
3. Need a full fledged YMCA
4. Lacking in emergency preparedness.

e) Trash: No city-wide trash or recycling

f) Other

1. Fire Dept is Good
2. Schools are good
3. College is good, it's an asset.

Section 3.06 Economic Development

Participants believe local business organizations and government agencies should work together to market Red Bud regionally. The following issues were identified as strengths of the community and the resources available that can be used in a marketing strategy.

1. Economic Development Committee
2. Revolving Loan Fund / Economic development loan
3. Hospital
4. Schools
5. Quality of Life
6. College
7. Work Ethic
8. Metal working skills
9. Residents feel like they are part of a community.
10. Good place to raise kids
11. Low cost of living



Economic Development Opportunities/Threats:

1. Collaborative marketing effort: Include City Hall, Economic Committee, County, ILDCEO Illinois economy, Existing employers, suppliers & colleagues.
2. Remake downtown or fill in gaps – Lutheran church land.
3. Federal stimulus money
4. Energy efficient- districts, CAAP.
5. Historic preservation
6. Jobs that require college education, high tech jobs, more specialized.
7. Retention of the youth. Give college kids a reason to come home.
8. The City needs to hire someone to coordinate and lead grant writing efforts for federal and state applications.
9. The City should also take a proactive role in talking with County and State representatives regarding financing opportunities.
10. Lack of parking
11. Lack of restaurants/entertainment open late
12. Lack of clothing and apparel stores
13. No dry cleaner
14. No 3rd Places for people to meet, linger, conduct spontaneous business (coffee shop/internet café/bakery)
15. Shopping needs imp.
16. Businesses close early
17. Fear of no downtown businesses
18. Drawing quality attractions and population
19. Vacant buildings often need paint and other maintenance.
20. Future Industrial needs to go east of town. This is what the Industrial Committee recommends.

Section 3.07 Positive Community Elements

Participants were asked to identify positive features such as opportunity areas, positive development, town character, and/or special amenities. The following items were identified:

1. Commuter parking lot at Ratz Park
2. Ramp at pool



3. Better and more efficient communication with community organizations
4. Better utilization of available land. Great strides in the last 15 years!!!
5. Red Bud is beautiful at Christmas
6. Street Lights
7. Trees
8. Downtown- has remained pretty much the same, except some shops have left.
9. South Main is good, nice mix of retail.
10. Winery is the best thing to happen for Red Bud.
11. "The Office" looks promising.
12. Virtually no crime.
13. Just far enough away from St. Louis & Waterloo.
14. The rivers, St. Gen Ferry

Section 3.08 Gateways

Entryways into a City are an important vocal point and economic development element that helps shape one's first impression of a community. The following is a ranking of the City's main entryways, in order of their importance with 1 being the most important.

1. Rt 3 from the west
2. Rt 159 from the north
3. Rt 3-from the south
4. Rt 154- from the east.

Section 3.09 SWOT Analysis

The discussion topics used in the Stakeholder meetings and the other public engagement activities were developed with the intent of identifying citizen defined values as they relate to the past, present and future of Red Bud. The responses to these questions, more specifically, help identify Red Bud's **strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats**. The following is a summary of the SWOT findings:

Strengths

1. **Good Jobs:** 1-1200 jobs in town. (TWM 200-300, RBI: 200-300, Hospital: 300-500, International Material: 200, etc. By comparison, Smithton and Hecker are all bedroom communities, no jobs.
2. **Good Schools** – Good Employment Base/Workforce: Public and parochial schools are good. It has a college, SWIC. How many towns of 3500 have their own college?



3. **Good Retail:** Red Bud has some nice retail, lots of car dealerships. But it needs better restaurants, more retail selection, etc.
4. **People:** Red Bud's residents and business owners. Red Bud Residents- Integrity, pay their bills, honest, words mean something. Hardworking, great folks: While the Baptist church was being built outsiders would arrive in shifts and work all day and local families would bring them into their homes to stay. The school let the workers use the showers. People tend to help each other out. Not a rich community, but very giving. Fund drives are typically very successful.
5. **Housing**
 - a) Adequate affordable housing
 - b) No foreclosed / repossessed homes in Red Bud
 - c) Assisted living and multifamily is already in Red Bud. This will expand as well- he will do senior villas.
 - d) Red Bud has a good mix of apartments and mobile home parks that provide affordable housing.
6. **Economic Development**
 - a) Healthy, active Community: Chamber, churches, schools and other organizations do a good job of hosting events and bringing people together. Firemen's Picnic, Christmas Walk and House Tour. BFI- Bar Flies International. They organized a plan to sell street lights and trees. Now you can see Red Bud from the sky. The City should keep this up- it's their trademark. BFI- good for the community. Beautification Program really helped downtown.
 - b) The two rivers (Kask / Miss) save Red Bud – it's a very unique situation. It makes transport very effective, especially in winter when the Mississippi River is frozen just south of St. Louis. While many crops north of Red Bud are stalled due to the frozen river conditions, Red Bud's crops are still getting to the Gulf because the Kaskaskia River enters the Mississippi River well below the locks that typically freeze in the winter months. This allows Red Bud to get 10 cents to 12 cents more per bushel than any other market. Access to market is key. But some other markets have improved their access to markets- so playing field is leveling.
 - c) Red Bud has a good fortune because they had two great employers. RBI & TMW. Other than that, Red Bud is pretty much Agricultural based.
 - d) Business is good in Red Bud generally, but businesses rely on each other's ability to attract and cross sell to consumers. Repeat business is critical to the success of the City's businesses.



- e) Strong Chamber.

7. Quality of Life

- a) Parks are good.
- b) Traffic is OK- no major problems, except truck traffic at the four-way
- c) Red Bud is a great place to raise a family.
- d) Crime- non-existent.
- e) The city power plant is great, recent improvements have really cut down on outages. Use to happen all the time. City services are good.
- f) Beautification Good. Great street lights.
- g) Water system is good, but the city should loop the city.
- h) Fire Service has an ISO rating of 5 out of 10, 1 being the best. Response time is good, 3 min.
- i) Low cost of living: Town is affordable. Compared to other peer communities, Red Bud is inexpensive. It's estimated that for each mile east the housing costs increases approximately \$1000. On average, a similar house/lot in Waterloo cost \$15,000 more when compared to Red Bud.

8. Land Use

- a) Hospital
- b) Winery
- c) Good schools
- d) Churches- strengthen community and bring people together.
- e) Glen Howell- Beer distributor helped land the hospital and BAC, which is now SWIC. He was very philanthropic.
- f) Nice subdivisions
- g) When FS came to town, they didn't ask for anything- no breaks. But they give back whenever they can.
- h) The Can-Line and RBI are both high end operations. Provide good, salaried jobs. They are leading businesses in their respected industries. No other company in the world that does their type of work (RBI / sister co)
- i) Good pharmacy



Weaknesses

1. **Industrial land use:** Red Bud's biggest concern is the scattered industrial areas. The City's industrial areas land lock the city. The city needs to pick one area and let it grow and cluster industrial in one place. The existing dispersed/fractured patterns of industrial development are the results of ebbs and flows of the economy. As industry left town (i.e. Singer) significant numbers of jobs were lost, therefore it was necessary to bring industry back. Life Magazine ran a story about the declining industry in Red Bud and portrayed Red Bud as a town down on its luck. This was an all time low for Red Bud and it was the focus of national attention. The City responded by doing everything it could to bring industry back to town. This prompted the creation of a committee charged with bringing industry back to Red Bud. They did a good job. However, location was not as important as landing key industries that would replace the many lost jobs. During this rebuilding period, the City brought in UltraPlay, a regional manufacturer of playground equipment and picnic tables, the Foundry and Perando a manufacturer of educational supplies. The Singer facility was eventually bought out by Schnider.
 - a) Industrial to the east, west and south have stopped, or at least stifled, residential development. The industrial area south of town is bad. It almost killed the residential nearby.
 - b) Placement of the new industrial park south by the high school was WRONG.
 - c) Industrial North of town is OK.
 - d) Encourage industrial to the east. Red Bud Industries is already there and the City still has 6-7 lots available at that location south of RBI.
 - e) IMT- is the only business prospering today. They are hiring. They run a can line. They are located north of town. AFCO use to be a furnace and heating/cooling company. It was sold to Singer- Canada. Singer then relocated its operations to Tenn. The employees were asked to move, some did, but the majority stayed in Red Bud.
 - f) North end of town needs help. Foundry is bad. NE corner near the grain elevator is bad.
2. **Poor retail selection.** Retail is limited- most businesses close too early and are not open on the weekends. Too expensive, service lacking. The city use to have great restaurants. Overall restaurants are poor. It's easier to shop in Waterloo- cheaper and better selection.
3. **Traffic circulation:** Red Bud is easy to get to, but once here hard to get around. N/S access is bad. 4-way very poor. Locust and Bloom need to be expanded. Red Bud needs better road connectivity- this will help reduce response times for fire/police. The City is very car dependent. New road from Fieldstone is needed to help circulation.



4. **VMT high.** Red Bud is not walkable. Downtown is not walkable.
5. **Parking Downtown:** Parking is a problem downtown. The small lot near Sporto's is the only public lot, it's too small.
6. **Truck Traffic:** Too much traffic passing through that is not servicing local businesses. The four-way is not properly designed for truck traffic. Large trucks cannot make the turn at the 4-way without motorists getting out of the way. This is very inconvenient and dangerous. A detour or truck route needs to be created.
7. **Housing:** Mobile homes are ugly. Older homes need fixed.
8. **Landlocked:** NE and SE areas of town are locked in by property owners. The only growth for residential is to the SW.
9. **Downtown is dead.**
10. **Low incomes and unemployment**
11. **Community Center-** where is it? Can't find the existing one. We need a new one. A better YMCA and teen center would help.

Opportunities

When asked what could be done to make Red Bud a more enjoyable place to live, work and play, the citizen planners who participated in the several public engagement activities listed the following:

1. **Family-Oriented** If the city wants to retain and attract young families, they need to change and provide the amenities young families want. Community center, senior center, Starbucks, good retail and commercial services and restaurants needed. The city has seen sustained growth over the years and this should continue- plan for it. Contrary to the last plan, leap frog is OK- same with spot zoning when done sustainably
2. **Better Retail Selection:** Existing retail works well (Wicks & Country, Creative Concepts, grocery stores, etc) but often overpriced and selection limited.
 - a) IGA- locally owned by TJ and growing.
 - b) Shop Red Bud First- good campaign, but not much here. Even if you want to, you can't.
 - c) Lots of banks and car dealers.
 - d) Retail survives on word of mouth and local patronage. Adjacent businesses work well together and refer customers to each other.
 - e) More retail and commercial service is needed. No dry cleaners, lacking nice sit-down restaurants, more office, and office supplies lacking.



- f) Route 3 to the west will support more retail. Business growth should be directed along Route 3.
 - g) Businesses both new and old need to support local needs.
 - h) Put retail on the Churches' 20 acres, a mixed use lifestyle center / town center would be awesome- especially with an access road could connect to the school and route 3. Connect the roads – (College to Route 3)
 - i) Incubator concept- set larger shops up with several booths, shared resources, subsidized rent, etc.
3. **Population Growth:** Red Bud is going to double. Even though the city doesn't want to change, growth is inevitable. Unplanned growth will result in more change than planned, managed, smart growth. Growth needs to be supported by jobs. Don't want dirty industries.
- a) Growth is good. But the city needs a long range plan- especially for residential. Plan and manage our own growth. Don't let growth control our destiny. We don't want to be like Waterloo
 - b) Annex down to Blackjack (south of town). The folks that were not annexed were looked over because they demanded utilities and it was too expensive- not worth it.
4. **Downtown:** Underutilized downtown.
- a) Develop and host an artist showcase...Paducah Kenn
 - b) Preserve the history and heritage of Red Bud- progress with tradition.
 - c) Keep automotive uses out of downtown.
 - d) Need a storefront ordinance- to help "stage" downtown.
5. **Industrial Growth:** The City should reinvest in its existing industrial areas north, south and east of town, rather than permitting new ones. The one south of town should have never happened. The industrial site north of town is a missed opportunity- it has room for expansion. Annex (east) to the wedge so we can get tax revenue and control/manage that development.
6. **Parks:** Parks in the center of urban areas is great. Bands playing, outdoor dining- Red Bud would benefit from this.
7. **Country Club:** Expand the Country Club to an 18 hole course.
8. **Housing:** House sales are picking up. Lumber prices are way down, as is the price of most consumables. More housing is needed to support business. There are a lot of homes outside of Red Bud that support retail and provide large lot, rural living. Most people



live on property deeded to them from family members. Residential development is coming! 20-30 homes per year are predicted. Steady, sustained, managed growth is good. Need to allow "R" to grow. The SW quadrant is where our housing market wants to grow.

9. **Traffic:** Traffic is good for the City's commercial areas, congestion is bad. Clear traffic out of a 2-block area downtown.
10. **Community Center:** Red Bud is lacking a place for people to gather and celebrate the milestones in their life. A new community center is the answer. Mix it with a senior center. A community center would be a good source of revenue for city. Need a water park- the Red Bud pool is obsolete. Need an outdoor facility – like Concordia. Need a pool, play areas and place to gather downtown. A banquet center to have weddings and other large gatherings is also needed.
11. **Vacant Lutheran Church Property:** The church has 20 acres near college and needs to let it go- good place for community center. Also owns property near cemetery. Put the pool here!
12. **Vacant College Property:** The College owns 19 acres. The college sits on approx. 9-10 acres. In the future the college will seek partnerships (win / win). An incubator would be great- focus on clean industries. They bought land from the Guebert's- who are willing to sell in 20-30 acre tracts. They own property east of town.
13. **Southern Ill Cooperative-** can buy power at about ½ of what you can buy it for on the free market. Major Plus. When industries come in, the city can negotiate the price, thus helping to bring folks to town. The City needs to leverage this. Power is much cheaper in ILL, Red Bud than in MO, \$100 on average per HH.
14. **Agriculture:** FS- substantial customer base. 1,400 customer members.
15. **Fire Protection:** ISO rating was at 9- it went down to a 5- which saved homeowners an average of \$95/year on a \$150,000 home on insurance. An ISO rating improvement from 9 to 5 is HUGE- brings substantial savings.
16. **Promotion:** The community needs a great Website: Consider a community website- bring everybody together and share the costs. Turn Red Bud into an entire virtual super store.
17. **Tourism:** Promote Red Bud as a weekend getaway- with the intent to increase the frequency and duration of visits to the city, specifically its business districts.



18. **Community Strength:** Create a mentor program to accomplish this. Take children in to help work/play with seniors, have seniors teach kids to clean, sew, cook, plant flowers, etc. Need to teach writing, English, photography, video, cooking: the video/photo activities could go far, tape games for parents unable to attend events. Create video of the seasonal changes and show to those unable to enjoy the outdoors, etc.
19. Dog Park at old Findy Park needed.
20. Run Field Street to the Country Club Drive.
21. Need safer sidewalk and walking trails. Focus on NE to SE pedestrian access.
22. The workforce is most specialized in the area of metal working.
23. Something needs to happen just north of town. Good location for mixed or planned use development.
24. Marketing: Better coordination w/ city hall and all players is needed.
25. Need field and play areas large enough to attract a baseball tournament.
26. 85% of the winery's customers come from 15 miles or more.
27. Bring in more play fields so we can host more competitive sports for all ages.
28. Industry brings quality of life- good housing, increased retail spending, etc.
29. Kaskaskia River & the Kaskaskia Port District are tremendous assets.
30. Locate industrial on the east side of town. (prevailing winds come from the west and blows smells to the east)

Threats

1. **Brain Drain.** The community needs young professionals and salaried workers. Drawing and keeping young adult residents is a major threat.
2. **Residential growth-**
 - a) The industrial parks have closed us in, we're landlocked! Residential growth drives commercial growth. Residential growth is currently being limited due to industrial park locations.
 - b) Growth is a threat to the city's small town character/charm. Red Bud was much better in the older days; Red Bud wants to remain small.
 - c) There is a perception that 5,000 is the maximum population that Red Bud can support.
3. **Downtown:** There's no reason to go downtown.
4. **Retail Seepage:** Waterloo and Sparta have a Wal-Mart. Waterloo has a Schnucks.



5. **Traffic Circulation:** Access management is a must- start thinking about it. Poor access to green space, parks, and recreation in the south part of town.
6. **Property Rights:** Red Bud has a strong sense of Property Rights – Farmers, stubborn Germans. Don't want to be told what to do.
7. **Lack of Leaders:** The beauty and charm of the city has been preserved- and made possible by a select few.
8. **Economy:** Employment / FT jobs are lacking.
9. **Hospital:** Hospital is good, but struggling- small town hospitals are tough – turn into trauma center. The pastors make a lot of trips to Belleville, St. Anthony- No babies here- must go out-of-town to have a baby. Insurance in IL is so high- is part of the problem.
10. **Old Guard VS. New guard**...Old people have been here forever. They don't want change, but they are getting older, new younger people are going to want some growth. McDonalds is good, Pizza Hut, need an upscale restaurant.
11. **Cost of doing business:** Problem with retail is the overhead is too high.
12. **Regulations are too restrictive-** the plumbing work alone will prohibit most businesses from moving in downtown.
13. **Business Hours:** Restaurants close at 7pm.
14. **Code Enforcement:** Code enforcement needed downtown and to the north, and in the 3rd Ward need help.



Section 3.10 *Maintaining Our Quality of Life

The following Quality of Life summary was prepared by the City of Red Bud under the direction of the City Council after several meetings to discuss the future of Red Bud and dialog over issues relating to Quality of Life. The final report is included herein to show the consistency between the Council's findings and the findings from the public engagement program. The fact the two planning exercises found similar findings is an indicator that there is a consensus among the citizenry and the elected officials regarding Red Bud's critical issues.

1. Growth

- A. We can't allow growth just for the sake of image or appeasement.
- B. We must consider the quantity and quality of new housing.
- C. We must consider the impact of new businesses on current businesses.
- D. New business needs to benefit our tax base.
- E. Subsidizing new growth needs to simply "make sense".
- F. Empty buildings equal lower property values, which equal.....

2. Building Standards

- A. We must be forward thinking with our building plans and standards.
- B. Allow only the highest quality of materials and plans to be accepted.

3. Code Enforcement

- A. Possibly the most important influence on our quality of life.
- B. We must financially and morally support Code Enforcement.
- C. Codes must be strictly enforced. Period! From maintaining personal property to businesses.
- D. Don't get too comfortable and think "It couldn't happen here"!

4. Education

- A. The quickest way to lose quality citizens is to allow the degradation of our schools.

5. Community Involvement

- A. We must create, encourage, and maintain a sense of ownership in decisions in our community.

6. Law Enforcement

- A. A reputation of protecting and serving is great. A reputation of no tolerance for disrespect of our laws and citizens is even better.
- B. Officers need no hindrances in performing their duties.
- C. When you allow the small things to slip, you are chipping away at the foundation of order and quality of life.

**Provided by the Red Bud City Council (2009)*