

STORM #1

1. How about a local housing stock survey done with a group on the back of a hay rack moving slowly around town. Is there a better way to intimately see your housing stock and talk about it?
2. It's not expected. So let's make small towns high tech. What does such an awesome town look like?
3. What tools have we not used before to excite road travelers to explore our towns? Incentives, charts, gamification, stories, videos... How can we make it the thing to do?
4. How can rural communities, with so much at stake, help bridge the divide between organic and commercial farms?
5. How can young people work with older people in a dynamic way to allow them to "age in place" in their communities? Do it right and this is economic development.
6. How do you engage negativity-vomiters into meaningful brainstorm for your community?
7. Do we want to help those in need in our community? We're as strong as our weakest link. If there is no red tape, what does an out-of-the-box plan look like?
8. Is it possible to impact leadership from within a community -- or is an outside influence necessary?
9. Exercise as a destination: how do we build trails that we get excited about using? Can we incorporate artsy elements using local parts and pieces?
10. We recognize gold-standard businesses for their service. How can we inspire people to be customers at a gold standard level?
11. The unspoken deal breaker: "Join our club and do things the way we've always done them!" How can we include new voices in organizations?
12. Music Across Kansas. What about a house concert circuit across the state?
13. How much is made-from-scratch worth? Can it be the identity for a string of local cafes, for a whole town, should we have a Made-from-Scratch Cafe Trail? Can experienced bakers teach young people? Will they come from far and wide?
14. People want to learn old-time, still-used skills. How could we incorporate these old farmer and carpenter skills to create a new business niche?
15. Volunteer-led towns, let's talk about your chamber of commerce. If you could toss it in the air and have it come down with a different name and different set of goals, what would it look like?
16. Do you respect your community so much that you think artists, doctors, young people, teachers, grocery store owners, and others would be drawn to it? How can we step up our game?
17. "Kansas: Say it above a whisper." Kansas gets beat up in the national press. How can we tell great stories about our schools, towns, people, and rural life in a transformative way?
18. Imagine that money is not an issue. What are the most extravagant yet charming, rural ideas you could muster to re-purpose an abandoned school for art, foods, entertainment, and anything else?
19. Activity-based action: PowerUps, and all, what about outdoor adventure meet ups? Or what other kind of meet ups would attract PowerUps from around the state or region?
20. Wild card.

STORM #2

1. How can we “upcycle” the things we have in our sheds and garages that we’re not using to create incredible public spaces? How could we work together collectively to all own these spaces?
2. Does my logo look dorky? What if marketing professionals donated a day every six months to guide us. How would that look?
3. Rural advocates (like co-ops), if you could speak frankly... You help rural communities a great deal but how could we make your efforts make a bigger impact?
4. Housing is a giant problem. Tinytexashouses.com might help us think big.
5. There is a demand for a new type of boss! Is it possible to grow a new breed of boss or evolve a traditional boss into one that encourages workers, doesn’t micromanage, and empowers them to be great?
6. Talking to your grandma: can traditional media do more?
7. When attracting five jobs is as important as attracting 500: how does the volunteer-led town market opportunities?
8. A number of media outlet businesses are here that have the ability to tell about Kansas places and people. Help them brainstorm how to best do this!
9. We may be rural but we have the need for speed! Is it reasonable to fight for high speed access – and how do we do that?
10. Forget the subdivision built around a golf course, build it around a barn! Is this feasible? What are the best elements of agriculture in our rural communities that can lend themselves to new living arrangements?
11. Where are the monkey bars? Let’s imagine a new type of playground that brings people together.
12. Farmers, what do you want the public to know about you? How would you like that story told?
13. No space, no problem: Pop-Up shops just need a temporary spot to do business. What are the spaces in your town that could be used for a short-term storefront, art gallery or ...
14. Create an event to “bless” change. Make it “empowering” to do things in a new way. RESET.
15. Does e-commerce make our towns A+?
16. Are there venues that could be great spots for entertainment or art galleries that aren’t being used now? What kind of entertainment do we want anyway in rural? Know what you want, then go get it!
17. If you tweet in the country, does it make a sound? How do we best communicate with each other?
18. Each small town has a unique rhythm at just being themselves. Can we promote those day to day rituals as something of interest to the public, in a way that would be meaningful to both parties?
19. Pass it on. How do we find the partners for transitioning a business or farm on to the next generation?
20. Wild card

GET in FRONTS STORM #3

1. Michael Crawford. Cloud technology.
2. Dave Criswell. Preserving historic grain elevators for business use.
3. Brad Thomison. Small town health care needs.
4. Patty Clark. Financing community improvements.
5. Patrick Hoffman. Future of retail.
6. David Roe. Help him refine Blocalized!
7. Henry Fortunato. Making Kansas a state for walking and cycling.
8. Carrie Van Sickle. Marketing retail.
9. Abby Amick. A plan to attract PowerUp business owners.
10. Sandra Randle. How to best develop a living history museum.
11. Lindsey Marshall. Let's share the best of social networking, customer service ideas.
12. Scott Rogers. Garnett Area Paint Project.
13. Jennifer Arnold. How to create a passport book/travel guide tool kit for Girl Scouts.
14. Dawn Harold. Be a consultant to a small town.
15. Jason Rule. How to make todayinkansas.com more widely used.
16. Kari Mailloux. Talk20.
17. Clare Moore. Concept about a locally-owned-and-operated ownership concept for a variety store.
18. William Peak. Looking for ideas on forming cohesive public policies by increasing public participation.
19. Diana Kirk. The Pocket Change Program is a housing plan to work with developers and other communities.
20. Wild card.

ASK THE POWER UPS. STORM #4

1. PowerUp GROUP FORMATION

What has worked to get that age group involved and integrated in their community. How to get the group started. Challenges.

2. MARKETING to PowerUps

How can we best market a business or community to 21-40 year olds? What services, goods, etc. do you need or would make your life easier in the rural setting? What should rural communities do to attract young people and families? What would you suggest to attract doctors and dentists?

3. WHAT ATTRACTS A PowerUp TO A COMMUNITY?

What attracts you to a small community? Sense of community, education, proximity to a city, local support for what you do? What would make you feel heard? What can you not live without? What are the factors of small town life/rural life that attract you to staying in or returning to your hometown?

4. ADVICE NEEDED: Give us pointers on empowering you.

Financially, socially, professionally. Who do you need as your support system? Give us advice on how to empower you, on how to help you make a difference.

5. BRIDGING THE GAP

How can we bridge the gap between the way things are done by the older folks (70ish) with the Power Ups? How can trust be built with established leaders? How do you present your perspective in a respectful way, but still get something done? How do you start the tough conversations?

6. COULD YOU SHARE YOUR VIEW OF A HEALTHY COMMUNITY.

What does healthy mean to you? What would the ideal healthy community look like to you, in a broad view?

7. INTERACTIONS

How do you find, connect and interact with other PowerUps in the community and also, how do you communicate with the PowerUps? This is a social and a technical question.

8. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

What community activities interest PowerUps as participants? New ideas are wonderful!

9. "I AM A POWERUP. Here are three things I am looking for in a town."

10. VOLUNTEERING

How can we get more PowerUps to volunteer in community events and local government? What motivates you or fails to motivate you? Are we making you feel included?

11. A NICHE BUSINESS

If you wanted to start a niche business, what do you need in means of support?

SHORTS. STORM #5

1. Meet IKE (Investment Kansas Exemption)! IKE is for rural start-ups
 2. Community foundations
 3. Towns without schools
 4. What are options for shared-use facilities?
 5. Create a Trail of Sunset Viewing Areas
 6. Claiming. Does it have a future?
 7. What do you do with an empty silo?
 8. Giving bushels of commodities for the benefit of their favorite charities
 9. Thoughts and questions from Cody, our high school student!
 10. Increasing voter turnout
 11. Mediation for businesses and communities.
 12. What do you do if you've lost your only school?
 13. Small towns, what do you need?
 14. Does a small town have to close down just because shops are closed on a weekend?
 15. How can we shake loose of out-of-state property owners and their storage mania?
- LOTS OF WILD CARDS!