

Land Between the Lakes Community Visioning Session

Kenlake State Resort Park 12/11/18 6-8PM

HIGH POINT/COMMON THEMES

Table #	
1	Family togetherness
	Place for 1st experiences
	Generation to generation
	Diversity of EE and Rec opportunities
	Outdoors with kids
2	Connection
	Meeting diverse needs
	Solitude
	Diverse landscape
3	Spending time w/ family
	Connecting kids w/ nature
	Disconnecting from every day
	Variety of activities/opportunities that draw people to LBL
4	Family, memories, and connections
	Appreciation of natural beauty
	Educational draw/attraction
	Community relationships
5	Educational Opportunities (Environmental & Historical)
	Exposure to natural world....quiet, solitude, wildlife
	The "stuff" left by people that messes it up
6	Opportunities-- Diversity of...
	History & family and kids & learning are both lasting memories
	Landscape beauty
	Presence
7	Family togetherness
	Destination (close to home)
	Destination (away from home)
	Versatility of interests...multiple use of recreating and wildlife

LBL'S ENDURING STRENGTHS	
1	Family, friendly outdoor destination for a variety of interests and ages
	Social gathering place/destination
2	History
	Diversity exp helps meet needs of wide audiences
3	Quality time with family
	Opportunity to interact with nature
	Maintaining the history of the area
4	LBL is a magnet deriving from common themes
	Beauty, solitude, nature/wildlife undeveloped resources must be valued
5	Educational Opportunities
	Natural resources and quietness
	Recreation and education
	Staff in Facilities
6	Geographical uniqueness
	Memories created
	Availability and Accessibility (bridges)
7	Being able to be in nature, while enjoying hobbies, no matter how diverse, including the heritage, wildlife, and lakes/rivers of the area

COMMUNITY CHALLENGES		
1	Employment close to home	Economic
	Off season attendance	Economic
	Lack of local economic opportunities-jobs to keep young people here and draw more residents	Economic
	Sprawl/development and resulting loss of natural habitat	Environmental
	Preserving our lands-important for future and past generations who moved from here	Social
	Lack of interest by today's youth in the outdoors. May be due to sports, electronics, family...etc.	Social
	Growing disconnection of people from the natural world	Social
	Sedentary lifestyles & associated health problems	Social
	Availability and access to more places	Social and Environmental
2	Loss of habitat for game and non-game species	Environmental
	Education Appreciation	Social
	Evasive Species	Environmental
	Activity--things to do..."There is nothing to do here!"....Not True	Social
	Tech...Cellphones	Social
	Social-we have former residents in my community struggle to be heard on topics & volunteer to work at LBL	Social
	Social connectivity	Social

	Family time	Social
	Lack of dedicated wildlife funding	Economic
	Wild Pigs...Carp	Environmental
	Exotic invasive species invading our waterways (Asian carp)	Environmental
	Decreased funding (State, local, federal) impacts EE, infrastructure, and environment	Economic
	Awareness...what is really out there	Social
	Murray...decreased funding & enrollment at MSU	Economic
	Resources to provide for diverse needs	Economic and Environmental
	Marketing and Access	Social and Environmental
	Worried that lack of road access & repair to roads will further limit those wanting to experience LBL	Economic
	Lyon Co. provides fire, EMS, LE & rescue to 46,000 acres in LBL but only provided PILT for 13,000 acres	Social and Economic
3	Budgets	Economic
	Aurora losing it's businesses	Social and Economic
	Road conditions	Economic and Environmental
	Farmers using too much irrigation and clearing off too much land	Environmental
	Children not getting into nature--staying indoors	Social
	Healthy activity choices/lifestyles	Social
	Need to replace retired LE	Economic
	Relevancy	Social
	Decrease in available activities will decrease surrounding communities tax revenue	Economic
	People may choose to live elsewhere if recreation opportunities decrease	Social
	Information availability	Social
4	Water Quality	Environmental
	Loss of Nature and hunting areas	Environmental
	Lack of easy access to natural public areas	Social and Environmental
	City beautification	Social
	Surviving in nature	Social
	Video game technology and drugs	Social
	Lack of embracing of technology	Social
	Information overload	Social
	Respect and loss of knowledge and/or skill set	Social
	Lack of personal interactive communication	Social
	Inflation	Economic
	Larger more expensive equipment and lack of space to accommodate that equipment	Economic
	LBL needs a developed campground in the middle of the trace...Hwy 68/80 is an economic opportunity	Economic and Environmental
	Turkey Bay needs electrical options for camping	Economic

5	Parents not spending time outdoors with children and kids not getting outdoors after school	Social
	Salvage the few remaining heritage sites before they are too far gone	Social and Environmental
	Public to appreciate how LBL got here and what it has taken to fight off the challenges to keep it a natural environment. It is a natural treasure that should be protected and loved.	Social and Environmental
	Cost of basic transportation...small shuttle buses...Amtrak to lodges and up trace	Economic
	Region West KY...clean river EPA	Environmental
	City of Cadiz...clean water	Economic and Environmental
	Make LBL live up to the promise so that was done to us will be worth it. Rec/EE VS tree farm	Social
	Increased reliance on technology-limited time "unplugged"	Social
	Political stagnation	Social
	Disconnect between legislated -vs- development priorities (education, park system, funding)	Social and Economic
	Lack of communication problems...advertising & promotion of programs and events	Social and Economic
	Limited/decreased funding to maintain current facilities & to develop future facilities and budgeting	Economic
	Lack of leave no trace/environmental ed in Pre K-12 ED systems	Social
	Limited career opportunities for college grads	Social
	College grads leave the state	Social
6	Lack of opportunities	Social
	Access to Natural areas	Social and Environmental
	Loss of land to ride on. Private landowners scared off by liability	Social and Economic
	Time. Lack of duties	Social
	Lack of jobs	Social and Economic
	Costs...money (raises)....maintain what we already have...	Economic
	Lack of resources	Economic
	Parents being involved with their children (Quality time)	Social
	Apathy	Social
	Lack of understanding of most horsemen of the USFS rules, regs, and challenges	Social
	Youth have to travel for movies, etc..(Nothing close to their homes)	Social
	Rising cost of horse ownership and feasibility due to urbanization	Economic
	Regional job opportunities with decent wages	Economic
	Shortage of Trail "artists"	Social
	Youth becoming less interested	Social
	Community challenges--critical issues--activities for young people	Social
7	Invasive species...plants, animals, & insects....Fire ants, carp, armadillos	Environmental
	Sludge in our lakes	Environmental
	Reduced population of wildlife due to habitat loss caused less hunters to utilize the area	Social and Environmental
	Invasive species....plants, fish, and animals	Environmental
	Environmental education....land preservation and land management	Social

	Nothing to incentivize youth to stay in the community post-graduation	Social and Economic
	Failure to put down the phone. Disconnect for your health	Social
	Generational interests	Social
	Different user groups wanting to use the same area	Social
	Lack of interest from MSU & APSU students	Social
	Very few recreational options in cold weather months	Social and Economic
	Lack of interest in nature	Social
	Lack of interest and participation in outdoor activities	Social
	Low cost family destination	Economic
	Aurora not a community it once was	Social and Economic
	Budget!	Economic
	Economic status of families	Social and Economic
	Rarity of high-speed internet access	Social
	Lack of well-paying jobs	Social and Economic
	Low income	Social and Economic
	Cost of fuel, riding permits, camping, and repairs on ATV's	Economic

FINDING COMMON AGENDA

1	Increasing visitation/promoting tourism
	Connecting people to the outdoors
	Partnering w/chambers industry as a tool for economic growth, LBL is a regional asset
2	Economic partnerships
	To protect and promote infrastructure
3	Healthy activity choices/lifestyles
	Off-season economic impacts and information availability
4	Natural Resources & Economic balance
5	Continue and expand environmental and historical education opportunities.
	More targeted advertising and promo of number 1
	Protect heritage sites and work on communicating and sharing the stories
6	Creating, funding, and maintaining opportunities
	Organizing, managing, and promoting volunteers
	Empowering a local workforce
7	Upgrade primitive areas to at least electric
	Overall land management
	Utilize and be proactive with the use of social media

OUR DREAMS	
1	A larger and growing number of people from both the local area and tourists will visit LBL and have meaningful and fun educational and recreational experiences
	More trail access for hikers, bikers, off-road, and outdoor people like old home sites vantage points
	Partner with KY Stat Parks or outside Corp for better lodging for visitors
	Maintain the land and the facilities for future generations to experience. Also, more visitors to the area
	A large percentage of local community members will value LBL as an indispensable economic asset to the region
	Increase hunting opportunity
	Winter programs like Christmas lights tours of interest in fall and winter
2	More organized activities
	LBL staff & people meeting in the middle. Instead of people going to facilities or outreach coming to the community, have the people and the staff explore
	Sustained for future generations
	Every teacher/principal will have an EE experience at LBL
	Every classroom in the region/beyond will visit LBL to learn about the environment and connect each to their world
	Cell Service increased. Insta locations and more social media opportunities
	Continue to be safe, open, and maintained for all
	THE travel destination for outdoor/adventure tourism
	Allow Empire Farm to be saved and a cultural center be built there mostly with donated money
	Use the 5-6 million dollar fund to shore up our environmental education facilities and programs including cultural history
3	Secretary of Agriculture sign the Charter so the advisory board can meet
	Surrounding communities find new ways to use LBL to promote their community
	Shares resources and staff
	Off-season programming
	Return to more programs for school children to retain their interest in LBL
	Homeschool classes/programs on a regular basis (weekly/monthly) that delves deeper into topics
	Have facilities open during winter months
	Increased activities/interests geared towards outdoor recreation
	New generations are inspired to visit/recreate/volunteer at LBL
	Being available for future generations
	Diverse, bountiful and preserved water and wildlife for future generations
4	The battle of Fort Henry sign displayed better and hiking trail cleaned
	I want people to recognize and know what LBL is about and what it provides
	Seeing LBL grow, by reaching more people, bringing more people to the area
	Continued wildlife management
	Continuing educational opportunities
	Continue to provide and promote outdoor opportunities
	I want my children and grandchildren to feel like LBL is a destination worth visiting.

5	The original mission and promise be kept: no commercial development, outdoor recreation, and EE
	Tower at Duncan Lake to allow viewing of lake during winter migration for the Eagles.
	Improve historical teaching with the Iron Industry, Civil War, and recreation opportunities
	Brandon Spring becoming premier educational training facility and experiential learning destination for west Kentucky and west TN
	Teacher training center--partnerships with local school systems and college university programs--offer "for credit" professional development connecting programming offerings w/ state curriculum standards & teacher training needs leading to certifiable programs for students & teachers & area residents such as LNT and wilderness 1st responder certifications
	Develop certified naturalists skills program--series of courses such as naturalist skills, skills for sharing nature, birds of LBL, plants/trees of LBL, mammals of LBL, aquatic natural history of LBL, cultural history of LBL, ecology of LBL, amphibians and reptiles of LBL, and geology of LBL to include fossils, 2 parallel rivers, and largest inland peninsula
6	Increased size of Nature Station and EBP
	Develop & maintain an outdoor activity destination to accommodate a variety of interests
	Trail circumnavigating LBL and connecting trails
	LBL attracts national and international visitors with a boom in nearby towns--lodging, restaurants, tours, gifts, and other non-LBL entertainment--Air BnB experience?--the Disneyland of KY except nature
	LBL still belong to the citizens of the U.S.
	Continued hunting and fishing opportunity, continued camping opportunity, and ADA hunting & fishing
	Improve roads & trails
	Heritage Center--genealogy, history and culture
	Maintained interest and relevancy
	Work with regional schools to allow more opportunities for youth to participate in LBL EE and Rec programs
	Find Grants and/or other findings to keep the best EE and rec programs going at LBL
7	To see forestry LBL out in schools and communities taking the nature to the kids in hopes to spark some interest
	More programs in elementary schools to educate children early about the diversity of outdoor activities and the benefits they can offer
	Story of the LBL and heritage--Amphitheatre--regional
	Expanding and maximizing parts of LBL while keeping other parts of LBL primitive
	LBL becomes a desired hunting and wildlife viewing destination and empire farm need to be revived
	No LBL (actual) Facebook social media page--LBL (non-official) FB hits 39K, friends of LBL FB page hits 19K, total regional LBL visitors 1.8 mil.....39K+19K/1.8 mil = 3% reach
	More development for Turkey Bay....open up campground at Colson Hollow
	Instill love and interest in the outdoor world in the future generation...get out and promote what we do
	Bring back Empire Farm and Overlook - areas of interests/education.
	Environmental/land preservation. Maintain.
	Increase communication. New venues/social media/advertising

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE	
1	A larger and growing number of people from both the local area and tourists will visit LBL and have a meaningful and fun educational and recreational experience.
2	The premier travel destination for outdoor adventure, environmental education with purpose of promoting stewardship of land, air, water, and wildlife.
3	More in-depth class offerings and winter activities with facilities open with reduced hours
4	Encourage others especially youth to love and appreciate LBL the way that we do through continued wildlife management, environmental education opportunities and maintaining a balance between nature and evolving amenities
5	Certified naturalist program to get more people to share with others
	Improve historical opportunities.
	Bald Eagle viewing tower at Duncan Lake
	Keep the promise
6	Heritage cultural center
	Creating and maintaining alternative funding sources and partnerships
7	Promote and lead programs to outside communities, utilizing social media to reach the users of LBL