

Community Conversations – 4/17/10

Citizen Comments

General Comments

- Citizens responded very positively to use of clicker technology.
- Concerned that there tends to be a focus on certain regions, don't travel to other areas of the County.
- Want the results posted.
- Wanted the High Springs example on the PowerPoint to be changed to a Gainesville example so that it would be more relevant.
- Understand that citizens need to do more to be involved.
- Should look at other sources of revenue (tax exempt and non-profits)
- Want to get more input from County employees on where to cut.

Why do you believe that county government exists?

- To serve the citizenry.
- To provide services (road, police, etc.)
- To provide services to rural areas that city governments are unable to provide for.
- To cover the area within its boundaries, taking into account changing technologies.

What do you fear we will reduce that you believe is necessary for the County to continue to do?

- That entire programs will be killed, would rather general reductions.
- Services for the poor (housing, transportation, etc.)
- County planning
- The environment
- Public Safety

What Services are you willing to reduce or do without?

- Over excessive response to certain situations, especially with regard to public safety, think there should be a guideline for controlling expenses.
- Better managed responses.
- Getting billed for EMS services, fees could be charged.

Community Conversations – 4/19/10

Citizen Comments

Why do you believe that county government exists?

- To provide basic services, other than state mandates, that other entities are not in a position to provide.

What do you fear we will reduce that you believe is necessary for the County to continue to do?

- Public Safety (Number of patrol units on the road)
- Road services
- Social services

What Services are you willing to reduce or do without?

- The arts, funding for festivals.
- Social services.
- Funding to the non-profits/501C3s
- Maybe funding for environmental stewardship

Community Conversations – 4/26/10

Citizen Comments

- Receptive to clicker technology.
- Very curious about inmate medical.
- Wanted to know what could be done, in terms of community involvement, that would benefit the community most.
- Want the County to be innovative, such as charge for parking in downtown offices lots after hours, instead of closing them off to the public.

Why do you believe that county government exists?

- Because it has to.
- Provides services businesses will not provide.

What do you fear we will reduce that you believe is necessary for the County to continue to do?

- Public Services (social services, health care)
- Parks and Recreation to keep children active (children services)
- Road services and funding for them, concerned they will never be addressed.
- Lack of information available for veterans, same for poverty and homelessness.
- Public transportation.

What Services are you willing to reduce or do without?

- Building inspection (seems like there is too much free time)
- Taxes should be increased, at least on a local level.

Other than paying taxes, have you volunteered/provided a service to the community/County? If so, how?

- Volunteering
- Serving on advisory boards.