



The City of Soldotna Launches its New Comprehensive Plan

The City of Soldotna is drafting a new comprehensive plan, **Envision Soldotna 2030**. The comprehensive plan will act as a roadmap to guide future development toward a desired future condition. This is the first in a series of newsletters that will be published to keep residents, property and business owners aware of, and involved in, the process.



Envision Soldotna 2030 will identify the community's vision for the City through the year 2030. The Plan will identify a vision and provide recommendations for land use, transportation, parks and recreation, utilities, community facilities and more. Envision Soldotna 2030 will build from the vision and recommendations of the 1995 Comprehensive Plan.

The Purpose of the New Comprehensive



The City of Soldotna has grown and changed in the 14 years since the adoption of the 1995 Comprehensive Plan and a new plan is needed to help guide land use and development decisions. The goal of Envision Soldotna 2030 is to provide implementable policies – based on goals identified by the community – that will shape and direct new growth and development in a manner that promotes the health of the Kenai River, the quality of the built environment, and the operational and fiscal efficiency of providing transportation and other public infrastructure.

An important part of addressing this growth will be the community visioning phase, which began with the release of the Envision Soldotna 2030 Public Survey. This survey asked about various issues including the top three land use/development/planning issues facing Soldotna, development trends, and what residents would do if they were King or Queen of Soldotna for a day.

The survey – which is available online at the project website www.envisionsoldotna2030.org or at City Hall – will provide insight into the planning issues that should be addressed in Envision Soldotna 2030.

“Fishbowl” Work Sessions



The next phase in the development of the community vision will be the “fishbowl” working sessions.

These public work sessions will offer an opportunity to meet and work alongside the project planning team, offering valuable insight and ideas into the course of future planning and development in Soldotna.

While the public work sessions are scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, May 8, 2009 at the Soldotna Sports Center and at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 9, 2009 at Soldotna High School, the project team will be working in the Soldotna Sport Center starting Wednesday, May 6, 2009.

The public is invited to stop by and visit any time during the 6, 7 and 8th.

Plan Elements:

- Vision Goals
- Socioeconomics
- Land Use (including Parks)
- Natural Resources
- Transportation
- Public Infrastructure



Next Steps

Based on the information gathered through the surveys and at the work sessions, the project team will create a draft vision statement, goals and objectives for Envision Soldotna 2030. These will be posted to the project website for public review.

The team will then draft policies and implementation procedures for the plan. These will also be posted to the project website for public review. In addition, the policies and procedures will be described in future newsletters and at future public meetings in the fall.

After incorporating input from the public, the project team will submit a draft comprehensive plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Council.

City Facts

**Incorporated
1960**

**6.9 square miles of
Total Land Area**

**6.7 Miles of Kenai
River Shoreline**

**Population
4,061**

DCED Certified
2007 population

In Labor Force - 1,852
based on the 2000 Census

**Median Household
Income - \$48,420**

based on the
2000 Census



Visioning Work Session

Friday, May 8, 2009

6:00 p.m.

Soldotna Sports Center

538 Arena Ave.

Soldotna, AK 99669

Visioning Open House

Saturday, May 9, 2009

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Soldotna High School

425 W. Marydale Ave.

Soldotna, AK 99669

www.envisionsoldotna2030.org

Staying Involved

Communication between the project team, city officials and staff, and residents is essential in making sure Envision Soldotna 2030 accurately reflects the community's vision and has broad public support for implementation. As such, there are several opportunities to stay involved in the development of Envision Soldotna 2030, including:

- Visiting the Envision Soldotna 2030 project website at www.envisionsoldotna2030.org and filling out the online survey or submitting a comment through the project website
- Letting the City know, through the website or by contacting Stephanie Queen, City Planner, at (907) 262-9107 or squeen@ci.soldotna.ak.us, that you wish to stay informed of project progress by being included on project email and mailing lists
- Attending meetings of the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council
- Attending a public work session on May 8th or the May 9th Open House
- Reviewing the draft document this fall

**For more information
please contact:**

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177 North Birch Street
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Vision & Goals Workshop

Friday, May 8, 2009

Project Open House

Saturday, May 9, 2009