

Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting 1

DATE: **March 29, 2023** TIME 4:30 - 6:00 PM
LOCATION: **Wilson Theater , 610 Fremont Ave. Rupert** :

PURPOSE: **Introduce planning process, work through issue identification and next steps**

I. Introductions

Community Advisory Committee (CAC) members were welcomed by Sheri Freemuth, J-U-B Planner and Project Manager, followed by introductions from J-U-B Engineers and CAC members. See attached document “CAC Sign In Sheet” for attendance list.

II. Planning Process

What is a Comprehensive Plan - Sheri Freemuth provided an overview of the comprehensive planning process. All Idaho Cities must prepare and maintain a current Comprehensive Plan (Idaho Code Section 67-6508). A Comprehensive Plan is a document which guides the growth of a city or county for the next 10-20 years. It is a long-range vision of the development of a city that includes desirable future growth patterns, that is prepared with the involvement of residents, businesses, and public agencies, and reflects the community’s issues and concerns. Sheri referred to a bilingual handout that summarized the purpose of this planning effort and depicts the process.

The planning process is broken up into 5 phases as follows:

- ✓ **Phase 1: Plan Initiation** . Begin the Comprehensive Plan process with a project management/ public involvement plan and other preliminary data collection.
- ✓ **Phase 2: Plan Evaluation** . Evaluate current working policies and plans for the 3 jurisdictions.
- ✓ **Phase 3: Plan Analysis** . Apply updated demographic forecasts and community concerns to prepare a description of future trends for each of the plan components, along with the Future Land Use Map (FLUM).
- ✓ **Phase 4: Plan Development** . Develop and refine the draft plan
- ✓ **Phase 5: Plan Adoption** . Finalize the plan and conclude the public planning process.

III. Public Involvement

Role of the CAC - Marika Panagiotou provided an overview of the CAC member’s roles and the public involvement process. Minidoka County and the Cities of Rupert and Paul have invited you to participate as a member of the CAC because of your knowledge and affiliation within your community.

As a committee member, you are the eyes and ears of your community. You will act in an advisory role to the project team during the planning process to provide input on project objectives, expectations, public outreach, and data collection. Additionally, you will be asked to provide input on existing conditions, and to assist in the assessment of conditions that will be adapted to the various plan elements.

Three meetings are planned throughout the project. The input you provide to the project during these meetings will better equip the County and Cities to make informed planning choices that meet the needs of the community.

So far, a Public Involvement Plan has been prepared, a bilingual informational handout has been created and sent out with CAC members to distribute to the community, Key Community Member Interviews have been conducted, and the CAC has been formed. Future public involvement includes a bilingual survey, a public outreach event over the summer.

IV. Work Session

CAC members were seated in separate three groups based on their jurisdiction: Minidoka County, Rupert, and Paul. Alison Tompkins facilitated the Minidoka County group, Sheri Freemuth facilitated Rupert, and Addie Coffelt facilitated Paul. The following two activities comprised the remainder of the whole session.

Review and Expand Issues and Concerns - Reviewed issues derived from Key Community Member Interviews and provided feedback on each statement. See “CAC Activity 1” for documented feedback.

Review and Discuss Maps - Reviewed maps of their jurisdictions to identify concerns and needs within the planning area. See “CAC Activity 2” for documented feedback.

The full group reconvened and agreed to the following list of issues that pertain to all three Jurisdictions included:

- ✓ Preserving agricultural land and agriculture industry (our heritage).
- ✓ Provide better connections from I-84 to uses in each community.
- ✓ Consider road widening to accommodate increased traffic.
- ✓ Connect parks and open space.
- ✓ Ensure sewer and water can support future growth.
- ✓ Improve economic development efforts.

V. Next Steps

CAC members agreed that the 4:30-6:00 time slot is preferred. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday June 21st at the same time, location to be determined.

All CAC members were asked to take several bilingual informational handouts to share with their friends and family. A community survey is being drafted and will reflect the work you did this evening. The draft survey will be shared with the CAC for your comments before it is published to gather public feedback.