



# COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

MAG Planning Stakeholders Meeting  
February 19, 2008

# Comprehensive Plan Update

Overview



# Project Advisory Committees



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Project Advisory Committee: Internal

- Planning & Development
- Planning & Zoning Commission
- Office of Management Budget
- Department of Transportation
- Parks & Recreation
- Flood Control District
- Environmental Services
- Library District
- Emergency Management
- Public Health
- Finance
- Community Development
- Human Services
- Sherriff's Office
- Air Quality



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Project Advisory Committee: External

- Arizona Department of Water Resource
- Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
- Arizona Department of Commerce
- Arizona State Land Department
- Arizona Department of Transportation
- Arizona Game & Fish
- Maricopa Association of Governments
- Bureau of Land Management
- USDA Forest Service – Tonto National Forest



# Comprehensive Plan Update

Project Advisory Committee: External cont.

- City of Mesa
- City of Goodyear
- Pinal County
- Gila River Indian Community
- Deer Valley Unified School District
- Dysart Unified School District
- Luke Air Force Base
- Salt River Project (SRP)
- National Center of Excellence - Global Institute of Sustainability (Arizona St. University)



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## External Project Advisory Committee, cont.

- Greater Phoenix Economic Council
- Arizona Association of Realtors
- Home Builders Association of Central Arizona
- Maricopa County Farm Bureau
- Partners for Strategic Action, Inc
- The Nature Conservancy
- Friends of the West Valley Recreation Corridor
- Sun City West Property Owners & Residents Association
- Sun Lakes Home Owners Association



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## External Project Advisory Committee, cont.

- The Henderson Law Firm
- Rio Verde Horsemen's Association
- New River / Desert Hills Community Association
- Harquahala Community Benefits Foundation
- Tonopah Valley Community Council



# What is a Comprehensive Plan?

- Statement of policy and direction for the county on a variety of important public policy issues
- Decision making tool for public and private decision makers
- Helps promote efficient and effective use of county resources
- Promotes health, safety, and overall community enhancement
- Promotes environmental, social, and economic health and stability
- Gives people a voice in the future direction of the county
- Part "art" and part "science"



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Purpose

- Plan is outdated (originally approved in 1997, modified in 2002)
- A.R.S. directs decennial updates
- Maricopa County has undergone significant change since 1997
- Revisions needed to reflect shifts in Maricopa County policies, direction, and *Strategic Priorities*
- Revisions needed to reflect current state laws
- Aspects of plan are no longer viable, while newer ideas are necessary to address current conditions



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Important Concepts

- Reconsider the goals and policies for each plan element
- Create a comprehensive plan with measurable results to gauge implementation progress
- Reconsider implementation program
- Reconsider comprehensive plan amendment process
- Reconsider public participation process (amendments)
- “User-friendly” document and redesign layout



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Plan Elements

- Land Use
  - Transportation
  - Environment & Environmental Effects
  - Economic Development
  - Growth Areas
  - Open Space
  - Water Resources
  - Cost of Development
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- Energy
  - Regional Leadership



# **Public Participation Process**

# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Public Participation Process

- Project advisory committees (primary)
- Public meetings following completion of draft 1 (one in each Supervisor district)
- Meetings with individual PAC members and other public, private, non-profit organizations as necessary
- Media
- Internet, email, fax, mail, telephone, and face-to-face meetings



# **Plan Update Process**

# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Phase 1

- Identify work program and responsibilities
- Establish project team and workflow
- Review & analyze comprehensive plan, CPA Guidelines, DMP guidelines, and public participation guidelines to identify key components for reconsideration
- Begin research & analysis for revising comprehensive plan, CPA, DMP guidelines and public participation guidelines
- Identify and host 1st PAC meetings
- Brief county management



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Phase 2

- Complete research & analysis for comprehensive plan revisions, CPA guideline revisions, and public participation guideline revisions
- Prepare & distribute research and analysis findings to PAC members
- Hold 2<sup>nd</sup> PAC meetings
- Brief county management



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Phase 3

- Prepare draft 1 of updated comprehensive plan amendment, CPA guidelines, and public participation guidelines
- Prepare & distribute draft 1 to PAC members
- Arrange and hold public meetings (5)
- Hold 3<sup>rd</sup> PAC meetings
- Brief county management



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Phase 4

- Complete draft 2 of updated comprehensive plan amendment, CPA guidelines, and public participation guidelines
- Prepare & distribute draft 2 to PAC members
- Hold 4<sup>th</sup> PAC meetings
- Brief county management



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Phase 5

- Complete final draft
- Prepare & distribute final draft to PAC members
- Hold final PAC meetings
- Finalize draft documents
- Brief county management
- Planning & Zoning Commission
- Board of Supervisors
- Publish approved documents



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Progress to Date

- Assembled project team and project advisory committees
- Established work sub-teams
- Assigned work program and work responsibilities
- Started inventory and analysis process
- Identified general issues to reconsider for each plan element



# **Important Considerations**

# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Important Considerations

- Evaluate what has / has not worked and why
- How best to ensure balanced land use patterns
- Consider the relationship between the comprehensive plan and municipal general plans (strengths & weakness).
- Consider what the plan needs to reflect the changing demographics of the county.
- Costs / benefits of master planned communities and other large developments



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Important Considerations, cont.

- Strengthening the link between urban development and urban infrastructure / urban services
- Ensure that the updated comprehensive plan is clear and has measurable results
- Evaluate the role of Maricopa County's 'Green Initiative' in the comprehensive plan
- Reevaluate Maricopa County's policies regarding the costs of new development
- Draw stronger relationship between the comprehensive plan and Maricopa County's 'Strategic Priorities'
- Expand and modify existing land use categories
- Reevaluate the 'Agenda for Action' implementation program



# Comprehensive Plan Update

## Next Steps

- Continue research and analysis of the existing plan to identify needed changes
- PAC to review existing comprehensive plan, Maricopa County's *Strategic Priorities*, and major issues and considerations
- Receive input and recommendations from the PAC committees
- Prepare and distribute research findings to PAC members for consideration and evaluation
- Brief county management on plan progress
- Reassemble PAC committees



