

Shaping the Region's Future (1) July 2002

Welcome to our first regular newsletter column focusing on the regional comprehensive plan. Our aim is to provide you with a quarterly update throughout the planning process.

Working together with citizens, local governments, and interest groups, East Central's objective is to develop a comprehensive vision for the future of the 10-county area through 2030, as well as to provide guidance to help the vision become a practical reality. This is no small task!

What's New?

To make our assignment more manageable, we have divided the planning process into a number of stages, which we will report on as we progress. Listed below are the titles of our four milestone reports along with target dates for publication.

- The State of the Region - January 2003
- Issues, Opportunities, and a Vision for the Future - October 2003
- Policies and Strategies for Action - October 2004
- Plan for Implementation - January 2005

What's Next?

East Central and UW-Extension are currently organizing a series of regional focus groups that will be held throughout the region this September. The purpose of the first round of focus groups is to bring together groups of individuals, who are leaders in their respective communities, to initiate a regional discussion identifying issues and opportunities, as well as to develop a regional vision. Invitations will be issued late in August and early September. For more information call 920-751-4770.