

1.Affordable housing 2.end racial profiling 3. Neighbor friendly
Building relationships with residents to build trust both ways.
created opportunities (where they are not security) for citizens to get to know police officers- softball games -invite them to block parties - other
The police department and churches should cooperate to have monthly block parties sponsored by the police department and a church in the same area as the neighborhood. Police do not wear their uniforms to the block parties. It builds relationships with police and neighborhoods. This has been done in Fresno California and has been a success. Chief Jerry Dyer of Fresno Police Department loves to share about this program's success.
establish neighborhood watches and other opportunities for neighbors and Decatur police to engage. community policing=better together
Growth plan - citizen review - more communication between city and schools
Finding a way to have more integration between the white & black communities - housing - schools (social groups)
Community groups can advocate for affordable housing (public housing, subsidized housing, and workforce housing) to cut down on "not in my backyard" effect, especially on educating others on dispelling stereotypes of people living in public housing
More programs and involvement for ages 18 - 24 and housing for graduated college students
Keep generational diversity. Give more relief on taxes
Intentionally consider inclusiveness in income and intergenerational matters (Don't price people out.) Continue to have diverse (race, income, age, parts of town) gatherings to get to know each other.
Use the Habitat for Humanity model or something similar to permit a range of economic levels to afford housing in the city. Perhaps a special variance that permits relatively small/decent/affordable homes to be built in Decatur. Businesses and faith communities could provide the property and volunteers build the homes.
create business or jobs or volunteer opportunities for people, esp. young people with disabilities.
Including people with disability paid in jobs and volunteering in city government and city business
had a piece of public art that invited dialogue with one another-a giant sofa or set of chairs that was also art.
Publicize Decatur 101 dates and similar opportunities on multiple media platforms - Decatur TV stations? Provide transportation to city commission meetings, Decatur 101, etc.
Develop neighborhood barter systems to support local artists, young professionals and support seniors with needs.
Have forums about school board/city commission relationship (like this initiative)
The City of Decatur and Decatur School Board need to collaborate and communicate regularly and fully.
I love how my children are being educated around diversity issues in the Decatur School system. Can we move some of those pedagogical tools into our daily practices around the city?
community effort to reduce the learning gap between different races and cultures.
Welcome Wagon for new residents - packet of info regarding Decatur city, schools, government, business, police, fire, events, etc.
The youth of Decatur should gather together to talk about stereotypes and assumptions that they have been held to. By educating the youth of today, Decatur will become a richer, more accepting community.
More activities for teens in Decatur to bring them together
One Best Idea - The simulations for students to see how it feels to be on the other end of the spectrum
Creating a program like this but for teenagers so they can share their stories to their peers in a safe environment
More information and attention to our youth
Intergenerational Interaction: tweens/teens and senior citizens
More diversity in city of Decatur neighborhoods and schools
Disability inclusion: promote volunteering - city - schools - government - recreation - jobs and job preparation programs
Make a Decatur 101 targeted to schools in Decatur. How you as a citizen can make a change.
Create more social opportunities and settings for teenagers.
Programs and functions for high school aged students to help with counseling (ex. young life)
Decatur High School students should lunch with a "senior".
Just like community policing there should be community learning around education issues.
Create and publish opportunities for citizens to volunteer and work with the schools even if their children are grown or if they don't have children. This would provide the opportunity to form intergenerational / interracial relationships.
Find ways to require or strongly encourage parents of elementary school students to engage in community action conversations.
Get Youth more active in Community. School performance arts presentations to Seniors, volunteer to baby sit, tutor older/younger people with various skill sets, etc.....
establish a young adult volunteer group to increase community engagement beyond required volunteer high school hours
Enhance services to kids at the high school to do ride-alongs, etc.
Develop diverse citizen review committees to review building and zoning plans.
Interfaith advisory council for city leadership
Mayor getting to know all people in the community not just officials.

Community plans must include flexibility/ability to be augmented and updated. Processes and decisions should be accomplished with deadlines, be transparent & thoroughly discussed with members of affected neighborhood.
Change public comment back to beginning of city meeting and publicize this time and "service"
Interact with others in our neighborhood and community. Local government more outreach in all.
Create a better together commission with a continuing role in Decatur with a role in community action and budget determinations
Better Together (leadership circle) should have a line item in the City of Decatur budget to insure viability and permanency. A citizen driven effort to insure structured and organized input in community issues and development
Develop a community view of Decatur development needs and wants. Review & change current City building codes and ordinances to ensure they support development needs and goals.
Would like to see the city actually engage all areas of city in community building events and programs, rather than just downtown and Oakhurst areas
City to advertise SMART 911
City Decatur employees should set-up a rotation of city employees at each neighborhood association meeting rotating service speeches.
Create a telephone number for people to notify city staff of problems or issues. Everyone does not have computer skills, or have a smart phone or computer available to them.
Better channels of communication with city commission. Possibly have a list serve or emails to citizens on upcoming items that will be voted on by the CC.
Neighborhood Advocate to liaison with city regarding concerns in all areas - policing - taxes - housing, etc.
Continue forms of this kind to include Builders and Bankers
Transparent communication to address homogenizing of communities.
Marketing and getting information about the city out to new and long-term residents
1. Porch fest to incorporate small group 2. Neighborhoods to take on a cause to volunteer 3. Decatur only events city local government
have more community nights at coffee shops/restaurants focusing on common interests (photography, films, poetry, etc.)
There are so many new Decaturites, it's more necessary than ever to have new resident packets so they can learn how to get involved in the community.
In our community - let's have some resources & tools in the school/community so that people learn how to let people in the community circle. How to have a conversation with people that are different.
Encourage, train, and/or structure community service across sectors. People together contributing to the community [is the idea]. How do we engage those who don't easily engage?
Welcoming & Inclusive - Identify/create a plan for each neighborhood to feel safe to meet at neighborhood centers.
make ongoing invitation via email to participate with the better together initiatives.
Diversity and engaged community. Getting the neighborhood involved.
Galvanize neighborhood associations in ways that promote community: 1) Neighborhood association field day - tee shirts & slogans for each neighborhood with participation in a neighborhood competition; 2) Share best practices for making neighborhood associations work - share info, ideas, resources across neighborhood associations citywide.
Develop "small groups" of diverse groups of Decatur citizens that meet regularly to discuss issues and propose solutions related to race and economic inequality
Provide opportunities for single working moms to be able to attend community events. They need sitters for their children. they never attend events because they don't have a community to take care of their families.
Involve everyone by giving them a task to contribute
Continue to connect to our aging seniors. Allow events to connect young people to seniors in their neighborhood.
Be intentional about including everyone in the decisions and conversations. This would include low-income individuals as well. This was not a part of the polls that we took. Did we go to the housing authority residents nearby to invite and involve them?
Arts and cultural programming that is diverse (ethnically/culturally/generationally) that encourages gatherings, conversations, interaction, free expression and understanding among citizens. - FOOD as an incentive but as a way to express and share diverse cultures.
Remember that Decatur is DeKalb's front door and help people who come for county services, jury duty, etc.
Ask questions about neighbors - who you met. Meet people in city/neighborhoods ask about them. show you care.
Build a MOOC for Decatur 101 so people can access a class even if they cannot leave home.
Juneteenth at Decatur. A community-wide celebration of diversity among individuals and groups.
Create and sustain opportunities for people of diverse backgrounds to exchange ideas.
Keep Decatur cool, diverse, friendly and community. Peace, love, Decatur.
Community talent shows by age groups
Community wide "Foyers groups" and/or "potlucks." sign up to host other residents in your home or to attend. Bring a dish and something to drink.

Have diverse gatherings of inclusivity at all moments. Preservation of Decatur for new residents moving in.
Intentionally consider inclusiveness [considering] income and intergenerational. Question: do young people want to live here? Have conversations in schools/colleges at planning stage w/ citizens that have been excluded.
Create public forums for people to share their stories.
We need more diversity: invite different races, incomes, cultures, [and] ages.
Quarterly "Block-Party" (karaoke machines!) festivals around CoD with food provided by the city, to help neighborhoods mingle & residents expand who they know.
Have a wider variety of music at concerts on the square - we need Motown
Encourage cultural festivals to celebrate our differences & come together. Possibly a Juneteenth celebration of Black History month celebration.
Revitalize the city's neighborhood association meetings to created connections across different neighborhoods through Better Together principles.
Reach out to diverse residents to specifically target those who might not know about city services & opportunities, and invite them to take Decatur 101.
Bring it up - talk to neighbors & friends about the subject of equality. Share stories from friends of color about how they would like to feel in their community.
Create educational opportunities for people to understand experiences of other races.
Make a more concerted effort to welcome international visitors. They are ambassadors to the world abroad for the City of Decatur. Welcome signs from MARTA, and other entry points for those visitors to the City.
Racial education, for every race here in Decatur.
Integrate communities(black & white); more activities for teens to come together
Because of the large influx of people coming into the city, a welcoming committee of sorts to introduce them to the city.
Oakhurst Porchfest an example of coming together
Real conversation that's genuine. That's how I feel welcomed. I love the Ted Talk quote: "stereotypes can be true but it's incomplete." Get to know people not just based on a single story.
More diverse (international) and affordable events). Ex. BBQ and Blues Festival is \$20 just to get in - NOT affordable.
Decatur "Ted Talk" or a new "storytelling" forum? Decatur library? Twains?
Address issues of race, class, gender, and sexuality in the community. Think more carefully about diversity.
We had an ongoing, multiyear forum(s) for having "safe" conversations about racism/classism.
Do community education on the value of having diverse incomes in the community.
I would like to see more get together like this because it makes me feel more welcome. I was sitting at table 5 and the ladies was so loving and kind by talking with them I feel more welcome.
Share stories-perhaps host initiatives thru neighborhood associations/faith communities-in "neutral" atmosphere.
Listen and respect others get to know each other
influence local media use Decaturish/Decatur Magazine to tell/share a neighbor's story
community gatherings of diverse people sharing stories
get to know each other through community meetings to clear up the prejudice against other cultures and races. more you know, less you assume.
continue the conversation about peoples' perception
Have opportunities to "share our stories" with those who are different from us. Process: historical perspectives-current issue for those involved-sharing personal stories-next steps.
Invite someone who is different from you to your personal social activity-dinner group, book club, workout group, church group etc.
ID the wall (barriers) between the community and have discussions between those.
Regular storytelling time. share about your life/who you are. on some types of structure or topic for sessions or theme. Could be in different type building and topics could be themed around that. serve food and keep publicizing.
Make Decatur more welcoming for single city dwellers
Create educational experiences about how it would be to be a different race, so that you can see how it is for someone else.
Change the tag line of the City to reflect a more welcoming, inclusive attitude. Make it inspirational and aspirational, rather than the current drab statement.
I feel like there should be more places of worship for people in religions other than Christianity. I feel that the city does not supply the means for people of other religions. The closest synagogue is rundown and I have seen no places of worship for people of the Hindu or Buddhist religions.
I think we could maybe invite more racially diverse people into Decatur. We are a predominately white city and I feel minorities need and want more representation.
In preparing a plan for being inclusive, think about not just racial stereotyping, but also age stereotyping.
Avoid assumptions when talking to someone new, especially someone of a different race, class, or age than myself. If i have previously had a stereotyped image of someone in this group, think of a positive example of someone I know or who is famous.

Show "the danger of a single story" video in faith community including Burundian refugees and connect to Clarkston to try to overcome of stereotypes of African refugees and immigrants
People shouldn't be stereotyped because of where they were born. This is America, and all should be welcome, not single me or anyone else out because of where we were born. If you come to fix appliances, don't ask, "Where are you from?"
To feel inclusive everyone should say to each other, "welcome to our neighborhood" in restaurants, apartments, stores, in our Decatur neighborhood, and we will get to know each other, look out for each other, help each other because we know who lives in our neighborhood, and not be strangers
Host city-wide events and websites to show the stories of all residents- photographic or video exhibits for residents to learn about each other
Create more opportunities for intergenerational gatherings.
More outreach to each other, knock on doors- greeting and meeting
Get to know our seniors in Decatur starting in our own facility (Oliver House) and to show how we understand our problems and each other.
more diverse musical selections (that would appeal to different kinds of people) at festivals and concerts on the square. How about: reggae, hip hop, soul, Latin music, blues, traditional (or modern) Indian music
More inter-generational community conversions.
Avoid single story interactions by personally welcoming others
Block parties so people know who is who in the neighborhood.
Create a small social group of individuals with diverse identities who meet on a regular basis as just a social group. Eat together
Coordinate Decatur community groups that are all working on similar race/inequality-related issues (i.e. Create Community 4 Decatur, Better Together, etc.)
Be bold to say hello.
Feel bold enough to approach someone else to start a conversation instead of waiting for them.
Do not see a "single story" for each other. Do not accept a "single story" for yourself.
Be good to my neighbors
make yourself approachable
To have more events that cater towards young adults.
Catering to the young adults 18 (maybe even have police out of uniform to help)
Build more places of worship for religions other than Christianity
Inter-generations getting together
Intergenerational activities
Create opportunities for intergenerational interaction
Intentionality with intergeneration connections - connecting young and old
Intergenerational dialogue sessions
Inter-generational meetings (Sr. citizens/teenager)
Downtown Decatur Ambassadors to welcome visitors, especially on West Ponce
Inclusive City
Build a better more cohesive diverse interconnected community
Building community across neighborhoods
Keeping Decatur an inclusive diverse community
Create a forum - a regular permanent forum - for diverse people to tell and hear each others' story
Decatur Multi-culture TED Talk forum at Library or Twains. Tell our stories.
More affordable arts/music events like Oakhurst's Porchfest.
Decatur Story Corps/TED Talks (Telling our stories in public format)
Decatur TED Talks/Storytelling
Best Idea - A city slogan or mantra that can be used on signs, bumper stickers, etc. that proudly shows the spirit of the Decatur we want.
Better Together as our community slogan for all to rally around (and community song)
All sectors be trained/encouraged/engaged in community service as a way to know each other by working together and contribute to our community
Bring together different groups on common project.
Using technology to engage a new generation in a movement for change
Work Harder to include more diverse voices to the conversation
Intentional process to create multi-cultural dialogue
Create a forum for Decatur TED talks/moth stories of diversity
Provide educational opportunities for people to learn about different races, cultures, etc.
Initiate compassion internationally

Sharing stories about different cultures in Decatur and experience of being stereotyped
Doing icebreakers - intentionally including others when inviting them into a group - inclusiveness - opening up & sharing POWER
Gatherings around culture (food) - to continue building community
How do we include all communities? 1. Provide opportunities for single mothers to attend - transportation & childcare 2. Provide a space young artists to express - not always having support to go to large organization 3. Youth- program for Decatur 101
Create connections between neighborhoods (like sister cities only sister neighborhoods) across differences (tracks, race, etc.)
Bring NPR's story corps talk with someone different from you
Community talent shows by age groups at the high school auditorium
Greet your neighbors - make them feel welcome
Speak on the street with the expectation of interaction not transaction
Small, diverse groups of people eating together
Build more diverse places of worship.
Bullying: - sensitivity training - accountability - repercussions
A better way to [get] news & info [out] about events
lots of community service opportunities easily accessible and frequent
Need a youth Decatur 101
Continue to provide and empower new people to our community such as Decatur 101
Create and use social media as a tool to affect change for the next generation
Have more fun activities for teens: movies on the square on the big greenspace across the street from Ebster gym?
Young Life to get the word out on the organization.
Intergenerational events; learning for elders; Decatur History 101 taught by elders to the new residents
Conduct events on hold youth groups for tens (Young Life?) to get activities for their age group, to get them involved.
Decatur 101 has a long wait. Develop a mini-class to welcome newcomers while waiting to get in Decatur 101.
Decatur cook off ris or chili & pie eating contest
Create neighbor-to-neighbor initiative to encourage individuals to reach out to others across differences.
Become part of a local group that is working towards the change you want to see.
New resident social gathering (mini Decatur 101) and introduction to city leaders and process.
Have an opportunity during public meetings for a sharing, socializing time.
Decatur pot luck/meet ups
Have a welcome committee in neighborhoods, including DHA and senior high rises. Have the committee greet new neighbors and be ambassadors to tell them what is going on in Decatur.
We should volunteer more at many places for many causes. We should have more volunteers volunteering everywhere.
pair teens and seniors for mutual learning and fun
share database of seniors w/CSD for service projects throughout the year.
Invited churches to participate in Decatur's Better together action plans.
Monthly discussions on community issues in Decatur at the Recreation Center, Public Housing (Oliver House has meeting room), churches, etc.
Institutionalize (make it permanent) a citizen-based Better Together for Decatur
Establish a political forum as a safe space for young adults to discuss political ideas (I would be willing to help make this action happen after Nov. 3)
establish continuing educational opportunities—OLLIE program (at Emory)—available in downtown Decatur!!
create intergenerational experiences—no cost, but ways for young/old to meet & mix—"pop up picnics"
more intentional gatherings to address ideas we didn't mention. story gatherings, dialogue. opportunities for experiencing multiple stories. continuing Better Together.
Opportunity for youth voice could be achieved through an open mic in Decatur Square (Fridays after school for example) like Speakers Corner in Hyde Park.
Create environment and opportunities for small groups with common interests to get together.
- Create ongoing (monthly) community dialogues; - Create opportunities/gatherings; and - Identify interests, create groups and supply space to meet
small neighborhood cookouts to grow community
have neighborhood associations in every neighborhood
More Leadership Circle involvement with the Community regarding Better Together
Develop Better Together Outreach Programs to execute Action Plans.
More neighborhood welcome groups
Talk about individual getting to know each other

dinner at Oliver House for small groups for the whole Decatur community with food provided by City of Decatur or another interested funder. or pot luck
Getting together as a small group to learn more about each other about the city or Decatur
Establish Better Together as a citizen/city group that continues to look after these issues.
Educate residents about what Decatur issues are influenced or controlled by county or state. [This is] currently not really understood by all citizens.
Need affordable wi-fi connectivity for seniors/disables/low-income residents. Being isolated is dangerous, but being connected is costly.
"Welcome Wagon" for new neighbors to find out about all that is going on.
Story Corps type idea with youth and seniors - interviews that are shared with the community.
Create events that include something geared toward the 14 to 22 age group
Continue these types of conversations. keep the leadership circle concept going
opportunities for community service and food trucks
Meet neighbors on block
Help our young people and neighbors to educate each other on allowing new people the chance to enter the Decatur Circle
Planning for reconnecting with people who have sat and talked together today.
TED Talk/Story Corps idea voiced by one table
Offering and accepting more social invitations
Community Conversations
Community Conversation - Neighborhoods 101 added to Decatur 101 - learn about what makes each neighborhood unique, known for
Community Conversation
More communication about what services are already available
Share your story and listen
Hosting Dinners or other small intimate community get-togethers
Spread of city goings on and information
More engagement between all community members and authority figures
Decatur Con - Dragon Con Decatur Style
Share my information with my neighbor - phone #, email so we know each other and can look out for each other.
Community-wide talent shows
Oakhurst Porch Fest by product of the Harmony Park construction but great way to connect neighborhoods - 80 homes signed up - they expected to get 10
Really get to know your neighbors. Introduce yourself! New Resident Packet - Welcoming Committee - Giving new neighbors everyone's contact information
Set "Neighborliness" as goal for Decatur community (i.e., get to know each other)
Increasing awareness of the city's services, resources, and opportunities.
Solidify neighborhood organizations to function as resources for its local needs
Give them food they will come!!! - Involve a fun experience
Smaller neighborhood groupings - 2)New neighbor survey (I like to be involved or I don't like to be involved) 3)Who are my neighbors info sheet (kids? cars? pets?)
Welcoming committee
Commit to sustaining these important discussions with key findings being used to inform policies
Better together needs to be made formal/permanent organization with funding to continue conversation - community discussions
Have a neighborhood welcoming process
New resident packet and welcoming committee
Welcome wagon
Come together around community service
More ways to share stories through media, neighborhood groups, faith communities
Service project including wick (?) community participation benefit
Encourage to train others how to take part in community service projects
1.Create environment and opportunity for small groups with common interests to get together 2. Welcome wagon for new neighbors in each neighborhood 3. "black boards" in the community for people to give comments and bring up ideas
Preservation of the history & culture of Decatur
Build a massively open online course (MOOC) for Decatur 101 so thirty + people can attend the class from their homes
Pay attention to the needs of your neighbors & respond to those needs personally
Accepting invitations to come together, when offered

Citizen involvement with development/construction/contractors - Citizens need input in order to keep integrity of neighborhood
Talk to neighbors
Action idea - involving/creating programs and activities to cater to young adults
Face to face interactions with others
Acknowledge each other - everyone fellow human beings
Bringing Together Children with Seniors
Inviting local leaders to visit & speak to seniors about city happenings
Need addition classes for senior (exercise, educational, etc.)
Effectively use resources to help residents. Ex. Decatur 101 - including more experienced residents to help newer ones
Ambassadors to tell what's going on in Decatur
Better marketing/communication of available programs to government/church/community
1. Publicize existing resident database systems for police & fire. 2. City minimum wage high enough for employees to live here.
Police training on demographics in neighborhoods where they police. Housing - more dedicated greenspace; add comfort outdoor areas in public housing
Developers should pay into an affordable housing plan...they can get tax incentives.
Police officers should be part of the community and actually know people of the community. So we need affordable housing and workforce projects so they can live here.
If people tear down a house to build a bigger one, developers pay 10% to the city to help pay for affordable housing
Have ambassadors to welcome newcomers, international visitors, etc. to the city.
The city of Decatur should construct a new skate park on the north side of Decatur. The police struggle to keep the juveniles off the streets and this is the outlet
Continue to have police officers go into the schools and meet with students at the high school.
Racism training for city employees and all police officers
Increase diversity in police force
Fund more on-going training for police to deal with diversity and mental health. Constant routine training.
Decatur "ambassador" force (welcome/hospitality, as well as look outs)
Educate the law enforcement community on demographics, show of authority which is culturally respectful to minority communities.
recruited black police officers had programs where the police officers met and mentored students: - community involvement - communication/understanding - familiarity
more people of color to get involved in citizen police academy
stop racial profiling by police friendly newcomers stop prejudices
Police educate neighbors and school children on avoiding stereotypes. Speak at neighborhood groups and schools, put information about avoiding stereotypes when calling police on the police section of the City of Decatur website. This is just as important as the crime prevention section.
Balance being hard on crime with treating people fairly.
More relationship building between police and teenagers and minority communities to build trust, not just policing and playing with little kids and helping senior citizens.
Create an APP for the phone to report if someone is being treated unfairly or if you see someone is being racially profiled - if you see something, say something.
Police are doing a great job but parents need to take more responsibility.
Police doing a great job
Activities with police and teens. Events and programs [to] build relationships
See and get to know the officers that serve your community as people.
Try to build the relationship with the police
More police patrols on bicycles and walking in neighborhoods. Get to know neighborhoods. Be seen in community.
Educate our police force on balance. I love the response & call to action by our law enforcement when I call them. The problem is the profiling when they are not called upon. They forget who you are.
What's working - Decatur police service in neighborhoods, the outreach program, education, etc. Jennifer Ross visiting groups neighborhoods.
Have more police officers do walking & biking beats around the city besides just driving in squad cars.
Make all of the raw demographic data being collected by the police department available online (remove ID info from people involved) for full transparency.
Police need to outreach to Decatur communities so that relationships are maximized.
Police should get out of car & join kids in basketball - say, "Hello I'm here to check in" - build relationships (especially in public housing)
Decatur "Ambassador" force (like Atlanta) - welcome/hospitality

Community Policing - more education for parents and children together about to talk about use of drugs & alcohol.
Advertise Smart911 - go to all the neighborhoods and churches to assist with sign up. Place signs in store windows
Review and evaluate how police are trained in dealing with the public, including the poor and homeless. "neighborliness" over "aggressiveness".
Community campaign to build awareness of neighborhood safety when to intervene and when not to intervene.
Police to report their data on ultimately false "suspicious person/activity" calls and stops to neighborhood associations, so that these associations can address possible racial issues/problems in their own communities.
The police and fire fighters become more active in the neighborhood and get to know their neighbors to prevent police brutality by knowing when to "Let go, and Let be
Change police policy to match "inclusive" ideal. Focus on suspicious behavior linked to a particular physical description, time, and place, not on "suspicious persons"
Training for police on implicit bias and how it affects police officers and community members
Have police take training on de-escalating situations
More police presence in high crime areas, such as the Square.
For random/general population: Give anonymous survey to individuals at faith communities, Decatur events or other groups regarding attitudes and treatment by Decatur police. Give results to Decatur police.
City of Decatur Police Department outreach website - specific to services and programs available - easy to take in buttons - click to get more info, sign up, request a call from police department, citizens police academy, park & walk, education programs, promotional video links to blog postings by police department, safety notices, updates/announcements, link to Twitter feed?
Consequences within the police department for racial profiling
Decatur Police create a system of discouragement or disincentive (consequences) for police officers that harass and racially profile. Citizens need a mechanism to submit complaints about racial profiling online or in person. Police officers who receive a certain number of complaints are punished
developed a method for police officers to apologize to those unnecessarily stopped
Acknowledgement of police profiling to the people who are profiled. Not replies that say "we were doing our job"
[More] Communication about [racial profiling and other] incidents and what's being done as a result would be helpful.
More presence of police in schools and communities to dispel perceptions of each other (get to know individuals as opposed to groups)
Police attend neighborhood meetings to meet residents. City to send/post bio's to neighborhood for police employees.
Police could greet residents more often, or explain why they can't always greet others while working.
Police should interact more and more frequently with citizens. At least wave when on patrol--or stop and roll the window down and talk. Downtown at the MARTA station, get out of car and interact with students and others. At least say "hi"--and maybe even, "Is everything OK?"
Have more bicycle, scooter, and foot patrol [by police]
Tweens/Teens Programs with the Police
Teenagers communication with Police citizens
Create a community based policing group to reduce friction between teens and police
The citizens of Decatur should have closer relationships with the police and police officers should know their citizens
Participate in the police academy.
Build and develop more relationships between police and the people in the community.
Create opportunities at many levels to allow interaction between police and the community. (True community policing not in name only.)
More visibility of the police. More forums as we had today.
Be aware of invaluable like for the policemen to be more friendly.
Honestly, all of the ideas about better connections with police officers were brilliant.
More foot patrol and bike police - situations for the police and residents to form relationships
Get to know our Decatur police officers as the people they are.
Dispel police and youth community perceptions of each other by getting to know each other
Create an interfaith/community campaign to spread ideas for community safety and police relations.
Police becoming more involved in our society, community involvement - affordable housing
Neighbor watch for safe neighborhoods
Establish neighborhood watches for all neighborhoods.
Negative needs-Seeing racial bias in DeKalb courts - More concern for the safety of young Black men in the city of Decatur due to racial profiling
Positive - Police respond quickly - meeting at local church to discuss racial profiling in that community.
Encouraging the police to get to know the youth

lower the income taxes for people who don't have jobs, who are not working, who need jobs, who are unemployed. also help people that are unemployed find jobs easily in Decatur and around Decatur, and have transportation vehicles for people without transportation.
1. Bring more businesses to city of Decatur (increases taxes) 2. Developers give back tax for affordable housing - funds for affordable housing - cluster homes for affordable housing
Action Idea - Create policies that don't disrupt the community feel. a) moratorium on new construction b) services and goods for lower incomes
city of Decatur-tree ordinance-cut down a tree, plant a tree nonprofit-developers. architects, builders donate 10% of talent to work together to build affordable housing-build a million-dollar house help build affordable housing.
Need a real plan for downtown so could address diversity in housing prices; create green space downtown; save trees or do a payback to the city if don't.
Encourage incentivize development or preservation of smaller square foot housing units while preserving green space and trees.
CoD should only support housing developments that allocate a percent of units for income diversity. We MUST have affordable housing and we MUST protect our greenspaces!
All similar ideas: * Collecting a percentage from developers of new homes to pay into a fund to aid families in purchasing affordable housing or "tithing" their time/money/expertise to assist the city in developing more affordable housing options. * The "cut down tree=build a tree" idea for supporting erodible housing. For every small and more affordable house converted into a McMansion, a tax or a tithe, or a labor donation should be required to support more affordable housing somewhere else in the city. * Require real estate developers and real estate agents to give % of their huge profit back to the city in some form to continue to improve the city for ALL (for schools, etc.)
Spend some time in community going over the relationship of the data and how to attack those deficits in education attainment-a real problem-correlates to population by race-rents and home values. All about needing money to live in Decatur and need education to make money.
The glossy booklet lists 3 basic challenges facing the CoD in terms of housing (p12). How in the world can school capacity not be on this list? Granted CoD does not oversee schools, but the items listed (increased property values) are not exactly controlled by CoD. This is a stark disconnect in viewing CoD challenges and future.
Zoning code should discourage tear-downs and high density development in neighborhoods that are predominantly free-standing single family houses (I know this is difficult, given current market prices)
Work with developers who are interested in affordable sustainable housing, use flexibility in zoning, density, etc. to work with land already in City of Decatur if possible.
Manage growth
STOP DEVELOPMENT
Size limit on construction that is enforced!
Encourage our city to really study how other successful cities have managed growth while also maintaining diversity. Look into ideas like requiring a certain percentage of affordable housing, limiting infills, require large building complexes to have a certain percentage of Section 8 housing.
affordable housing ensures that a diverse group of people can live here. and people that work in the city of Decatur can live here. also making sure that people that do come here that are different than us feel welcome by offering our open hands and finding a way to include them and get them engaged in the community.
more affordable housing for minorities, more diversity in neighborhoods.
be open to people who don't look like me or agree with me on all issues. pressure city commission and staff to set aside units in new construction.
Keep more diversity. Give seniors more tax relief. Don't push people out.
Develop a plan with transparent communication to address the homogenizing of communities due to rising home prices and taxes, which are pricing out people and forcing out longtime residents.
stricter regulation around teardowns, new construction, development. Need "courtyard" model of affordable housing to attract residents other than families with school-children.
Determine if we want every economic class in Decatur. Does subsidized housing have a role in assuring economic diversity? If we care about diversity, we have to be willing to pay for it.
At a city level, research communities that have been successful at encouraging economic and racial diversity to get ideas regarding how city policy can increase affordable housing
Build senior housing that is also affordable for middle and low income seniors as well.
Small group. Focus groups around affordable housing, reentry of ex-felons
Create more housing for low-income residents and especially homeless
Stop granting approval to contractors who don't include a % of affordable housing within their development. Required additional taxes to ALL developments in order to provide for affordable housing in other locations as determined by the city.
We need more housing for seniors low-to-middle income individuals.

Encourage churches to donate greenspace to provide a place to build affordable housing [via] tax credits.
Convert big houses to apartments.
Brochure on accessible design for local contractors. So many new houses could be used lifelong and/or by disabled residents with just a few design changes. Even if homeowner is not currently disabled/elderly, they may need these amenities later or the next homeowner can use them.
Need annexation - room for more housing.
Section 8 Affordable homes for low-moderate income homeowners
Affordable housing.
The city needs to develop more single family homes that are not 200K to 1 million dollars.
Don't price people out.
Have the DHA work with the city (employees) and the city commission to create affordable housing. Future developments on annexation should have specific affordable housing requirements.
Affordable rental and homeownership in Decatur
Have affordable housing for people 18-35 that work in the city with rents in the \$500 range. All new stocks of apartments do not provide this (3 new apartments complexes under construction).
Exempt seniors (62+) from school taxes to encourage lifelong residence and not price people out of their homes (Cobb county)
Build another Oliver House
Build another Oliver House for seniors at market rate.
Significantly increased fines for code/ordinance violations in residential [construction] by non-resident (i.e., developer companies) in the city.
Tax exemption for (minority) elders who have lived in Decatur for a certain number of years.
Have much stronger requirements for both truly affordable & section 8 housing in all new developments, and also for renovating and expanding large-scale housing.
Require developers of multi-family housing developments to make certain percentages of apartments/condos affordable for middle & low income residents. These units should be anonymously located within the complex of the same standard.
Incorporate affordable housing into other housing.
Maybe about 15 years ago, the Decatur Housing Authority had an initiative for teachers to purchase homes on Commerce Drive and Howard Avenue. Perhaps they could revisit that plan for teachers.
Lower property taxes to keep retirees & senior citizens from moving to lower tax areas
More affordable housing options, including those for senior citizens and younger generations, such as the Millennials.
Create, either by intentional development, or at the least, neighborhood support of "pocket" communities of diversified residential opportunities which promote life-sharing situations for people with disabilities.
multi-senior resident options, i.e., reduced utility/tax rate for seniors who share housing, allow seniors to stay in family environments while healthy.
What if we mandate that developers build a range of home types at 3 different price points? medium, high, low
Had affordable housing for young people and seniors that have a lower income and can't afford what Decatur has right now. Decatur is a great place to live but isn't being put in a good light for people to live. Also, tax assessments need to be done individually and not on all of Decatur.
figure out a way to provide affordable housing based on or for seniors, moderate income, single parents, etc. Need a variety of affordable housing for diverse groups.
market forces: rewards for creating/including ranges of affordable housing
made more homes affordable to single people?
promote construction of smaller less expensive housing
Involve Emory (coursework) designed to address affordable housing. contact faculty at Emory to create a "innovations in living spaces: economic, social issues"
Limit housing size to create more areas to build more affordable housing.
have more senior living options-i.e. ability to sell house and stay in Decatur city. (mixed income housing/lower income housing for those not on some government housing list)
Ensure certain % of "workforce housing" that teachers, police, firemen, and others may be able to live and work here. zoning issues?
Community forum around affordable housing-need more background knowledge based info.
How to change tax structure to keep our seniors in Decatur. Need exemptions from the DeKalb tax.
Build affordable housing that middle class families can purchase.
We need to facilitate and preserve affordable housing.
Encourage development of smaller ( number of square feet) apartments or condos for workforce housing (police, firefighters, teachers, etc.) and older adults
Rather than a moratorium on tear-downs, what about limits on house size on certain size lots?

Affordable housing for middle class and below. How are these people who can afford 500K + + houses? I dream of a house that does not touch other houses, but we can't afford to buy one.
No more McMansions! Loosen renovation restrictions but increase barriers for demolition/ new builds.
Having a conversation about developing tiny house community with 400-500sq. ft. living space. This would be idea for workforce housing and senior housing.
Limit development in some way. Homes are too expensive and the culture of the city is changing.
More involvement and monitoring of development. Balance development with quality of life. Ensure that ALL people can live in Decatur. Stop gentrification.
Affordable housing -- think outside the box.
Make a moratorium on high rise or high density buildings and increase amount of 2-3 story condos or townhouses to create housing for middle income and reduce congestion/traffic.
Promote and enable though zoning the development and construction of small (900 to 1200 square foot) homes located behind existing homes or as a cluster on available lots or properties.
Require real estate developers to either include affordable/workforce housing units in their project or pay into a fund (impact fees) that can be used to provide more affordable/workforce housing.
Identify available land and connect with developers, faith based organizations or non-profits to build affordable/workforce housing.
Crazy idea: City or other organizations buy smaller houses and make them available as affordable/workforce housing via lottery to other non-market system. The market will drive the prices up making it non-affordable. It needs to be subsidized by people/organizations who have an interest beyond the market.
Ithaca, New York, for example, has excellent "community/eco villages" that allow/encourage multiple homes - small development. May need to be incentivized, perhaps funded through something like a "teardown development fee."
more affordable housing - I don't know how to do this. so retired people can stay and young people can stay. otherwise we will only have upper middle class and wealthy people who all look the same
affordable housing – set-asides in large mixed use and townhome developments to include working class
Stop developers building \$800,000 homes. find creative and doable ways to build/renovate homes/apts folks can afford - >encourage affordable housing builders to come in
Required developers to contribute to affordable housing
Allow zoning variances or direct zoning options for "grandmother" apts in back of lots for more housing units. Also, allow congregate or manor homes with more units.
Pass and inclusive ordinance that requires 20% affordable housing in every new multifamily development
Create more inclusive Affordable Inter-generational Housing - make sure that they are integrated throughout the community - now just in certain locations or buildings.
Make increasing opportunities available for all: affordable housing. What does the city have in place to include the middle class? Taxes???
Increased # subsidized housing units-e.g. # of units in Allen Wilson, Swanton Hill, Gateway, etc.
Base city taxes on income rather than property taxes.
take away taxes for seniors
no school taxes for people who do not have children in school system. subsidies for city employees.
tax relief for seniors, low income
Reduce taxes for adults without kids or kids over school age and even less for seniors
Make property taxes such that after a person pays for a certain amount of time for the school system, they will not have to pay that portion of property taxes. Then we can afford to stay in Decatur as we age.
Continue to work toward reducing taxes for senior citizens.
Tax exemption for seniors to allow them to age in their homes and age in our community
Decrease taxes for seniors and city employees
Affordable housing options for seniors (taxes, apartment, etc.)
Look for ways to make seniors who own their homes can keep them
Better Housing for Seniors
Best Idea - Continue to connect our agency in place seniors to youth and help keep those seniors here.
Affordable Housing
Specific Affordable housing requirements on future development
Future developers to participate in tithing to Decatur Development
A price for knocking down houses like the tree law where you have to plant a new tree
The comparison to cutting down 1 tree replacing it with 3. If we tear down one house and build a huge house then a percentage going towards affordable housing
Best Idea - city government should require developers/builders to invest in affordable housing-which should be spread out through Decatur - not concentrated into projects

Spreading out affordable housing sidewalk renovation
Spread out affordable housing across neighborhoods
City require higher percentage of affordable housing (+section 8) in all new/remodel developments - and spread affordable housing throughout city not concentrated in H.A.
We need to come together as a community to work hard for affordable housing
Affordable Housing ordinance like the tree ordinance: if you tear down a small house to build a big one - you tithe 10 -15% to help build affordable/work force housing
Having builders and developers donate a % of the home sales to produce affordable housing
Builders tithe 10% to affordable housing
People (developers and others) who tear down small homes to build bigger ones contribute to a fund for sustainable, lower-cost housing
Best Idea - developers charged a percentage of profits that will go towards affordable housing
10% tithing on development to go toward affordable housing
Concentrate effort on equity and affordable housing
Develop inclusionary zoning that requires 20% of new development to have affordable housing - ie:100 units to include 20 affordable
Developers need to pay a percentage toward affordable housing
Developers, architects have to pay tithes for the land they are building on
Developers contribute 10% to affordable housing
Encourage churches to sell land to city for affordable housing or green space
Churches sell land for affordable housing
Large home builders pledging 10% back to the community to encourage more affordable housing
Preserving not just creating affordable housing options
Affordable Housing integrated into the community (ie: tree ordinance equivalent for housing)
Improve affordability thru sr. tax exemption and tiny houses
Mixed income neighborhoods/diverse kinds of housing in every neighborhood (zoning?)
Best idea - make building affordable (including subdivided) housing a priority for the city - whether that be by fee on mcmansions or in city budget, developer fees, etc.
There should continue to be subsidized housing of some sort within 4.4 sq miles of the city of Decatur
Developers tithing a portion of a house's price to a fund for affordable housing
If a speculation home is built by a developer they must pay into a bank to support low-cost housing. Their form of payment can be money, time, talent. This is not applicable to individuals building homes they will occupy
Mandated payment from developers which would be used for subsidizing affordable housing and or used for reducing property taxes for seniors.
Allow residential single family homes to build small houses in their yards to create capacity
Tithing to support affordable housing. The idea was that if someone demolishes a small house and builds something more expensive, that they pay 10% of the value of the more expensive house to the city.
Cluster homes on lots of 900 - 1200 square feet
City of Decatur working with Decatur Housing Authority to build affordable homeownership and rental homes
Housing Community Action
Affordable Housing for seniors and people without children. More transportation. Stop bullying in school.
Best Idea - 10% surcharge on new construction to go to affordable housing. Leadership circle meetings must be open to gain public trust.
Talk to contractors about affordable housing for smaller families
The house idea that was similar to the tree ordinance - cut one down but give resources to make another house
Building six homes on what is called "one normal lot" and making them affordable to middle income families
Incentives and/or subsidies for low and middle income housing
More affordable housing to promote diversity
Affordable housing - promote construction of smaller less expensive housing.
Affordable housing - require new development to supply x% for lower income
Affordable housing
Foster affordable housing - involvement
Action idea - Affordable housing for people 18 - 35
Build & preserve affordable housing to welcome middle class families
Intentional affordable housing
Improve affordability thru senior exemption and tiny houses

Influence city government and staff to focus on affordable housing!
City government restrictions on developers with regards to multiple price point options for housing. Tax relief for seniors, disabled, low income.
Create affordable housing initiative for Decatur teachers & guarantee courtesy tuition
Create pressure or incentives for Decatur businesses to be handicap accessible.
If you do not make your business handicap accessible, then you are not welcome to do business in Decatur
incubator program for continuing projects born as high school community projects. keep a great idea going past graduation!
Include people with disabilities in business and city government either as volunteers and or visible workers
To make Decatur welcoming for people of all incomes, we need to have places in downtown Decatur where people at Oliver House can buy basic items like socks or underwear at reasonable prices.
Being intentional about enable success for all - diverse business ownership in the city, diverse programming, diverse leaderships/policing/management.
Make sure to include and not forget all races and income levels (stores, restaurants, etc.).
Invite more businesses owned by people of color. Decatur is a good destination so food would be a great place to start.
Encourage restaurants and other businesses in Decatur to be more welcoming to different demographic groups
Train businesses & their employees Better Together goals and objectives. Train the importance of Diversity and how to make everyone feel important
Many small businesses do not have money and people to provide employee training such as listening skills, diversity training, conflict resolution, etc. DBA and other organizations could/should provide training periodically for small business employees. This would facilitate a common, friendly approach/face for business.
Increase opportunities for persons with disabilities volunteer and job & job training.
Decatur business owners need racism training
Create business loans/incubators. etc incentives for minority business owners
Train workers in Decatur stores & services to be aware how their questions or greeting are not interpreted as offensive or not welcoming.
To become a fair community, businesses [need] to respect their customers no matter the color of their skin or nationality.
Train workers & managers in Decatur stores & services to be aware of how their questions or greetings are not interpreted as offensive or not welcoming
Create incentives/pressure to make all businesses handicap accessible
Employment opportunities to "Hire Decatur," but with City, Housing Authority, and Business Association.
Economic development - businesses that appeal to all
better retail development-high rents are forcing out small independent stores in favor of upscale restaurants.
We need businesses that provide basic needs (not "baby Kroger"- it's not enough)
We need places to buy everyday stuff in the city of Decatur so we don't have to drive to other parts of town. Walmart is not what we want.
Diverse businesses - we need socks and underwear! maybe
Action Idea - Diverse businesses for all level of income people, without changing the safety of the neighborhood, but will be able to accommodate seniors on fixed income

I grew up in Decatur and attended Renfro Middle and Decatur high school. The year I graduated, 1991, we had a tiny class of only 65 students. Decatur in 1991 was a different place than it is today. My classmates came up through elementary schools that were segregated in a de facto manner with black schools south of the tracks and white schools north of the tracks. College Heights, Fifth Avenue and Oakhurst didn't have the same resources as Glennwood, Westchester and Clairmont and at Renfro, and DHS unequal preparation was perpetuated through "leveling", which essentially segregated the school by classroom. Despite the problems in the schools, our class was, and continues to be close. Even though many of us live far from Decatur we keep in touch through Facebook and reunions and I value that group of friends, the most diverse group of friends I have ever had in my life. After college and graduate school I returned to Decatur in 2006 to raise my family. I was excited to see big changes that were instituted by CSD to help rectify some of the inequity experienced by children in our school system. Elementary education had been reconfigured and schools were redistricted to equalize by race and socio economic status. Free pre-K and affordable preschool were being provided to city residents and the curriculum was moving toward innovative models of instruction like expeditionary learning and IB. But in the intervening decade I have seen other changes undoing some of this good work. The diversity that has enriched our city is evaporating as the city itself is becoming more rich and more white. While much of this change is out of the control of the people in this room, we must continue to strive to be a city that embraces diversity and works to fight inequity. The past two years of tragedy after tragedy, from Ferguson to Charleston to Baltimore, have reminded us that we are not living in a "post race" society. Injustice persists. To move forward, painful parts of our history are going to need to be acknowledged and addressed. For 150 years, America has systematically denied the deep scars of slavery on our country. The millions of people that were tortured and murdered on our soil are have not been mourned by the nation. Healing REQUIRES remembrance. There are shockingly few slave memorials in the US. Why is there not one on every town square? As we consider how Decatur can be "better together" I propose that we do so by being a leader in reconciliation and remembrance. Decatur could blaze a trail by being the first city in the south to have a large and impactful slave memorial on its town square. The process of selecting a design, a site, fundraising and dedicating a memorial could be a process that brings together our community in a way that has never been done before. A memorial such as this would attract visitors who in turn could be moved and affected and leave Decatur with a deeper understanding of the pain that the cruel institution of slavery left in the South in the nation at large. By remembering the victims and acknowledging our violent past, we can move in a meaningful way toward the reconciliation and healing our country and our region so desperately needs fulfill its dreams.

build a study hall/game room for the high schools and middle schoolers (have to be separate) or add on to the rec.

More green space downtown or pocket parks. Improve communication and lower crime.

Provide Public restrooms and free parking

Public restrooms

Make a large public greenspace where we can have meeting space for all downtown people.

To promote healing and racial reconciliation, construct a memorial to the victims of slavery on the Decatur Square. (I would like to host a community conversation about this idea)

Slavery Memorial on the Decatur Square

Provide a space where young artists can express themselves - instead of always having a project/funding support, etc go to large organizations.

Create greenspace downtown to encourage [the] community to talk! to get to know each other. Downtown needs greenspace! Get churches to sell land for greenspaces - pocket parks!

Add more places to sit in public places

Create more spaces for people to gather - preserve greenspace

Property at W. Trinity and Commerce - Let people use it, and raise money to purchase it.

include much more green space/ public spaces through Decatur's downtown areas and stop clear-cutting. The tree bank is disingenuous + a sham.

senior center in downtown Decatur with regular transportation to the center from various areas in Decatur area

more green space downtown

Solar town hall-the time is finally right to think of big solar community plan. Don't let Dunwoody beat you!

Build clean well-maintained public bathroom in the square.

Designate a building for a city artist coop

Build a public toilet near downtown {All Table #14 endorses!}

More public gathering spots/benches for neighbors to meet & share ideas

Make public restrooms

More green space! required of all new developments

Discourage more cars, especially at the high school because kids, by definition live within 4.4. miles of their school. creating more parking encourages more cars. what message are we sending to our young people that we took away our school garden to make a parking lot? less driving NOT MORE!

Keep sidewalks clearer. There are many strollers. Especially along W. Howard Ave from the water tower to the high school. Enforce the rules for private property and have city employees cut shrubs in public areas.

For handicapped citizens, we need more parking so people can participate

Review short + long-term effects and effects of street + sidewalk modifications. (It makes no sense to put in bike trails when traffic and sidewalks are so messed up.
Transportation for seniors, kids, and students. The bus would drop off kids in their neighborhood.
Have more handicapped parking considering how many folks are over 65.
Wide sidewalks, well-maintained & connected for all streets in Decatur for wheelchairs, strollers, etc.
Engage use of Cliff - Emory Transport welcomes all
The intersection of Church Street and Medlock/ Forker streets is dangerous and needs to be fixed. People aren't sure who has the right of way or can't see the traffic coming the other direction.
provide additional transportation options for seniors. "Go 60" shuttle is great, but could be improved by adding additional times and extended
establish "ride buddies" for seniors—classes at rec center would be more accessible for those dependent on bus, etc.
transportation needs for folks who don't have cars or don't drive—publicize & awareness of what is available
Report to city the exact places that need to be fixed for accessible sidewalks and elevators.
Addressing safety for seniors and those with disability: make a \$300 fine for driving car through crosswalk when pedestrian has the right of way crossing the street
Expand Go-Go Bus route and expand relationship with Emory Bus (Cliff) to increase local access to transportation.
There is not enough time to cross the street at Trinity and Commerce so please increase the length of the light and time to cross (add in countdown timers so elderly and others know how much time they have).
Complete the transportation plan. If we had more bicycle facilities it would alleviate traffic congestion, and leave the roads open to folks who need to drive.
Decatur transportation for everyone. Bus that loops the city every day. Lower fares for Youth & Seniors
We need some free parking areas. It's disappointing to know the county parking deck will begin charging for parking for weekends and after hours. When we travel to other cities (out of town), we like it and feel welcome when the city does not charge for parking.
Be respectful drivers that drive the speed limit and are patient. It feels unwelcoming to me as a frequent visitor when locals honk at me.
Seniors (15 and older) having more access to public transportation facilities
Better sidewalks. Less Parking (more expensive)
Incorporate better sidewalk network and having people actually use them
Bright flags at crosswalk for people to carry to make it safer to walk streets
Brochure for contractors regarding accessible design
Create incentives to make all business accessible
Free (at least sometimes) public parking
Better transportation options for seniors.
Programs for students interested in animal sciences (biology, etc.)
have effective, strict behavior plans and discipline rules in city schools of Decatur.
help teens-the younger generation at all schools in the city of Decatur lower technology. take away the technology- cellphone/headphones and privileges of teens using their cellphones/headphones and bringing them or any other kinds of technology to school. technology is not the key to success at school. too much tech is being used at school most of the time.
improve our schools by giving more funding to renovate them. ex: Decatur high the building is very old and the school is overcrowded
Need to stop the smoke & mirrors approach of handling gov/government officials and especially City Manager & staff; listen to our concerns but only 'pretend" to respond via survey & reports but not real action. Ex. New tree ordinance does not protect trees; just a replanting ordinance.
I've been taking my MBA in Savannah - there the Mayor Edna Jackson had a State of the Union address open to the public to talk and answer questions of the community
Better leadership for Decatur
luxurious but affordable ice cream trucks
Consistent accessibility to technology for public housing
Guaranteed courtesy tuition for teachers (keep our good teachers)
Have conversations within church community
A great way to meet people
correct the inaccurate history curriculum in terms of the starting point.
Create a neighborly atmosphere in Decatur when we expect individual conversations in community transactions- i.e. at places of business, with government officers, at grocery stores, coffee shops, dog parks, etc. Expect relationship interactions.
Can we hear the voices of the local business owners? Do they not live in Decatur? Why weren't they present?
More awareness for available services/resources. Maybe through mailings, handouts at churches, farmers' market, local businesses, etc. Partnering with other organizations to reach their networks.

Regarding "affordable housing," what have other counties done to keep themselves from becoming Unaffordable? I'm not sure what steps might work.
Involve the schools (esp. high school) in the welcoming plans, make them more inclusive.
Make clubs at city of Decatur Schools more inclusive! Don't just target ONE demographic
Have intergenerational activities through schools, public housing, recreation to start relationships between seniors and young people.
Enact a formal study into how equitable discipline processes & outcomes are for different races at Decatur High School.
The education system (when I graduated DHS 2002) was very segregated 60% 40% black white or vice versa with Blacks in remedial classes, Whites (and Asians) in AP classes; Whites in band, Blacks in ROTC. That was always very sad to me. I'm not sure how this has changed. I went to Decatur 101 class and heard some changes on education system but my question to this regard wasn't answered to a satisfactory degree.
everyone should get along with others/ everyone. we need to stop and we should stop bullying in city schools of Decatur-in all of the schools in the city of Decatur. we should have a positive attitude and support everyone. I get along with everyone.
more recruitment of Black male teachers (they're fun too) retention of Black male teachers would need to be addressed also.
help disabled/special children/kids/teens feel lovely and welcome. help them who have a disability in schools or around the city schools of Decatur/city of Decatur and around the community.
try to recruit and retain more black male teachers.
Black male classroom teacher recruitment in Decatur city schools.
have small groups of 8-10 at Decatur High school with 2 faculty-purpose to get to know others across academic and extracurricular and racial boundaries. many colleges are doing this now. offer mentoring support
engage the community in the issue of racial performance gaps.
Find a way to bring kids of different races together socially at an earlier age, since they are very separate in schools.
Curriculum leaders, teachers, librarians, and parents work together to ensure that children have access to reading/writing/ educational materials reflecting their own racial/ethnic/class backgrounds as well as those of other children in schools, neighborhood after-school programs, faith community children's materials, and homes. As shown in the video, this is very important for positive identity for children of color who don't see themselves reflected in positive ways in the mass media and main stream curriculum materials. White middle class children also need accurate non-stereotyped stories / educational materials portraying people of color and people from lower income groups respectfully even if/ or especially if they have few children of color or teachers of color in their classes.
In neighborhoods, community groups, and schools, educate all on cooperation, responsibility, and treating everyone with respect
Celebrate "differences". Normalize "differences" through celebrations and schools, faith communities, business /organizations, neighborhoods, through cultural events and activities, plays/ theater, foods, etc.
The need for more services to address teenagers/high school students as much of the activities are geared to young families, adults, drinking festivals not much for the teenage group.
Black male teachers - recruitment - retention - data around hiring leadership
Decatur's school diversity curriculum to be rolled out to larger community
Smiling to everyone and acknowledging the presence of everyone we meet