Meeting summary: Regional collaboration and partnerships

Attendees: Lisa Kelly (Chair), Debbie Buckley (Staff), Chris Manning (PT Rep), Bob Heil, Drew Schwegman, Megan Krieg, Bob Yoder, David Wecker, Sam Shelton, Dave Wormald, Mike McDonough, Jack Moreland

Discussion Items:
- What does the region think about Fort Thomas?
- What do we want the region to think?
- Do we need to develop a narrative?
- Need critical mass
- Unique experience
- Parking is a challenge
- Leverage our assets
- Connect with our neighbors
- Be welcoming
- Bicycle trail is so important
- Riverfront Commons partnership with Southbank
- Each community wants to have their own identity but leverage the group to pursue funding
- Six City “Trail Town” designation. Connection to KY tourism
- Fort Thomas as a unique destination
- Not welcoming?
- Not a rivertown
- We sit “up on a hill”
- Why don’t our business succeed and draw people?
- Tower Park mountain bike trails
- Events (Hill top Commons)
- Loveland Bike Trail as a “Fitness Ecosystem” and a “Fitness Economy”. Study Loveland as a case study
- Regional Parks system?
- Licking Blueway (Water trail)
- OKI think regionally
- What are our demographics?
meeting summary:
regional collaboration:

- We need to be a destination
- We need to be strategic
- The Stables building
- Midway/Tower Park as nucleus to the regional recreation destination
- We have to build the infrastructure, and generate the traffic, and businesses will come
- It’s easy to get lost in Ft. Thomas. How do we make it easier to drive people to our businesses and destinations?
- Wayfinding is needed
- Focus on the Avenue Business District Spine
- Focus on Rt. 8
- How many ways can you get up and down?
- River Rd. needs enhancement
- Fort Thomas Forest Conservancy
- Hillside stabilization as trigger to get large $$ that would allow for trail to be built.
- May be opportunity to purchase the RR corridor
- Rt. 8 going away from KYTC is opportunity
- Wasson Way as a comparable
- Coney Island Ferry Ramp is Silver Grove is being rebuilt
- Ft. Thomas got the grant for the small trail $80,000 natural surface
- A riverfront cleanup
- We should start acquiring properties along River Rd. and Rt. 8 to make the connections we want. (Hand off to Roger/Joe- Riverfront Redevelopment Corp?). Easements are a possibility too.
- Meet in 2 weeks- October 9, 7pm, City Building.
- Get copies of Comp Plans of adjacent cities
- Do a formal SWOT Analysis