



Media Release

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For Immediate Release

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Madison County Launches Plan MC

Madison County's Planning Process to Develop its 2030 Comprehensive Plan

Madison County will adopt a new Comprehensive Plan to guide future growth and development in the county in June. The plan will include seven focus areas: Natural Resources, Community Resources, Agriculture, Housing and Community Development, Economic Development, Public Facilities and Infrastructure and Future Development Patterns.

“Communities all across North Carolina complete Comprehensive Plans,” said Brad Guth, Development Services Director for Madison County. “Plans are the way local governments guide development.”

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The first step in developing the plan is to identify existing social, economic and physical conditions and emerging trends in the community. County planning staff began this work in February and are now moving forward to the next step of the process—public participation.

A number of public meetings are being held with community members and Madison County Planning staff to get input from the community. Citizens can visit the website www.PlanMC.org for a list of scheduled community meetings, to request meetings with planning staff, and to provide input through a number of online survey forms.

“Our goal is to get as many people involved in the planning process as possible,” said Guth. “The plan should be a reflection of what citizens want for the future of Madison County.”

Once the public input is complete at the end of April, it will be used to help draft a shared vision for how the community wants to develop over the next ten years and establish goals, objectives, strategies and policies for accomplishing that vision.

“The vision for Madison County will be aspirational and forward-thinking,” said Guth. “It will provide the inspiration to guide local government decision making.”

Then the Planning Board and Board of County Commissioners will adopt the plan in May and June respectively as the official policy of Madison County. Each board will have an opportunity to review and approve the plan and make any necessary changes.

The final step in the planning process is to move from developing the plan to plan implementation. The Board of County Commissioners will work to implement the goals and objectives of the plan over the next ten years.

“Implementing the plan is often the forgotten part of planning,” said Guth. “It's exciting to make plans but it takes years of work to implement them. The community can lose focus or fail because of lack of resources.”

The public is encouraged to share their thoughts and concerns about the future of Madison County at one of the many public meetings and online at www.PlanMC.org

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