

2045 Comprehensive Plan Update Work Session Notes

September 12, 2023

Planning Commission Members: Mike Shepp, President; Wade Louthan, Secretary; Steve Stolipher, County Commission Liaison; Tim Smith, and Aaron Howell, and were present in person. A quorum of the Planning Commission was present for the Work Session.

Staff: Alex Beaulieu, Zoning Administrator; Jennifer Brockman, Chief County Planner; Luke Seigfried, County Planner; Michelle Evers, Planning Clerk; were present in person.

Executive Summary

On 9/12/23 the Planning Commission held a work session to prepare for the upcoming input meetings and discuss the draft Objectives for the 2045 Comprehensive Plan Update (CPU).

Agenda

1. Community Outreach Preparation
 - a. Staff Presentation on Input Meetings
2. Livability Profile
 - a. Summer Festivities Review
3. Comprehensive Plan Composition
 - a. Drafting of Comprehensive Plan Objectives

Item 1: Community Outreach Preparation

Staff presented potential questions for the Land Use Survey to Planning Commission and asked for suggestions of additional questions. Commissioner Louthan asked staff to draft a question regarding the difference between agriculture and open space. Planning Commission agreed to use the questions about policy making and public relation but decided against questions discussing specific objectives. Mr. Seigfried described the upcoming Agricultural Input Meeting and 2nd Public Input Meeting and the activities for each.

Item 2: Livability Profile

Mr. Seigfried gave a summary of the County Fair and African American Cultural and Heritage Festival events and presented several notable themes and comments. Staff went on to reiterate the format of the Comprehensive plans organization of Themes, Goals, Objectives, and Action Items.

Item 3: Comprehensive Plan Composition

Staff presented the newest draft of Goals and Objectives. This iteration had been updated following prior comments and meetings with stakeholders. Commissioners discussed short term rentals and the importance of compliance with existing ordinances. Planning Commission also

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agreed to include specific language to support parks in the County. An additional objective was proposed to goal sixteen to include Shepherdstown pedestrian and bike path development.

These notes were prepared by Luke Seigfried.