



Focus Group Notes and Public Comments

FOCUS GROUPS: MARCH 2019

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

ATTENDANCE: Approximately 60 people attended one of five focus group meetings. Two of the focus groups were living room sessions conducted in resident homes, two were with high school student groups at Roy High, and the fifth was with local business leaders at the Roy Municipal Building. Comments provided during the focus groups are provided below:

MEETING NOTES

NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER

- Hate the image that outsiders put on Roy – it really is a great place to live
- Twenty years ago, people cared for properties and yards.
- After the turnover of older generations, newer groups don't seem to care?
- Old neighborhoods are easy buy, many were turned into rentals which might contribute to lack of maintenance
- City does a poor job of code enforcement – makes things feel run down
- City does a poor job of snow removal
- Roy hasn't kept up with its infrastructure – roads, trees, parks
- Municipal Elementary is a great school – people are scared by Title I, but the increased funding has provided a lot of programs and really turned things around in recent years. Lots of new parent involvement in last three years.
- The city needs more trees everywhere. Want to see street trees.
- Chose to live in Roy for affordability – most bang for buck, Davis Co had bad traffic
- Most residents invested in the community seem to live on the east side
- Neighborhood is nice but “distantly friendly” – most folks to keep to themselves
- Would like a bigger lot for gardening, but costs more money in W. Haven and Hooper
- Neighboring towns feel like they are better maintained
- There are too many people in Roy – would rather live somewhere else with more rural feeling
- Many high school students were not interested in staying in Roy – family is the only draw
- Roy neighborhoods feel congested, not as open and spread out as neighboring towns

HOUSING

- Apartments may be nice at first but will always be a crime problem
- Likes the high owner-occupied ratio in Roy 80/20

TRANSPORTATION

- Traffic is a problem – most arterials are congested to gridlock
 - Worst when Hill AFB lets out after work
 - Don't even bother with I-15 to commute – the base traffic is too much to fight with



- Already seeking alternate routes to commute through back roads
- Worried about traffic generated by growth in neighbor communities, especially with extension of Legacy corridor
- A number of friends use FrontRunner to commute to SLC – slow service
- Arterial roads are major barriers to walkability
- The new roundabouts are great – add beauty, smooth traffic flow, more walkable
- Interested in traffic improvements along 4000 S – severe backup from 1900 W to tracks
- Roy needs more bike lanes and trails

PARKS, RECREATION, COMMUNITY

- Love being close to Emma Russell Park and Meadow Creek Pond – both are good parks
- Many people are going to other cities for parks
 - Most Roy parks are just sports fields, lack shade and water play
 - Aquatic center and old pool are both good facilities though
- New library is a great place to go
- Wish there was a place for community gatherings to happen – performing arts
- City offices have the Christmas lights but otherwise don't feel like a community center
- Would like to see better access to parks, added street trees
- Parks need to serve all ages and abilities – not accessible right now, playgrounds are too small
- West Park is a favorite park – open spaces, Roy Days, skate park
- Parks need better access for all – ADA compliance isn't there at playgrounds
- Most of the parks need a good update – similar to North Park
- Roy is missing most of the parks, malls, museums that other towns have – so people leave town to find these things
- The rail trail is great, but needs safer crossings at major streets – esp. 6000 South
- The parks are really hot in summer, need more shade trees
- The pond is a great park – good fishing spot
- Would like to see more indoor sports facilities

COMMERCE

- People don't shop in Roy partly because they don't know who the local businesses are to support
- Some families shop in Roy, some don't – mainly Winco, Kent's, Winegars
- No one shops in Roy anymore
- 1900 W needs curb appeal – too many auto-oriented businesses
- No good affordable source for organic shopping north of SLC – Roy should take advantage of this and get a Whole Foods/Sprouts/Trader Joes
- Internet service is poor in Roy – needs improvement/options
- Traffic is so bad on 1900 W that it makes more sense to shop in commercial hubs in other places
- Feel embarrassed that 1900 W is the town gateway
- No hotels for visitors to stay at when they come to town
- Most employees drive to Riverdale for lunch – would like to see more services nearby
- Business owners generally like doing business in Roy and would like to stay



COMMENTS RECEIVED THROUGH THE ONLINE VISUAL PREFERENCE SURVEY (VERBATIM)

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS WHO PROVIDED COMMENTS: 85

NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER

- No more high-density housing for the love of god! You guys already have streets that don't support the people that live here. I don't want Roy to be another Riverdale or Layton, that sounds horrible. Also start enforcing codes or we'll end up looking worse than Ogden in 20 years, blue house guy has 700 dangerous things in his yard and you haven't paid attention to him for a year.
- I think better enforcement of weeds/unkempt yards would help.
- No pictures of the old vinyl signage? I drive past it every day. Vinyl flags etc... Roy ordinance enforced?
- Sidewalks would be more efficient if cars weren't allowed to park across them.
- Put some flowers out like Clinton on light poles, they look beautiful. Clean up abandoned buildings.
- Pot holes in the street and neighborhoods need to be fixed.
- The amount of power lines in Roy is ridiculous and something needs to be done about them. They make Roy look old and dangerous and its especially unsettling to hear the buzz of electricity.
- Updating schools is a must. Roy Elementary is so old and needs a serious rebuild.
- Multi housing units eventually look trashy as do some home's, the area along 5600 between 3000 and 3500 on the North side with the tree's that somebody thought would be a great idea and didn't keep up with it- looks horrible.
- Let's get these vacant buildings full! So sad to see so much empty space. Or tear down the old places and allow for new builds or clean space.
- I would like to see the image of Roy improved. We need more requirements for residents to maintain their homes and yards.
- Business's need to paint, weed and pick up trash around them!!
- Let's get rid of the blight in Roy!
- I think the city just needs some sprucing up. It looks old and outdated.
- I would like to see Roy install nice ornamental street lamps. Sunset and Clinton are using them. Roy just uses shortened telephone poles and cheap looking lights. If you want to make a neighborhood less appealing, they are doing a good job of it.
- Roy needs TREES. Incentives for home owners who plan trees :). Green is Good.
- More trees!
- Need trees everywhere.
- Would like more trees.
- Would like to see more trees in town.

HOUSING

- I love modern architecture and wide open spaces. Buildings should not be too cramped.
- Keep the mid-century and 'atomic ranch' neighborhoods preserved.
- No more high-density housing for the love of god!



- I don't like the multi-level apartments or strip malls. I prefer family-oriented neighborhoods and open spaces (parks, walking paths, trees).
- Make Roy more urban/suburbia and no more apartment buildings. People want to buy land to build on.
- I think having a mix of housing prices as well as age of homes makes us more balanced as a city.
- I don't love all these lots more apartments being built.
- There needs to be more low-income housing.
- I prefer to have big lots with nice houses and medium open parks with big businesses around the city center, main street, and lightly interspersed through the city to help pay the taxes required to keep city looking good and taxes low
- The types of housing are less important to me because if you have a thriving community the housing will naturally evolve.
- Don't like apartment buildings.
- Tear down old rundown buildings. Get rid of trailer parks, create nice home subdivisions in their place.
- Please don't let smaller homes move into Roy we are so over crowded as it is. Business could help with the taxes but not smaller or dense housing. We have lost the country living feel by adding so many houses.
- Less apartments and high-density housing.
- No more apartment complexes.
- Please don't build more apartment complexes.
- If neighborhoods are under consideration, please consider more affordable single-family homes. While housing prices are outrageous, more new builds that are single-family for less than \$300,000 would be nice.
- We need modern looking houses.
- Don't like houses too close together.
- Don't like HOA neighborhoods.

TRANSPORTATION

- No calming circles or roundabouts.
- Our city is overly congested and our roadways and neighborhoods can't accommodate how clogged they get.
- No calming circles.
- Traffic is slow on 5600 south. Really wish this could be a wider road. Also 3100 W & 5600 S intersection could use a stop light.
- Roundabouts are too small and filling them with trees and shrubs blocks the view of traffic and pedestrians.
- The bike path is super nice to have but I don't use it because it always feels sketchy with the amount of graffiti everywhere and the garbage. I also feel like there are too many places for someone to hide off the trail and jump out so I feel very unsafe using it, even in the day time. If the foliage and weeds under the trees was cleaned up better so we could see if anyone was lurking on the sides it would be and feel a lot more safe. The trees are really nice on the trail so don't take them down. The ground just needs some landscaping to clear things out.



- Please absolutely NO calming circles! They do diddly squat, there are better solutions.
- There should be a better way to help traffic on 5600 S. there are too many bling-bling lights between 2700 s. and 2950 s. With the accidents (including almost accidents) that have happened in the area and to alleviate frustrating traffic jams along 5600 S., a pedestrian bridge not only for school children, but the trail system as well, as several people still do not know what the button on the sign for the trail is for. Sometimes people shoot across without a look, so to the people that do push the button kudos to them!
- NO to small diameter traffic "calming" circles. Either go with a full-size traffic circle or go with a 4-way stop. The larger ones are so much easier, especially if towing anything. The traffic on to/off of Hill is CRAZY, especially in the afternoon. UDOT did a good job with 650 N exit. Any chance they will work on 5600 S exit next? Are speed humps not a possibility on 6000? I use 6000 S a lot (anything to avoid 5600 S in the pm) and I am regularly tailgated.
- No roundabouts or calming circles. Separate bike lanes from the roads are a great idea.
- Please don't install any "calming circles".
- Bike lanes are stupid for the type of suburb we live in. If you alter an intersection for a "calming circle" just go all the way and do a roundabout. Round about=good. Calming circle=bad.
- Would like to see the city invest in solar Flashing crosswalk signs on 4000 south by the trail. The flow of traffic is horrific for those wanting to cross the street by the railroad tracks onto the trail. Cars race up and down the road I'm afraid one day someone in the crosswalk is going to get hit by the cars. We also need to invest in more street lights on 4000 South. It's dark for a main street. Not a welcoming feeling for those traveling through the area.
- Please put solar powered signal lights on the trail crosswalks especially off of 4000 S. It is really hard to see pedestrians walking.
- If you could get UDOT to come up with a plan for the train tracks. I love having a train stop in our city, but the roads, safety and traffic in those areas needs looked at before we build too much housing etc. by it.
- We are against the calming circle, it hasn't helped anyone in our neighborhood with slowing down. It has caused more problems.
- Left-hand controlled turns in main street intersections should be mandatory. Yielding is causing preventable accidents.
- No bike lanes.
- Hate roundabouts.
- Pedestrian alley looks suspicious.
- Like bikes separated from roadway.
- Get bikes out of the road.

PARKS, RECREATION, COMMUNITY

- I like places for community gathering, clean and organized spaces.
- I'm very pleased with the George W park, it took about 10 years from the initial plan, but you got there and it's rad. Kudos!
- I prefer family-oriented neighborhoods and open spaces (parks, walking paths, trees).
- Keep as much park like area as possible.
- Thanks for the parks and open spaces, please save those where you can.



- Parks around here are very boring for the kids. They should be updated with new equipment that won't burn the kids, is shaded, and gives them more ways to play. Kids love climbing on rocks and playing in the water. St. George has a great free outdoor water play area downtown that would be amazing in Roy. Skate parks at the parks would be good. My kids always want to go to Clearfield to their big skate park but I prefer to stay closer to home or within walking distance. Roy parks have plenty of space to add an in the ground skate park.
- Need a new cemetery!!!!!! Now!!!!!! I've lived in Roy my whole 67 years, and there's no place for my final resting place, coming up sooner, than later!!!!!!
- I like the pictures of parks, bike lanes, kids playing, and greenery the most.
- More community parks with restrooms.
- Parks need bigger better playgrounds. Need trees everywhere.
- Need more parks and trails.

COMMERCE

- Would like to see more sit down restaurants other than fast food and Bee's.
- More shopping centers besides grocery, car washes no more of them, fast food and Chinese restaurants.
- They ruined Roy Years ago when they tore down the cute little shops uptown and the movie theater.
- More stores and shopping.
- Too many old run down businesses on 1900 W. Too many power lines.
- I think Roy needs a better array of businesses and restaurants. I live near 1900 W/5600 S, and all we really have is fast food. The shops that are around don't interest me or my family.
- Please let's invest in building a Dunkin' Donuts and definitely more food places to eat (restaurants preferably). I often travel to other cities for eating establishments.
- Lots of color is great, not too many chain stores.
- More restaurants needed in the west part of Roy.
- I think with Roy and the growth happening a few more good restaurants would be good or a unique business mall to enhance how Roy looks especially when you come into town off of I-15.
- I prefer to have big lots with nice houses and medium open parks with big businesses around the city center, main street, and lightly interspersed through the city to help pay the taxes required to keep city looking good and taxes low.
- How about starting a citizen's committee where people that are interested in seeing particular businesses come to Roy can work with the Roy City Council to offer suggestions and ideas out of the box? I've always wondered why Roy doesn't have a Chick-fil-A? I've always wondered why In-N-Out Burger didn't build across the street from Village Inn? We need to revitalize 1900 West before it ends up deserted like 1900 W in Clearfield.
- 1900 W needs a facelift. It looks shabby. There needs to be renovations done and signage for business needs to more strongly regulated. 1900 W is what most people see when they first arrive in Roy and it does not provide a picture of a prosperous city but rather a tired old city. Commercial land owners need to be held accountable for upkeep, maintenance and appearance of their property.
- Let's make some good positive changes to Roy that attracts businesses to want to come here.



- No more car wash or fast food places.
- I love Roy! I would love to see some mixed-use development at the Frontrunner station. All the trendy places. Coffee shop, sandwich and soup shop, Fizz, bakery, ice cream. Nothing huge, just quick place with unique character that will entice people to grab a morning coffee and take the train to work.
- Please improve 1900 W. It's such an UGLY eyesore!!!!!!
- Roy needs a Walmart.
- Get rid of run down businesses and modernize them.
- I think there should be somewhere for people in recovery. Not AA. A place for yoga, gym, boxing etc.
- It would also be nice to see more stores or retail like stores. It seems like there could be some opportunity for growth here as our family finds ourselves going to Clinton or Riverdale most often.
- We need businesses which are unique to the area to bring people in from Davis and Weber County.
- Prefer smaller grocery over Winco.

COMMENTS RECEIVED THROUGH THE PROJECT WEBSITE