

# 2010 TWO HARBORS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Planning Commission Meeting (Meeting #2)

July 06, 2010

7:00 PM

Two Harbors City Council Chambers

## MEETING SUMMARY

### 1. Review of June 29<sup>th</sup> Public Meeting

The Planning Commission discussed comments by McDonald that participants at his table felt that the 1999 had not been successfully implemented and that the new plan would not either. McDonald mentioned that the lack of progress on the marina was one specific example he heard but for the most part it was expressed as a general feeling

The Planning Commission discussed the purpose of the Comprehensive Plan. Bergstad stated that the plan would have more chance of success if the plan focused on land use policies that the City could directly influence.

The Planning Commission asked Bergstad to prepare a review of the 1999 Comprehensive Plan focusing on lessons from accomplishments and missed opportunities in implementing the plan.

The Planning Commission discussed the importance of having better communication between city planning and the public even when the Commission is not reviewing new business. Bergstad stated that the City website would be updated with Planning Commission minutes, agendas, and comprehensive planning materials.

The Planning Commission added the Two Harbors Public Library, County Court House, and proposed DNR marina to the list of community assets.

### 2. Vision Statement Development

The Planning Commission reviewed and discussed the June 29<sup>th</sup> Vision Nuggets and assets and issues list and selected the following statements as central to developing a vision statement.

- A true small town gateway to showcase Lake Superior and outdoor opportunities that exist in the area, but thrives in and of itself with quality housing, jobs, services, and pleasurable pursuits.
- Maintains livability for residents and visitors which attracts business and industry to locate in the community.
- Has modern infrastructure which assists business development and job creation. Clean and safe for residents and visitors.

- Pedestrian friendly and safe
- Lake Superior shoreline preservation and public accessibility

The Planning Commission developed the following vision statement after discussion:

**“In the future the city of Two Harbors is a true small town gateway that showcases Lake Superior and the recreational opportunities that exist in the area, which also thrives in and of itself with quality housing, jobs, and services.**

**The city’s high quality of life and modern infrastructure attracts residents, visitors, and business and industry.”**

The Planning Commission noted that ideas including “pedestrian friendly”, “livability”, and Lake Superior shoreline protection and public accessibility were reflected in a “small town atmosphere”, “quality of life”, and being a “gateway that showcases Lake Superior.” These details will be expressed through out the plan in the appropriate places.

### **3. Review of Assets and Issues**

The Planning Commission began reviewing and expanding the explanation of assets and issues identified at the June 29<sup>th</sup> public meeting. The Planning Commission discussed Lake Superior shoreline protection and public accessibility, issues that affect parks and recreation opportunities, and several different housing issues.

- Lake Superior – Preserving the shoreline is important to recreation (public accessibility) and protecting the lake from stormwater runoff is important to protect the City’s drinking water quality. It is also important to protect general public access to Burlington Beach once the campground is expanded. The Shoreland Overlay Ordinance will need to be reviewed and implementation addressed.
- Recreation – Parks, golf course, campground, trails (walking/bike, snowmobile, ski), festivals (Winterfest, Heritage Days, Kayak Festival), County Arena, skate park, and airport
- Housing – Old high school property, housing rehabilitation, golf course housing, tax forfeit property, Harbor Hills, Hidden Springs, THDC property, and John A. Johnson

The Planning Commission will continue the discussion at their next meeting. Bergstad asked the Planning Commission to individually review each issue and bring ideas to the next meeting.

Bergstad stated that that he would start a detailed list of how each issue relates to comprehensive planning, land use, and how to achieve the goals the Planning Commission may want to set for each issue.

The Planning Commission discussed the need to address transportation issues with the County especially the high school property connection of 4<sup>th</sup> Street, and 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Better timing of traffic control on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue is a concern for motorists and pedestrians, especially those with limited mobility.

Bergstad will request a copy of Lake County's 5 year and 10 year transportation improvement plans and notify the Lake County Highway Department of the Planning Commission's desire to discuss transportation issues with them.