



## MEMORANDUM City of Flagstaff – Comprehensive Planning

August 29, 2013

To: Flagstaff City Council and Coconino County Board of Supervisors  
September 9, 2013 Joint City/County Meeting

From: Kimberly Sharp, AICP –Comprehensive Planning Manager

**Re: Flagstaff Regional Plan 2030: Place Matters update**

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Dear Mayor, Council and Supervisors

The *Flagstaff Area Land Use and Transportation Plan* (2001) began an update process in 2008 with a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) established by ordinance 2008-34. The original CAC members were selected from publicly solicited applicants, both city and county residents. City Councilmembers and County Supervisors assisted a team in selecting the CAC members, with the intent of a diverse group representing the community at large. Two Councilmembers and two Supervisors along with the City Manager and Deputy County Manager, as the Steering Committee, have continued to advise the Core Planning Team (city planners, county planners and FMPO Manager) for the past five years as well.

From March 2008-July 2013, the CAC met monthly and took into consideration existing Regional Plan goals and policies along with the thousands of public comments gathered on the state-statute required topics for the plan (open space, land use, transportation, etc.). With over 200 open houses, focus group meetings and working group meetings, the Regional Plan was drafted as a policy document reflecting this community's values. A public review of the *Flagstaff Regional Plan 2030: Place Matters* document was released March 28, 2013. Over 700 editing comments were gathered during the 60-day public comment period, via e-mail, mail, and comment cards. During this public comment period, 60 community groups hosted a regional plan presentation and discussion. In June and July, 2013, the CAC re-convened to review and incorporate the suggested edits from the public and initial Planning & Zoning Commission discussions.

The document before you, *The Flagstaff Regional Plan 2030: Place Matters*, is titled "Public Hearing Draft". Through public input at the City and County Planning and Zoning Commission meetings, City Council and the County Board of Supervisor meetings, the document will continue to receive editing and refinement over the next few months.

Today, we will spend a little time discussing

- What the Flagstaff Regional Plan is, and what it is not.
- What the implementation and amendment process is.
- How the City uses the plan; how the County uses the plan
- The CAC members will present the plan to the City Council and County Board of Supervisors
- The Councilmembers and Supervisors will have an opportunity to address the CAC members and the public
- A small reception will follow – all are invited.

*Continued*

The public process to address the Regional Plan will continue with the following meetings:

- **September 11** – City Planning & Zoning Commission
- **September 24** – County Planning & Zoning Commission
- **City Council work sessions** – every Tuesday for 16 weeks. From Sep. 10 – Nov. 12
- **November 18** – *JOINT CITY COUNCIL / BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING- Public Hearing #1 – City Hall, Council Chambers – 5 p.m.*
- **December 3** –Public Hearing #2 for Board of Supervisors (3:00 p.m. 219 E. Cherry Street) and City Council (6:00 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chambers)
- **December 17** –Summary of all Council changes. Adoption & call for election

**Community Benefits** - A democratic and open public process for a community's general plan ensures buy-in and participation from all parties. As this is not viewed as solely government's responsibility to implement, but many different community member's responsibility, from the private sector to the school board to both city and county government, this is an opportunity for the whole community to say what they want to work towards. The Regional Plan does not take away an individual's private property right, but brings a community together to work towards a larger vision, economic resilience and an open, stable government process.

**Community Involvement:** The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) met for nearly five years, and held 78 meetings, always monthly, sometimes bi-weekly. Over 200 public meetings were held, every city board and commission was advised and the public review process for the draft document has been thorough. Every property owner and household within the FMPO boundary has received a notice of upcoming public meetings, and the notice has been published in the paper three times, with articles following.

**Financial Implications:** The Flagstaff Regional Plan is meant to help give guidance to City Council's, and the Board of Supervisors where appropriate, goals and budget priorities in the upcoming 10 years. It lays out policies for the development process, and outlines financial mechanisms for public infrastructure. The document is a policy guide.

**Options:** In December, 2013 - Council and the Supervisors may adopt the updated Flagstaff Regional Plan (with their revisions incorporated) or adopt the existing Flagstaff Area Land Use and Transportation Plan (2001). Each elected body may also revise the Public Hearing draft specific for their jurisdiction, and each adopt a slightly different version of the Flagstaff Regional Plan.