

## Shaping the region's future in the 21st century

Welcome to our sixth quarterly update on the regional comprehensive planning process. Since the last edition of Rapport, we have established 7 Technical Advisory Committees and 13 sub-committees to guide staff in the preparation of Milestone Report 2: Issues/Opportunities and Visioning.

### Major Phases of the Regional Comprehensive Planning Process



### What's New? Regional Technical Advisory Committees

East Central has established Technical Advisory Committees, which are focusing on specific elements of the regional comprehensive plan. Intergovernmental cooperation is considered to be fundamental to each of the elements. For three areas: housing, utility and community facilities, and natural resources, it was considered appropriate given the breadth of topics to be covered, to form a number of sub-committees. The committees and sub committees are listed below, along with the name and email of the appropriate staff contact person.

#### Technical Advisory Committees

- Economic Development - Elizabeth Runge: [erunge@eastcentralrpc.org](mailto:erunge@eastcentralrpc.org)
- Regional Housing - Betty Nordeng: [bnordeng@eastcentralrpc.org](mailto:bnordeng@eastcentralrpc.org)
  - Rural Housing Policy
  - Urban Housing Policy
- Transportation/Land Use - Ann Schell: [aschell@eastcentralrpc.org](mailto:aschell@eastcentralrpc.org)
- Community Facilities - Kathy Thunes: [kthunes@eastcentralrpc.org](mailto:kthunes@eastcentralrpc.org)
  - Education
  - Health
  - Local Park and Recreation
  - Public Safety
  - Solid Waste
  - Utility Infrastructure
- Agricultural Resources - Harlan Kiesow: [hkiesow@eastcentralrpc.org](mailto:hkiesow@eastcentralrpc.org)
- Natural Resources - Eric Fowle: [efowle@eastcentralrpc.org](mailto:efowle@eastcentralrpc.org)
  - Geologic Resources
  - Groundwater and Water Supply
  - Open Space, Recreation, and Regional Character
  - Regional Ecology
  - Watershed and Wastewater
- Cultural Resources - Ed Kleckner: [ekleckner@eastcentralrpc.org](mailto:ekleckner@eastcentralrpc.org)

Each of the committees/sub-committees has three primary objectives:

- Develop a thematic vision for the future of the region.
- Explore the impacts of current and anticipated

trends as identified in the regional focus groups (Fall 2002), Milestone Report #1 (April 2003), regional public information meetings (June 2003), and technical advisory committees (June-September 2003).

- Begin to develop strategic goals to ensure achievement of the envisioned future.

Approximately 300 individuals have been invited to serve on the advisory committees. Key objectives have been to ensure a wide representation from public, private, and voluntary sectors at the state, region, county, and local levels, as well as tribes and the general citizenry. Additionally, we wanted to guarantee a reasonable urban-rural balance. It is crucial that all stakeholders are involved in the process of identifying a preferred future for the region. It's your region, your choice.

Details on advisory committee members, as well as copies of meeting notices and summaries of proceedings are available on the regional comprehensive plan page of our web site at [www.eastcentralrpc.org](http://www.eastcentralrpc.org). We would like to thank all of you who are participating in this stage of the planning process. We recognize that people have many obligations and are very appreciative that so many of you have committed your time to help ensure that the region will offer a thriving economy and a high quality of life for all.

### What's Next? - Milestone Report #2: Issues, Opportunities and a Regional Vision

Staff is currently preparing Milestone Report #2. This report, which will focus on issues/opportunities and a regional vision, is being prepared to help us bridge the transition between the envisioned regional future and where the region looks likely to be heading, given current and anticipated trends.

If interested in general information regarding the regional plan, please contact Denise McShane at 920-751-4770, or by email at [dmcshane@eastcentralrpc.org](mailto:dmcshane@eastcentralrpc.org).