

update

December 2002

INSERT: Community Compass Update

COMPASS: We Are Making Great Progress!

Community COMPASS is on track to provide a set of goals, strategies, and initiatives that will help guide each community, and the whole of Hamilton County, through the 21st Century.

The Visioning phase of the Plan is complete. COMPASS Action Teams (CATs), the Steering Team, and elected officials have reviewed the plan's content, and it is now being evaluated by the Planning Partnership.

From March to May, 2002, volunteers and experts worked in various COMPASS Action Teams (CATs) to develop long-term strategies for the plan. The COMPASS Steering Team evaluated the CATs' work on July 30, 2002. In addition, the Steering Team identified some "first-tier" initiatives to recommend to the Planning Partnership.

From there, RPC Staff organized a series of roundtable meetings with elected officials with funding from the Kettering Foundation. The meetings were held on September 9, 17, and 18, 2002 in the northern, eastern, and western parts of the County respectively. Chris Kloth of ChangeWorks facilitated the groups in an exploration of the possibilities of collaborative decision-making – one of the four core goals of Community

COMPASS. Participants identified barriers and opportunities to working collaboratively. Overall, officials said they saw the value in collaboration when there are mutual goals among the participants, when there is equitable representation, and when all of the parties respect and trust each other to achieve the predetermined goal.

Now that the CATs, Steering Team and elected officials have provided input into the Plan, the Planning Partnership is currently evaluating their work and further refining COMPASS's goals, strategies, and initiatives that comprise the "Vision for Hamilton County's Future."

The Partnership met on September 25, October 23, November 21 and December 3 to review COMPASS Steering Team's recommendations. The Planning Partnership has now achieved consensus on all 12 of the Comprehensive Goals and 12 of the 22 Objectives, which were drafted through public participation at the Countywide Town Meeting and COMPASS Steering Team meetings.

Achieving unanimous consent among our diverse political jurisdictions on the recommended goals and objectives, while an arduous task, is a monumental and



Planning Partnership Session: Show of Cards to Express Consensus on one of COMPASS's Goals

foundational step in establishing a unified vision in Hamilton County. Additional meetings are scheduled on January 9 and 22, 2003. "We greatly appreciate your fortitude and commitment to full deliberation of all recommendations and concerns" said Ron Miller, director of the Hamilton County Regional

Planning Commission.

After the Planning Partnership has completed its work, the strategic plan will be forwarded to the Regional Planning Commission for adoption.

COMMUNITY COMPASS

Review and Decision-making Process



