

City of Bel Nor, Missouri
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Bel Nor, Missouri 63121



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Strategic Planning – Public Session One

Date: June 17, 2026

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Location: Bel Nor City Hall

Call to Order

City Administrator Rachel St. Pierre called the first public strategic planning session to order at approximately 5:00 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting was to begin gathering community input for the City's Strategic and Comprehensive Planning Process.

Meeting Overview

The City Administrator welcomed attendees and explained the purpose of the strategic planning process.

Residents were advised that the planning process would occur over approximately six months and include multiple public meetings, Board work sessions, surveys, and additional community outreach opportunities.

Meeting discussion guidelines were reviewed to encourage respectful participation and productive conversation.

Why Bel Nor Needs a Strategic Plan

Residents discussed why long-range planning is important and identified several themes.

Discussion included:

- Preserving Bel Nor's sense of community.
- Maintaining the City's small-town character.
- Increasing transparency and communication.
- Providing long-term direction for future Boards and staff.
- Establishing clear priorities before making future financial and policy decisions.

Residents generally agreed that strategic planning should help preserve the community's strengths while preparing Bel Nor for future growth and changing community needs.

Community Identity

Residents discussed what they value most about Bel Nor.

Common themes included:

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- Strong neighborhood relationships.
- Quiet residential character.
- Tree-lined streets.
- Central location within St. Louis County.
- Walkability.
- Nearby parks and amenities.
- Community pride.
- Attractive neighborhoods.

Several residents expressed a desire to preserve these characteristics while continuing to modernize City operations.

Community Engagement

Residents discussed ways to increase resident participation in local government.

Topics included:

- Encouraging more residents to attend meetings.
- Improving communication between residents and City Hall.
- Expanding opportunities for volunteer participation.
- Increasing public awareness of City projects and initiatives.
- Making information easier to access.

Residents expressed support for continued public involvement throughout the strategic planning process.

Strategic Planning Process Overview

The City Administrator reviewed the anticipated planning schedule.

Discussion included:

- Multiple public strategic planning sessions.
- Multiple Board strategic planning work sessions.
- Community surveys.
- Public outreach efforts.
- Development of a Current State Report.
- Creation of a community vision statement.
- Preparation of a Strategic and Comprehensive Plan.

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- Development of an implementation matrix.
- Establishment of long-term governmental commitments.

Residents were encouraged to participate throughout the planning process.

Communication Preferences

Residents discussed preferred methods of receiving City information.

Suggestions included:

- Email newsletters.
- Text message notifications.
- Website updates.
- Printed materials.
- Additional public meetings.
- Online access to information and forms.

Discussion also included barriers to participation, including work schedules, meeting times, and differing communication preferences among residents.

Community Vision Activity

Participants completed a facilitated visioning exercise using topic stations throughout the meeting room.

Residents recorded ideas, priorities, concerns, opportunities, and future goals on sticky notes for later compilation into the Strategic Planning process.

Topics included:

- Community strengths
 - Weaknesses
 - Opportunities
 - Challenges
 - Future priorities
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Vision for Bel Nor in 2031

Residents discussed what they hoped Bel Nor would look like within the next five years.

Recurring themes included:

- Neighborhood Appearance

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- Well-maintained homes.
- Improved landscaping.
- Healthy tree canopy.
- Beautified neighborhood islands.
- Improved streets and sidewalks.
- Updated street signage.
- Attractive public spaces.

Economic Development

Residents discussed:

- Successful redevelopment of commercial properties.
- Attraction of new restaurants and businesses.
- Opportunities associated with the nearby Normandy Golf Course redevelopment.

Community Character

Residents expressed a desire for:

- Stronger neighborhood relationships.
- Greater volunteer involvement.
- Increased resident participation.
- Continued community pride.

Public Infrastructure

Residents discussed:

- Continued street improvements.
- Sidewalk repairs.
- Beautification projects.
- Tree replacement and maintenance.
- Better maintenance of vacant properties.

Communications

Residents encouraged continued improvements to:

- The City's website.
- Public information.
- Community outreach.

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- Online services.

Partnerships

Residents discussed strengthening relationships with:

- Neighboring municipalities.
 - Local schools.
 - Community organizations.
 - Regional partners.
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Challenges Identified

Residents identified several challenges that should be considered during the planning process, including:

- Vacant properties.
 - Aging infrastructure.
 - Tree loss.
 - Property maintenance.
 - Litter.
 - Community communication.
 - Volunteer recruitment.
 - Balancing modernization with preservation of neighborhood character.
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Next Steps

The City Administrator thanked attendees for participating and encouraged continued involvement throughout the planning process.

Residents were encouraged to:

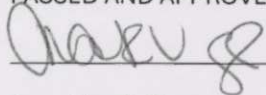
- Complete the meeting survey.
- Participate in future planning sessions.
- Share planning information with neighbors.
- Continue providing ideas and feedback.

Information regarding upcoming meetings and communication opportunities was reviewed.

Adjournment

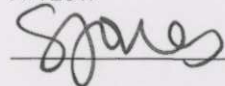
The public strategic planning session concluded at approximately 6:30 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 18th DAY OF August, 2026.



Anna Vogel, Mayor

ATTEST:



Savannah Jones, City Clerk

