COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS 2019

In 2019, the Loveland Public Library began holding community conversations with the people of Loveland. These were held over several months and were based on the Harwood Model of Community Engagement. Three different conversation formats were used. The first format was the full Harwood community conversation model. This consists of 10 questions and are facilitated through face to face conversations. The two other formats were 3 and 4 question versions of the full 10 question conversation. These were facilitated in face to face groups or at outreach events.

DATA ON CONVERSATIONS

Face to Face Group Conversations
- 9 face to face conversations
- 118 people attended
  - Groups involved
    - General community members
    - City of Loveland YAC
    - Silver Leaf Apartment residents
    - Loveland Public Library Teen Advisory Board
    - City staff and board members

Talk Back Boards with Sticky Notes
- 267 sticky note comments
  - Outreach Events
    - Tour de Pants
    - Cherry Pie Festival
    - Farmers Market

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

What type of community do you want to live in?
- Welcoming and connected
- A community with a robust economy
- A safe community
- A community that addresses growth issues and is affordable
- A community that supports education and strong schools
- A strong infrastructure

Why is this important to you?
- Looking for opportunity to engage with people
- Need a high quality of life
- Want a strong economy
- See too much divisiveness

How do you feel about what is going on?
- People are optimistic about Loveland
- We are concerned about safety
- We are looking for more support for families
- Loveland is a different community than it was 25 years ago

What is keeping us from making the progress we want to see for Loveland?
- Lack of connectedness between groups in the community
- Need better communication in the city on what is happening
- People aren't stepping up and taking responsibility
- There isn't enough involvement of “new Loveland” in politics
- Families need to engage with educational opportunities
- City Council needs to listen to more people and connect with their needs
- We need more infrastructure

What are things that can make a difference?
- Develop and provide opportunities for people to connect and engage
- Create a clean, safe city
- Develop long range growth plans
- Create a welcoming town
- More money available to support quality of life
- Economic development needs to be balanced
- City Council needs to be more engaged with the community

What groups do you trust to take action?
- Non-profits
- Civic groups such as Rotary
- Churches and faith based organizations
- Smaller groups such as PTA at schools
- Business Leaders