

PRESS RELEASES



Our Vision.
Our Goals.



April 26, 2007 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



County Launches Platte Profile Plan Update

Citizens Input Sought on Long-range Vision and Goals

For More Information Contact:

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As part of its recognition of National County Government Week, the Platte County Commission announced today the commencement of its strategic planning initiative: Platte Profile.

“We are excited to initiate this process during the week in which all across the United States, counties are being recognized for the work they do to foster community,” said Presiding Commissioner Betty Knight. “The Platte Profile planning effort is an outstanding illustration of how our residents come together to set our vision and goals for a better County.”

The endeavor, which will unfold over the next eight months, will bring together Platte County residents to build on the success generated from the Platte Profile 2020 process. Residents and community leaders will discuss progress that has been made since the original Profile plan was adopted in the late 1990’s and examine issues that are important to them and set goals they hope to achieve.

Platte County citizens will have a variety of ways to participate. A citizen planning team comprising stakeholders from throughout the County will guide the effort. Focus groups will be organized to evaluate specific issues; public forums will be provided for information as well as to solicit input; and a statistically valid survey will be conducted.

Additionally, a web site created specifically for its Platte Profile strategic planning effort was launched today. The site can be found at www.platteprofile.com

Commissioner Knight said the web site was just one more way the County was trying to communicate with its citizens. On the site, residents can find general information about the strategic planning process, including the project schedule; documents related to the process; and a feedback form. The site will be updated routinely so that the most accurate information is available at all times.

For more information on the Platte Profile planning effort, go to www.platteprofile.com or contact Dana Babcock, Platte County Director of Administration at 858.3332.

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Platte Profile Citizen Groups Initiate Strategic Plan

Steering Committee and Citizen Planning Team convene

Platte County's Steering Committee and Citizen Planning Team kicked off the County's effort to update its strategic plan on May 31st. More than 40 citizens attended the event at the Platte County Resource Center to participate in the process, simply named Platte Profile.

The Steering Committee comprises county commissioners and county staff and provides guidance to the project's consultant, Olsson Associates. The Citizen Planning Team (CPT) consists of about three dozen citizens representing a variety of Platte County interests and geographic regions, and it will utilize public input in developing recommendations for the plan.

While some time was devoted to providing background on the Platte Profile 2020 process and a review of the new efforts, most of the time was devoted to two interactive activities designed to develop project goals and begin identifying issues to be addressed.



Small groups were formed to discuss the goals of the project, including the expectations for the final plan and how the Steering Committee, CPT and consultant team can work to make the project successful.



In the second activity, attendees were asked to identify the strengths and areas for improvement for the county, and these issues were organized under broad categories that could ultimately be the focus of the plan. Those topic areas include transportation, economic development/tourism, planning, public safety and others.

The input received from the initial meeting will be a great

building block for the rest of the process, which will include several more meetings with the Steering Committee and CPT. Per the participants' request, more information will be provided regarding the goals and successes of Platte Profile 2020 and consideration will be given to identifying a specific timeline for the outcome of this effort.

In July, focus groups will convene to cover the issues, and a citizen survey will be implemented in late August, immediately following the first public meeting. The entire plan will be completed in February 2008.

Be sure to keep up with the latest news by checking out this website, www.platteprofile.com.

August 1, 2007 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



Platte Profile Citizen Planning Team Defines Priority Focus Areas to Guide Future of County

Citizens encouraged to fill out "Postcard to the Future"

For More Information Contact:

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The Citizen Planning Team (CPT), an advisory group of 35 Platte County residents guiding Platte County's strategic planning process, met on July 31 to develop questions for upcoming focus groups and to begin distributing citizen comment cards to the community.

At previous meetings CPT members prioritized the focus areas encompassing the highest priority needs Platte County will face in the next five to twenty years. These focus areas will cover goals and objectives for the county in eight key areas, including growth and planning, economic development and tourism, transportation and infrastructure, parks and recreation, community services, public safety and emergency preparedness, partnership and collaboration and environment.

CPT members also received bundles of "Postcards to the Future," which are citizen comment cards that will be distributed by members throughout Platte County. These cards will help determine what Platte County residents want their community to be in the future.

Several steps in the process will be taken over the next three months. Focus groups on the eight key topic areas will convene for two evening meetings in August and September. The CPT will meet on September 27 to discuss potential plan goals, and an open house will be held for the public in October. A community survey will be conducted in November. The final plan will be completed in spring 2008.

Visit www.platteprofile.com for more information on the Platte Profile planning effort or contact Dana Babcock, Platte County Director of Administration, at 816.858.3332.

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Commission Schedules Open House to Reveal Draft Vision and Goals for the Future of Platte County

Citizens Strongly Urged to Participate and Provide Input

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The Platte County Commission invites residents, business owners and anyone interested in the future of Platte County to attend an open house designed to provide a glimpse of preliminary goals being developed as a part of the Platte Profile strategic visioning process.

The open house will be from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. October 24th at the Platte County Administration Building, 415 Third St. in Platte City.

Platte Profile is an effort to bring together Platte County residents to build on the success generated from the Platte Profile 2020 process. A Citizen Planning Team (CPT) consisting of 32 citizens representing a variety of Platte County interests and geographic regions leads the effort. All Platte County citizens have a variety of ways to participate, including the opportunity to visit with county officials at the Open House and discuss the draft set of visions and goals.

After the CPT identified eight focus areas as the foundation for the plan, separate focus groups were established to begin evaluating those issues. The open house is a means by which all interested parties can receive information on the process as well as provide input regarding the preliminary goals for each of those areas, which are:

- *Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness*
- *Community Services*
- *Parks and Recreation*
- *Transportation and Infrastructure*

- *Partnership and Collaboration*
- *Economic Development and Tourism*
- *Growth and Community Planning*
- *Environment*

Later this year, a statistically valid citizen survey will be conducted to critically test the key issues facing the County as identified in this process. The CPT will then begin developing a formal plan early in 2008, using information from all public input activities.

Platte County citizens are encouraged to attend this meeting and offer comments concerning regarding these issues.

Visit www.platteprofile.com for more information on the Platte Profile planning effort or contact Dana Babcock, Platte County Director of Administration, at 816.858.3332.

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County Seeks Resident Feedback at Platte Profile Open House

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The Platte County Commission invites residents, business owners and anyone interested in the future of Platte County to an open house that will provide one final opportunity to review and comment on visions and goals developed as a part of the Platte Profile strategic planning process.

The open house will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. April 22 at the Platte County Administration Building, 415 Third St. in Platte City.

This open house is the second such event as part of the Platte Profile process. At the first open house, the original visions and goals for seven focus areas were unveiled. Following that forum, the Citizen Planning Team, which is a committee of 33 citizens representing a variety of Platte County interests and geographic regions, used the information generated at that open house--as well as feedback from a formal citizen survey, the web site and comment cards--to refine the proposed hopes for the future. In total, more than 4,000 individuals have participated in the process and have sought information on the project.

The seven focus areas are:

- *Community Partnerships & Collaboration*
- *Economic Development & Tourism*
- *Environment & Sustainability*
- *Growth & Planning*
- *Parks & Recreation*
- *Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness*
- *Transportation & Infrastructure*

"I think it is significant that we are announcing this important public meeting during National County Government week" noted Second District Commissioner Jim Plunkett. "This year's theme is 'Protecting Our Children' and the Platte Profile Plan takes that message to heart by incorporating key priorities such as safety in our parks and county-wide emergency preparedness."

In addition to the revised Platte Profile goals, action steps have been developed to implement the plans. These, too, will be available for public review and comment.

This open house will be the final forum for public comments before Platte Profile is formally considered by the County Commission. All Platte County citizens are encouraged to attend this event and offer comments regarding these issues.

Visit www.platteprofile.com for more information on the Platte Profile planning effort or contact Dana Babcock, Platte County Director of Administration, at 816.858.3332.

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