

Appendix B

Public Input Opportunities



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Public Input Opportunities

Public input was the building block of the *2035 Comprehensive Plan* and shaped the final document. The following were the primary methods in which public input was obtained in the plan:

1. On-line Surveys

Two on-line surveys were conducted during the development of the *2035 Comprehensive Plan*. A visioning survey asking questions about issues that should be included in the plan, the future of Sumner County, and thoughts about growth and development was conducted during December 2009. The survey was hosted on www.kwiksurveys.com, and a total of 286 responses were received (Appendix C). These responses helped to establish the vision for the plan and to prioritize the protection of natural resources as a high priority objective in the plan. This resulted in the development of the Natural & Cultural Resources Element and assisted in obtaining assistance from the Climate Solutions University curriculum and grant funding. The *Gallatin News Examiner* and its *Tennessean* partners ran a story about the survey for the plan.



Poll: residents want rural preservation

An ongoing online survey of future land use in Sumner County has shown that residents want to preserve Sumner's countryside and rural appeal. The survey, available at sumnertn.org, solicits residents' input regarding the county's 2035 land use plan. SHERRY MITCHELL/THE NEWS EXAMINER

County seeks input for land use plan

By Sherry Mitchell
THE NEWS EXAMINER

County planning officials want input from residents about how they would like the future of the county to look.

The county is currently in the process of developing a 2035 land use and transportation plan, similar to what surrounding municipalities have done. In the first week, an online survey has drawn comments from more than 100 residents sharing their likes, dislikes and suggestions for future planning.

The survey is available through December at sumnertn.org.

"It looks like the things that people like are the proximity to Nashville, the low crime rate and the affordability of living in Sumner County," said county planner Michael Briggs.

At the top of the residents' lists of dislike about Sumner County, Briggs said, is increasing traffic congestion and transportation. In particular, residents mentioned traffic congestion on Vietnam Veterans Parkway through Hendersonville.

"Traffic and transportation seem to be the things they don't like or things they would like to see changed," he said.

Residents want to keep rural feel

Preserving green space and a rural environment is also important to Sumner County residents, many of whom moved here for the countryside atmosphere, Briggs said.

"They don't necessarily want the entire county to be developed," he said. "They want some of the area to

» FUTURE, 2A

Source: *Gallatin News Examiner*, December 16, 2009

Input sought from variety of sources

» FUTURE FROM 1A

remain rural, which is what brought many of them to Sumner County in the first place. We have received a lot of comments about preserving the rural character of the county."

Com. Shawn Fennell of Bethpage, who also chairs the county planning and development commission, said he has had many calls concerning future

developments and believes residents should have input into their communities.

"If we are not careful, we could overbuild in a way that is undesirable," he said. "When we build, we need to keep in mind our green space."

All of the information collected in the survey will be compiled and studied by a separate committee, Briggs said.

"All of this information is

going to the Planning Commission, and it will also be reviewed by the County Commission," he said. A working group will be formed and is expected to meet Jan. 7.

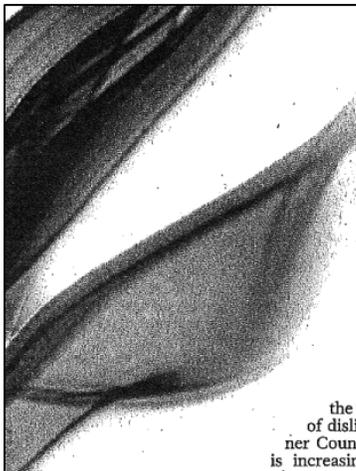
"We are really just getting into this," Briggs said. "We will need input from the school system, business leaders and utility companies. With that meeting next month, we will really start developing a plan and

we should have a public meeting in February."

County commissioners say whenever possible, future development plans should try to meet residents' needs and wishes.

"We try to do what the citizens want as much as we possible can," Com. Steve Graves of Bethpage said. "It's important that we look at their comments."

Source: *Gallatin News Examiner*, December 16, 2009



Residents weigh in on Sumner's future

List
of wants
include rural
preservation

By **Sherry Mitchell**
HENDERSONVILLE STAR NEWS

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ONLINE

For a list of upcoming meetings related to the land use plan, go to sumnertn.org and click "Planning and Zoning."

Source: *Hendersonville Star News*, December 16, 2009

SUMNER COUNTY

Survey asks about county's future

Sumner County planning officials want everyone to have a say in the rules that will determine what the county will be like to live in in the future.

The county is developing a new land use and transportation plan. In the first week, an online survey has drawn comments from more than 100 residents.

The survey is available this month at sumnertn.org.

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At the top of the list of dislikes is increasing traffic congestion, Briggs said. In particular, residents mentioned Vietnam Vet-

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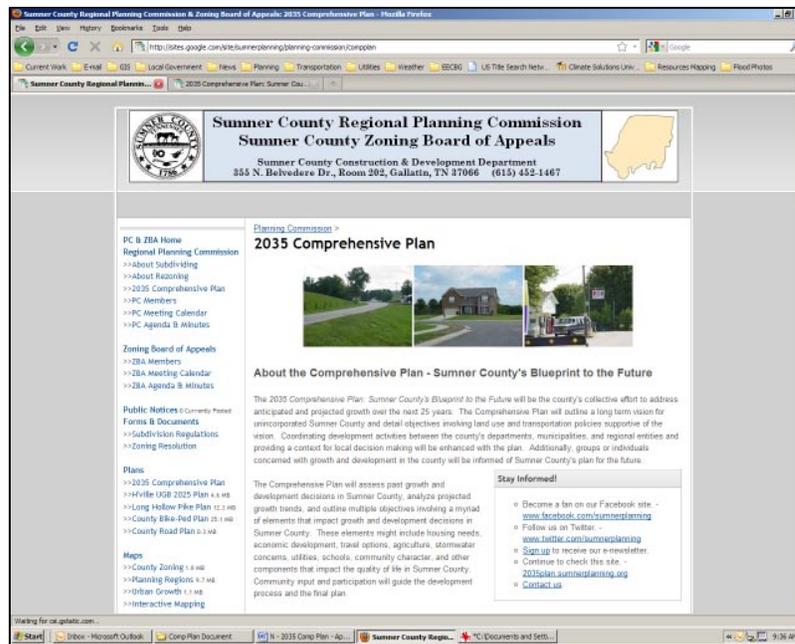
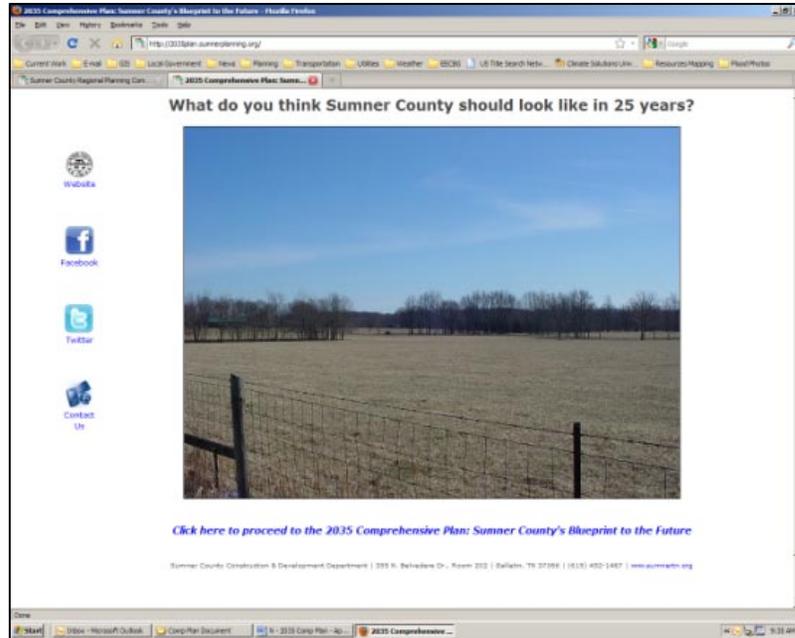
— SHERRY MITCHELL
GANNETT TENNESSEE

Source: *Tennessean*, December 17, 2009

Another survey focusing on transportation issues was conducted in May 2010 to obtain feedback regarding surface travel modes in Sumner County. A series of questions were asked about auto travel, bike and pedestrian travel, and mass transit services. The survey was again hosted on www.kwiksurveys.com, and a total of 58 responses were received (Appendix D). These responses helped identify priority transportation projects for completion and future transportation projects to undertake. It also established strategies that expand bicycle and pedestrian accommodation policies and documented the need for mass transit in Sumner County and throughout the Middle Tennessee region.

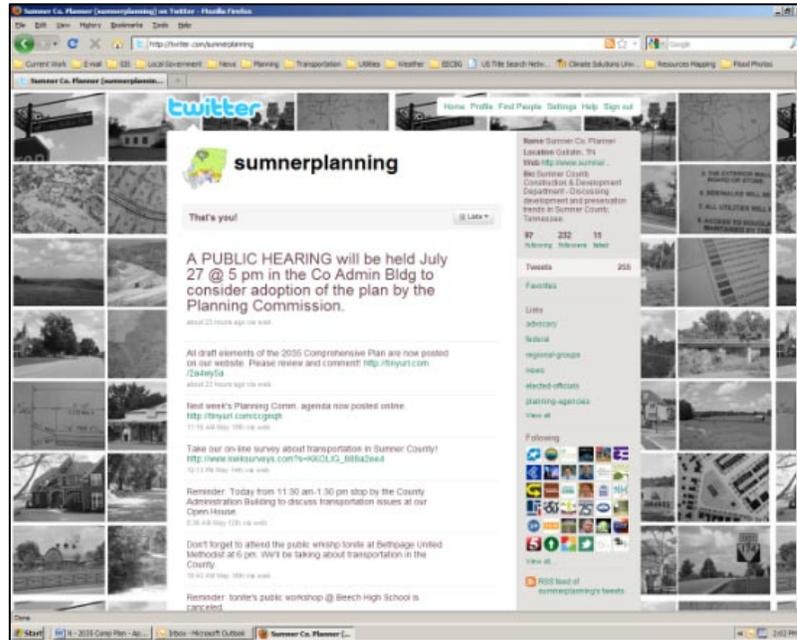
2. Website

Information regarding the *2035 Comprehensive Plan* was available for viewing during the entire development of the plan. The website was linked by 2035plan.sumnerplanning.org. A brief background on the development of the plan was available along with a running list of public input opportunities, drafts of elements, and links to regulatory documents and planning partners. Contact information along with ways to stay informed through social media sites were outlined on the website. The purpose of the website was to give information to residents and the ability to contact the Construction & Development Department with any questions or concerns while developing the plan.



3. Social Media

The use of social media sites like Twitter and Facebook has increased in recent years. Because these sites can be operated rather simply and feed information to those interested in one's content, two sites were utilized during the development of the plan. An account was created at www.twitter.com/summerplanning and at www.facebook.com/summerplanning. These sites functioned as another method of releasing information about the plan and as an interactive method to obtain input. Some discussion was generated on these sites about the plan and local newspapers often reposted information on their feeds as well.



4. Public Workshops

The following are snapshots from the public workshops held at Oakmont Elementary School in New Deal and at Beech High School in Shackle Island in March 2010.



Two rounds of public workshops were conducted. The first round of workshops was held in March 2010 to discuss Sumner County's future and a possible vision. These workshops were held on these dates and locations listed:

Monday, March 1, 2010 at 6 p.m.
Bethpage United Methodist Church
3140 Highway 31E
Bethpage, TN 37022

Attendees:

Bob Olari
John Hill
Jody Harwell
Michelle Johnson
Gerald Johnson
John Peitsch
Leon Krukten
Shawn Fennell
Gary Hammock*
Rachael Ivie*
Michael Briggs*

Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 6 p.m.
Oakmont Elementary School
3323 Highway 76
Cottontown, TN 37048

Attendees:

Robby Biggs
Zachary Bruce
Frank Rainear
Shawn Hollis
Ray Marin
Donny Sloan
Ricky M. Goin
William Medina
Michele Medina
Jerry Bean*
Melinda Wagner*
Gary Hammock*
Michael Briggs*

Monday, March 8, 2010 at 6 p.m.
North Sumner Elementary School
1485 North Sumner Road
Bethpage, TN 37022

Attendees:

Rodney Drake
Mike Akins
Keith Douglas
Moe Taylor
Lisa DiOrio*
Rachael Ivie*
Michael Briggs*

Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 6 p.m.
Beech High School
3126 Long Hollow Pike
Hendersonville, TN 37075

Attendees:

Fred Threet
Anita Dukes
Kristi Kenley
Tom Kenley
Nikki March
Tricia Hicks
Baker Ring
Jerry Bean*
Amy Miller*
Rick Gregory*
Gary Hammock*
Michael Briggs*

Wednesday, March 10, 2010 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (Open House Format)
Sumner County Administration Building
355 North Belvedere Drive
Gallatin, TN 37066

Attendees:

Jaime Groves
Clay Haynes
Charles Haynes
Bob Summers
W.P. McArthur
Paula Plumlee
Bob Olari
Elaine Boyd
Susan Perkins
Anthony Holt
Linda Haupt
Lisa DiOrio*
Gary Hammock*
Michael Briggs*

*persons functioning as staff

The second round of workshops was held in May 2010. Two workshops scheduled in early May were canceled because of the major flooding event that occurred over the weekend just before these meetings. Three additional opportunities were still held. The dates and locations of these workshops included:

Monday, May 3, 2010 at 6 p.m.
North Sumner Elementary School
1485 North Sumner Road
Bethpage, TN 37022

Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at 6 p.m.
Beech High School
3126 Long Hollow Pike
Hendersonville, TN 37075

Workshop canceled because of flooding.

Workshop canceled because of flooding.

Monday, May 10, 2010 at 6 p.m.
Bethpage United Methodist Church
3140 Highway 31E
Bethpage, TN 37022

Tuesday, May 11, 2010 at 6 p.m.
Oakmont Elementary School
3323 Highway 76
Cottontown, TN 37048

Attendees:
Bob Olari
Rick Hansen
Teddy Wilson
John Hill
Gerald Johnson
John Leitsch
John Norman
Rachael Ivie*
Michael Briggs*

Attendees:
Bob Pospisil
Mike Honeycutt
Frank Rainear
Jerry Bean*
Addam McCormick*
Michael Briggs*

Wednesday, May 12, 2010 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (Open House Format)
Sumner County Administration Building
355 North Belvedere Drive
Gallatin, TN 37066

Attendees:
Bob Olari
Don Horton
Martha Akins
Susan Perkins
Michael Briggs*
(several additional people stopped by but did not sign in)

*persons functioning as staff

The public workshops were advertised by the local newspaper and posted on the Sumner County website, on the social media sites, and bulletin boards in the County Administration Building.

Public can give input for future look of Sumner

A series of workshops will be held by Sumner County elected and planning commission officials to hear from the public regarding what they would like Sumner County to look like in the future. Data for the 2035 Comprehensive Plan: Sumner County's Blueprint to the Future will address land use and transportation options for the county.

These workshops will be interactive with a series of table exercises. A follow-up series of workshops concerning transportation options will be scheduled in May. For more information about the plan, visit 2035plan.sumnerplanning.org.

■ **Monday, March 1 at 6 p.m. — Bethpage area**
Bethpage United Methodist Church
3140 Highway 31E

Bethpage

■ **Tuesday, March 2 at 6 p.m. — New Deal area**
Oakmont Elementary School
3323 Highway 76
Cottontown

■ **Monday, March 8 at 6 p.m. — Fairfield area**
North Sumner Elementary School
1485 North Sumner Road
Bethpage

■ **Tuesday, March 9 at 6 p.m. — Shackle Island area**
Beech High School
3126 Long Hollow Pike
Hendersonville

■ **Wednesday, March 10 from 11:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.**
Sumner County Administration Building
355 N. Belvedere Drive
Gallatin
This is an open house; stop by any time during the two-hour time slot.

Source: *Sumner A.M.*, February 28, 2010

Meetings held for public input

The Sumner County Regional Planning Commission is conducting another round of public workshops to continue gathering residents' input about the 2035 Comprehensive Plan: Sumner County's Blueprint to the Future. The purpose of these meetings will be to update attendees on the progress of the Comprehensive Plan since the March public workshops and to discuss the role of transportation in growth and development of unincorporated Sumner County for the next 25 years.

■ **Monday, May 3 at 6 p.m.**
North Sumner Elementary School
1485 North Sumner Road,
Bethpage

■ **Tuesday, May 4 at 6 p.m.**
Beech High School
3126 Long Hollow Pike,

Hendersonville
■ **Monday, May 10 at 6 p.m.**
Bethpage United Methodist Church
3140 US Highway 31E,
Bethpage

■ **Tuesday, May 11 at 6 p.m.**
Oakmont Elementary School
3323 Highway 76, Cottontown

■ **Wednesday, May 12,** open house from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Sumner County Administration Building
355 N. Belvedere Dr., Gallatin

Visit the 2035 Comprehensive Plan website for more information at 2035plan.sumnerplanning.org or contact Michael Briggs, Sumner County planner, at 452-1467.

--FOR THE NEWS EXAMINER

Source: *Gallatin News Examiner*, April 30, 2010

In addition to the newspaper stories, WHIN 1010 AM Radio read the dates, times, and locations of the public workshops and regularly aired a story during their newsbreaks before the workshops to inform the public about the plan. The County Planner also appeared on Tennessee Mornings on FOX 17 (WZTV) for an interview about the public meetings held in March.

5. Meetings

The primary meetings to discuss the *2035 Comprehensive Plan* included Planning Commission meetings and work studies, Working Group meetings, Technical Stakeholders meetings, and Natural Resources Protection Focus Group meetings. All meetings were publicly advertised and open to the public. Included is a list of those meetings where the *2035 Comprehensive Plan* was discussed and attendance at those meetings.

Sumner County Regional Planning Commission Work Studies and Meetings

Member	Dec. 22, 2009	Jan. 26, 2010	Feb. 23, 2010	Mar. 23, 2010	Apr. 27, 2010	May 5, 2010	Jun. 22, 2010	Jul. 27, 2010
Luther Bratton	X	X	X	X			X	X
Shawn Fennell	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Cecil Ray	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cynthia Hall Templeton	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Jim Williams	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bob Hendricks	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Saundra Boyd	X	X		X	X		X	X
Mike Honeycutt	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Charles Haynes				X	X			
Norman Tripp								
Paul Goode			X		X			

Comprehensive Plan Working Group Meetings

Attendee	Organization	Feb. 2, 2010	Mar. 30, 2010	May 19, 2010
Matt Meservy	Nashville Area MPO	X		
Addam McCormick	City of White House	X	X	
Frank Rainear	Local Resident	X	X	X
Rachael Ivie	TN ECD Local Planning Office	X	X	X
Amy Miller	TN ECD Local Planning Office	X	X	X
Mike Carter	City of Westmoreland	X	X	X
Rick Gregory	City of Goodlettsville	X	X	
Jim McAteer	Regional Transportation Authority	X	X	X
Tonya Blades	Greater Nashville Regional Council	X		X
Dwight Barnett	TN Division of Forestry	X		
Scott Wilson	The Gallatin Newspaper	X		
Ken Louallen	Louallen Builders	X		X
Don Ames	City of Hendersonville	X	X	X
Mike Fussell	Sumner County School Board	X	X	
Dale Bennett	City of Gallatin	X	X	
Cecil Ray	Sumner County Regional Planning Comm.	X		
Brenda Payne	Hendersonville Area Chamber of Comm.	X	X	
Bridget Jones	Cumberland Region Tomorrow	X		
Jim Lech	City of Goodlettsville	X		
Michelle Haynes	Land Trust of Tennessee	X		
Brooxie Carlton	TN ECD Three Star Program	X		
Vena Jones	Cumberland River Compact	X	X	
Gwen Griffith	Cumberland River Compact	X		
Lee Zoller	Green & Little	X		X
Anthony Holt	Sumner County Executive	X		
Gary Hammock	Sumner County Construction & Development	X	X	X
Michael Briggs	Sumner County Construction & Development	X	X	X
Bob Olari	Local Resident		X	
Audra Ladd	Land Trust of Tennessee		X	
Jim Williams	Sumner County Regional Planning Commission		X	
Jerry Taylor	Portland Planning Commission		X	
Amy New	TN ECD Three Star Program		X	
Lora Baulsir	Regional Transportation Authority		X	
Elaine Boyd	TN Department of Environment & Conservation		X	X
Sean Fennell	County Commissioner			
Jim Hodges	Long Time Property Owner			
Jarrett Bigbee	City of Mitchellville			

Comprehensive Plan Technical Input Meetings

(56 individuals/agencies were invited to these meetings)

Attendee	Organization	Mar. 25, 2010	May 18, 2010
Jim Svoboda	Gallatin Codes & Planning	X	
Kevin Chastine	Gallatin Codes & Planning	X	
Howard Whitaker	Cumberland Electric	X	
Rick Gregory	City of Goodlettsville Planning	X	
Lisa Milligan	City of Hendersonville Planning	X	
Don Long	City of Hendersonville Economic Development	X	
Robert Kalisz	Gallatin Codes & Planning	X	
Gary Hammock	Sumner County Construction & Development	X	X
Jerry Bean	Sumner County Construction & Development	X	
David Lege	Nashville Electric Service	X	
Brian Stephens	North Central Telephone Cooperative	X	
Frank Mink	Nashville Electric Service	X	
Ken Weidner	Sumner Co. Emergency Management Agency	X	
Paige Strong	Gallatin Chamber of Commerce	X	
Jimmy Johnston	Forward Sumner Economic Council	X	X
Bill Thompson	White House Utility District	X	
Pat Harrell	White House Utility District	X	
Nick Tuttle	Gallatin Engineering	X	
Tony Allers	Gallatin Codes & Planning	X	
Michael Briggs	Sumner County Construction & Development	X	X
Tom Tucker	City of Goodlettsville Economic Development		X
Ron Bailey	City of White House Engineering		X
Fred Rogers	City of Hendersonville Planning		X

Natural Resources Protection Focus Group Meetings

Attendee	Organization	Apr. 30, 2010	May 21, 2010	Jun. 4, 2010	Jul. 9, 2010
Gwen Griffith	Cumberland River Compact	X			X
Audra Ladd	Land Trust of Tennessee	X	X		
Rick Hendrix	Bledsoe Lick Historical Association	X		X	
Bob Olari	Local Resident	X	X	X	X
Dwight Barnett	TN Division of Forestry	X	X	X	X
Rachael Ivie	TN ECD Local Planning Office	X	X	X	X
Kevin Chastine	City of Gallatin Codes/Planning	X	X	X	X
Jerry Bean	Sumner County Construction & Development	X	X		
Bruce Rainey	Local Developer/Rainey & Associates	X	X	X	X
Tonya Blades	Greater Nashville Regional Council	X			X
Jimmy Johnston	Forward Sumner Economic Council	X	X		X
Elaine Boyd	TN Department of Environment & Conservation	X	X	X	X
Sarah McCann	WKU Student Intern	X		X	X
Michael Briggs	Sumner County Construction & Development	X	X	X	X
Colleen Coury	Sumner County Convention & Visitors Bureau				
Paige Strong	Gallatin Area Chamber of Commerce		X		X
Phil Clifford	Volunteer State Community College		X		
Amy Murray	City of Goodlettsville Stormwater				
Angela Govan	Bledsoe Lick Historical Association		X		
Vena Jones	Cumberland River Compact			X	

6. Traditional Methods

In addition to the public input opportunities already described, more traditional methods of outreach were performed. This includes holding a public hearing before adoption and noticing the public hearing in a local paper at least 30 days before adoption.

Ad. No. 0101306855
PUBLIC NOTICE
There will be a public hearing before the Sumner County Planning Commission on July 27, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sumner County Commission Chambers located in the Sumner County Administration Building, 355 N. Belvedere Drive, Gallatin, TN. This public hearing is to discuss the adoption of the Sumner County 2035 Comprehensive Plan.
A copy of the draft is on file in the Sumner County Construction and Development Office which is located in Room 202 in the Sumner County Administration Building, 355 N. Belvedere Drive, Gallatin, TN., and online at 2035plan.sumnerplanning.org
Anyone having an interest, desiring to comment or ask questions concerning the plan is invited to attend this meeting or call the Sumner County Construction and Development Office at (615) 452-1467, Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Source: *Gallatin News Examiner*, June 23, 2010

Plan to shape Sumner's growth

Schools, county services affected by changes

By Sherry Mitchell
SUMNER A.M.

Residents interested in giving input on what Sumner County should look like over the next 25 years are invited to share their opinions in an open forum on July 27.

A public hearing will be held at 5 p.m. prior to the meeting of the Sumner County Regional Planning Committee, which is expected to formally adopt a 2035 Comprehensive Plan.

The draft plan describes how the county should approach designing streets, regional transportation, maintaining rural areas and building regulations in floodplains for the next 25 years.

It will be the last of several public hearings where county officials have gathered residents' thoughts on future planning.

"The ultimate goal is a logical and progressive development of the county that has input from the citizens that live here," County Executive Anthony Holt said. "Too many times we have reacted to growth, instead of having a planned growth. This plan gives us a blueprint for growth in the future."

Residents want rural preservation

Online surveys conducted through the county planning department show that residents chose Sumner County as home for many of the same reasons — the proximity to Nashville, the low crime rate and the affordability of the area.

One thing the residents want to see in terms of future growth in Sumner County is rural preservation.

"There are certain areas that residents want to see preserved," Holt said. "That gives us a logical pattern, as well as developers for planning."

» PLAN, 2M

Residents concerned by traffic

» PLAN FROM 1M

One thing many residents do not like about the area is what they believe are growing traffic congestion problems, officials said.

The plan, which will include all municipalities as

well as all of the unincorporated areas of the county, will take all of this input into consideration.

"The main focus is for our citizens to have a stake and input into the positive growth that want to see occur," Holt said. "It's a positive thing for Sumner

County. Smart growth is planning, and as the population rises, you have a larger need for services in that area. This will give officials an idea of what areas we see growth in and how that translates into schools and other services that will effect

our county."

The public hearing will be held in the commission chambers at the County Administration Building at 353 N. Belvedere Drive in Gallatin.

Reporter Sherry Mitchell can be reached at 575-7117 or shmittell@mtcngroup.com.

Source: *Gallatin News Examiner*, July 25, 2010

Residents could also contact the Construction & Development Department by e-mail, phone, or stop in the office to discuss the *2035 Comprehensive Plan*. Several residents sent e-mails or set up appointments to discuss the plan.