



UNL Extension in Lancaster County

Contact: Yelena Mitrofanova, (402) 441-7180

**BENNET, NEBRASKA TOWN HALL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2005, 7:30 P.M.
BENNET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

PARTICIPANT REPORT

In planning for Bennet's future, those who attended (around 75 people showed up) the Bennet Town Hall Meeting were asked to answer three questions:

1. Why my family and I choose to live in the Bennet community?
2. Where do I work (in the community or outside of the community)?
3. What would it take to make Bennet a "Town of the Future"?

The answers are as follows

WHY I HAVE CHOSEN TO LIVE IN BENNET:

People are good, honest....for the peace and quiet
Peace and quiet (7 more answered this question)
Because of the people - & quiet
See nature (deer, coyotes etc) (3)
Raise children (3)
Good school system (5)
Lived here a longtime. Volunteer and donated land.
Hometown – grew up here
Get to know your neighbors (2)
Strong values
Safety
Affordable housing
Firm grasp on values
It is "rural"
I can have a big yard
Small town
Like the "Waltons"
Relationships
Stability of people
Friendships

Where I work:

Of those that answered, 65% said they worked outside of the community, and 35% stated they worked within the community (or were retired from jobs within the community).

What would it take to make Bennet a “Community of the Future” (and what would you do to make it one?)

A place where children would want to grow
Plan together as a community
People care about their town – involvement
Support local businesses
Be pro-active
Keep in touch with our own businesses and neighbors. Keep positive
Great school system.
Encourage local commerce
Establish a vision and have community support
Involvement of people
Great people in the community
People pull together – and they want it to happen and will work together on all projects
People who care – have a vision and share effort
Community involvement
Community pride – stick together
Good people
People that you see here tonight (have interest) – (2)
Understand the values of small towns
Grow carefully – have a plan for children
Role modeling for the little people (children)
People care about town and kids
Support of the community
Two-parent families live here
Foundation set up in town
Take care of the beautiful land and natural environment
Quality of people – quality of life
Participation of the people
Preserving values and environment
Grow with a purpose – keep small town values
Continue small town atmosphere
Volunteering
Capitalize on location – Lincoln and Highway 2
Grow on our own terms

A new Parish (church) plan for this region (1600 new homes in Parish)
Advancement of the commercial side and more pride in our homes will continue
Relationships of people
Rural – big areas – open
How fast do we grow? How will the school grow?
Everyone will pull together
Pride in the community and planning with a broad look for the future
People care
“Home” atmosphere