



Economic & Workforce Development

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For Immediate Release

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Fairfield County to hold Public Meeting for Economic Development Plan and Update to the 2018 Comprehensive Land Use Plan

Lancaster, Ohio – As Fairfield County prepares for future growth, the Fairfield County Planning Steering Committee in conjunction with *planning NEXT*, a Columbus based consultant group, will be holding a public meeting on March 13th from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the Fairfield County Workforce Center located at 4465 Coonpath Road NW, Carroll, Ohio 43112. The plan focuses on smart growth to ensure the county maintains a balance between its agricultural base and expansion of residential and commercial land.

The comprehensive plan will identify growth areas throughout the County and improvements needed to make those areas ready for development. It involves input from villages and townships to create a roadmap for future development. The plan will also identify industries the economic development department should target based on strengths and weaknesses of the County. While the cities of Canal Winchester, Lancaster, and Pickerington will be consulted in the plan, the focus will be on areas outside of those municipalities since they already have planning mechanisms in place.

During the public meeting, the current planning process will be introduced to the public, with participants having the opportunity to talk with members of the *planning NEXT* team and Fairfield County staff. Participants will be able to provide feedback, ask questions, and share their perspective on these important issues which will help determine future growth in Fairfield County.

“We want to make sure we are ready for the growth that will continue in our County for the decades ahead,” said Rick Szabrak, Fairfield County Economic and Workforce Development Director. “We’re excited about this process. Fairfield County is already the fifth fastest growing county in Ohio and has a great story to tell companies that are looking to expand.”

To learn more about the planning process and to register for the event, please visit co.fairfield.oh.us/rpc/CPU or contact Anthony Iachini, Economic Development Coordinator, Fairfield County at 740-424-8837 or anthony.iachini@fairfieldcountyohio.gov.