



Payette County Comprehensive Plan

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NO.1 (10/26/20)

Attendees:

- Sheri Freemuth, J-U-B Engineers
- Caroline Mellor, TLG/J-U-B Engineers
- Patti Nitz, Payette County Administrator
- Mary Butler, Payette County staff
- Jennifer Riebe, Planning and Zoning Commissioner
- Chad Brock, New Plymouth
- Leslie Teunessin, Local Business Owner
- Craig Smith, Planning and Zoning Commissioner
- JoAnne Smith, Chairman of the Payette Soil and Water Conservation District
- Jeff Williams, local business owner and Mayor of Payette
- Danielle Haws, paralegal for the USDOJ
- Fred Visser, Sand Hollow resident/ Local Business Owner
- Kevin Border, New Plymouth resident
- Kit Kamo
- 12087400141

Non-Attendees (due to power outage):

- Rudy Endrikat, former County Commissioner
- Chad Henggeler, Chair, Planning and Zoning Commission
- Farrell Rawlings, Planning and Zoning Commissioners
- Rick York, Mayor of New Plymouth
- Ken Bishop, Mayor of Fruitland

Meeting Goals

- Share feedback on Public Outreach Event #1 between CAC and Planning team
- CAC to share feedback on Vision Statement and the list of Challenges
- Finalize Vision Statement and the list of Challenges
- Begin Goals and Objectives process

Introductions

Facilitator Caroline Mellor, J-U-B, introduced Payette County and J-U-B staff and the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) members. Mellor provided a recap of the Zoom orientation.

Project Timeline and Milestones

Sheri Freemuth, J-U-B, reviewed the project time and status of project milestones. She shared that the Existing Conditions Report is nearing completion and that updates will be shared with the CAC at the next meeting and public outreach event #2. The planning process is entering Phase 2: Analysis.



Public Outreach Event #1

Mellor shared with the CAC takeaways for the Planning team from the Public Outreach Event #1, held virtually on December 8, 2020. She highlighted the productive discussion about the balance between preserving agricultural spaces and property rights, interest for potential changes to the Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program, new concerns regarding growth and US-95 traffic impacts on noise and light pollution and interest to prioritize clean energy over oil and gas. Payette County staff emphasized the great attendance at the meeting.

CAC members were asked for their thoughts on the meeting discussions and process. Members emphasized the importance to outreach for such meetings through a variety of channels. Members were encouraged to promote emailing Patti or Mary at the Planning and Zoning email address to join the Interested Parties e-mail list. Members were also asked to share relevant e-mail lists or outreach channels that they think would be useful to reach additional people. The Planning Team agreed to prepare an update for the Interested Parties list after the Vision Statement is finalized.

Vision Statement

Mellor led the CAC members in a discussion toward finalizing the Vision Statement. Members discussed different areas of importance. Discussion points included whether to highlight the economy as primarily agricultural or as a balanced economy. Members also discussed the ways certain words (rural, communities) resonated in different parts of the Statement.

Updated Draft Vision Statement: In 2040, Payette County is a thriving rural area that supports diverse agriculture and vital communities, conserves and values natural resources, and promotes a balanced economy to sustain a healthy population.

The Planning team decided to integrate edits from the discussion and send the updated draft Vision Statement to all CAC members for final comments.

List of Challenges

CAC members reviewed the exiting list of challenges and provided edits and additions for a couple of categories. The full list is as follows, with new additions highlighted in green:

Agriculture

- Addressing impacts of residential growth on agricultural use
- Protecting farmland while allowing landowners to have control over their land
- Helping older farmers who want to retire and young families who want to start farming
- Support use of conservation easements programs for interested parties

Land Use

- Working with cities to encourage commercial uses and residential subdivisions (where public services are provided)



- Managing growth with proper planning
- Protecting property rights
- Finding a balance between home businesses and residents seeking solitude
- Balancing new development while maintaining a rural lifestyle.
- Consider alternatives or modifications to the Transfer of Development Rights process
- Addressing Impacts from the growth of traffic on Highway 95

Transportation

- Managing increased use of roads to ensure safety and efficiency
- Finding new and diverse transportation connections

Economic Development

- Providing sustainable work force job opportunities
- Supporting small businesses; encouraging new shops and restaurants
- Attracting new businesses and talent
- Identifying appropriate sites for energy generating industries

Natural Resources

- Protecting waterways
- Protecting existing irrigation and drainage systems
- Addressing energy development and prioritizing clean energy over oil and gas
- Managing noise and light pollution impacts on quality of life

Housing

- Opportunities for existing and new residents to secure adequate and diverse housing

Recreation

- Developing more community inclusive activity sites with parks, trails, sportsman access points and amenities, including recreational activities
- Provide more opportunities for public use of waterways
- Supporting increased options for river and recreation access

Population

- Providing opportunities for a diverse population
- Providing a safe place to raise a family
- Supporting senior citizens through enhanced programs and livable communities

Schools and Public Services

- Providing a safe place to educate our children
- Supporting public safety for a growing population (law enforcement, fire/EMS)



- Provide adequate funding, such as through use of fees to support the development of public services and facilities

With the new additions, CAC members voted to approve the final list of challenges.

Goals and Objectives

Freemuth explained the Goals and Objectives processes and provided examples of challenges becoming goals, objectives and into concrete strategies in the comprehensive planning processes. She walked through the legal requirements of the Idaho Code 67-6508: *“The plan shall consider previous and existing conditions, trends, compatibility of land uses, desirable goals and objectives or desirable future situations for each planning component.”* Each term may briefly be defined as:

- GOAL: Broad statement of desired future
- OBJECTIVE: Provides direction to achieve goals
- STRATEGY: Actions or tools to meet objectives

Mellor conducted an interactive exercise with CAC members to think through the process of turning one of the finalized challenges into a draft Goal. CAC members discussed the challenges for land use and agricultural and started goal brainstorming.

For Public Outreach Event #2, the Planning Team will have draft Goals and Objectives for public feedback. At CAC Meeting #3, the CAC will be asked to provide additional input and help refine the Goals and Objectives. Concrete strategies for Payette County will come out of the Goals and Objectives,

Chart of Plan components used for discussion during exercise:

Group	Component	Goals	Objectives	Strategies
Physical	Agriculture			
	Natural Resources			
	Land Use			
Economic	Transportation			
	Housing			
	Economic Development			
Social	Population			
	Recreation			
	PSUF*			
	Schools			

*Public Services, Utilities and Facilities/National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors

Next Steps

- Public Outreach Event #2** – To occur in March.



- b **The Planning Team** will prepare an update for the Interested Parties list upon finalization of the Vision Statement. This will include an update of the plan process and upcoming Spring input opportunities.
- c **CAC members to watch their email for communication from the Planning Team** on the final Vision Statement.
- d **Subsequent CAC meetings** will include additional time to review technology. Members are recommended to Zoom from individual computers to allow for the best possible interaction and engagement. Please watch your email for scheduling information for the March meeting.
- e **CAC #3 Meeting** - Will likely occur in late March, following the public outreach event.
- f No further questions or comments.

Thank you for attending!