The Planning Process

The Department of Community and Economic Development formed a volunteer Advisory Committee for the Comprehensive Plan. It was important that there was a wide range of expertise represented and stakeholders to ensure that the plan was adequately written to help guide the future growth of Clermont County.

The role of the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC) was to guide the creation of the plan and to establish a vision and goals for development and preservation opportunities within the County. The Comprehensive Plan does not act as a governing document, but a reference guide to assist townships, developers, and community leaders with making good decisions regarding future development within the County.

The goals and strategies created by the advisory committee with the guidance of County staff identified what would benefit the County most long term. The problems and solutions that were identified created a solid framework and foundation for the planning recommendations in each chapter.

Approximately twenty Clermont County residents and stakeholders were appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to serve on the Comprehensive Plan advisory committee. The committee members participated in a series of meetings and workshops where feedback and comments were gathered by county staff to assist in the writing of the plan.

The individuals selected for the advisory committee have knowledge of Clermont County as it relates to the field of planning, development, or preservation.

Input and guidance from these key community stakeholders was very important in ensuring the plan established a clear vision and attainable goals for the community.

Those who served as members of CPAC have diverse backgrounds that brought many different opinions and insights to this plan.

Advisory Committee team expertise include:
- County Leaders
- Parks, Recreation & Open Space
- Architecture
- Developers & Builders
- Schools
- Housing
- Soil & Water Conservation
- Planning & Economic Development
- Township Association
- Home Builder Association

Advisory Committee Responsibilities:
The overall role of the CPAC was to help guide the planning process, work with planning staff, and be the sound board and review body for the comprehensive plan.

While the Clermont County Planning Commission was the ultimate approving authority for this plan, the CPAC assisted planning staff with setting the preliminary chapters and content for this plan. County staff facilitated the advisory committee who was responsible for generating discussion for issues in the county, review draft material and chapters for the plan, and assisted in keeping the planning process moving forward to the plan’s adoption.
Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee

Chris Wick, Clermont County Public Library Director
Chris Clingman, Clermont County Parks Director
Annette Decatur, Clermont Community and Economic Development
Donna Cann, Clermont County Planning Commission
Mark P. Carter, Clermont County Planning Commission
Chris Gorman, Clermont County Resident
Jeff Hebeler, Ohio Valley Development Council
Margaret Jenkins, OSU Agriculture Extension
Peter S. Kay, Clermont County Planning Commission
Larry Keith, Architect & Clermont County Resident
Rebecca McClatchey, Soil and Water Conservation District
Lois A. McKnight, Planner and Clermont County Resident
John McManus, Soil and Water Conservation District
Wendy Moeller, Planner and Clermont County Resident
Nanette “Gigi” Neal, OSU Agriculture Extension
Julianne Nesbit, Clermont County General Health District
Matt Van Sant, Clermont Chamber of Commerce
Jim Watson, Civil Engineer and Clermont County Resident
Robert Wildey, Clermont County General Health District
Cory Wright, Union Township and Assistant Administrator
Comprehensive Plan Timeline

December 2012: Comprehensive Plan Outline
January 2013: Mapping/Drafting of the Plan
March 2013: Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee

May 2013 - February 2014
Meetings/Workshops with Advisory Committee

March 2014
Public Involvement Open House Meetings

April 2014
Adoption of the Comp Plan by Planning Commission

Photos taken at the various Comprehensive Public Involvement Meetings locations
Public Involvement Process

Having community involvement was very important for the comprehensive plan to get resident’s feedback.

Notice of these public involvement meetings was posted in every county public library and advertised in county newspapers. There was also a large distribution of the public involvement notice and flyer in the County monthly newsletter.

County staff and Advisory Committee members attended the meetings to gauge public opinion on the various issues that arose from discussion that occurred at the advisory committee workshops/meetings.

Public comment was obtained at these open houses through distributing questionnaires/comment sheets that were handed back to be used for final comments and edits to the comprehensive plan.

The public involvement meetings were held at three different locations, each at a different time interval, to provide County residents with convenient opportunities and flexible timing to attend these events.

Based on the surveys that were handed back in from the public, those that attended the comprehensive open house meetings were satisfied with the displays and staff’s knowledge.