

## **Memorandum**

**To:** Planning Commission

**From:** Lori Peckol, Policy and Planning Manager, 556-2411

**Date:** October 4, 2013

**Subject:** **Study Session, Community Engagement for Planning and Development Projects**

### **PURPOSE**

To discuss community engagement for planning and development projects, including opportunities for improvements to achieve timely public input. The Commission will be joined by staff from Planning (Long Range and Development Review) and Communications.

### **BACKGROUND**

This study session is a follow-up to a June 16, 2013 briefing which addressed administrative updates related to public notice of development activity and also to the Commission's review in August 2013 of proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code, some of which related to notice. The October 9 study session will be broader in scope, and intended to follow up on the Commission's ongoing interest in effective community engagement related to planning and development projects.

### **MEETING APPROACH AND PREPARATION**

We propose to spend about 20 minutes for introduction and to speak to topics Planning Commission has asked about, such as what we do now for outreach (see outline below and also Attachment A). Following the presentation, we would like to brainstorm with the Commission regarding community engagement related to planning and development projects. We have included proposed discussion questions below based on questions that we wrestle with in thinking about community engagement. We would welcome Planning Commission's perspective on these questions, as well as other insights.

## Outline

- I. Introduction – types of engagement, questions we consider in designing approach  
*Lori Peckol, Policy and Planning Manager*
- II. Long range plans – what we do now, recent improvements and results  
*Kim Dietz, Senior Planner*
- III. Development projects - what we do now, recent improvements and results  
*Cathy Beam, Principal Planner; Steve Fischer; Principal Planner*
- IV. Citywide communications context  
*Jeri Rowe-Curtis, Chief Communications Officer*

## Proposed Discussion Questions – Community Engagement for Planning and Development Projects

- Who are our customers?
- Do we know what is important to them?
- What does success look like with regard to timely public input? What outcome are we seeking?
- What are the gaps in what we do now?
- Ideas for improvement, including how to inform people on process and when to get involved? What are some of the best practices for community engagement?
- Initial thoughts on development project notice?
- What does it take to achieve success and the outcome we are seeking?
- How could we measure success, outcomes?

## QUESTIONS

Please contact Lori Peckol, (425) 556-2411, lpeckol@redmond.gov with questions, suggestions and for additional information prior to the study session.

## ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Project Level Public Comment Opportunities