

PlanET Healthy Communities Working Group Meeting #3

Monday August 20, 2012

Cansler YMCA, Community Room, Noon-2:00PM

KEY FINDINGS

The meeting of 20 participants was called to order by Chairperson Jim Dickson, CEO of the YMCA of East Tennessee and participants introduced themselves. The purposes of the meeting were to review and react to the draft vision statement, review and comment on the region's 30 year trend scenario, and provide feedback on indicators for the environment area. Due to technical difficulties, the specifics of the trend scenario were not able to be presented.

Scenario Development and Trend Scenario

MPC Executive Director Mark Donaldson provided an introduction to the scenario planning process and how alternative scenarios will be developed in the next phase of PlanET. A trend scenario will be available shortly that takes the region's current population, jobs and physical development trends and projects them forward 30 years assuming these current patterns are not altered significantly. The trend indicates an additional 298,163 people, 240,274 new jobs and approximately 115,000 new acres of greenfield development.

Vision Statement

Rob Kerns of the PlanET Consultant Team presented the overall draft vision statement for the region drawn from months of community input in public and small group meetings, online input, individual interviews, focus groups and a telephone survey. The vision statement section relative to healthy communities focuses on a population that is healthy physically, mentally and socially through greater access to services, a wellness system build around prevention and healthy habits, greater levels of physical activity, and access to healthy local food.

Summary of Participant Input

Participants divided into smaller groups to give feedback on the vision statement and what indicators should be tracked in the future to determine success in reaching the vision.

Vision Statement for Healthy Communities

- Should be mention of substance abuse, restorative health
- Specify inclusion by all categories
- Health is fundamental, reverse the order of statements one and two
- Add that a holistic approach is in place
- Should be mention of reducing inequities across the board, not just health ones
- Expand on meaning of local healthy food
- Total cost of housing should be affordable – be clearer about affordable

Additional Indicators

- Life expectancy
- Food deserts
- Obesity and disease rates
- Crime and accident statistics

- Substance abuse treatment beds
- Median household income
- Teen pregnancy and immunization rates
- Health insurance coverage
- Doctor/population rates by county