

**SUMMARY REPORT
OF COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN AT THE JUNE 11, 2009, JOINT WORK SESSION**

This summary is a statement of discussions engaged in by the Cottonwood City Council and the Planning & Zoning Commission of the City of Cottonwood at a joint work session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02(D), and is being provided as required by A.R.S. § 38-431.01(D).

Council Members Present

Karen Pfeifer, Vice Mayor
Tim Elinski, Council Member
Duane Kirby, Council Member
Linda Norman, Council Member

Council Members Absent

Diane Joens, Mayor
Terence Pratt, Council Member
Darold Smith, Council Member

Staff Members Present

Doug Bartosh, City Manager
George Gehlert, Community Development Director
Richard Smith, Deputy Clerk

Tim Costello, City Engineer
Kyla Allen, Executive Assistant

Planning & Zoning Commission Members Present

Pat Dixon Jake Gonzalez Richard Kevin
Ed Kiyler Raymond Cox Judd Wasden

P & Z Commission Members Absent

Diane Lovett

Vice Mayor Pfeifer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF:

REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF LAND USE ELEMENT

The Community Development Director reviewed land use in conjunction with the City's General Plan. He stated the City wished to maintain itself as the commercial hub of the Verde Valley. It was helping develop additional commercial sites on main highways as well as near the airport and supported the growth of the regional medical center. Impediments included the lack of a railroad, a need for more commercial buildings, a lack of housing variety, and poor freeway access. The City was becoming landlocked by neighboring communities and needed to annex State Trust Land to insure a vital future. Infill and compact development were encouraged.

REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF CIRCULATION ELEMENT

The Community Development Director reviewed traffic circulation noting that while traffic continued to increase, there were few possible solutions to alleviate it. The safety of crossing Main Street in Old Town was discussed as was making some distinguishing markings or signs to designate the entrance into Old Town more prominently to motorists.

REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF GROWTH AREAS ELEMENT

The Community Development Director reviewed growth areas noting that Vista Montaña and the State Trust Lands under consideration for annexation represented areas of future growth as well as along Highway 260. Sprawl was to be managed by maintaining growth along the highway corridors.

GENERAL UPDATES REGARDING PLANNING PROJECTS

The Community Development Director stated discussions regarding group homes were taking place with the City Council and code changes were expected to be brought forward in July. A Design Review Manual was currently being formulated. The Landscape Code was progressing and would be presented to the City Council soon. Discussions were taking place with the Verde Valley Regional Housing Taskforce about obtaining a grant to study housing issues and opportunities in the valley. It was anticipated that the Bicycle Plan would be presented for approval within a few months. The regional trails plan was progressing as well.

DISCUSSION OF NEXT JOINT WORK SESSION DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS

The Community Development Director stated the next meeting would focus on open space and was scheduled for August 13, 2009.

ADJOURNMENT

The Special Joint Work Session adjourned at 7:45 p.m.