



**“What Do You Think”
Mayor’s Commission on the Concerns of the
Disabled?
April 24, 2007**

On April 24, [Theron Warlick](#) and [Monty McElroy](#) met with the Mayor’s Commission on the Concerns of the Disabled. The [Commission](#)’s mission is to promote employment of disabled workers, public understanding of the needs of disabled, and promote the elimination of any existing architectural barriers.

Here’s what they had to say:

What does Tulsa most need to achieve?

1. Equality
 - a. Better social integration
2. Safer streets
3. Make Tulsa a destination city
 - a. Airport should grow
 - i. More direct flights
 - b. Need GOOD 1st class hotels
 - i. Downtown doesn’t have
 - c. Revitalize downtown
 - d. More urban living
 - e. More entertainment
 - i. Nightlife
4. Improvements for elderly and disabled programs
 - a. Social services available for deaf
5. Be more supportive of hiring deaf
 - a. Get chamber involved
6. Major sports franchise

7. Improve economic development in North Tulsa
8. Gang Prevention
9. More accessible
 - a. city
 - b. region
10. Better zoning
 - a. Not a strip mall on every corner
11. More mental health facilities
12. Better access to City Hall
 - a. New building might be easier to get around
13. Civic center is an embarrassment
14. More art, brighten things up
 - a. Public art
 - b. More beauty
 - c. Painting/Murals on buildings
 - i. Replace graffiti with beauty
 - d. Beautification projects in North Tulsa
15. More programs for kids during summer
16. More jobs
 - a. More big industry
 - b. Businesses need support from Mayor on down
 - c. Tax incentives
 - i. Do what it takes to be competitive
17. Clean city
18. Green city
 - a. Recycling, etc.

What are Tulsa's most valuable or important assets?

19. Older neighborhoods
 - a. Continue to protect
20. Tulsa has an educated work force
21. People
 - a. Helpful
 - b. Friendly
22. Museums

What are Tulsa's most critical issues, problems, or concerns?

23. More sidewalks
 - a. Make crossing lights longer
24. More trees should be required for parking lots
25. Enforce disabled parking laws
 - a. Accountability for parking
 - b. Better policing for disabled parking
26. Better lighting
 - a. find a way to keep lights on
 - b. in neighborhoods
27. Address River development
28. Look at old plans and why they didn't work
29. Why are there no theaters, bowling, skating, and shopping in North Tulsa?
 - a. Why drive for entertainment?
30. Repair streets
 - a. Downtown
 - b. North Tulsa
31. Complete the loop. Highway travel to North Tulsa via Tisdale & Gilcrease Expressway
32. Problems education – Tulsa Public Schools
 - a. Head Start
 - b. Over Time/ Part Time
 - c. Special Education
 - i. Children not seen often enough
 - ii. Not enough citizen support
 - iii. Not enough support for disabled children in system
 - iv. Our service needs to be as good as neighboring communities
 - d. Shortage of teachers
33. Better paratransit/bus transit
 - a. [Paratransit](#)
 - i. Don't have a system to access entertainment, etc.
 - ii. Need night service for tourists
 - b. North side bus station hub
 - i. Need later lines
 - ii. Need to run on Sundays

34. Strengthen, improve, and *add* parks
35. More knowledge of Tulsa's history
 - a. Tulsans need to know about the race riot
36. More shopping in downtown
 - a. Alternative to Woodland Hills
 - b. Also need grocery
37. More public information
 - a. Better inform
 - b. Newspaper, radio, TV, internet
38. City and county not working together
39. Poor media image
 - a. Equal Treatment/local media bias. Why is North Tulsa called "North Tulsa" and South Tulsa just called "Tulsa" on the news?
 - i. Reinforces stigma
 - b. Why do people make fun of Tulsa on sitcoms?
 - c. New movie "Fracture" – Character derided for Tulsa law degree