**Getting Started with Comprehensive Planning**

Here are a few questions to help you get you started with planning. Feel free to write down creative ideas during the presentation. Or capture ideas shortly after the workshop. Share with others and see what sticks.

**Section I. Think about your community.**

1. What makes your community special?

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1. What’s changing or concerning about your community?

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1. What would you like to change about your community?

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**Section II. Assess the current status of your plan.**

Do you know how to access a copy of your plan? ❑ yes ❑ no

Can others access the plan? (is it on a website, easy to find, easy to download) ❑ yes ❑ no

How would you like to update your plan?

 ❑ Revisit the vision statement for your community

 ❑ Update data or maps

 ❑ Address new or emerging issues (i.e. aging population, public health, changing climate, etc.)

 ❑ Add focus to the plan (i.e. identify most relevant policy ideas, prioritize implementation actions, etc.)

 ❑ Update graphics, formatting, language or organization to make it more user-friendly

Assuming you have limited time and resources, how would you get started?

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**Section III. Create a plan for planning.**

Who will be involved in guiding the planning process and drafting the plan?

*Think about those with planning expertise (i.e. staff, consultant, RPC, county). Think about local officials who will be responsible for recommending or adopting the plan (i.e. plan commission, governing body).*

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What are some effective techniques for engaging your community?

*Think about how to reach existing groups. Think about how to identify and engage informal and underrepresented voices (i.e. youth, elderly, minorities). Think about potential roadblocks or barriers to participation.*

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What ideas do you have for funding your comprehensive plan update?

*Think about existing planning efforts in the county or region, volunteer or in-kind resources, grants or other sources of funding that might be available to your community.*

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