

Planning Commission Reviews DRAFT Agricultural Element



Thursday, January 23, 2003 –

The Town of Center Planning Commission continued work on the Town's Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan this month by focusing on Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources.

To begin this month's meeting, Amy Emery of OMNNI Associates (Town's Planning Consultant) spent some time discussing some of the concerns related to the community survey results. Specifically, the survey results present some challenges related to:

- √ The desire expressed by respondents to limit future growth when projected growth rates show increasing population
- √ The desire expressed by respondents to protect farmland versus private property rights

Next, the Planning Commission spent some time reviewing the comments forwarded to OMNNI in the **Housing** and **Utilities and Community Facilities** Chapters. Updated copies of the chapters have been posted to this web page.

Finally, Ms. Emery presented the **DRAFT Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources Element** of the *Town of Center Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan*. This DRAFT chapter was developed by OMNNI as a starting point for the town. The chapter includes:

- A vision for agricultural, natural and cultural resources
- An inventory and description of local farming operations and challenges
- A list of tools available to property owners to preserve farmland
- An inventory and description of natural resources
- A description of important regulations related to agricultural and natural resources
- A description of area historical and cultural resources
- A series of goals and objectives.

The next Smart Growth Meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2003 at 7:00 pm. At that meeting OMNNI will present the **DRAFT Economic Development Element**. The Planning Commission meets on the fourth Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall.

Please check this site again for updates!!!!!!!!!!