

**CITY OF PEORIA, ARIZONA  
CITY MANAGER REPORT**

RCM #: 3a

Date Prepared: March 27, 2009

Council Meeting Date: April 21, 2009

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**TO:** Carl Swenson, City Manager

**THROUGH:** Susan J. Daluddung, Deputy City Manager 

**FROM:** Glen Van Nimwegen, Community Development Director 

**SUBJECT:** Briefing on the General Plan Re-adoption and Ratification Process

**SUMMARY:**

With the adoption of the initial *Growing Smarter* legislation in 1998, the State of Arizona introduced new measures defining the substance and manner in how planning and growth management is to occur in the state. The sweeping legislation required cities to add many new elements to their General Plan and have the new plan adopted by the governing body and ratified by the voters. The legislation also requires that on or before the ten year anniversary of the adoption and voter ratification, the General Plan shall either be readopted, or adopt a new plan. The new or readopted plan must then be ratified by the voters again.

The City Council adopted our General Plan in January of 2001 and the voters ratified the Plan in May, 2001. The Peoria General Plan has not been a static document and major amendments have been made every year since then. In the last three years we:

- Overhauled the Recreation and Open Space element after Community Services finished the Parks, Recreation and Open Space and Trails plan;
- Updated the Economic Development element;
- Added the practice of calculating the economic value of water for major land use changes;
- Updated the Transportation Element and
- Adopted a new Environmental Resources element last year.

The validity of the Plan has been tested by our community's growth and it has proven to be a worthy blueprint for the future.

It will be our recommendation that the Council readopt our General Plan and

submit it to the voters to be ratified for up to another ten years. Using the adoption dates above, the Council is legally required to readopt the plan no later than January of 2011 and have voter approval by May, 2011. However, this schedule would require a special election and the associated expense.

Staff has prepared an alternate schedule to request Council to readopt the Peoria General Plan in December, 2009 for ratification by the voters at the August 31, 2010 primary election. Staff is putting the final touches on our civic engagement plan that will include public workshops in each Council district throughout the summer and fall. All of the meetings will be at 6:00 p.m. on the following dates and locations:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>District</b>
<b>June 22, 2009</b>	<b>South Peoria Baptist Church 9000 W. Olive Avenue</b>	<b>Pine</b>
<b>July 9</b>	<b>Sunrise Mountain Library 21109 N. 98th Avenue</b>	<b>Mesquite</b>
<b>July 22</b>	<b>Peoria Sports Complex, Souvenir B Room 16101 N. 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue</b>	<b>Willow</b>
<b>August 26</b>	<b>Peoria Chamber of Commerce 8765 W. Kelton Lane</b>	<b>Ironwood</b>
<b>September 8</b>	<b>New Life Community Church 8155 W. Thunderbird Road</b>	<b>Palo Verde</b>
<b>September 21</b>	<b>City Hall, Pine Room 8401 W. Monroe Street</b>	<b>Acacia</b>

After the public workshops, the process will culminate with two public hearings with the Planning and Zoning Commission on October 15 and November 5, 2009. We are planning a Public Hearing to be held before City Council on December 1, 2009.