



# New Harmony Comprehensive Plan

Steering Committee Meeting  
July 31, 2024

**Welcome!**





# Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Introductions
3. Comprehensive Plan
4. New Harmony Parks and Trails Master Plan
5. Our roles in the planning process
6. Demographic information
7. Next steps

# Introductions

- What is something you love or enjoy about New Harmony?
- Your name
- Any relevant work, organization, or other affiliations



# REA team members



**Beth Rosenbarger** AICP  
Project Manager, Senior Planner

- Senior Planner, 11+ years experience
- Former city planner in local government
- Specializes in Long Range Planning, Transportation Planning, and quality of place design



**Daniel Liggett, PLA, ASLA**  
Parks & Recreation Lead

- Professional Landscape Architect, 15 years of experience
- Experience with 5-year parks plans and place-type comprehensive plans



**Cynthia A. Bowen** FAICP, LEED AP  
Principal-in-Charge, Planning Director



**Allison Richardson**  
Engagement, Mapping  
Role: Project Planner



**Patrick Dierkes, PE**  
Professional Engineer  
Role: Project Engineer



**Enzo Lundy**  
Demographics, Mapping,  
Graphics  
Role: Project Planner



**Rotina Tian, PLA, ASLA**  
Professional Landscape Architect  
Role: Urban Designer

# Comprehensive Plans

- What is a Comprehensive Plan?
- Why create a Comprehensive Plan?
- How will the Comprehensive Plan be developed, adopted, and used?



# What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A comprehensive plan provides a vision for the future of the community along with the steps that are needed to make that vision a reality.

It is the basis for land use regulations and provides a nexus between the community's future vision and the regulation of private property.



# What is a Comprehensive Plan?

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# What is a Comprehensive Plan?

- A plan: forward-looking
- Establish a vision for the future
- Create goals that serve your vision
- Identify where land uses can occur in your community



# Why create a Comprehensive Plan?

- Where are you going?
- What do you want New Harmony to be like in 20 years? In 5 years?
- Create a shared vision and goals for the future.



# Why create a Comprehensive Plan?

- In 20 years, so much can change!
- Creating a vision and setting goals allows you to respond to changes based on your community vision and goals.
- We can't fully control what changes arise, but we have the opportunity to evaluate how to utilize changes in service to your vision and goals.



# Why create a Comprehensive Plan?

Even more reasons...

- Guiding document for policy decisions and zoning
- To be eligible for grant funding



# How to create a Comprehensive Plan?

- Developing
- Adopting
- Using



# 4-Phased Approach



## DISCOVERY

Data collection, demographics, physical condition analysis, market analysis, housing trends and gaps



June - August



## VISIONING

Create vision statement, identify community values & themes, development of overarching goal statements for each theme



August - October



## FRAMEWORK

Develop framework plans that build on technical analysis, create draft land use and transportation concepts, brainstorm policy recs, develop sub-area studies



October - January '25



## ACTION

Draft plan with refined framework plans, recommendations, and implementation strategies, public open house review

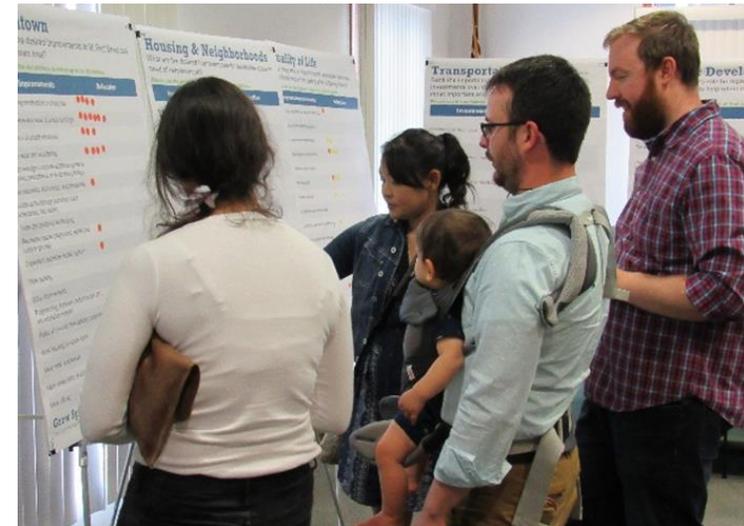


January - March '25

# How to create a Comprehensive Plan?

## Developing the Plan:

- Data about the community, trends, and patterns
- Public input
- Vision and direction
- Goals, concepts, draft plan
- More public input
- Plan



# How to create a Comprehensive Plan?



Open Houses



Focus Groups



Surveys

*A community engagement plan can be tailored with a balance of activities to the preferences of the community.*



# How to create a Comprehensive Plan?

## **FORWARD THINKING**

Our approach to designing a forward-thinking land use strategy and development plan will be built around community driven principles.

## **WORK CLOSELY WITH STAFF**

We will work with City Staff and key partners to achieve the following results:

## **UTILIZE EXISTING PLANS**

Building upon existing plans while identifying areas of improvement.

## **COMMUNITY INPUT**

Build upon public input efforts from citizens, business owners, and key stakeholders

## **FAIR AND EQUITABLE SOLUTIONS**

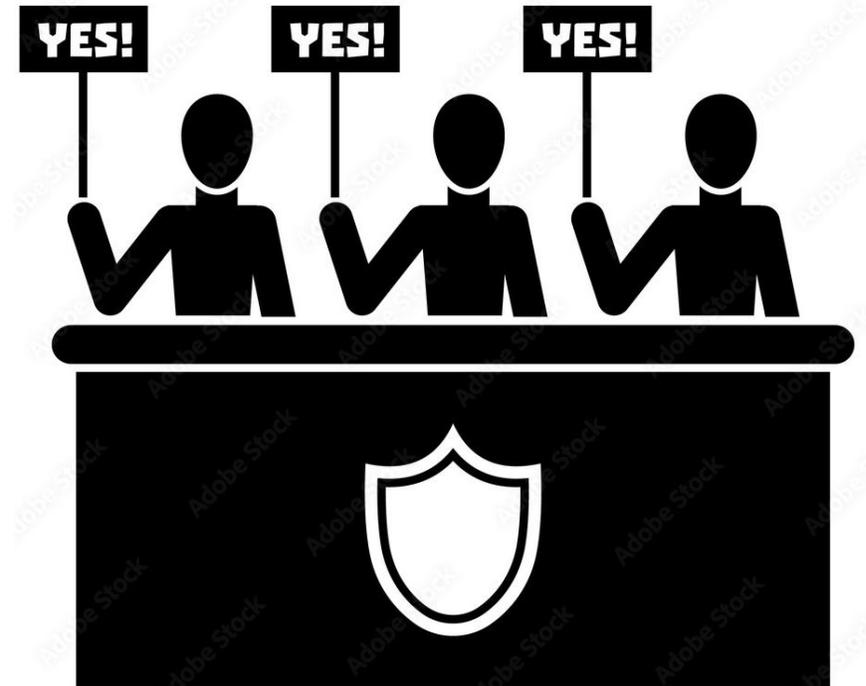
Equitable and Positive Socio-Economic Impact to the Community

## **SUSTAINABLE LAND USE SOLUTIONS**

Focus on Smart Growth, and Sustainability principles and offer land use solutions, transportation options, employment and housing amenities.

# How to create a Comprehensive Plan?

- Adopting the Comprehensive Plan
- The Plan will be reviewed by and adopted by the Town Council





# How to create a Comprehensive Plan?

## How to use the Comprehensive Plan

### 1. Proactively

- As a guiding document and vision for the community
- Identify capital projects
- Identify priority legislation (update the zoning code)
- Identify other key projects

### 2. Reactively

- As a reference for land use decisions
- As a guiding document for elected officials making decisions—does this support our community vision and goals?

### 3. General support

- As a guide and supporting document for grants
- As a guide and supporting document for economic development and housing

# New Harmony Parks and Trails Master Plan



# What is a 5-Year Parks Plan?

- Comprehensive approach to decision making
- Improved funding opportunities (LWCF)
- Ensures that the public wants the facilities that are developed
- Clear sense of direction



# What is a 5-Year Parks Plan?

- Goals & Objectives
- Features of the Community
  - Natural & Landscape
  - Man-made, Historical & Cultural
  - Social & Economic
- Accessibility
- Public Participation
- Draft Plan due 11/15 to IDNR



# Our roles in the planning process

- Reporting in, reporting out
- Invite others
- Feedback





# Our roles

## Strong Preparation for great plan

### 1. Consultant team

- Gather and analyze data
- Distill and synthesize input
- Facilitate meetings and input
- Provide planning expertise, knowledge, and best practices

### 2. Steering Committee

- Attend meetings
- Share your ideas, feedback, input, etc.
- Share information with your network—friends, family, organizations, etc.
- Directly invite people to participate in planning activities
- Invite them more than once 😊

### 3. Residents

- Provide input
- Provide feedback on draft items



# Our roles

## Strong Preparation for great plan

### 1. Communication

- Key messages – what will resonate with the public?
- Impactful channels – are there events or organizations we can piggyback on?

### 2. Outreach

- Word of mouth invitation works best
- Who would be good ambassadors of the process?
- Map the civic infrastructure to take advantage of it

### 3. What forms of engagement will work in New Harmony?

- In-person
- Virtual / online

### 4. How do we make sure we don't leave anyone out?

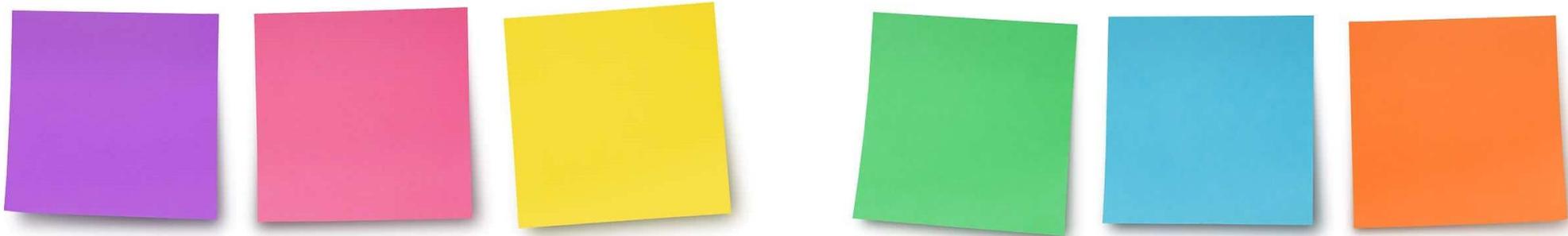
# Our roles



## Strong Preparation for great plan

### 1. Outreach

- Who should we invite to a stakeholder conversation?
- Who can you help encourage to attend a conversation or a public meeting?
- Are there residents or groups you worried we are less likely to hear from?
- When we think about a future vision, are there others who come to mind?



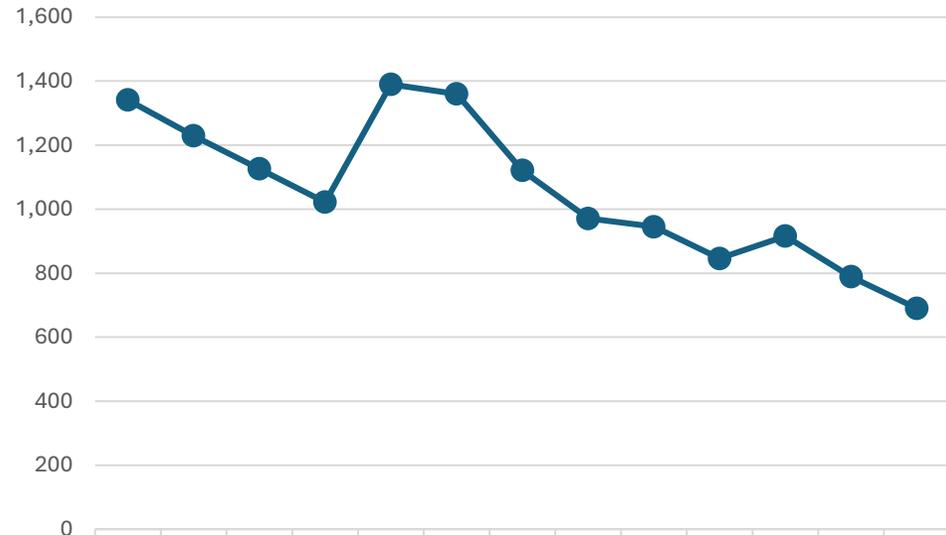
# Demographic information

- Population
- Household sizes
- Jobs
- Education



# Demographics: Population and people

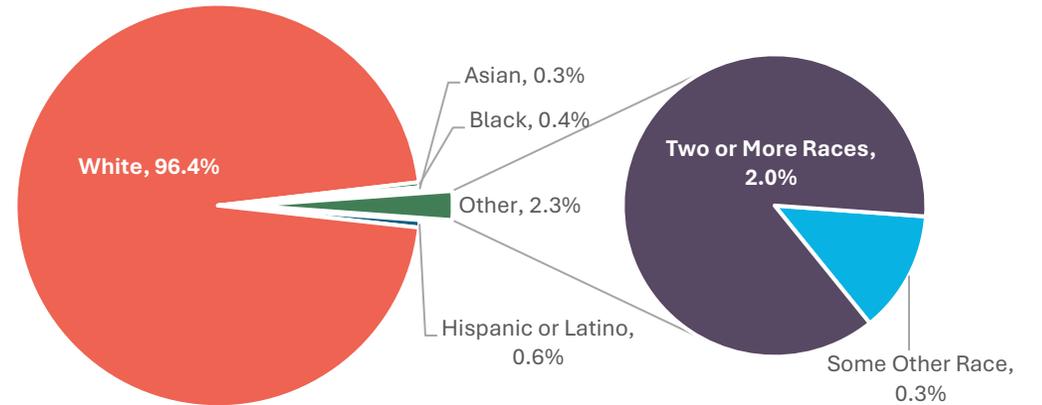
**Population 1900-2020**



	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
New Harmony town	1,341	1,229	1,126	1,022	1,390	1,360	1,121	971	945	846	916	789	690

Year	2010	2020
Population	789	690

**Race**

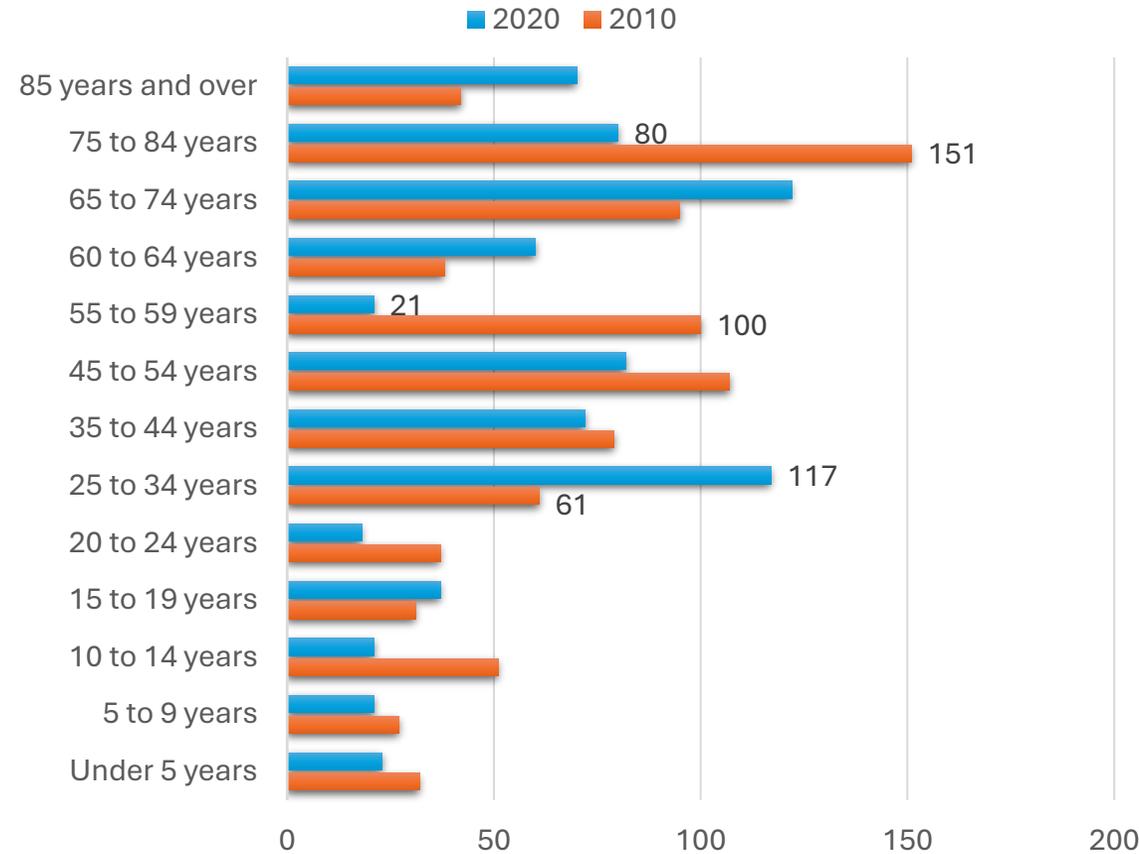


■ Hispanic or Latino 
 ■ White 
 ■ Black 
 ■ Asian 
 ■ Some Other Race 
 ■ Two or More Races

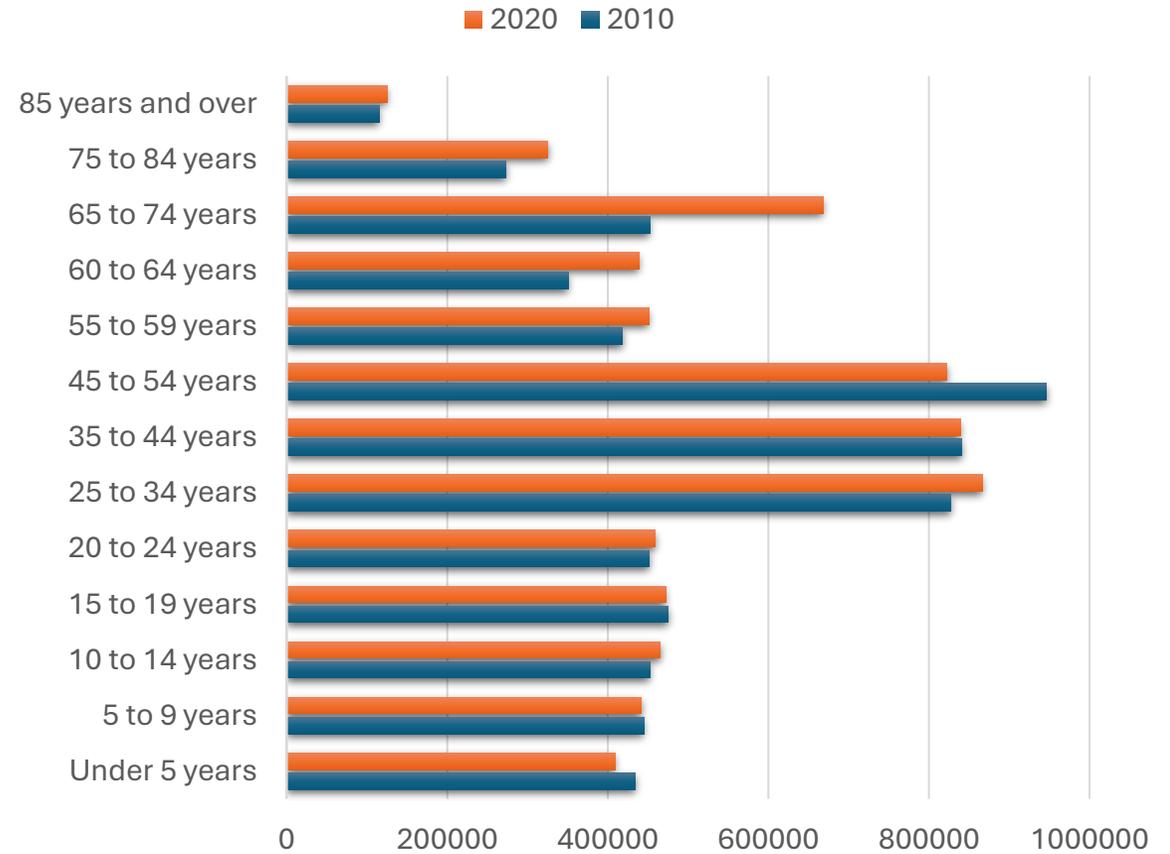
# Demographics: Population and people

## Age Distribution

### Age Distribution in New Harmony



### Age Distribution in Indiana

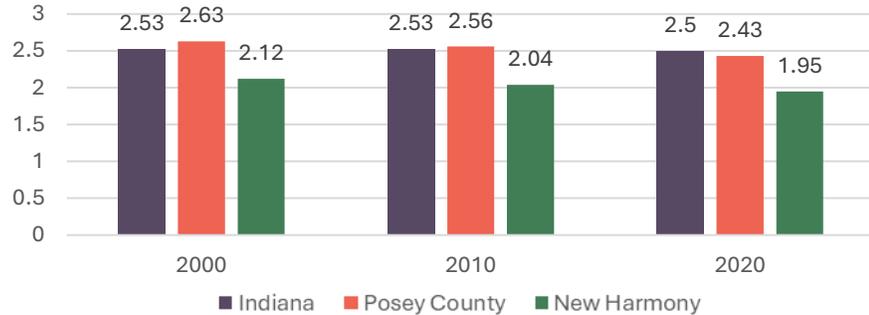


# Demographics: Households

## Households and Families



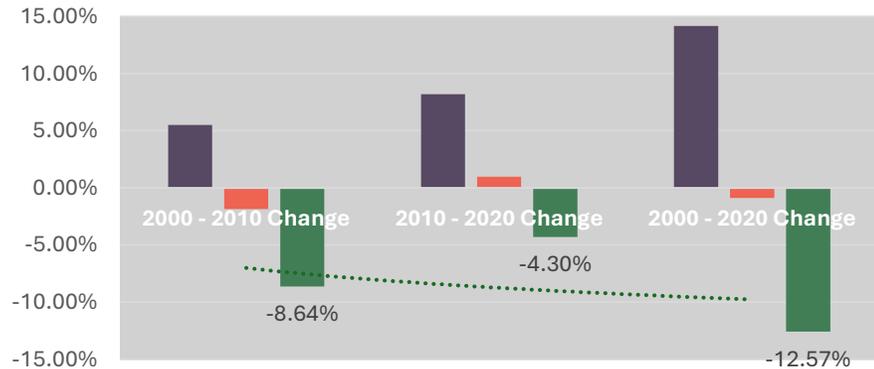
Average Household Size



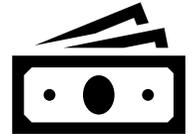
Average Family Size



Growth in Total Households



## Housing Characteristics



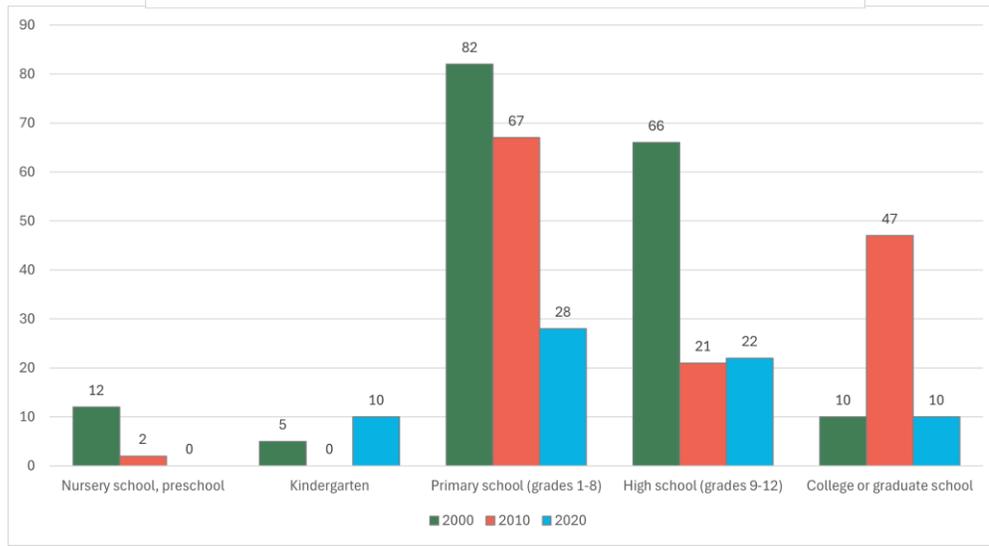
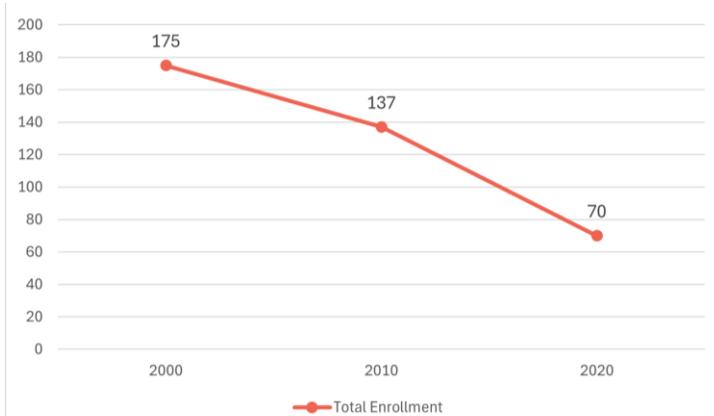
Location	Owner-Occupied	Renter-Occupied	Median Home Value	Median Household Income
New Harmony	76%	24%	\$120,300	\$45,208
Posey County	81.8%	18.2%	\$150,900	\$64,983
Indiana	68.4%	31.6%	\$148,900	\$58,235

# Demographics: Education

## School Enrollment (2020)



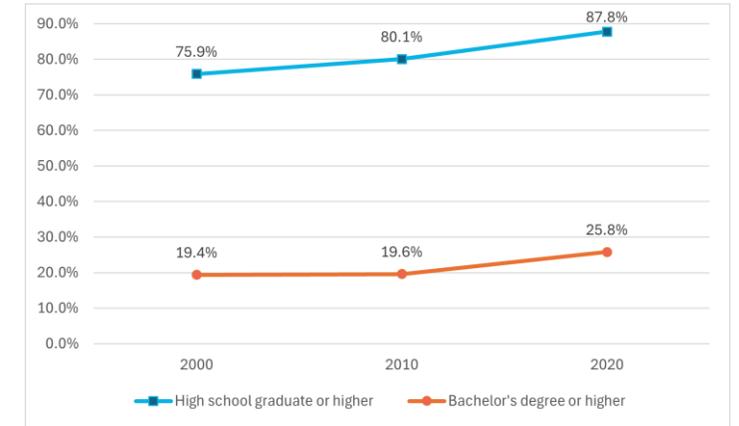
School Enrollment  
(3+ Years Old)



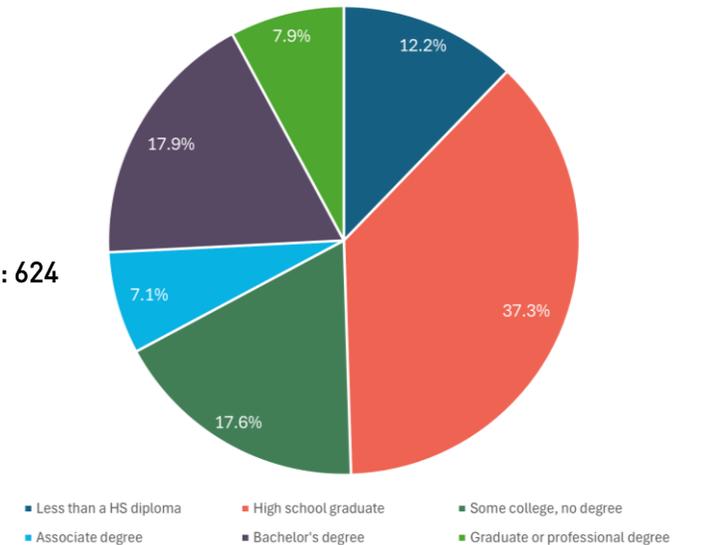
## Educational Attainment (2020)



Educational Attainment  
(25+ Years Old)

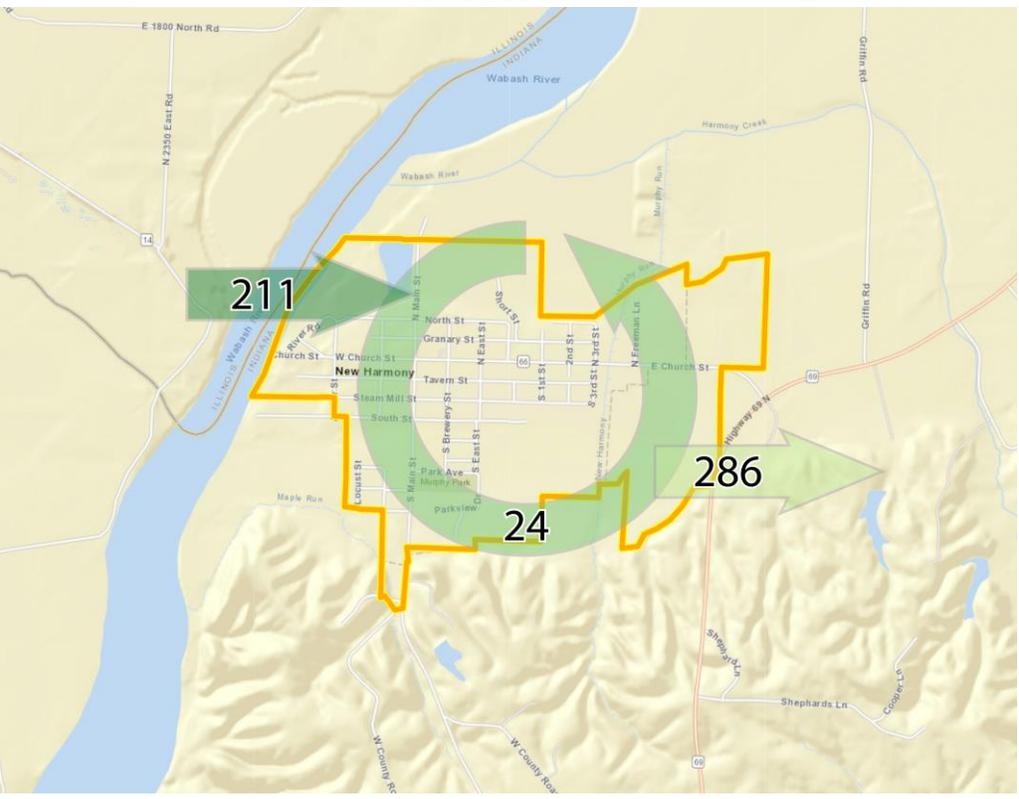


Population 25+ Years Old: 624



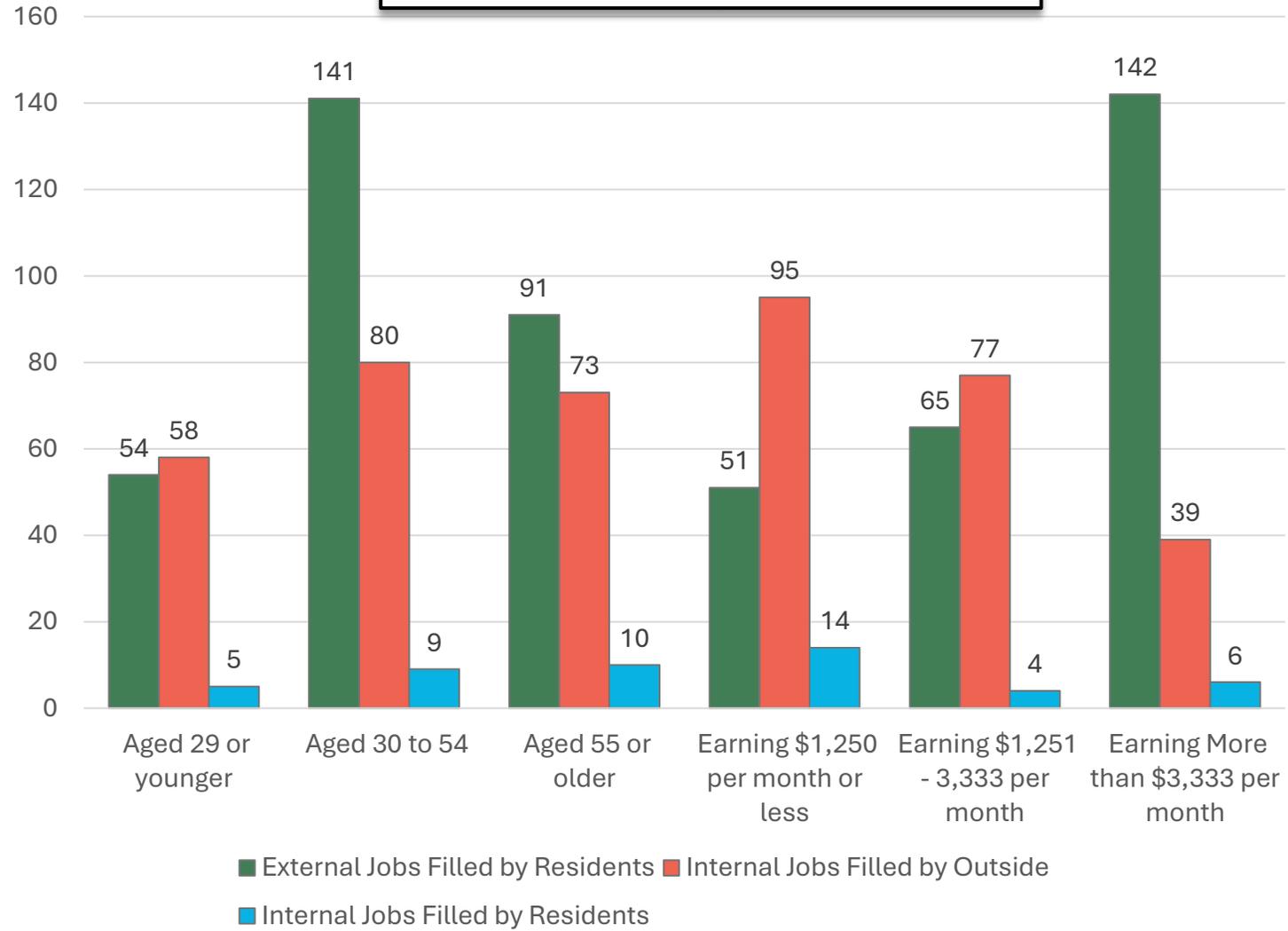
# Demographics: Employment

**Inflow/Outflow (Primary Jobs, 2020)**



**Net Job Outflow: -75**

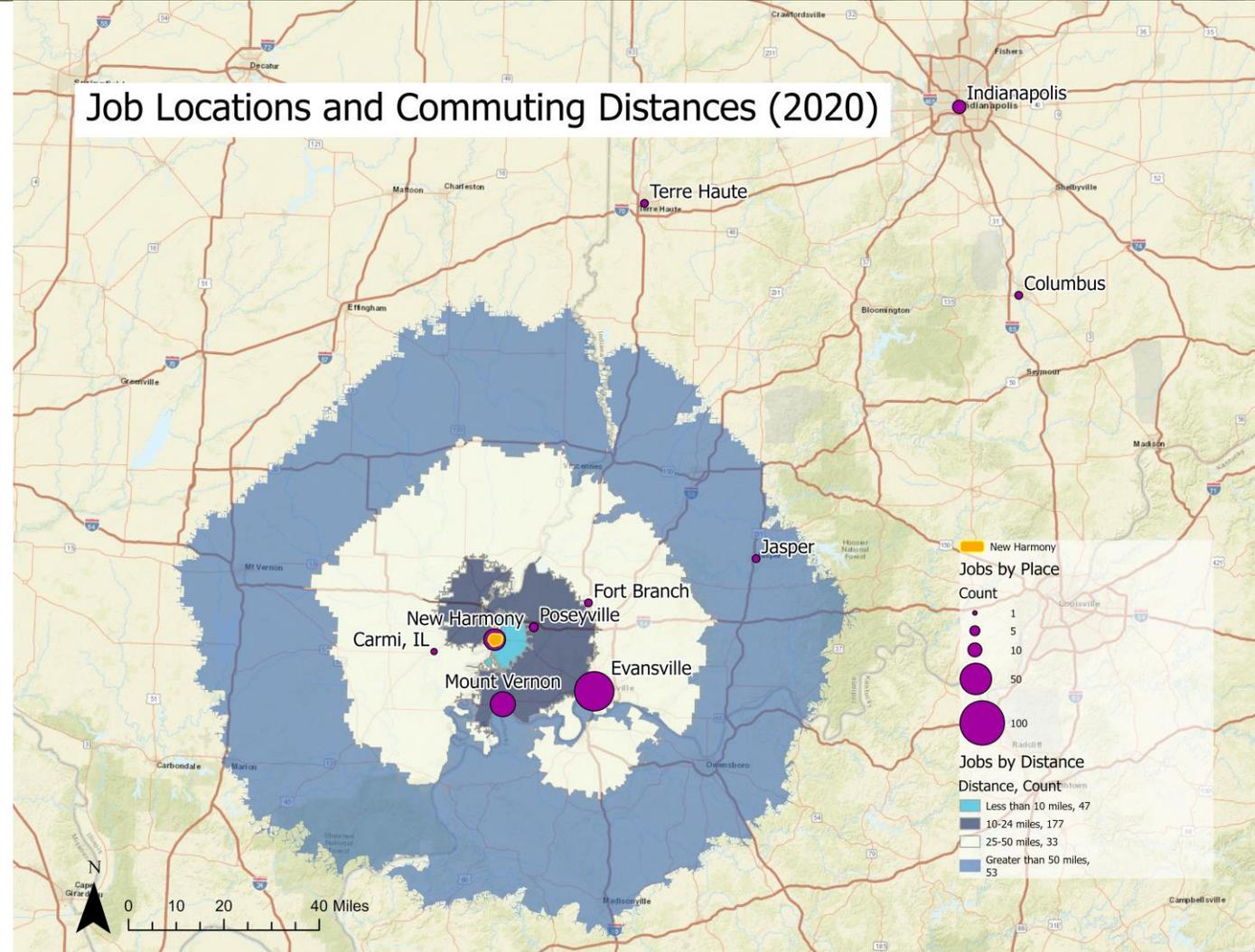
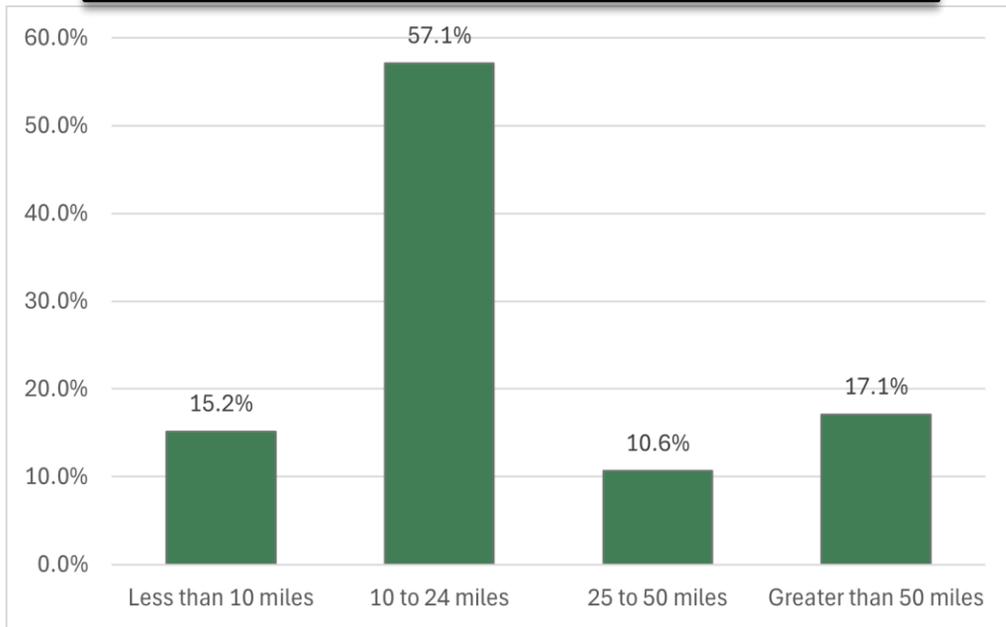
**Inflow/Outflow Key Worker Statistics**



■ External Jobs Filled by Residents 
 ■ Internal Jobs Filled by Outside 
 ■ Internal Jobs Filled by Residents

# Demographics: Employment

### Jobs by Distance



# Demographics: Employment

## New Harmony Residents Employment by Industry (2020)

Industry	Count	Percent
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	0	0.0%
Construction	15	4.3%
Manufacturing	28	8.1%
Wholesale trade	23	6.6%
<b>Retail trade</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>14.4%</b>
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	8	2.3%
Information	27	7.8%
<b>Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>15.0%</b>
Professional, scientific, and management, and admin. and waste management services	15	4.3%
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	34	9.8%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	25	7.2%
<b>Other services, except public administration</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>14.7%</b>
Public administration	19	5.5%

Source: ACS 5-Year Estimates | Table DP03. Civilian employed population 16 years and over

## Inflow/Outflow Key Statistics

	Count	Percent
<b>Net Job Inflow (+) or Outflow (-)</b>	<b>-75</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>External Jobs Filled by Residents</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Workers Aged 29 or younger	54	18.9%
<b>Workers Aged 30 to 54</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>49.3%</b>
Workers Aged 55 or older	91	31.8%
Workers Earning \$1,250 per month or less	51	22.7%
Workers Earning \$1,251 - 3,333 per month	65	27.6%
<b>Workers Earning More than \$3,333 per month</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>49.7%</b>
<b>Internal Jobs Filled by Outside Workers</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Workers Aged 29 or younger	58	27.5%
<b>Workers Aged 30 to 54</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>37.9%</b>
Workers Aged 55 or older	73	34.6%
<b>Workers Earning \$1,250 per month or less</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>45.0%</b>
Workers Earning \$1,251 - 3,333 per month	77	36.5%
Workers Earning More than \$3,333 per month	39	18.5%
<b>Internal Jobs Filled by Residents</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Workers Aged 29 or younger	5	20.8%
Workers Aged 30 to 54	9	37.5%
<b>Workers Aged 55 or older</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>41.7%</b>
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Workers Earning \$1,251 - 3,333 per month	4	16.7%
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# Demographics: Employment

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# Demographics: Key Takeaways

## Population and People

Population has decreased over time.  
Highest: 1,400 people  
2020: 700 people



## Education

87.8% of people have a high school diploma.  
28% have a bachelor's degree or higher



Educational Attainment  
(25+ Years Old)

## Housing

76% of people own their homes and  
24% are renters



## Economics

Of the local workforce, about 8% work within New Harmony and 92% work outside of New Harmony.



# Next Steps





## Next Steps:

- a. Complete community needs analysis and assessment
- b. Complete website
- c. Prepare for Community Planning Week
  - a. September 30 - October 4
  - b. Stakeholder conversations
  - c. 2 public meetings
  - d. Drop-in office hours
  - e. Steering Committee meeting



# Next Steps:

## Community Planning Week

**Monday, 9/30:** Focus Group mtgs PM

**Tuesday, 10/1:** Focus Group mtgs AM, Public Meeting open house PM

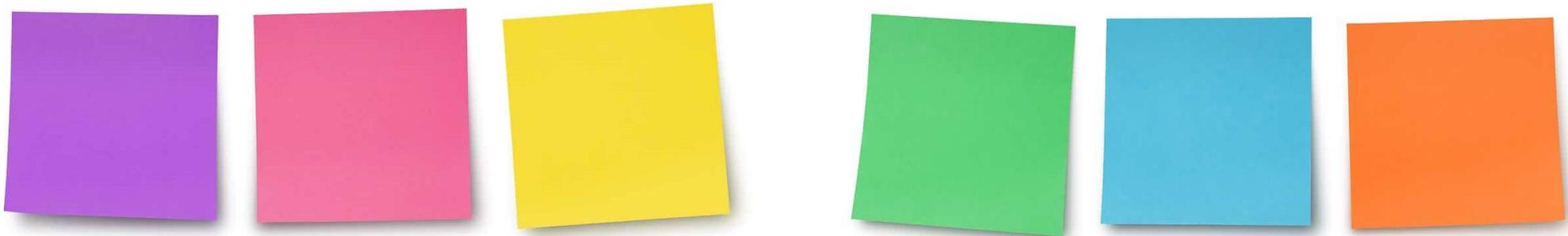
**Wednesday, 10/2:** REA working session, “drop-in” hours, Steering Committee mtg

**Thursday, 10/3:** Public presentation

# Group Discussion



- a. If there is one priority this plan could accomplish, what would it be?
- b. What are the strengths of New Harmony?
- c. What are challenges that New Harmony needs to overcome?
- d. What are opportunities that New Harmony can harness?





# Thank you!

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Steering Committee Meeting  
July 31, 2024

**REA** RUNDALL  
ERNSTBERGER  
ASSOCIATES