

# MINUTES - DRAFT

## City of Flagstaff

### REGIONAL PLAN CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

3:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. July 2, 2009

Northern Arizona Healthcare facilities – 1200 N. Beaver Street



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.

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Paul Babbitt called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

#### II. Roll Call

##### A. Committee Members:

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Babbitt (Chairman)        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alex Frawley   | <input type="checkbox"/> Devonna McLaughlin        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carol Bousquet (Vice Chairman) | <input type="checkbox"/> Jean Griego               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jerome Naleski |
| <input 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 type="checkbox"/> William Ring              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Chaveas                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maury Herman   | <input type="checkbox"/> David Walker              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beatrice Cooley                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Kaemmerle  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nat White      |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Darden              |

##### B. Alternate Members:

Judy Louks  
 Larry Stevens

##### C. STAFF:

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kimberly Sharp | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Wessel   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Caravona  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Towler    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elaine Averitt | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roger Eastman |

#### III. APPROVAL of MINUTES for June 4, 2009

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Recommend corrections and approve minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of June 4, 2009 as submitted.  
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/>*

No public comments.

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

##### A. Public Participation Plan (est. 10 minutes)

PURPOSE: Review Public Participation plan with recommended changes

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve or approve with suggested changes

PRESENTERS: Kimberly Sharp, Neighborhood Planner

ATTACHMENTS: [Public Participation Plan 052909](#)

A power point slide presentation of the Public Participation Plan was made by Ms. Kimberly Sharp. She discussed the recommended changes to the "Objectives of the Plan". Also added to the Plan was a paragraph on surveys. Ms Sharp informed the Committee that an NAU sociology professor offered both his fall and spring classes to help develop the questions and administer the survey in three different format. He will also analyze the results of the surveys. Ms Sharp asked if the recommended changes were acceptable to the Committee.

A CAC member expressed concern whether they would be able to reach all community individuals. It was recommended that the surveys also be conducted in the retail centers to reach as many people as possible.

Ms Sharp asked if anyone from the Committee would be interested in sitting on a survey taskforce to help facilitate the process. The initial process will begin later this month to work with the professor to begin developing questions and will continue through the fall. Volunteers to the Taskforce were: Ken Kaemmerle and Eva Putzova.

A CAC member inquired about how involved the City Council and County Board of Supervisors were in the process. Ms Sharp responded that they were updated on a monthly basis and have been invited to the Focus Group meetings.

A question was asked regarding the definition of the "affected population". It was determined that it is the population within the boundaries of the Regional Plan.

A question was asked on what effect people from outside the regional plan boundaries could have. Do we want outside input?

Mr. Caravona stated from previous survey experience in Winter Park, Colorado, that the Town also surveyed the second homeowners as they composed roughly 85% of homeowners.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Public Participation Plan as amended striking the words "affected" where it occurs, and adding "within the Regional Plan Boundaries" after "population". Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Public Participation Update**

*(est. 5 minutes)*

PURPOSE: Update Commission on blog activity and planning for surveys. One or two CAC volunteer to assist with surveys and public participation process.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion; one or two volunteers to assist staff.

PRESENTERS: Kimberly Sharp, Neighborhood Planner

This was covered in the previous discussion.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Vision Statement**

*(est. 45 minutes)*

PURPOSE: To establish a DRAFT vision statement of the Regional Plan 2012

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Review CAC "top issues" comments from Feb. 18, 2009 retreat

PRESENTERS: Carol Bousquet, CAC Vice-Chair

ATTACHMENTS: [Existing Regional Plan 'Vision'; CAC Retreat 'Top Issues'](#)

[Regional Plan Visionary Open Houses \(March 11, 12 & 13\) Public Comments](#)

A power point slide presentation concerning the "Vision Statement" was made by Vice Chair Carol Bousquet. Ms Bousquet distinguished the difference between a vision statement and a mission statement and Ms Bousquet asked "if we're crafting this plan for us", who constitutes "us"? Who are the partners working towards this "future Flagstaff"?

Comments by the CAC were:

- For those who work, lives, play, go to school here, pay taxes, vote.
- For those who cannot speak (wildlife, organic and inorganic).
- For future residents of Flagstaff.
- Decision makers, City Council, County Board of Supervisors, planners, directors, implementers
- Development community/financers (professionals who implement) as partners.
- Respect for heritage

Ms Bousquet then led the discussion about the Regional Plan's vision framework – "Let's think a little about how the plan will be organized to help us organize the Vision Statement".

Ms Bousquet presented Blackburg's Virginia method of created four "umbrella categories" then inserted the planning elements under the appropriate category. The "umbrella categories are the following:

- Natural environment
- Built environment
- Human environment
- Planned Environment

Ms Bousquet inquired "Does this help to craft a vision?" She then turned the discussion towards the "Vision Statement" with the following explanation. A "Vision statement describes the desired future outcome that you wish to work towards." She asked the CAC membership as to their opinions about the Vision Statement. The responses received are the following:

- Use language that will be appropriate for every person not just planners.
- Vision should be something you do not forget – short and distinct of what we want our community to be.
- Eva Putzova offered a Vision Statement for the CAC to take under consideration: “The greater Flagstaff is a sustainable community which is ecologically, culturally, socially and economically resilient”
- People live here because they want to live here. Because it is such a wonderful place to live, (access to natural beauty, etc). Make the vision statement accessible.
- We need to state goals without so much inevitability of growth.
- Is Vision 2020 still valid?
- Existing vision statement is generic.
- Is current vision is conglomerate of vision and “mission”

Homework “To do for August”:

-Vision 2020 review

-Research other Regional plan vision statements.

-Think about the grouping (natural, built, human, planned environment)

- “Greater Flagstaff is a sustainable community”, what does this mean?
- Vision statement task force draft and circulate through staff to the Committee for review and comments.
- Ask people what they envision Flagstaff to be?
- What about values, what is it we value in this community?

Next step is to come up with a draft for the August meeting. A Vision Statement taskforce composed of Nat White, Susan Bean, Maury Herman and Carol Bousquet was formed to work on a drafting a Vision Statement for the August meeting. The Committee discussed what else was needed. It was decided that they would take what was said today and write it up. It should be precise and include information to back each point.

Mr. Caravona suggested a process to be followed for posting the Vision Statement to receive feedback from the general public. Information will be posted on the website for reference.

## **B. Land Use, Growth & Circulation Elements**

*(est. 45 minutes)*

**PURPOSE:** To prepare for initial drafting of Regional Plan elements: review Focus Group public comments, summary of City and County department interviews, in respect to current RLUTP policies and goals.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Discuss and provide direction

**PRESENTER:** Dave Wessel – Circulation & Bicycles review of RTP & (6/11) Focus Group

Mr. David Wessel provided an overview of the Circulation & Bicycles SWOT Analysis results from the Focus Group meeting to the Committee. He also provided an overview of the results of the 2008 Regional Transportation Plan survey. Neighborhood Character had strong results. He pointed out that activity centers were supported in the current regional plan. He informed the Committee that they could log on to the website [www.Flagstaffpathways.org](http://www.Flagstaffpathways.org) to see the results of the survey and summary documents, and cross tabs. He felt that the results of the survey held up. Mr. Wessel said they received comments “for” and “against” the road network

projects. There is a need to get around the traffic congestion which is critical for emergency purposes.

Comments and questions posed by the CAC membership:

- Creating a definition of activity centers and the need to make sure they are viable.
- Transportation planning is difficult, especially if you try to envision all the unintended results.
- Missing from the SWOT analysis was anything for walk ability like sidewalks.

Ms. Sharp informed the Committee that 21 responses have been received on policies analysis review. For next CAC meeting staff will provide all of the policy review results. An e-mail was sent out to an estimated 500 people and they have received 21 comments so far. Public comments on the survey may also be posted to the Regional Plan's blog website.

PRESENTER: Bill Towler – Land Use & Growth Areas review of (6/11) Focus Group & County departments

PRESENTER: Bob Caravona – Discuss Existing policy review and facilitate Q&A

ATTACHMENTS: [Regional Transportation Plan 2008 Survey Results](#)  
[5/28 and 5/29 Open House Comments](#)

Mr. Towler provided a summary of comments received at the Focus Group meeting. These comments were used to provide a SWOT analysis on land use and growth in Flagstaff.

Comments from the Committee:

- Perception is that Flagstaff is growing too fast, but studies show that it isn't. This is something that the Committee will have to deal with.
- Downtown vs 4<sup>th</sup> Street as cores. Latest retail studies show that downtown retail is down but restaurants are holding and what ever is happening on 4<sup>th</sup> Street is not a good picture. "Flagstaff is more of a small city than a small town."
- Complaints about why the City is putting in bike lanes when there are bicycle FUTS paths. When we're talking about urban trails we should talk about bicycles and pedestrians. Bicycle transportation along the roads are a different issue. Need to talk about FUTS trail systems and bike lanes as a whole system. An example is along 180 that has both a bike lane and FUTS. Commuters use bike lanes and recreational users use the FUTS.

Mr. Bob Caravona provided a power point presentation about "Preparation of Existing Policy Review". He discussed with the CAC where they have been, where they are today and where they are going towards August.

Where have we been?

- Adopted a Regional Plan that has to be updated every ten years.
- Goals and policies in place and they have guided development over these ten years.
- CAC is meeting regularly and provided direction as to whether to "tweak" the existing RLUTP or make substantial changes. No decision has been made and CAC is reviewing options.

Where are we today?

- Long term goal is an adopted Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan
- Short term for August meeting is: a Vision statement and review of existing policy and goals

Where are we going?

- Staff is to filter the information will use a traffic light analogy to easily convey the information
  - Green - complies with existing goals/policy
  - Yellow - borders compliance
  - Red - Does not comply.

Mr. Caravona provided examples of how it would be applied and also explained the outreach to the general public to comment through Survey Monkey, using the site's capabilities to provide graphics and statistics.

- CAC August meeting – will discuss and review policy and goals:
- Mr. Caravona stated if the CAC does not feel comfortable contacting staff, comments suggestions can be emailed to staff or Chair and Vice Chair.

**C. Planning Exercise** *(est. 30 minutes)*

PURPOSE: Applying graphic planning to study area as in relation to public comments and CAC discussion on Land Use, Growth & Circulation elements.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discuss and provide direction by way of a group exercise

- PRESENTERS: Roger Eastman

A video on community planning and sprawl was viewed by the Committee. The emphasis was on compact infill and not about sprawling growth.

The Committee was asked to break into small groups and each group was given map 2 of the RLUTP and the marked up tissue paper from the CAC's previous Sector Planning Exercise. They were asked to think about where we want Flagstaff to grow? How growth should be directed? Trade-offs when considering exchanging one land use for another (ie. Industrial areas. They were given 20 minutes to put their ideas on the maps and reminded it was only an exercise. They were to present their findings to the CAC at the end of the exercise.

The first group talked about activity centers – the need for walk ability. They felt that more density was needed toward Belmont/Parks area and Ft Valley Road. Current centers don't have what you need. They felt it was a solution to traffic congestion.

Question was posed to them about what would be provided for in an activity center? Different activity centers would have a different mix of uses. Suggested uses such a bar, hair salon, post office, bakery were made. "When is housing appropriate in the mix?" was asked.

The second group pointed out new areas for growth such as Belmont, the area between the airport and Ponderosa Trails neighborhood, and Fourth Street. They suggested tearing down the mall and doing it over, and felt that there was need to build up before growing out.

The third group raised several points on infill and where is it appropriate in Flagstaff? To infill the downtown area would cause it to lose its character. Milton Road was looked at for the possibility of taller buildings. John Wesley Powell: the area connecting to the interchange and areas north of this could be mixed use growth such as for housing and activity centers. The area southeast of Continental was reviewed and discussed. The group questioned how the state lands would be developed if acquired. They did not come to any conclusion of what kind of growth could happen there, however there would have to be a respect for topography with appropriate development and densities. The Picture Canyon area was discussed as well. The

transfer of development rights from Picture Canyon to another area would be preferred, if legal. In respect to industrial development, the point was raised that industrial fumes should be downwind of Flagstaff, with Purina used as an example. Transfer of development rights was an idea to consider. Green valley might be a site for industrial development.

## **VI. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **A. Reports**

### **B. Homework**

1. To be distributed during the CAC Meeting. This Homework is to review to prepare for Open Houses, Focus Group and next month's CAC meeting:
  - a. Cliff Notes: Water 07/01/09 not completed will be ready for August meeting.

Ms. Sharp stated that they will be working on water conservation and energy and would be ready for the August meeting. She asked the Committee to submit some compelling questions on water, energy and conservation, such as 'what if' scenarios to the Staff to be included in the upcoming Cliff Notes.

### **C. Announcements** (*Informal Announcements, Future Agenda Items, and Next Meeting Date*)

#### **1. Next CAC Meeting**

August 6, 2009 from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Northern Arizona Healthcare facilities – 1200 N. Beaver St.

#### **2. Tentative Agenda Items for August 6, 2009:**

- a. Vision Statement: v.2.0
- b. Land Use, Growth & Circulation Elements – review & revise

Ms. Putzova proposed to the Committee that Sustainable be added as an element to the Regional Plan. A handout was given to the Committee to read and consider. She was asked where the definition for sustainability was found. She responded that it came from various sources. The Committee was asked to provide comments for the August meeting and a statement would be written based on any comments received.

- c. Prepare for August & September Open House(s) & Focus Group(s): *water, conservation, energy & environment*

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.