First Impressions

Compiled Report Form

**Community Visited: Goddard Date(s) Visited:** a) 2/3/17 (Friday)

 b) 1/29/17 (Sunday)

 c) 1/29/17 (Sunday)

 d) 1-21-17 (Saturday)

 e) 2/3/17 (Friday)

 f) 2/3/17 (Friday)

**Pre-visit web search: How easy was it to get information on the community you were visiting? Did it accurately reflect what you saw? Did you have difficulties obtaining information on the community through a web search?**

1. Web search was good. I found everything I was looking for. The business directory I found didn't seem to be current, or we couldn't find the cafes and a few other businesses listed.
2. Information seemed pretty available; it seems to help that US-54 going through town helps to pull information especially regarding roadway projects. (See #12, this is an issue in my opinion)
3. No Answer (NA)
4. The website flowed and made sense. Items were easy to find.
5. The city has a nice website with all the usual information available. Noticed the Chamber shares the website with the city.
6. NA
7. **The “Five-Minute” Impression: After taking a five-minute drive through the community without stopping, the following reactions were noted. The following observations were noted when entering the community from major entrances (signs, streetscapes,**
8. My very first impression was... where is the town? All I saw was a row of signs on the north side of the road. But as I drove through all areas of town each section kind of had its own characteristics. Goddard appeared to be a very well kept / clean town. Coming from the east side of the state Goddard is a very flat area, which made the signs stick out even more for me. The school campuses were very impressive. Main Street was nice and wide. I loved the park area.
Lots of pole signs on the north side of the road. Some efforts to streetscape.
I missed the sign to Main Street at first, but then a passenger in my car pointed it out. Noticed different street signs around town. I liked what appeared to be newer ones, they are bigger and easier to read.
9. 4(ish) miles outside of Wichita on US-54, it will be swallowed up as long as Wichita grows·. Goddard should push to have interchanges along US-54 and not traffic signals. Everything looks “nice” and “clean” and “neat”, the water tower could be cleaned or painted.· US-54 is well taken care of, including landscaping and mowing. Cedar, Elm and 2nd Street being gravel seems strange.
10. Having spent fifteen minutes driving around, the most notable aspect was how spread out the community is, between old downtown and concentrated residential to the newer subdivisions. Other notes were the preponderance of residential properties versus non-highway businesses, nice road infrastructure throughout older and newer parts of the city, the existence of a good amount of commercial businesses along Highway 54, and existence of an industrial park.
11. The city made a good first impression. It was clean and everything looked well kept. Overall it looked like a place you would want to visit and stay.
12. Great street signs – easy to read with large letters; love the railroad park/walking trail; lots of businesses but nothing that made me want to stop – just the standard Orscheln’s, Curves, Wal-Mart, vet clinics, lots of fast-food restaurants, the Kwik-Shop – which in addition to Wal-Mart must serve as the community’s grocery as I didn’t see a grocery store. The bathrooms in the Kwik-Shop were clean. That’s the first stop I made upon hitting town. Good wayfinding sign to find downtown; holy moly the schools! There are a ton of them. Looked for a sit down/non fast food place to eat and finally stopped and asked 3 ladies were standing outside on break from their jobs at the nursing home. They were very friendly and pointed us to the Chinese restaurant as being the only sit-down restaurant in Goddard. Most of the homes seemed to be in good repair. There were still a couple gravel/sand streets.
13. Impressed with the amount of Highway 54 business & Industry. First impression of old downtown did not seem to match the hustle/bustle portrayed on the highways. Not lots of Billboard signage. One sign-- turn left to downtown—not much signage to encourage you to “tour the town”

2. **Downtown Business Area**

**Describe the buildings, signs, infrastructure, etc. Explain what type of businesses you observed and give a description of the variety and quality of merchandise displayed. Describe the customer service received when you entered those retail businesses. (Were you greeted? Did you have to ask for assistance?)**

1. The downtown or main street area was kind of low key compared to the rest of the business area. We didn't see a lot of business in the downtown area. The street was nice and wide with plenty of parking. Store fronts were easy to read and locate.
The only store we went into was the convenience store, no one spoke to us. We were just using the restrooms. I was surprised to find out that was the only grocery type store in town. The Chinese diner had good service and good food. No one really spoke to us. Jean did go over and visit with some firemen who were helpful and friendly.
2. Small brick building. Nice clean street and great parking. · Great small town, mid-western. Southern Belle is a great store that was fun to look around. · Everyone I ran into all day was very nice and helpful.
3. Signage is clear regarding the city, but it is mixed in with highway signage, which made it much less visible if you weren’t looking carefully. The city limits monument sign is very noticeable, but it is far enough from Main Street that it did not help locate the downtown area. All infrastructure in the old downtown business area is older, but very well preserved. The buildings are similarly well maintained, as are signs. The first building on Main Street south of the highway is interesting with its mural, and the mix of residential along Main Street as you head south into what looks more like a traditional downtown is also interesting. Mix of boutique, hair styling, Library, City Offices, childcare, health, etc. It appears to be a variety for a small, older downtown. Not much displayed and visible from the street. Sunday visit, didn’t get a chance to go into businesses.
4. Streets were well marked with a large Goddard sign. I thought everything was well marked and easy to find. We were greeted as soon as we entered the shop and the individual working was very helpful.
5. Lots and lots of pole signs ☹ the frontage road aspect makes it hard to add any beautification to the main highway through town. Along the main highway the buildings all seemed to at least be neat and clean. Some buildings along the main drag were metal buildings without any “covering.” In Louisburg you can build metal but a percentage of it has to be covered in stucco, brick, etc. The downtown was small, like Louisburg. Most of the businesses appeared to appeal to locals – hair salon, dog grooming, etc. The main street was wide. The community building next to city hall was a pleasant looking building and appeared to be large enough to handle a decent number of people. I forgot to ask for a tour of it. City Hall was well marked and easy to find. As mentioned earlier, lots of fast food and national/regional chain businesses. No offense but I didn’t shop, since your Orscheln’s, is probably much like our Orscheln’s. Ate lunch at the Chinese restaurant. The staff was friendly. I came with 2 others – one a volunteer fireman – and when we pulled into the parking lot we noticed a truck with a firefighter license plate. After we ordered I figured out which diners were the firefighters so I joined their table and introduced myself. The firefighter had recently moved to Goddard and had been a volunteer in his hometown. Since Goddard has a paid fire crew he no longer volunteers. And you could tell he really missed it. I visited with him and his co-worker for a bit and then he stopped by our table on this way out and talked a while longer. The funny thing is he was from Lincoln, KS and we both knew another person from Lincoln. Small world. Since one of the persons I was with was a volunteer fireman we stopped by the fire station and introduced ourselves. They were very welcoming. I had my camera with me and I was asked not to take pictures inside the building. Josh took us on a tour and filled us in on the town. He showed us a map of Goddard and filled in some gaps we had. For example we couldn’t find upscale housing and he pointed out where that was at. He was a really nice and answered all our questions.
6. Boring, not much attention has been given to maintain, beautify old downtown. Absence of retail (WalMart came in 2007). Did not see any retail. Many professional buildings & offices. All food is fast food on highway 54.

**What public amenities were available (drinking fountains, benches, public restrooms, etc.) Comment on appealing landscaping and streetscaping. Did you have difficulty finding parking? Could you access multiple services from where you parked?**

1. In the park there were drinking fountains, benches, restrooms and a nice trail for walkers and bikers. No trouble with parking. Yes we could access multiple services.
2. Benches along Main Street are very nice. Downtown parking is great and if you park centrally, you can access many businesses.
3. Library in downtown advertising bingo, must include multi-use function; public pool downtown (traditional looking older municipal pool); park facilities associated with pool area; nice looking combination of upgraded paved and gravel rails to trails bike/walk path throughout the city running east/west (looking at map later showed it connects west to Garden Plain and east into Wichita (?) which is very nice reuse of right-of-way and a good program. Streets are traditional to anywhere from 1950s-1980s, with inclusion of north/south ADA ramps along sidewalks, well maintained sidewalks with minor patching, well maintained streets, nice brick inlay around Public Library, unique community center and overall nice landscaping throughout (where present). Parking wasn’t an issue on Sunday, and it would really depend on what you were going to downtown for whether you would reach a number of services from parking location – it would be easy enough to stop into City Offices to pay a bill and then hop over to the Library less than a block away.
4. Nice digital sign that did not overwhelm the area. We did not see very many people downtown. Plenty of parking. I spoke a gentleman who was outside on the street. He said he had been in the area for several years. He was proud of the direction of the city is currently taking. For walking up to someone randomly, he was a good ambassador for your city. Plenty of parking downtown. It was the wrong type of the year for landscaping.
5. There were restrooms, benches and water fountains at the RR park – called Linear Park. I was surprised the restrooms were open in the winter but they were. The park area was really neat. Neat playground equipment for the kids. The storm shelter there was very cool and I hope it’s never used. Parking was not an issue when we visited. I want to say there was a planter box in front of the community building but it’s hard to tell in the winter. There were planter barrels at Linear Park but obviously nothing was growing in them.
6. Park/walking trails, storm shelter, sidewalks to schools.
7. **Other Retail Shopping Areas**

**Describe other retail shopping areas. Were the areas attractive and easy to access?**

1. The shopping we saw was along the north side of 54. All were easy to access.
2. Everything along US-54 looks very nice; I didn’t stop but the new development area (Dove Estates) north of the Church of the Holy Spirit looks great.
3. Along the highway where most of the retail options appear to be, access is easy enough if you know where the accesses to the frontage roads are. Frontage roads are essential for access off of a highway like 54, and the businesses along the same are easily access from that frontage street. Most of the businesses along the highway look newer and nice.
4. The other two retail shopping areas seemed attractive and looked like places that you would want to shop.
5. Everything was easy to access. The frontage roads made accessing businesses along the highway very safe. I find a proliferation of pole signs to be not so charming.
6. Highway 54. Frontage road: Taco Bell, Pizza Hut, Chinese, Sonic

4. **Industrial Parks/Commercial Areas**

**Is there a defined area where manufacturing industries could easily locate/expand? If so, describe.**

1. We saw an industrial park, it was easy to locate and there seemed to be room to expand. When / if the Hotel & Family entertainment Center, Aquatic center, Wellness Center and Ball complex goes in that area looks to be pretty impressive.
2. The area just east of Goddard Road seems to be the main industrial area, it also seem that there is ample room for the area to grow. Good planning would serve Goddard well in punching Industrial Street through to the east or providing a truck friendly route to US-54.
3. There is an industrial park that appears to the location of all industrial and heavy commercial operations. While the zoning map online shows city limits confined closer to the existing industrial park, it appears there is plenty of space for future expansion if land were obtained for that purpose.
4. NA
5. There was an industrial area just north of the high school. It appeared there would be room to expand. There was also some vacant land to the west near the Dillon’s warehouse that I would assume could be used for additional industry if needed.
6. Yes.

5. **Health Care Services**

**Comment on the availability and apparent quality of hospitals and emergency medical services.**

1. I didn't see a hospital, but did locate a doctor’s office.
2. I thought I had missed it, but when I googled it I couldn’t find a hospital in Goddard (not even a doctor’s office, which seems really strange).
3. There is a home medical supply business along the highway, physical therapy (?), a chiropractor, and senior housing neighborhood that I noted. All appeared to be of good quality from the outside.
4. It was Saturday and we did not visit any health services offices but we did notice that several existed.
5. Goddard, like Louisburg, is not large enough for a hospital. We did see a chiropractic office and eye doctor. There was also a nursing home.
6. Health Care is 10 minutes away and there is good response from Emergency crews.

**Comment on the availability and condition of facilities for physicians, dentists, optometrists, public health and other healthcare providers.**

1. No Answer
2. There is a dentist (Arnold Stephen) on Main Street, very small brick building but probably perfect for Goddard, for now.
3. There is plenty of potential for new offices, and the existing services appear to be of good quality.
4. They all looked useable from the outside.
5. The offices we did see seemed to be new looking, and attractive for the public and easily accessible for anyone that would have mobility issues.
6. NA

**What long-term care services, assisted living or nursing facilities exist in the community?**

1. The Senior Living Center appeared to be very nice on the north east side of town.
2. I won’t lie, I love the fact you can retire to Medicalodges along Easy Street. Dove Estates also looks beautiful.
3. Looked like there is a dedicated neighborhood of new assisted living on the north side of the city, adjacent to newer subdivisions.
4. NA
5. There was at least 1 nursing home and it appeared there were some affordable senior housing and then a more upscale retirement community.
6. 2 nursing homes (one has senior apartments & Transitional care)

6. **Housing**

**Give a brief description of the existing mix of housing stock. Does the local market have housing that would appeal to all income wages? What challenges do you see in regards to finding acceptable housing? (Neighborhoods, size, properties for sale, etc.)**

1. There seemed to be all income levels of housing available. The neighborhoods on the northeast side of town had some new houses going in, good sign of growth.
2. Housing does not seem to be an issue. All income wages seem to be represented, but similar to many small towns homes seem to sell very fast with little higher middle class inventory.
3. There appears to be a very good mix of houses. The older part of the city looks like more traditional 1950s housing with smaller spacing, and the new subdivisions have the more typical 2000+ housing. The subdivisions look to appeal to a higher wage/salary primarily, but one of them did seem to be smaller housing, smaller yards and ideally more affordable. There appeared to be a good potential for continued building of the housing stock, and perhaps some additional development along the south side of the highway between Wal-Mart and the older part of the City. This could also be additional commercial/industrial development as it was not listed specifically what was going in (if anything).
4. There looked like a wide variety of housing sizes for sale. Although, it sort of seemed to vary street to street instead of neighborhood to neighborhood.
5. I didn’t notice many older homes for sale. The homes for the most part appeared to be neat and tidy and the neighborhoods looked attractive. I would guess there were most home prices available from entry level to upscale. The upscale subdivision was a little weird in that it didn’t have curbs and gutters and what’s with the couple of houses that looked like they had RV garage doors? That looked really out of character for the neighborhood. I don’t recall seeing any apartments.
6. NA

**What kind of rental properties did you observe for persons interested in building or simply living in the community prior to buying housing?**

1. I don't remember any rental properties.
2. Rental property seems available and competitive.
3. There were a number of apartments and hotel accommodations in the community. It was not overly clear if there was an abundance of rental housing based on driving around.
4. We did not observe any rental houses
5. Again, I didn’t notice any rental property. A few of the subdivisions had new builds going on or had empty lots that would be available for purchase. City Hall told us that Goddard only has 18% of its homes as rental while the average in Kansas communities is 34%.
6. Goddard rental housing is 18%, 34% rentals nationally.

7. **Schools**

**Do the following schools appear to be adequate in size or do you see the use of temporary classrooms? Are the buildings and grounds well-maintained?**

1. All schools were available and appeared to be adequate in size. The buildings and grounds were all well maintained.
2. NA
3. This is a significant school district with quite a few schools in the city. My wife and I enjoyed the space theme of the newer district schools. There was at least one children’s academy, which seems to be an option for pre-school learning and development. All schools and associated businesses seemed similarly well maintained as with the rest of the city.
4. From the outside all of the schools looked like they were in very good shape.
5. The number of schools for such a small community, wow! – then we found out you pull enrollment from west Wichita so that explains that. The schools all looked very good – nice facilities, looked like there was an alternative school, a number of grade schools, and at least two middle and high schools. The sports complex with football field, track, soccer, softball /baseball made me drool. City Hall informed us the school district has 700 employees but not many live in Goddard, which is a shame. There are 5,000+ students in the school system.
6. There are 5,800 students, the largest employer. There are 12 school buildings: 2 high schools, 2 Middle schools, 2 intermediate, 5 elementary, 1 alternative.

**Were you able to find print information in the community that helped assess the quality of the educational system?**

1. Yes
2. Goddard seems to have two high schools; both seem to score well with 90%+ graduation rates and good test scores.
3. NA
4. The gentleman I mentioned earlier said that “we have great schools, high quality”
5. I found a brochure for the Parents as Teachers program at City Hall.
6. Print is old school—online presence should be viewed. 3 parochial schools- through elementary.
7. **Childcare**

**Were you able to determine if childcare was affordable and available?**

1. Not sure about affordable, but we did see what appeared to be a day care building.
2. Was not open, but has great reviews online.
3. Seemed like there were three or more nice looking childcare facilities throughout the city. I would imagine these to be affordable for the income of the community
4. We did not observe this
5. I want to say I saw a sign for a home daycare but not positive on that. I did not notice any daycare facility.
6. Several home providers, one commercial one on main street, school district has a pre-school—mostly for early identified special needs students.
7. **Faith/Religion**

**Comment on the number of denominations and the physical appearances of the churches represented in the community. Did you observe any evidence of church-sponsored community services?**

1. Located several churches. No evidence of church-sponsored community services
2. There seem to be many churches in Goddard.
3. .There were a number of large churches in the community, two of which looked new and located on the highway. The Catholic church/school is expanding, so attendance must be good. Not sure I noted any evidence of church-sponsored community service.
4. We saw several large churches.
5. There were a number of different churches in Goddard and it looked like the Catholic church was adding on.
6. 8 Churches
7. **Civic**

**Tell about the variety of nonprofit organizations and clubs within the community. Did you see any evidence of civic organization activity?**

1. Did not see any evidence of civic organization activity.
2. Hard to find, didn’t see much.
3. Not sure about organizations in the city. Looking back at google earth there appears to be a sign for Lions Club bingo, that would have at least one local organization active, but the images are from 2015.
4. Our visit was only one day, we could not evaluate this. Saw a Lions club symbol on a sign.
5. I know there is a Chamber of Commerce because it’s on the City’s webpage. In the Progress edition of the area newspaper I noticed mention of the Young Professionals of Goddard. Didn’t see evidence of civic organization activity, but again winter time is an awful time to visit. Sorry!
6. Lions- Bingo Night
7. **Public Infrastructure**

**Comment in general on the streets, street signage, sidewalks, parking, lighting, restrooms, landscaping, and streetscapes in areas other than downtown. Did you observe land use planning?**

1. We did noticed new street signs that were bigger and easier to read. We were surprised to find a few gravel roads inside city limits.
2. The High School is off to the south and seems to be great land-use planning that has positioned the school to be centralized for future growth.
3. Streets and sidewalks seemed well maintained throughout the older and newer parts of the city. There were typical infrastructure patching and gaps in infrastructure that can be found with older cities and newer development (gaps in sidewalks in particular). Street signage appears standard throughout. Sidewalks appear to be required throughout neighborhoods, as well as certain quotas for park space. Retention ponds in the subdivisions are nice in appearance. While including a large amount of residential, the areas of commercial and industry are all found in traditional planning locations and/or in current, common planning and zoning locations.
4. The streets, Sidewalks and lighting all seemed to be in very good shape
5. Streets were nice although some were still gravel/sand. Streets were well marked. We weren’t there at nighttime so I’m not sure about lighting. And there was a car-charging station at Linear Park. Wow! Now that is cool. Goddard has a new development, Goddard Destination, planned. This is a STAR bond project so they are in the hurry-up-and-wait mode. The one upscale housing development was a bit funky in that it was not built with curbs & gutters and the weird RV garage that I mentioned earlier.
6. NA

**Comment on city/town hall (How were you received? Was there information about the town available?)**

1. We learned a lot at city hall! We spent a good hour visiting with a City administrator. He was very helpful and shared information with us. There was plenty of information about the town available for us to take.
2. City Hall is a one story brick building on main street and I drove past it twice before I googled it and found it. It is a nice building, but very unassuming.
3. NA
4. We did not go into city hall.
5. We found the Progress edition of the newspaper at city hall. I didn’t notice any other city-specific brochures. I wish I could have found something on Tanganyika, the wildlife park. That’s a unique visit in Goddard that would have been interesting to know more about – like are they open in the winter, what are their hours, etc. We were warmly received at City Hall. I did not introduce myself when I first went in but asked about the hook-up fees for sewer and water if I wanted to build a home. We then spent about a half hour or more talking with the newly hired community development director. He was extremely helpful and educated us quite a bit on Goddard. We talked about many different things and it was nice to hear another perspective. I really hope that he can make the visit to Louisburg as I would value his opinion.
6. NA

**Police/fire protection:**

1. We had a great visit at the fire department
2. The police station is located on Main Street and very accessible.
3. Both were present and evident. Newer looking fire station on the north side of the city. Police appears to be associated with City Offices.
4. We saw City police protection within the city
5. The fire station appeared to be top notch and the police department was located in City Hall.
6. Volunteer? Paid personnel?

**Library:**

1. NA
2. The public library is along Main Street and looks great, I like the signage.
3. Yes, nice looking Library in the older downtown area.
4. We did not go into the Library
5. We didn’t make it on a visit to the library but did notice they had a very nice looking facility. They also have a nice website.
6. Very friendly, helpful director. Not as many services offered as Louisburg. 3 mills from city supports the library.

**City parks (walking tracks, ballparks, playgrounds, sportsplex)**

1. The walking trail and park are very impressive. The school sports complex was also impressive.
2. Tanganyika Wildlife Park is really a great locale for Goddard. Similar to Louisburg, these types of places are a great family draw.
3. Quite a few park facilities throughout, whether associated with the city in general, with schools or with neighborhoods. There are a number of school associated ball fields and tennis courts. The bike trail is really a nice amenity.
4. We looked at one of the parks and it seemed very nice.
5. Love Linear Park with the walking trail and playground. The school district has awesome sports facilities. I’m trying to remember if I saw other sporting fields/etc and can’t remember for sure. It’s a lot to take in on one visit.
6. Walking tracks, 2 football fields/stadiums, many tennis course.
7. **Recreation/Tourism**

**Is the community well-known for any particular attraction or event? Do they have a community slogan that capitalizes on that asset?**

1. Not that I am aware of,
2. I found this interesting: if I google “city of goddard ks web” Google directs me to the city of Wichita.
3. Tanganyika Wildlife Park is a well-known attraction. It doesn’t appear there is a community slogan that capitalizes on a particular asset. For some time I know Goddard was known as the fastest growing community in Kansas.
4. We thought this was a very inviting community.
5. They do have a new, more modern logo. I don’t recall seeing a slogan. I would guess that the Tanganyika Wildlife Park is a big deal but other than a road sign I didn’t see much on it. According to The Progress publication there is a big fall festival with parade that brings a large number of folks into town.
6. NA

**Did you see any indication of significant events taking place in the community that would be of interest to both visitors and residents?**

1. No
2. NA
3. No
4. Not really
5. Not on the day we visited and there wasn’t anything on the community activities board mounted to the outside of the community building.
6. NA

**Elaborate on any significant natural or manmade features that have the potential of drawing people to the community.**

1. Tanganyika Wildlife Park
2. There are a few lakes around Goddard that would be a personal draw for me, the Cheney Reservoir is pretty amazing.
3. The wildlife park has the greatest obvious appeal.
4. NA
5. For those of us who live in eastern Kansas it’s a novelty to be in a location that is so flat and you can see for a great distance. ☺
6. NA

**Is there an obvious visitor’s center, chamber of commerce office, main street office, or other facility that serves the needs of visitors? Comment on the staff, facilities, signage, visibility, etc.**

1. City Hall - no Chamber of Commerce found. City Hall staff was friendly and helpful.
2. NA
3. City Offices are an obvious choice to seek out additional information. It looked like an information board on the outside of the community center.
4. NA
5. There was a nice wayfaring sign on Kellogg that directed folks to the downtown area and ultimately to City Hall. But not sure where visitors would find that information in the off hours …. Perhaps the library???
6. Inside city offices, but no indication that is their location.

**Are there any restaurants, specialty shops or attractions that would bring you back to this community in the near future?**

1. NA
2. NA
3. Wildlife park.
4. I really liked the overall appearance and feel of the community.
5. The thing that would bring me there if I were in the area was Linear Park. I loved that park! Goddard, I expect, has the same issues as Louisburg – it’s so close to the metro area that most people work there and just stop and shop on the way home. Other than the pole signs, which we were told are going away in 2020 or 2021 – best decision Goddard will make – is city officials are thinking of building a new city hall near the Goddard Destination area. That’s my only hiccup. I would encourage city officials to think about keeping city hall in your tradition downtown. To me that’s what sets Goddard apart of just being another Wichita. You invest in your community’s future by keeping your city offices in downtown. The people that we spoke with were very friendly and I thought Goddard was a very comparable city to Louisburg. Goddard looks to be a great place to live and raise a family.
6. NA
7. **Wrap-up**

**What are the most positive things you observed about the community?**

1. The schools, the park area, and the potential growth and attraction of the new development. This community appears to take care pride in their town.
2. Huge growth opportunity and a great highway to feed the heart of the community. A vacant City Council position seems strange for a community that needs great leadership.
3. We had a couple of people wave at us while driving around, which is always a good sign in Kansas. We were impressed with the cleanliness of the city and the quality of infrastructure.
4. The random gentleman on the street was a great salesman for your community. The town seemed clean and inviting
5. Goddard will continue to be an attractive option for people that don’t want to live in Wichita but want the advantages of being near it and in a great school district. One of the biggest assets to any town are the people and those that we met were very nice and friendly. It would be great to see more mom and pop shops to draw people in. I can go anywhere and find a McDonalds, Wal-Mart, etc but I can’t find “the Goddard Boutique” anywhere else.
6. NA

**What are the biggest obstacles/challenges facing this community?**

1. The location of being close to Wichita, keeping some businesses just a drive away. Completion of the new development.
2. Great planning with great foresight, it’s hard to do. If you do it correctly, it’s huge.
3. Bridging the divide from older part of the city with that of the newer. While there is no doubt a community identity, it wasn’t evident by way of signage or common slogan.
4. The community gives a great first impression one of my daughters would want a more updated pool, but overall it seems like a nice community.
5. Wichita – and not being gobbled up by that city. It’s hard to keep your identity when you are so close to a major metro area with all its “conveniences” and I use that term loosely. I think the other thing is the sense of a community – it’s hard to do that when you are a bedroom community especially one with 2 high schools as not even the schools can make that community connection.
6. Itself! Developing shared vision.

**What will you remember most about this community six month from now (positive or negative)?**

1. The size of the schools. The impressive school campuses. The wonderful park and trail system.
2. The potential it has. It is very close to Wichita and everything seems new and shiny, except for the gravel roads in town.
3. How nice the community seemed based on its maintenance, schools and residences.
4. The appearance of the community and the gentleman who seemed like a great salesman for your city.
5. Linear Park. Pole signs and the fact that you’ll eventually get rid of those.
6. NA

First Impressions was developed by the University of Wisconsin-Extension and adapted for use by K-State Research and Extension. Restructuring made possible through a partnership with the Dane G. Hansen Foundation.

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Stations and Cooperative Extension Service

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension Works, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914 as amended. Kansas State University, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and the United State Department of Agriculture Cooperating, John D. Floros, Director.