

The Town of Tyrone
2007-2027 Comprehensive Plan Update:
Community Participation Program

July 2006

Draft



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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

One of the best ways to strengthen communities is to create opportunities for citizens to work collaboratively on the challenges that shape their community. Accomplishing this requires political leadership, citizen education, and active involvement. A successful comprehensive plan begins with a process of thinking about and visualizing the future. It is about carrying on a dialogue with the community concerning its vision for evolving and growing. This Community Participation Program was crafted with these principles in mind and establishes a two-way communication between local citizens and their government officials, with the overall goal of yielding better decisions supported by the public.

1.2 Scope

The Town of Tyrone (Town) is required by state law to complete its Comprehensive Plan Update by February 28, 2007. The plan will be prepared in accordance with the Advanced Planning Level Local Planning Requirements from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), effective May 1, 2005.

1.3 Requirements for Success

Experience in public involvement has shown that lasting solutions are best identified when all segments of a community – individuals, elected officials, educators, the business community, and civic organizations – are brought together in a spirit of cooperation. A collaborative approach to community engagement is not an opportunity, but a necessity. Community engagement and involvement is done for three reasons:

- To educate and increase public awareness.
- To capture the knowledge and preferences of the people who live in and support the communities.
- To mobilize support and acceptance of the plan.

Communities that prosper do so because people work together to improve the quality of life that they want to sustain. The measure of effectiveness of a public involvement program is not that the public has been informed, but that public input has contributed to making a decision that is feasible and is supported by a large segment of the community.

Public comment and sentiment are a rich source of information about peoples' values and philosophies. These values and philosophies must be interpreted into meaningful information to guide the project. It is essential to know the community's values to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts as well as narrow the field of alternative solutions. This process is designed to accomplish the following:

- Improve the quality of decisions.
- Increase ease of implementation.

- Provide greater public understanding of community goals and objectives.
- Provide tangible evidence that the community created its own identity.

2 Identification of Stakeholders

Coordination and oversight are important parts of the overall work effort for this project. This approach, to ensure proper management of the process, includes oversight by the Tyrone Town Council, Town of Tyrone Staff, and Town of Tyrone Committees. In addition, a network of community organizations and local companies will be identified early in the process for distribution of meeting notices and posters as part of a broad public outreach effort.

Tyrone Mayor & Town Council

Town of Tyrone Mayor	Sheryl Lee
Council Post 1	Michael Smola
Council Post 2	Paul Letourneau
Council Post 3	Grace Caldwell
Council Post 4	Gloria Furr

Town of Tyrone Staff

Town Manager	Barry Amos
Asst. Town Manager	Valerie Fowler
Town Attorney	Brad Sears
Chief of Police	John Hay
Eng. and Planning Tech	Beth Vaughn
Tyrone Library Supervisor	Julie Digby
Library Board Member	Diana Gaskins
Public Safety Dept.	Brandon Perkins

Tyrone Planning Commission

Ginger Blacktone
 Kevin Edwards
 Buddy Hay
 Donny James
 Ken Matthews

Fayette County Fire Department and Emergency Services

Pete Nelms

Tyrone Neighborhoods, Institutions, and Districts

Bob Atkins	Farr Road / Estates
Mark Darrow	Tyrone Focus Group
Phillip Devlin	Southampton
Harley Deyton	Downtown area
Judy Jefferson	Neighborhood Alliance
Jessie Nasiancerno	Millbrook

Kirk Pehlman	Pendleton
Harold Rich	River Oaks
Billy Rowe	local churches
Sandra Stiltner	Downtown area
Edgar Townsel	Local businesses

Economic Development

Highway 74 Coalition

Steve Brown
Jay Knight
Joddie Gray

Tyrone Business Association

Mark Shames

Fayette County Industrial Development Authority

John Woody

Fayette County Chamber of Commerce

Virginia Gibbs
Jenny Price

Shamrock Industrial Park

Leonard Earp

Local Developers

Scott Aver	John Wieland Homes (single family)
Burt Clark	TCG Holdings (office and commercial)
Chad Floyd	Chadwich Homes (single family)
Joel Ogletree	SouthTree Enterprises (single family and office)

3 Identification of Participation Techniques

3.1 Initial Public Hearing

As required under the state Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning, an initial public hearing before the Tyrone Town Council will be held to announce to the public that the planning process for updating the comprehensive plan is underway and to present the draft Community Participation Program and draft Community Assessment to the public. The meeting is scheduled for July 6, 2006. The public will be informed of the plan's project schedule, the opportunities for community involvement and input. The public also will be given an opportunity to comment on the process, the two draft documents, and their vision for the future of the Town.

3.2 Citizens Advisory Committee

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) will be a central part of community involvement for the Town of Tyrone. The CAC will be composed of 12 to 20 members selected to be representative of the various stakeholders in the community. The CAC will provide guidance the Project Team regarding the important issues and opportunities that need to be discussed during the Comprehensive Plan and will provide other valuable insights from a citizen perspective. The consultant will meet with the CAC three times during the course of the project to:

- Review the results of the Community Assessment and prepare for the Visioning process.
- Review the Community Vision and assist in the prioritization of issues and opportunities.
- Review the recommended Future Land Use Map and implementation strategies.

3.3 Community Visioning Workshop

The Community Visioning Meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2006, from 7pm – 9pm. The participants will be led through a series of exercises, including a short survey, that will help them create a vision for the Town of Tyrone. Participants also will discuss the issues and opportunities facing the Town. The workshop will have three goals for the Town:

1. Identify community strengths, weaknesses, issues, and opportunities.
2. Establish a vision.
3. Conduct a Community Preference Survey.

The end product of the Community Visioning Meeting will be a narrative description for each plan area expressed in the following terms:

- Strengths and weakness of the quality of life for the Town.
- The opportunities and issues that confront the quality of life in the Town over the next 20 years.
- The quality of life that the stakeholders and participants in the workshop envision for the Town 20 years from now.
- The factors of change and big decisions that will be required to move the Town from where it is today to where participants want it to go.

3.4 Adoption Process

The consultant will present the draft Community Agenda during a regular Town Council meeting before transmittal to the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) for regional and state review. After the ARC and DCA review the Community Agenda, the final draft will be presented to the Town Council and the public for adoption at a regular Town Council meeting. Public comment will be received at both Town Council hearings. These presentations will occur in late 2006 and early 2007.

3.5 Outreach

Varieties of techniques will be used to get the information out to participants. Local commercial owners, civic leaders, and churches will be contacted to assist in getting the word out regarding public participation opportunities through press releases, posters, and other information pertaining to the project. The Town’s website will be used extensively to post announcements and draft copies of the key plan documents. The Town will mail plan updates and announcements to all Town households periodically as an insert in their quarterly trash bills.

3.6 Standard Procedures (Media Relations)

If the media approaches a member of the consultant team and requests an interview or has questions; the consultant will take the name of the media representative, publication they represent, when the article or TV spot will run, and what was talked about. The information then will be given to Town staff for follow up.

4 Schedule for Completion of the Community Agenda

The graphic below shows the schedule for completion of the Comprehensive Plan Update. Major upcoming milestones in this schedule include:

- Initial Public Hearing Town Council July 6, 2006
- Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting June 2006
- Community Visioning Meeting October 12, 2006
- Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting October 2006
- Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting November 2006
- Public Hearing for Transmittal of the Community Agenda to ARC December 2006
- Adoption of the Community Agenda February 2006

Task	2006											2007	
	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	
1 Initial Client Kick-off Meeting	★												
2 Community Assessment					★								
3 Community Participation Program													
4 Community Agenda								★	★	★	★	★	
5 ARC Coordination													
★ Public Hearing/Presentation ★ Community Meetings ★ Citizen Advisory Committee Meetings													