

Wichita-Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Meeting

MAPC Large Conference Room, 10th Floor, City Hall

3:45-5:30 p.m., April 23, 2014

Discussion Highlights & Points of Agreement:

Attendance - Plan Steering Committee:

Stacy Christie, Mitch Coffman, Peggy Elliott, Susan Estes, David Foster, Bryan Frye, Joe Johnson, Ken Lee, John McKay, Cindy Miles, Mitch Mitchell, Randy Oliver, Richard Ranzau, James Roseboro, Gary Schmitt, Debra Miller Stevens

Attendance - Project Staff:

Stephen Banks, Dave Barber, Scott Knebel, Jess McNeely, John Schlegel

1. Welcome -

The meeting was called to order by Peggy Elliott. Mitch Coffman was introduced as the newest member of the Committee, appointed earlier in the day to represent the Sedgwick County Board of Commissioners (as a replacement for Tim Norton who had recently resigned from his Committee appointment).

2. Committee Refocusing:

Peggy Elliot reminded Committee members that the appointment letters they received in the fall of 2013 (forwarded by Peggy earlier in the day by email) serve as a good reminder of the Committee's purpose, charge and need for continued commitment to the important work of developing a new comprehensive plan for Wichita and Sedgwick County.

3. Feedback from the April 14th, 16th and 21st Open Houses -

Committee members who attended one or more of the current Open House meetings shared their observations and reactions to the public attendance received thus far. It was felt that the open house format has been effective in encouraging public engagement, and that the boards provide a good summary of the information, issues and growth scenarios developed by the Committee. Public attendance has been fairly good for this type of event and subject matter.

Dave Barber shared the responses received to the question that asked people to rank the three growth areas for Wichita. So far, 'established urban core' has emerged as the top rank from each of the three open houses, followed closely by 'downtown'.

4. May-June Stakeholder Discussions -

The Committee reviewed possible meeting format and question material for the May-June stakeholder meetings. Staff emphasized that this material is intended only to initiate a discussion on what the Committee ultimately needs and wants to hear from the community as part of this phase of community engagement process. Following much discussion, the following approach was agreed to by the Committee:

- Revise proposed Question #1 into two separate questions. The first question will ask people to prioritize future City spending within the following three general categories of infrastructure investment – Maintaining and replacing what the city currently has; Making enhancements to what the city currently has in order to increase quality of community life; and, Expanding the city's current system of public assets to accommodate and/or attract new population and job growth. The second question will ask people to prioritize on a scale of high, medium or low, future City spending within each of the infrastructure projects within the three general categories of infrastructure investment.
- Revise proposed Questions #2 to ask respondents which growth area they currently live in.

- Revise the list of proposed decision-making criteria in Question #3 in accordance with the Committee's modifications given to staff, and ask respondents to rank the two most important and the two least important criteria

5. Review Plan Development Process -

Barber reviewed the plan development steps and timeline on a month-by-month basis from now through to eventual plan adoption anticipated in the fall of 2015. Committee members agreed that plan alignment and coordination with the MOVE 2040 MTP initiative needs to be included sometime in the August/September period.

6. Next Steering Committee Meeting -

May 7, 2014, 3:45-5:30 p.m. in the MAPC Large Conference Room, 10th Floor, City Hall

7. Comments from Public Attendees -

Staff thanked for work on the plan and open house materials. The Committee needs to be aware that future list of projects will change over time.

8. Adjourned - 5:30 p.m.