

Residents speak up about Anderson Twp. plan

By Lisa Wakeland • lwakeland@communitypress.com • April 22, 2010

Residents, business owners and officials will decide what direction Anderson Township heads in the coming decades.



Paul Drury, assistant director for Anderson Township's Development Services Department, left, gives an introduction to residents attending a public meeting on the comprehensive plan update at the Anderson Senior Center.

The township is updating the comprehensive plan and recently conducted a three-day planning summit with open houses, public meetings and focus groups.

Wendy Moeller, a consultant who is helping Anderson Township with the plan update, said the summit helped her team get a sense of what the community wants.

"The Ancor area is a galvanizing effect and brought everyone forward," she said.

"We heard a lot more about sustainability and possible plan initiatives."

Will Sparks, who attended the public meeting April 19, said he felt the comprehensive plan update needed more resident participation and is particularly interested in the Ancor area development.

Moeller said many residents would like to see high-density, mixed use areas around the township that are close to various services and have access to sidewalks.

Beechmont Avenue is still a hot topic but Moeller said most residents expressed concern about traffic and the quality of uses along the heavily traveled corridor.

John Danahy said being part of the update process will help him evaluate how Anderson Township is meeting its goals.

"The decisions that are made here are going to affect the community for a long time," Danahy said.

Moeller said her team will compile feedback from the planning session and post the information online soon, along with additional comment forms.

Throughout the summer, the Comprehensive Plan Steering Team will meet to begin developing the plan elements and Moeller said there are plans for another public meeting in the fall.