Meeting Notes and Community Member Input

What could the Lincoln Highway mean to your community in the future? What ideas do you have?

- Wayfinding signs - for King Tower, Lincoln Highway bridge, tourist cabin, pictures on walls of visited locations
- Auto tours - identifying and knowing about them ahead of time
- Develop walking tours, brochures, driving tours, other itineraries
- Restore Lincoln Highway Bridge and enhance Bridge Park, work on an interpretive kiosk
- 1947 Montour gas station needs to be repaired, has signs and gas pumps willing to be donated
- Area resident Ken Carson has a variety of antique cars - could be a good connection
- Create a development group in a town/around a property along the Lincoln Highway
- Tama as a “junction byway” town
- Specialty shops in both Tama and Toledo
- Wayfinding and DOT brown/blue signs from Highway 30, I-35, I-80 to the Lincoln Highway
- Replica of one of the depots
- Lincoln Highway promoted through the schools
- Tama/Toledo/Meskwaki join together to increase involvement in each community
- DOT/Byway/Iowa Tourism continue to support and help communities
- Connect downtowns - theaters, similar businesses along the whole byway
- Presentations on the byway project to city councils
- Preserve the original Lincoln Highway and not lose it after 4-lane Highway 30 is built
- Museum with international connections. Preserve history of the Lincoln Highway and the area. A place where people can gather, sit down, explore. Talk to legislators and others about supporting, not closing down, museums.

Intrinsic Qualities Identified

Historic:

- Meskwaki Tribe came from the east and have been here 140 years, the only Indian tribe living directly along the Lincoln Highway
- Trails followed the hills and river
- Meskwaki Tribe has acquired more land as two railroads and two major roads have used some existing land; as the Highway route shifted north, were able to open the truck stop and provide services for travelers
- King Tower sign - iconic
- Wietting Theatre
- Historical museum
- Cherry Mansion - connection to paper mill
- Clock on courthouse
- Many pioneer cemeteries
- Historic Haven School
- Lincoln Highway Bridge
Natural:
  • Cherry Lake
  • Otter Creek Park and riparian diorama

Cultural:
  • Increasing the importance of Meskwaki history
  • Meskwaki Powwow August 9-12
  • Stone House - Powwow grounds
  • D&D Rodeo at same time
  • Agriculture, tractor traffic
  • Czech community - Czech Point
  • Tama was called Little Chicago and hid lots of bad people in the early part of the 20th century
  • Railroad roundabout

Scenic:
  • Otter Creek
  • Iowa River valley and other nearby views

Recreational:
  • South Tama Trail
  • Local food and entertainment
  • Trails - walking, hiking, biking
  • Lincoln Highway Bridge Festival
  • Lincoln Highway Bridge Park
  • Lincoln Highway Buy-Way Yard Sale August 13-15
  • Rube’s Steakhouse
  • Chelsea - Periwinkle Funeral Home does murder mystery, Christmas shop, antiques, car shows