

CITY OF TOPPENISH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

21 West First Avenue
Toppenish, WA 98948
"Where the West Still Lives"

City of Toppenish Public Involvement Process for proposed Comprehensive Plan Update

A. Background:

The City of Toppenish is subject to, and plans under, the guidelines of the Growth Management Act (GMA). The planning process for updating a Comprehensive Plan requires early and continuous public participation (RCW 36.70A.140).

RCW 36.70A.140 requires the city to establish and broadly disseminate to the public a participation program identifying procedures providing for early and continuous public participation in the development and amendment of comprehensive land use plans and development regulations implementing such plans. The procedures shall provide for broad dissemination of proposals and alternatives, opportunity for written comments, public meetings after effective notice, provision for open discussion, communication programs, information services, and consideration of and response to public comments. In enacting legislation in response to the board's decision pursuant to RCW 36.70A.300 declaring part or all of a comprehensive plan or development regulation invalid, the county or city shall provide for public participation that is appropriate and effective under the circumstances presented by the board's order. Errors in exact compliance with the established program and procedures shall not render the comprehensive land use plan or development regulations invalid if the spirit of the program and procedures is observed.

B. The City of Toppenish proposes the following to conform with RCW 36.70A.140:

1. Public Participation Plan Objectives:

- a. Provide for "early and continuous" public participation
- b. Build community trust in the planning process
- c. Seek public input and ideas concerning the future of the City of Toppenish
- d. Encourage participation of individuals, community groups and organizations that may not normally participate in the planning process
- e. Explain the laws by which the City is obligated to conduct the Update process

2. Public Participation Opportunities:

- a. Study Sessions – discuss draft sections of plan elements with the Planning Commission.
- b. Public Comment – the draft will be available for review during a public comment period.
- c. Revision – the public comment draft will be modified based upon comments received at the study sessions, the workgroup presentation, and during the public comment period. The Planning Commission will make a recommendation to the City Council.



d. Public Hearing and Final Adoption – The City Council will hold a public hearing to consider the recommendation of the Planning Commission prior to adoption.

3. Notification Methods The following methods may be used to inform the public of the opportunity to participate:

- a. Publication in the newspaper of the time date and place for public hearings to consider the plan.
- b. Posting notice of the public hearings and availability of the plan on the City of Toppenish Web site.
- c. Posting notice of the public hearings and availability of the plan on the City of Toppenish Facebook page.
- d. E-mail and/or direct mail notice to interested parties who wish to receive notification
- e. E-mail notice to interested parties in key organizations – Requesting community organizations distribute to their membership and to other organizations.
- f. Notification of public hearings to consider the plan by press release.

Adopted by the Toppenish Planning Commission, September 4, 2018.

William J. Rathbone
Community Development Director