

**MURRAY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2007**

The Murray Planning Commission met in special session on Wednesday, December 5, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. in the council chambers of City Hall located at 104 N. 5th Street.

Commissioners Present: Ed Pavlick, Tom Kind, Marc Peebles, Mike Lovins, Loretta Jobs, Mary Anne Medlock, Nelson Shroat, Howard Koenen and Richard Vanover

Commissioners Absent: Ed Davis

Also Present: Candace Dowdy, Peyton Mastera, Mike Pitman, David Roberts, Chief Mike Skinner and public audience.

Chairman Vanover called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed all guests.

Discussion of Goals and Objectives Section of Murray's Comprehensive Plan: Candace Dowdy opened the meeting by stating that everyone should have received a copy in November of the Goals and Objectives section of Murray's Comprehensive Plan. She added that this special meeting was to address the questions, comments, or possible revisions that need to be made to update the Goals and Objectives. (The deadline for which is June 2008.) The elements of the Plan are as follows: Goals and objectives, land use, transportation and community facilities. Candace stated that instead of going over each line item in the Comprehensive Plan that questions and comments would be addressed. If any alterations are to be made to the Comprehensive Plan there will have to be a public hearing.

Ms. Dowdy stated that she had given copies of the Comprehensive Plan to Chief Skinner, Chief Claude and Dickie Walls for their review from the fire and police aspect. Ms. Dowdy then suggested the need to establish a citizen's committee of various people in the community dealing with the economic development to participate.

Fire Protection Facilities - Page LU62, Section 6G: Building and Activity Areas. Captain Mike Skinner stated that in order to keep in compliance with ISO, the principles and standards should be amended to include specifications as to the location of fire stations. Chief Skinner noted some revisions to be made under this section.

Police Protection Facility: Candace stated that Chief Claud had no corrections or additions to the current plan.

Neighborhood Shopping - 6B2: - The board members discussed that neighborhood shopping should be left in the Plan but be more heavily emphasized.

Affordable Housing: There is a great need for housing under \$100,000. Ed Pavlick suggested that the Plan might be left as it is since it currently states: *To pursue programs and activities to provide as much improvement as possible.* The suggestion was made to encourage refurbishing

of older structures. Candace suggested that maybe some areas should be reviewed in the moderate density areas for possible rezoning to low density areas. Loretta Jobs suggested tax incentives for renovation programs. Mary Ann Medlock asked about Community Development Housing Grants, where you could identify a district and then provide resources and tax incentives for property owners. The question was also brought up, that if older houses were renovated and renters were moved out, where would those renters move? Chairman Vanover commented that when a person purchases property and renovates it, they want a return on their investment; therefore, the rent is up from what was previously charged.

Ribbon and Strip Mall - LU66B3: Comments were made that any new commercial business such as Wal-mart or Lowes should have a more aesthetically pleasing building front such as brick and there should be a recommended percentage of green space and landscaping throughout the large parking lots. There should also be standards for lighting. Outdoor storage of merchandise should be reviewed.

Walk Ways and Bike Ways – WZ172: Tom Kind stated that the population density is high between the Murray State University campus area and multi-family dwellings and that this should be an area of concern. The Safe Routes to School Project is actually addressing some of the city's sidewalks and there will be more money dispersed in 2008. There was mutual agreement on requiring new subdivisions to have sidewalks. There was discussion in adding some type of bicycle path on Doran Road. David Roberts stated that the Planning Department has a five-year sidewalk plan and he will bring that to the next meeting for review. The need for more pedestrian crossways was discussed.

6E2: Mike Pitman suggested that the City might want to encourage acquisition of other park properties in the future.

Waste disposal - 7F: The question was asked if the City had an interest in revamping their recycling program, maybe in partnering with Murray State University.

In summary, the committee discussed presenting the changes at another discussion meeting before holding an official public hearing to adopt the amended Goals and Objectives. Ms. Dowdy stated that the Planning Department would have larger maps of the City for view at the next meeting to help in planning the bike paths, walk ways and sidewalks which will be integrated into the Land Use and Transportation elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

Nelson Shroat made a motion to adjourn. Ed Pavlick seconded the motion and the motion carried with a 9-0 voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.