

FAYETTE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

Draft

April 28, 2006

FAYETTE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
Community Participation Program
May 12, 2006

Table of Contents

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
1.0 Introduction	1
2.0 List of Suggested Stakeholders	1
3.0 List of Participation Techniques	3
4.0 Community Agenda/Community Participation Schedule	4

1.0 Introduction

The preparation of the Community Participation Program is an important first step in obtaining citizen participation and involvement in the Comprehensive Plan. The purpose of the Community Participation Program is to insure that citizens and other stakeholders are aware of the planning process and are provided opportunities to comment on the local plan, individual plan components, or plan amendments. More importantly, citizens should have the ability to participate actively in the process of defining the community's vision, values, goals, policies, priorities, and implementation strategies.

2.0 List of Suggested Stakeholders

The County will identify those groups that have a special interest in the development of the community agenda for Fayette County. The stakeholders are comprised of representatives of the various organizations. As the planning process moves forward, additional stakeholders are likely to be identified and contacted for input.

Input from the stakeholders will be sought throughout the Comprehensive planning process. The stakeholders will be called upon to assist with the development of the community assessment leading to the goals and objectives and reviewing and recommending strategies developed for the community agenda.

Table 1
Potential Fayette County Stakeholder Listing

County Administrator
Public Works Director
County Engineer
Zoning Administrator
Water System Director
Environmental Health Director
Recreation Director
Public Safety Director
Extension Services Director
Senior Services Director
Law Enforcement Personnel
Legal
Residential Developers, Builders, Contractors
Commercial Developers, Builders, Contractors
Civil Engineering Firms, Specializing in Land Development and Subdivisions
Utility Companies
Home Builders Assn.
Real Estate Industry
Local Environmental Organizations
Bicycle and Pedestrian Group(s)
Board of Education - Superintendent and/or Manager for Facilities Planning
Chamber of Commerce
Development Authority
Hospital Director
Local Representatives of Agricultural Groups (Farm Bureau)
Home Owners Associations

3.0 List of Participation Techniques

The Fayette County Planning and Zoning Department will guide the citizen participation and coordination efforts associated with the plan. A series of meetings will be facilitated to build consensus through a collaborative planning process that serves to create an open, inclusive, and interactive forum.

The Community Participation Program tasks are derived from the essential need to educate the public and media regarding the Comprehensive Plan and ensure a broad participatory base. The following tasks will aid the planning, assessment, evaluation, and implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.

3.1 Steering Committee

The Fayette County Board of Commissioners shall appoint a Steering Committee composed of representatives from the following authorities, the business community, and citizens to direct, advise, and help shape the Community Agenda and overall Comprehensive Plan Process.

Representatives

- County Staff (5)
- Legal (1)
- Citizens (3)
- Planning Commission (1)
- Board of Education (1)
- Development Authority (1)
- Chamber of Commerce (1)
- Representatives from the Development Community (2)
- Representatives from the Real Estate Community (2)

3.2 Kick-Off Public Meeting

Fayette County will host a kick-off meeting to announce officially the planning process to the citizens and other stakeholders. Initial opinion surveys will be available at this meeting.

3.3 Steering Committee Meetings

The Steering Committee will provide guidance and feedback throughout the planning process. Meetings will be scheduled at appropriate benchmarks to coincide with project deliverables and in advance of all public meetings.

3.4 Stakeholder Interviews

The purpose of stakeholder interviews is to identify major community issues and develop a complete understanding of the public opinions, comments, and concerns, including potential sources of conflict, and anticipated barriers impeding effective implementation. The results will be incorporated into the development of the

community vision and the Comprehensive Plan and used to illustrate the impact that the feedback has had on the progress of the plan.

3.5 Open House

An open house presentation of the Draft Comprehensive Plan Update will be scheduled near the end of the planning process.

3.6 Public Information Outreach Plan

The Fayette County Planning and Zoning Department will coordinate the development of an effective media plan to publicize information on the planning process to its citizens and other stakeholders. The following tactics will be used to inform the citizens and media about the plan progress.

- Project Website – The Fayette County website will provide information on the progress of the planning process. Throughout the process, information will be continually revised to solicit well-focused comments.
- Public Information Materials – Outreach materials will be created and used to help the public understand the Comprehensive Plan. These materials will be distributed at public meetings and other geographical locations to educate and establish visible, continuous public feedback .
- Cable Television – Notices and solicitation for input will be posted on the community service channels of Fayette County’s cable service providers.

3.7 Required Public Hearings

Fayette County will advertise all public hearings in compliance with adopted guidelines for public notification for initiation of the Planning Process, review and adoption of the Community Participation Plan, and review and adoption of the Comprehensive Plan.

4.0 Community Agenda/Public Participation Schedule

Figure 1. identifies the schedule for major activities during the course of Comprehensive Plan development from the Public Meeting on the draft Community Assessment and Community Involvement Program to the final public hearing prior to transmittal for Regional Development Center (ARC) and state (Department of Community Affairs) review.

Figure 1:
Schedule for Completion of the Community Agenda

Activity	2006								2007	
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Community Agenda										
Agenda Kick-Off Public Meeting										
Stakeholder Interviews										
Steering Committee Meetings										
Public Information Outreach Program										
Public Hearing										
Revise and Submit										
ARC Review										
DCA Review										
ARC Final Report										
Revise As Needed										
Fayette County Adoption of Community Agenda										