

## Joint Planning Effort Reaches Mid-Point

**Tuesday, May 4, 2004** –This month's joint meeting of The Town of Black Creek Plan Commission and Village Plan Commission was the Mid-Course Meeting. At this special event, rather than review a draft chapter, participants had the opportunity to complete several exercises. The results of which will be used in preparing the Economic Development and Future Land Use portions of the Joint Plan.

The meeting began with a brief look at the schedule and the visions that have been developed so far in the planning program. This was an opportunity for all to see what has been done and what is yet to be completed.

Next a brief discussion occurred related to a community-wide survey. Both the Town and Village agreed that they wanted to survey residents to better understand their desires with respect to future growth and development. OMNNI provided the Town and Village with sample survey questions. They will work independently to development, distribute and tabulate their survey results. Both the Town and Village plan to provide the information to OMNNI in July.

Next, OMNNI facilitated three exercises with those present at the meeting.

**Visual Preference Survey.** In this exercise, participants were shown a series of photos from Black Creek and areas beyond. They were asked to indicate their opinion about whether the type of development shown in each image is desired, in their opinion, in the Town and Village of Black Creek.

**Attitude Mapping.** This activity involved each person coloring a map of the community to illustrate areas they most frequently travel, attractive/scenic areas, areas that are unattractive, and areas of special significance. These personalized maps provide some useful information about potential preservation and redevelopment areas. They also indicate roads of special importance.

**Cognitive Mapping.** During this final exercise, participants had the opportunity to develop their own future land use maps of the community. These maps will be an important reference tool for developing the Future Land Use Maps of the Town and Village of Black Creek.

The **next meeting WITH OMNNI will be at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, July 5th.** At this meeting results from the Visual Preference Survey and the DRAFT Economic Development Element will be the primary topics of discussion. Residents are encouraged to attend the meeting to learn more and offer comments and suggestions.