



Next Stop: Planning Workshop

Join the conversation, March 9-12

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We have a pretty good idea of the opportunities that we, as a community, want to seize. Principally: An appropriate share of the dramatic growth in population and jobs predicted for the Nashville region.

And we know what we want to avoid: The kinds of sprawling and disconnected development that damages the rural landscape, demands enormous infrastructure investment and requires anybody who wants to get anywhere to endure commuting hassles among the worst in the US.

So how do we get there?

One of the big steps is getting our regulatory framework in line with our ambitions. And we'll take that step together in a public workshop that kicks off the evening of March 9 and wraps four nights later with a presentation and discussion. All meetings are at Thompson's Station Community Center, 1555 Thompson's Station Road West.

The idea behind this whole effort is to get ahead of what we know to be coming and to take advantage of lessons learned from communities in our broader region and elsewhere that allowed sprawling development to overwhelm them.

The sort of regulations we want are ones that enable the kinds of places we admire. That means zoning and other rules that allow for ways of getting around beyond just automobiles. And it means helping to create closer connections between where people live and where they work, shop and play.

It's important that residents and business people bring their expertise to the workshop. That's how we'll know we're capturing concerns that need attention. And that's how you'll know what's happening at each stage.

It would be great if lots of folks could drop by for most of the sessions during the four days. But we know people's schedules are crammed already. If you can only spare a couple hours during the week, come to the first presentation and discussion at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 9, and the wrap-up version on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. That will give you a great sense of the direction in which the draft regulations are heading.

If you have specific interests in ways zoning affects housing and neighborhoods or the local economy, come to the special topic meetings on Tuesday. The two open houses on Wednesday, one in the morning to accommodate folks who are free during the day and the other for people coming after work, are work-in-progress check-ins.

Even if you can't make the sessions, you can follow each step here in this space. During the workshop, we'll be posting news each day. And we welcome your comments and questions in the space just below each of these diary posts.

Looking forward to seeing you March 9-12. And please stay in touch.

JOIN THESE 2 CONTRIBUTIONS

Ground Rules: Welcome, and thanks for your interest. We believe in the power of respectful community conversation, which is why participants here are asked to login via **Facebook**, **Twitter**, **Google** or **Disqus** or to provide email when posting as a guest. To keep our conversation on track, know that contributions may be moderated based on relevance or decorum, but will typically not be edited on the basis of their ideas. In short, the Golden Rule rules.

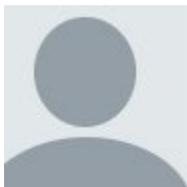
Make your voice heard. We look forward to the conversation.

Comments

- [Don Blair](#) · [03/2015](#)

I think the overall workshop went well. Lots of input from all across Thompson's Station. Consequently, I believe most residents left realizing all the goals were to enable a win for all residents and create a Thompson's Station ready to manage growth in a responsible manner.

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- [Dan Cappannari](#) · [03/2015](#)

I'd like to start the conversation by looking at the assumed goal, "Our share of the dramatic growth in population and jobs predicted". There are those among us who want anything BUT dramatic population growth!