

EMBEDDING HEART & SOUL

Heart & Soul towns have found many ways to embed Heart & Soul into their communities during Phase 4 and beyond. We would love to add your ideas to this list!

Embedding Heart & Soul Into Government Actions

- Heart & Soul Statements were used by the County Parks and Recreation Department to shape the new Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- One community created an economic development philosophy that aligns with Heart & Soul work in the community.
- A town planner required a convenience store developer to meet with the neighborhood. Resulting changes to the developer's proposal were based on community input and conditional approval by the planning commission to council.
- The job description for the position of Town Planner included a requirement to have familiarity and affinity with Community Heart & Soul.
- A town and a village merged select government services for efficiency (with success!) based on Heart & Soul outcomes.
- In one community, seats for youth members were instituted on the local town council.
- In many town comprehensive plans, Heart & Soul Statements (and accompanying Heart & Soul Statement icons) are interwoven into the finalized document.
- Many city councils have approved their community's Heart & Soul Statements by an official resolution.
- Adjustments were made to municipal budgets based on the results of the Heart & Soul process.
- Land use and zoning laws and ordinances were revised based on Heart & Soul Statements.

Embedding Heart & Soul Into Community Groups and Resident-Driven Actions

- Residents developed a "Heart & Soul Mates" award to honor residents taking Heart & Soul initiatives.

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- The community's two years of Heart & Soul work was used to frame and support grant applications and secure additional funds from private, state, and federal sources.
- A Heart & Soul Stewardship Team published a welcome guide to their community. Another created a website to highlight great things that are happening in the community.
- A Downtown Revitalization program developed a new business competition that resulted from a Heart & Soul Statement-driven priority setting process.
- One community developed a neighborhood mini-grant program to support resident ideas that support their Heart & Soul.
- A community began a quarterly town-wide potluck after the Heart & Soul process to continue to bring people together.
- A local radio series embedded Heart & Soul Statements with coverage on recent town happenings.
- The Stewardship Team developed a community calendar to connect people to one another and to resources.
- One community continues to take their "Heart & Soul Chalkboard" to community events to gather feedback.
- A community's sports center used Phase 3 action ideas to shape their five-year strategic plan.
- An annual volunteer fair was instituted in one community to bring together volunteers and volunteer opportunities in the town.