

Dear Advisory Committee,

Believe it or not, we are in the home stretch of finalizing the Comprehensive Plan for the Village. To date, through our first six meetings, we have reviewed existing conditions and community comments/opinions from the survey, developed broad community goals and worked through most of the elements of the draft plan. This includes the goals to retain and preserve the rural character and natural environment of the Village, promote and foster a sense of community pride and engagement, promote safe and convenient access and connections, and goals to maintain and enhance community amenities and services. An updated draft of the plan reflecting this progress is attached (both a clean copy and a comparison to the November 2022 draft).

At our **meeting next Tuesday, March 7 at 5:30**, we will complete our discussions on the final element of the plan - - development considerations, if any, in the Village. The topic of development within and/or outside Village Center has, of course, been the subject of much debate and consternation, both in prior Committee meetings and among some outside of the Committee. For this next meeting, we have developed three basic questions for discussion in two small groups, with each group facilitated by Chip or Sandra (see Meeting Packet with Agenda and Discussion Questions attached). With this approach, we believe that the discussion can stay at a high level, with all voices heard, and see if we can achieve an acceptable level of agreement on this topic to move forward.

Following the March 7 meeting, we are scheduling a Town Hall meeting for Tuesday, April 18 for residents to provide comments and help prioritize the goals of the plan. Then we will have a final Advisory Committee meeting in early May to review the final draft, discuss any remaining concerns and prioritize the recommendations. With this timeframe, the Plan should then be ready to present to Village Council and the Mayor at the June Council meeting. Once received, Village Council will deliberate the various recommendations, including perhaps in one or more special workshops, and determine appropriate next steps.

The March 7 meeting material (including the agenda, discussion questions and background material) is attached, as well as the updated draft plan.

PLEASE NOTE: the meeting will be at the Gates Mills Elementary School on Colvin Road (parking is just off Chagrin River opposite the Nursery).

THIS NEXT MEETING IS VERY IMPORTANT TO DISCUSS THE LAST ELEMENT OF THE PLAN AND WE VERY MUCH HOPE AND ENCOURAGE YOU TO ATTEND.

If you have any questions, please let us know. Thanks again for all your hard work!

Thank You

Kristin M. Hopkins, FAICP
Manager of Planning Services