

# MINUTES - DRAFT

## City of Flagstaff

### REGIONAL PLAN CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

3:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. January 7, 2010

Northern Arizona Healthcare Educational Offices: 1000 N. Humphrey's Suite 241, Flagstaff, AZ;  
in the Fort Valley shopping center, south of the hospital.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Bonita Sears at 928-779-7632, ext. 7294 (or 774-5281 TDD). Notification at least 48 hours in advance will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.

*Draft Regional Plan Vision Statement:*

***The Greater Flagstaff community embraces the region's extraordinary cultural and ecological setting on the Colorado Plateau through active stewardship of the natural and built environments. Residents and visitors encourage and advance intellectual, environmental, social and economic vitality for today's citizens and future generations.***

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chair Paul Babbitt.

#### II. Roll Call

##### A. Committee Members:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Babbitt (Chairman)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alex Frawley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Devonna McLaughlin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carol Bousquet (Vice Chairman)	<input type="checkbox"/> Jean Griego	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jerome Naleski
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ben Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shaula Hedwall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eva Putzova
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Susan Bean	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Henn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> William Ring
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Chaveas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maury Herman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Kaemmerle
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nat White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judy Louks	<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Nesbitt

Eunice Tso

##### B. Alternate Members:

Larry Stevens       JR Murray

New members appointed by the Coconino County Boards of Supervisors were introduced by Mr. Towler. They are Eunice Tso, Mike Nesbitt, and J.R. Murray. Steve Darden will longer serve on the CAC.

#### III. APPROVAL of MINUTES for October 15, November 5, & December 10, 2009 CAC Meetings

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Recommend changes and approve 10/15/09 [minutes](#) ; 11/5/09 [minutes](#);  
12/10/09 [minutes](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of 10/15/09 was made and seconded. Nat White recommended a change be made to the minutes on Page 5, paragraph 7 from "older development" to "franchises and other corporations". John Aber also pointed out that the date in the heading on the pages after page 1 needed to be changed from August 6, 2009. Motion carried unanimously as amended.

Motion to approve the minutes of 11/5/09 made and seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the minutes of 12/10/09 was made and seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#### IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

*At this time, any member of the public may address the Committee on any subject within their jurisdiction that is not scheduled before the Commission on that day. Due to Open Meeting Laws, the Committee cannot discuss or act on items presented during this portion of the agenda. To address the Committee on an item that is on the agenda, please wait for the Chair to call for Public Comment at the time the item is heard. If time does not allow all comments to be heard, public comments may be posted to the Regional Plan blog:*

<http://flagregionalplan2012.wordpress.com/>

None

**V. OLD BUSINESS - (Continued, postponed, and tabled agenda items.)**

**A. NONE**

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Debrief CAC Retreat (est. 20 minutes)**

PURPOSE: Discuss 12/10/09 CAC Retreat highlights

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discuss and outline process priorities from retreat discussion

FACILITATORS: Chair Paul Babbitt

HANDOUTS (attached as links and hard copies available upon request):

- [PSA, Inc. 12/10/09 Retreat Report](#)

Chair Paul Babbitt asked to confirm whether the PSA Inc. retreat report given to the Committee was a fair representation; also to point out that there are a number of items that will need to be dealt with at this and future CAC meetings. Comments from the committee were:

- From the report summation, it is the CAC's responsibility to review sections of the Plan that are complete; fill in the sections that are not complete; and draft the sections that do not exist.
- CAC is ready to incorporate the schematics, or agreed upon framework of the plan, into a living document.
- Need to clarify if CAC members or staff is writing; CAC will review and edit staff's writing.
- Is this a rewrite or merely a review and edit? The CAC needs staff to help define what they are planning for, what they expect the future to be in the way of growth.
- In the current RP document, it is not clear what they were planning for. The updated RP must clearly define the future expectations, even within a range.
- The staff is well prepared and brings a lot of information to the table.
- They need a more succinct plan in which to move forward.
- A plan relationship flowchart would be of benefit to the Committee (RP, RTP, Zoning, etc.)
- The summary of the retreat that they received was a collection of issues that need to be resolved. Such as: how they would determine which values to support in the community, establish stronger meeting protocol, community involvement and how to resolve them.
- A strategy is needed on how we will methodically address each of the issues.

Mr. Caravona briefly went over the summary and the process outline that will be followed.

**Contextual Information (est. 20 minutes)**

PURPOSE: Provide one-page summary: population trends; existing land use allocation; etc.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Review & discuss 'context'

FACILITATORS: Dave Wessel, FMPO

HANDOUTS (hand-out at meeting; also, please see '[Land Use](#)' and '[Growth Areas](#)' Cliff Notes):

- Summary: Flagstaff MPO Existing and Potential Growth

Mr. Wessel provided a review of the handout given to the Committee.

Comments from the CAC:

- What is the current capacity of the activity centers as referenced in the Regional Transportation Plan? *DW: There is more than enough capacity and that some of these areas are quite large.*
- Our purpose is to plan for growth and direct the growth.
- Hesitant to plan for a population number; prefer a dynamic plan that allows for adjustment.

- How accurate were past population projections? Please look at 1990/95/2000. How many jobs have been really been added since 1995?
- The current plan calls for a population of 103,743 and we have a forecast for 10 years later that calls for the same amount.
- The biggest growth is the university and we have very little control over the university.
- Need someone from the university come and provide university growth projections.
- 2% population growth is needed for impact fees to be effective. For a time, we did see 2% and great; but recent growth is closer to 1%.
- With the current economy, retail employment will drop.
- This is a 20 year plan (CAC is projecting out to 2030).
- The median age in Coconino County went from 26 to 31; either young families are leaving, or the general population is aging. What are the implications of this in our community?
- One thing that has happened over the last ten years is the stabilization of middle aged people. More people are electing to retire here in Flagstaff rather than going elsewhere.
- CAC needs to understand the land use distribution; there is an apparent lack of land for industrial use versus residential. There is an opportunity to find out if this is the right distribution and whether we need to recalibrate the distribution for job growth.

## **B. Guiding Principles**

*(est. 90 minutes)*

PURPOSE: Discuss and agree upon 'guiding principles', setting the framework for Regional Plan

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Review existing RP Guiding Principles, past 'visioning' discussions, and 'sustainability' discussion notes. Each member recommends top three; discuss and recommend.

FACILITATORS: Bob Caravona

HANDOUTS (attached as links and hard copies available upon request):

- [Summary: existing RP guiding principles; 'visioning' notes; 'sustainability' discussion](#)

Mr. Caravona read to the Committee the vision statement that they had approved; the goal today was to craft their guiding principles. The members were to come to meeting with three suggestions for guiding principles. These would be written on sticky note paper and pasted into categories on the wall, which were: Regional Plan 2001 objectives; County Comprehensive Plan Guiding Principles; as well as an 'other' category. The Committee was given time to do this, and then staff read the pasted suggestions out loud. The group re-categorized many of the suggestions, and a discussion was made on what a guiding principle is versus strategies. Staff and a few CAC members will summarize the discussion and suggestions to bring to the February CAC meeting. The 'sticky notes' were organized into the three branches of sustainability for organizational purposes only, and an action verb was added for each, as these suggestions are organizing themselves as 'strategies' :

Environmental:

- Compact development / infill / mixed-use / growth boundary
- Urban core/activity centers
- Proximity over mobility
- Compact land use modeled after similar successful communities
- Preserve Open Space
- Wildlife preservation
- Efficient use of resources
- Design & preserve small community character and environment
- Preserve historic character
- Energy efficient retro-fit; green building
- Efficient transportation
- Walkability
- Green building

- Transportation—determines whether decision will build or fragment community?
- Range of housing types available
- Protection of viewsheds
- Protection of watersheds
- Humans in tune with nature
- Maintain eco-system services (economic value of eco-systems)
- Factor in importance of biotic processes
- Biological community – Holistic decision making
- Assess and reduce impact of development on natural systems
- Conserve value of natural vegetation
- Conservation Land System
- Protect Walnut Canyon
- Livability (if this term is used, it would be helpful to define it)
- Preservation of Open Space – continue rural character of undeveloped areas
- Preservation of Open Space – special places of environmental value
- Development to practice sustainability and conservation practices
- Design for human interface and respect for nature
- Maintain and provide access to open spaces and public lands for all neighborhoods
- Our built environment echoes the beauty of our natural environment.
- Ability to combine sustainability and city infrastructure

#### Economic:

- Sustainable development
- Make affordable housing for Flagstaff's diverse population a priority.
- Strive for opportunities for diversity of demographics
- Make year-round (full time) residents a priority.
- Ensure efficient use of resources
- Aim for affordable transportation and transit choices
- Take ecosystem services into account when making decisions.
- Promote dense urban core
- Promote more infill by businesses
- Analyze and promote growth of our employment bases (diverse economy)
- Promote appropriate land uses to reduce travel needs (i.e. neighborhood grocery store)
- Roads should be based upon ability to be served by existing infrastructure (urban service boundary)
- Space for job creation
- Defend/promote Flagstaff as a center for higher education
- Diversified economy: 1) education center; 2) innovative enterprises; 3) destination tourism; 4) regional medical center 5) conference center 6) job opportunities

#### Social:

- Make safe & decent affordable housing a priority.
- Housing choices – inclusion and integration
- Social justice/ equality in diverse population
- Factor in walkability as a means to improve public Health / walkability
- Factor in social interaction as a potential benefit when making decisions
- Sense of place (community character) – unique character
- Improve livability (still not sure what this term means...)
- Transportation Mode choice
- Factor in emotional and psychological health benefits of access to nature. Psyche of nature
- Surroundings – healthy it and healthy us (same as guiding principle of Environmental Sustainability above, i.e. Healthy ecosystems are essential to healthy human communities. It's mine so you can leave it off this part of the list if you want to!)
- Prioritize neighborhood values
- Be mindful of all demographics and demographic trends

- Don't sacrifice things of value for assumed growth
- Promote public and community development that blends with our historical and cultural mixed groups
- Assure spaces within development for children to play safely
- Clarify the demographic state trends guiding the document
- Promote preservation of open space for special places of cultural value

**C. Document Formatting** *(est. 10 minutes)*

PURPOSE: Disperse and discuss CAC request of inserting existing RP goals & policies into new outline

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Review and prepare to discuss in depth in February

FACILITATORS: Kimberly Sharp

HANDOUTS (attached as links and hard copies available upon request):

- [Regional Plan 2012 – January 2010 DRAFT](#)

[This item was tabled until the February CAC meeting.](#)

**D. Announcements** *(est. 10 minutes)*

1. **Next CAC Meeting:** February 4, 2009 - 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at N.AZ Healthcare facilities

**February Agenda Items:**

1. Finalize Guiding Principals
2. Document Formatting – discuss, agree upon revisions & future ‘insertions’
3. Hierarchy of Planning Framework – various planning documents; existing RP influence.
4. Set Priorities for Plan Update – which elements to spend significant time on?
5. Process & Schedule going forward – large 2010 calendar

Growth population report will be a hand out.

Calendar for open house. Layout a plan for 2010 for next meeting.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

[The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m. by Chair Babbitt.](#)