

Think Quality - Think Future

Blount County Planning Department

Blount County Courthouse - 327 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906
Tel (865) 273-5750 - FAX (865) 273-5759
e-mail - planning@blounttn.org
on-line - www.blounttn.org/planning/

MEMORANDUM

TO: Blount County Planning Commission

FROM: John Lamb

DATE: May 16, 2007

SUBJECT: Long Range agenda items for the May 24, 2007 meeting.

1. Discussion of planning process – review and revision of adopted plans - integrating Growth Strategy.

The Planning Commission is charged in state statutes to plan for the physical development of the County. Our adopted plans include the Policies Plan, the Conceptual Land Use Plan, the 1101 Growth Plan, and the Water Quality Plan. We also have available important studies and input from the Hunter Interests Growth Strategy, the Environmental Health Action Team Action Plan, and the East Tennessee Quality Growth conference proceedings.

The Policies Plan is our central adopted plan, and provides for review and revision at three year intervals. The Planning Commission was in process of review and revision of the Policies Plan in 2003 to 2004, but was interrupted by activities of the Hunter Interests Growth Strategy process. The Hunter Interests Growth Strategy was delivered in August 2005, and the Planning Commission again turned to review and revision of adopted plans, this time integrating discussion of the Growth Strategy. This process was interrupted by elections in 2006.

The following is a proposed timeline for review and revision of the major adopted plans of the county, with particular attention to integrating

discussion of the Growth Strategy. The process is expected to take at least 10 months, assuming two meetings a month (regular meeting and called meeting) from June to October. Staff requests discussion of the proposed process.

Planning Commission - prospective schedule of plans review/revision of Policies Plan
Plan timeline 10 months from June 2007 to March 2008

2007

June	Review of County and Cities Growth Strategies/plans and Smart Growth Reivew of 1999 Policies Plan and Conceptual Land Use Plan Public input session
July	Review of 1101 Growth Plan, and Water Quality Plan Reivew of Roads Study, Major Roads Plan, HII roads Tech Memo, and TPO plans Public input session
August	Review of Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and Schools plan Review of Mountain Area Plan, EHAT* and FOQG* work - popualtion, economy and growth Public input session
September	Commission work session - goals and policies - identifying priorities Commission work session - transportation and infrastructure component
October	Commission work session - land use component Commission work session - implementation agenda Staff prepares rough draft of revised Policies Plan
November	Review of Policies Plan first rough draft for revisions Revisions by staff
December	Review of Policies Plan second rough draft for revisions Revisions by staff

2008

January	Final review of draft revised Policies Plan Set Policies Plan Draft for 15 day public review Public input session on draft Policies Plan
February	Finalize Policies Plan for public hearing Set date of public hearing (30 days notice required)
March	Public Hearing - possible adoption of plan

* EHAT = Enviroinmental Health Action Team; FOQG = Friends of Quality Growth (regional group)

** Committees: 1-land use, 2-transportation and utilities, 3-public facilities, 4-air, water and environment

2. Staff report on Planning Commissioner's breakfast of May 11 – preference for quarterly gathering dates and times.

At the invitation of Mayor Jerry Cunningham, more than 40 Planning Commissioners and planning staff from Blount County, Maryville, Alcoa, Louisville, Friendsville, Rockford and Townsend gathered for a breakfast on May 11 to discuss the status of planning in each jurisdiction and to explore ways in which the different planning commissions could build communication and cooperation. Reviewed at the gathering were state statutes that charged planning commissions to plan, and to coordinate within larger regional areas. The group wanted to continue to meet periodically in the future, with most preferring a quarterly gathering.

Staff requests discussion of preferences of dates for another gathering in the month of August. The other planning commissions will be contacted for their preferences also.

The focus of the next quarterly gathering will be one or more of the following suggestions from discussions at the May 11 gathering:

Utilities, transportation, annexation, zoning and schools;

Review of what is going on in Blount County (report of various jurisdictions);

Tennessee Department of Transportation update;

Blount County Health Department in relation to planning;

The impact of city actions on the County, and the impacts of County actions on cities;

Update of plans by school boards;

Revenue issues – winning or losing in growth.