

Memorandum

To: Logan Stang, Planning Director
From: Sophia Lanza, Project Manager
Date: July 22, 2026
Subject: Village Green Open House Executive Summary

During phase two of the Village Green masterplan, the project team developed a series of conceptual plans to represent potential development. These conceptual layouts were based on information collected from community input during phase one. Residents consistently expressed interest in a public space that could be utilized by all ages, with diverse retail and dining, and more opportunities for entertainment.

The project team began pairing the phase one findings and laying out vision plans for Village Green with City staff, developing two potential options for redevelopment. A series of open houses were scheduled between April and May to collect resident feedback and modify the concept plans as needed.

To collect input from a variety of demographics, the project team hosted three open houses at different locations throughout Powell and during various times of the day. The three initial open houses were scheduled for April 20th from 1:30pm to 3:30pm at CoHatch Powell, April 29th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at Kinsale Golf and Fitness Club, and May 7th from 10:00am to 12:00pm at the Liberty Branch Library. Vision boards were presented at the open house depicting an overview of the project, the market study, the traffic study, and the two conceptual plans (Village Square and Market Street). Members of the project team were stationed at each board to discuss the concepts, answer questions, and collect feedback. Participants were encouraged to leave comments on each of the boards to assist the project team with modifying the design.

The first two open houses mostly garnered support from attendees regarding the proposed designs. Many attendees from the third open house were unfamiliar with the plans for Village Green. As a result, the project team hosted a fourth open house on May 27th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at City Hall, to give residents another opportunity to learn more about the Village Green plans. The four open houses had a total of over 220 attendees and 381 collected comments. 30 residents from Powell and the surrounding area wrote in to city officials with additional comments, which were incorporated into the summary. Feedback across all four open houses revealed several common themes.

- Residents strongly supported preserving existing green space and incorporating additional usable green space into the final plan.
- Many residents preferred that the Village Green amphitheater remain due to its importance as a community gathering space and event venue.
- Attendees overwhelmingly supported keeping the splash pad in Village Green.
- Residents emphasized the need for family-friendly and children's amenities within the redevelopment plan. While family-friendly amenities are important to the community, students from Olentangy Liberty High School, shared during Phase I engagement, that Powell lacks amenities for teenagers and young adults. Moving forward, it will be important to incorporate amenities in the plan for all age ranges.
- Community members expressed enthusiasm for spaces that support family activities, including picnics, food truck events, and a seasonal ice rink.
- Some residents felt the current plans prioritize young professionals over the needs of Powell families.
- Traffic concerns were frequently raised, with residents urging the City to address existing issues before proceeding with redevelopment.
- Residents also requested improved connections between Village Green and other neighborhoods throughout the City.
- Many residents opposed the inclusion of residential apartments, citing concerns about building height, density, school crowding, traffic impacts, and potential tax implications.

When comparing the two concepts, feedback strongly favored the Village Square over Market Street due to its connection to the existing downtown. Residents provided examples of how they would utilize the space including *“local dinner, blanket on the grass, music, kids playing, ice cream, perfect Friday night.”* and *“I see it as a hot spot for family picnics and also the hot spot for prom and family photos”*. Regardless of preference, many attendees emphasized the importance of preserving Powell’s small-town character and historic charm in the final plan.