



Reports of Results of Area Gatherings

Based on the direction of the Advisory Group at its first meeting on March 31, 2019 three area gatherings were organized as outreach events on behalf of New Albany Next. The meetings presented a format similar to the first Advisory Group meeting. Participants were oriented to key data points for New Albany and then engaged in an interactive exercise.

The purpose of the interactive exercise was to offer participants an opportunity to shape fundamental directions of New Albany Next. Specifically, participants were asked what were the “planning imperatives” for New Albany over the next 10 to 20 years if the city was to enhance its position as one of the best small towns in America. Participants worked in groups and identified critical areas on maps as well as listing their imperatives. Participants were also asked what the barriers may be in addressing these items. A fourth session was added in on June 24 which engaged a group of young people.

These meetings were held May 23, 28 and 30 and attracted over 100 participants. The results of all three area gatherings, as well as the input from the Advisory Group, have been aggregated and filtered by category or topic. The categories used in the sorting results are listed below.

1. Infill, Redevelopment, New Development, Housing
2. Riverfront and Downtown
3. Parks and Recreation
4. Medical District/Healthcare
5. Community Marketing, Tourism, Events and Activities
6. Industrial, Retail Growth, Job and Population Growth
7. Mobility
8. Community Support Infrastructure
9. Aesthetics, Design, Built Environment

WHAT'S NEXT FOR NEW ALBANY?

The City of New Albany is planning its future and wants to hear from you!

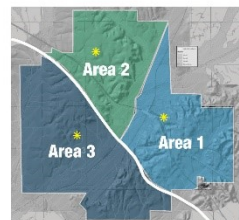
What are the best aspects of life in New Albany?

What opportunities lie ahead for a vibrant, flourishing community?

What changes should be anticipated or planned for over the next 20 years?

Upcoming Area Gatherings:

- May 23 - #1 Magnolia Civic Center - 5:30-6:45
- May 28 - #2 Ladies Building at the Fairgrounds - 5:30-6:45
- May 30 - #3 New Albany Community Center - 5:30-6:45



Join us for one of the area gatherings listed to express your thoughts on:

NEW ALBANY NEXT

For More Information visit:
WWW.NEWALBANYNEXT.COM

- 10. Education
- 11. Management, Administration, City Codes

1. Infill, Redevelopment, New Development, Housing

- 1. Affordable good housing.
- 2. Landlords who work with developers
- 3. Housing, affordable, new, and demolition where needed
- 4. Residential development
- 5. Revitalize downtown neighborhoods
- 6. Need housing - affordable, and rental
- 7. Redevelopment and revitalization of aging areas of town
- 8. Promotion of new development and redevelopment
- 9. Diversified housing
- 10. Tax credits and other perks for those improving their properties
- 11. Fix pockets of blight
- 12. Fix blight at Hwy. 30 at the city limits
- 13. More affordable housing
- 14. Revitalize north and south side neighborhoods.
- 15. Ordinances are key for owners and renters
- 16. New houses/renovate old houses (northeast)
- 17. Rest Haven (clean up houses, get an owner who cares)
- 18. More security, more seating (apartment complex)

Barriers- lack of inventory due to lack of new development and redevelopment, zoning regs

2. Riverfront and Downtown

- 1. Riverfront development^[SEP]
- 2. River development^[SEP]
- 3. What could be done to benefit the park along the river (old Family Dollar building and parking lot not being used)^[SEP]
- 4. Riverfront accessibility- safe, easy^[SEP]
- 5. River park- fencing, lighting, safety, restrooms^[SEP]/ Park along the river
- 6. Riverfront cleanup^[SEP]
- 7. Take advantage of the river
- 8. River usage- clean, dam off for activity^[SEP]Tallahatchie river enhancement. It is the center hub from which both sides radiate. Connection to wooded areas and park
- 9. Riverfront development^[SEP]
- 10. Utilizing both sides of the river^[SEP]
- 11. Lake^[SEP]



12. Capitalize on river- utilize flood plain between Carter and the river as well as natural resources (look at Roswell, GA Chattahoochee Nature Center)

Barriers-land is privately held, money, flooding, water level

A stakeholder meeting with Mississippi Dept. of Environmental Quality is needed.

3. Parks and Recreation

1. Parks for all ages and abilities^{[L][SEP]}
2. Splash pad at Central Park^{[L][SEP]}
3. Add lake for recreation and to help control river level^{[L][SEP]}
4. Park upgrades to generate economic activity (sports tournaments which bring people to town)
5. Better use of Park and Recreation department^{[L][SEP]}
6. Quality youth development -sportsplex (city-sponsored vs. travel ball)^{[L][SEP]}
7. Parks upkeep/upgrades/drainage/beautification^{[L][SEP]}
8. Park improvement, recreation equipment, location, special needs, age variety/ Park improvements- safety, accessibility for all, more activities (family friendly), lighting^{[L][SEP]}/Maintenance of city properties, including parks/Improve parks^{[L][SEP]}
9. All parks upgraded- Shady Dell, South Central Park, BNA Park (soccer fields)^{[L][SEP]}
10. River park – fencing, lighting, safety, restrooms^{[L][SEP]}
11. YMCA/BBBS- swimming for kids, sports activities, things for at risk children^{[L][SEP]}
12. Beautify basketball courts^{[L][SEP]}
13. More recreation for seniors/youth^{[L][SEP]}Grow healthcare and recreation^{[L][SEP]}
14. Turn old Healthplex into YMCA or a community-run building (swimming pool, exercise)
15. Community park with pool
16. Make one of the tennis courts a basketball court (see map, by middle school)
17. Upgrade water park/Bigger water park

Barriers- money, security, accountability, funding, commitment from city officials

4. Medical District/Health Care

1. Healthcare/healthy living
2. Expand medical campus
3. Maintains good, strong healthcare
4. Grow healthcare and recreation
5. Emphasize medical community

A stakeholder meeting with Baptist Union County would be helpful in understanding future plans.



5. Marketing, Tourism, Events and Activities, Life Quality

1. Have more day destinations to attract in tourists
2. All-purpose building holding 5,000 to be an asset to draw to the community
3. Update Fairgrounds
4. Community activities that target a broader range of audiences
5. Arts District along the trail
6. Event center
7. Being able to offer events with the sale of adult beverages
8. Use of the community center housing events
9. Community cultural activities
10. Entertainment and food opportunities
11. Programs/offering, especially for children
12. Public events, festivals (weekly and monthly)
13. Make Tanglefoot, library, park along the river, Blues Trail, museum, Mosley Studios, and all natural resources into a marketable community
14. Lifestyle, trendy and cool (attractive to young people)
15. Safety

Barriers – participation by community, volunteers, organizers, money, ordinance (adult beverages).

6. Industrial, Retail Growth, Job and Population Growth

1. Diversified industrial recruitment
2. Population recruitment
3. Expand NEMCC in New Albany
4. Downtown accessibility (stores open more days, more hours)
5. Recruit more retail downtown (facelift of Sunflower strip mall)
6. Recruit more, and more diverse, fast food
7. New employment and industry
8. Commercial and industrial promotion and recruitment
9. Jobs: industry, retail, private practice, diversification
10. Develop Hwy. 15 corridor commercially
11. Broaden downtown sidewalks. Eateries could have outdoor tables (parallel park rather than angled parking to create space; dispense with center parking)
12. Turn old trucking company land into overflow parking
13. Expand Central Business District
14. Variety of jobs, especially tech companies.
15. Gender- neutral job opportunities.
16. More retail (targeted)
17. Diversity in industry
18. Expanding down Hwy. 15 north (annexation)



19. Replace Waffle House with Chick-Fil-A/Chick-Fil-A
20. Make Fred's an arcade center
21. Shopping outlet/Mall
22. Skating rink (bring back)
23. Movie Reel – new seats
24. McDonald's – clean kitchen
25. Lodge – turn it into an arcade

Barriers – money, planning, workforce, workforce housing

A stakeholder meeting with NEMCC is needed.

7. Mobility

1. Free transportation (loop around the city)/Developing public transportation/bus, public transit/ Traveling bus (local transit)
2. Sidewalks needed/Handicap accessible sidewalks and streets^[SEP]/ Better sidewalks
3. Improve narrow street (difficult for truck traffic)
4. Make transportation improvements at Hwy. 30 and I-22
5. Improved roads^[SEP]
6. Maintain roads and bridges (many new people and restaurants but not being able to keep up with what we have)^[SEP]
7. Add south loop road, improving infrastructure and downtown traffic^[SEP]
8. Loop road from Munsford to Hwy. 15^[SEP]
9. Improve airport^[SEP]
10. Roundabout^[SEP]
11. Walkability^[SEP]
12. Traffic at hospital interchange and all four exits

Barriers – money, logistics for good traffic flow

A stakeholder meeting with Mississippi Dept. of Transportation is needed

8. Community Support Infrastructure

1. Community storm shelters
2. Infrastructure^[SEP]
3. Improve internet/cell service/citywide WIFI
4. Infrastructure: streets, utilities, city services



5. Water quality^[SEP]
6. Water and sewer
7. Uber and Wi-Fi/Community Wi-Fi/Social media park

Barriers – funding, other considerations for WIFI?, logistics

9. Aesthetics, Design, Built Environment

1. Train tracks, horn – replace crossings with overpasses
2. Yard of the Month in all neighborhoods (nomination signs too)
3. Presentation – clean up the city
4. Environmental, tree canopy
5. Entrances to city and major intersections
6. The way things look (everywhere)
7. Curb appeal
8. Green space
9. Continuity in directional signage

Barriers – RR company, attitudes and participation

Stakeholder meeting with RR

10. Education

1. Maintain good schools/Education/Schools/ Keep growing and improving schools/improvement of schools^[SEP]
2. Expand services at the library^[SEP]
3. Expand NEMCC in New Albany^[SEP]
4. Better food systems (school food)
5. Bigger schools (overcrowding)
6. Step teams for schools
7. Change Ford School into a place where people can get back on their feet

11. Management, Administration, Codes

1. Make ordinances easier to understand
2. Enhanced management of city-owned properties
3. Government cooperation: development, lobbying for county lake
4. Define accountability/roles in the city
5. Ensure appropriate revenue
6. Look at zoning areas light industrial/light industrial zoning and commercial along Munsford Drive
7. Mixed-Use areas (live, work, play)
8. Curb appeal (using codes to accomplish)



Each red dot indicates the address of an individual participant in one of 3 input sessions held on May 23, 28, and 30 of 2019. Not all participants signed in. The distribution represents about 70 percent of those who participated.



0 0.5 1 2 Miles

New Albany Area Gatherings Distribution