

## **News Release**



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## **Comprehensive Plan Project Launches Internet Site**

Web site will offer updates and opportunities for public involvement

(March 8, 2004) – A new Internet site will make it easier for citizens to participate in and keep track of efforts to create the first community wide comprehensive plan.

The web site, at www.planyourcommunity.org, is designed to provide information about the process, status reports and opportunities for public involvement and feedback. The site is intended to serve as a virtual "open house."

"We want to make it easier for people and businesses to invest in our community," said Fort Wayne Mayor Graham Richard. "The City and County's Comprehensive Plan will be key to encouraging development and this website will be key to encouraging public participation as we develop the plan."

In December, Allen County and the City of Fort Wayne launched an effort to create the first comprehensive land use and development plan that bridged City and County boundaries. The comprehensive plan is intended to create a unified approach to infrastructure expansion and economic development.

Goals of the comprehensive plan also include preservation of the community's character and assets, improvements in quality of life and the promotion of actions that are in the best long-term interests of the community as a whole.

Among the new web site's most important features are those designed to increase public participation in development of the plan, including a community issues forum, an online volunteer signup form and a calendar of events.

"The comprehensive plan will lay out a roadmap for the future of our community," said Allen County Commissioner Marla Irving. "The ideas and suggestions of citizens will be the single most important piece of the entire plan."

The site is being hosted at no cost to the project by the City of Fort Wayne. It was developed by a team lead by Sherese Fortriede of the Fort Wayne Planning Department

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<u>On the Web:</u> Allen County-Fort Wayne Comprehensive Plan: www.planyourcommunity.org