

SMART CITY PLANNING PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

March 2, 2011

5:30-7 p.m.

ECIA Large Conference

Consortium Members

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anna O'Shea-Dubuque County | <input type="checkbox"/> Janet Berger-City of Epworth |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Carstens-City of Dubuque | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Einwalter-City of Farley |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beth Bonz-City of Asbury | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Snyder-City of Peosta |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Randy Lansing-City of Cascade | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Schmechel-Dubuque SWCD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mick Michel-City of Dyersville | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chandra Ravada-ECIA |

Public Present

City of Asbury

Pat Johnson
Steve Thompson
Brian Lammers
Jim Adams
Craig Miller
Curt Kiessling
Dave Kubik
Larry Bice

City of Cascade

Rick Kerper

Staff Present

Dan Fox, Gail Kuhle

City of Peosta

Cheri Biermann
Ray Stephans
Dick Avenarius
Jim Merten
Kelly Ludwig
Brian Recker

City of Farley

Jeff Simon
Joyce Jarding
Eileen Scherrman
Randy Kramer

City of Epworth

Jacob Reuter
Paul Kremer
Larry Hosch
Lee Hoerner

City of Dubuque

Mike Van Milligen

Dubuque County Zoning

Richard Kaufman

DBQ LRPAC

Charles Winterwood
Dick Van Iten

Presentation on Smart Planning

The Smart City Public input meeting was called to order by Anna O’Shea at 5:45 p.m. O’Shea began the public input session by introducing the members of the Smart Planning Consortium. Introductions were made by members of the public.

O’Shea stated that last year the Smart Planning legislation was adopted by the legislatures as HF 2389. The legislation includes 10 principles and 13 elements of Smart Planning, carrots for Smart Planning, \$30 million in IJOB funding for floods and a Smart Planning task force. It also included Hazard Mitigation and Disaster Recovery and Implementation.

She noted that with the Smart City Planning grant local governments will be required to “shall consider and shall apply” the ten smart planning principles. O’Shea then reviewed the following ten principles:

- Collaboration
- Efficiency, Transparency and Consistency
- Clean, Renewable and Efficient Energy
- Occupational Diversity
- Revitalization
- Housing Diversity
- Community Character
- Natural Resources & Agricultural Protection
- Sustainable Design
- Transportation Diversity

O’Shea then reviewed the following thirteen elements of Smart Planning. She noted that the last nine elements will be the focus for the Plan and goals and objectives will be created for each element.

- Community Character
- Public Participation
- Issues & Opportunities
- Implementation
- Intergovernmental Collaboration
- Hazards
- Community Facilities
- Agricultural & Natural Resources
- Economic Development
- Transportation
- Public Infrastructure & Utilities
- Housing
- Land Use

O’Shea explained that in the Plan they shall be required to address Catastrophic Flooding. The 13 elements will also include an implementation strategy which will identify who is responsible for getting the plan completed and a timeline for achieving the goals and objectives. It is suggested that the implementation strategy be posted within in each city, notifying the public of the goals and objectives of the plan as well as the timeline.

O’Shea asked what Comprehensive Smart Planning is. She explained that Smart Planning takes a close look at who and what we are. It answers the questions of where do we want to be, are we moving

forward, are we moving fast enough or too fast. She indicated that the public input will be important to determine what people in your community like or dislike about the community.

O'Shea referred to the Iowa Smart Planning Principles/Comprehensive Plan Elements Matrix stating that each community will be required to report to the state in some form similar to the matrix indicating that the community is addressing each element/principle.

Van Milligen stated that the reason for Smart Planning is to improve the quality of life. He stated that when you improve the quality of life for your citizens, it will create an environment that is cleaner and more attractive to others, thus increasing the workforce or the desire to live in your community.

It was asked what the timeline is for completing the Plan. O'Shea stated that the grant started in November and they have a two year timeframe.

Van Iten suggested that human imaginary which depicts what we know and how we are changing in the next 5, 10 or 15 years be shown to the public. Carstens stated that Dubuque 2.0 has a website that contains that type of information. She said it is an excellent resource.

It was ask what the final document will look like and how it will we incorporate the individual plan into the Regional Plan. O'Shea explained that the Regional Plan will address all of the required elements and principles. When each City addresses their Comprehensive Plan they may already have some of the elements or principles in their plan. The elements and principles that are not addressed in the individual plans could be goals or objectives for that community.

Discussion followed.

Bonz explained that the Regional Plan will be incorporated into the individual plans as best as it can, rather than each individual plan incorporated into the Regional plan.

Ravada explained that Comprehensive plans are very important when a community is looking for road funding. He stated that if the community is requesting funds for a road project, that project needs to be listed in their comprehensive plan to be considered for funding.

Ravada asked the members of the public to write down four or five goals or objectives that they would like to see addressed in the Plan. The following comments were made by the public:

Coordination and Collaboration

- Cooperation instead of competition
- Better Regional Collaboration. - Epworth, Farley, Asbury, and Peosta.
- Successful collaboration that remains through implementation of multijurisdictional projects

Knowledge Sharing

- Dealing with federal mandates
- Provide a forum for open sharing and promotion of best practices in each element. – Jim Merton, Peosta

Combine and Use Resources

- Capture more state and federal money for our communities.- Farley, Epworth, Asbury, and Peosta.
- Community Development that maximizes resources and used resources wisely. – Cascade
- Collaboration of resources.
- Smart, effective sharing.
- Combine efforts to secure state and federal funding.

Zoning and Development Codes

- Consistent regional approach to growth. - Epworth, Farley, Asbury, and Peosta.
- Smart Development code for county and cities that directs sustainable development with design guidelines and BMPs.
- Unified Codes
- Unified Zoning

Planning Future Development

- Comprehensive plan for greener society.
- Better regional collaboration for development policies.
- Long range planning vs short range crisis management
- Regional planning

Transportation

- Alternative modes of transportation (especially for seniors).
- Collaborative transportation planning.
- Traffic issues.

Public Outreach and Participation

- Effective public outreach. - Farley, Epworth, Asbury, and Peosta.
- Smart planning to be an educational tool.
- Two-way communication with public so they will see the relevance of planning.
- Public participation process that successfully engages a broad spectrum of the public.
- Implement community action plan

Environment

- Greener existence
- Storm water management and watershed planning
- More recreational activities.
- Storm water management where the benefits can be achieved by everyone doing their part. - Cascade
- Environmental planning goals and objectives that foster quality of life, economic development and hazard mitigation.
- Demand for additional water quality projects in the community.

- Ultimate goal is to change the mindset of the community towards ponds, rivers, and lakes.
- Pilot projects across communities that promote/address water quality and quantity concerns.
i.e. LID components
- Adoption of storm water/erosion control ordinances (cites),
- Incentives to developers and landowners for implementing LID.
- Green buildings
- Energy efficiency
- Transportation system

Identify Community Character

Discussion followed.

O'Shea reported that the next meeting of the Consortium will be held in the City of Asbury on Wednesday, March 9, 2011 at 10 a.m. She also noted the IDED will be hosting a Public Participation training session on April 6, 2011. She indicated that more information regarding the training and the power point will be posted on the ECIA website.

The Smart Planning Public Input meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.