

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Community Workshops planned for Vision AUGUSTA

The public is invited to a series of workshops that have been scheduled through mid February to gather public input as Augusta embarks on a cooperative effort to plan for the future.

An introductory meeting in December kicked off the process with tremendous response from the community. Nearly 50 people gathered in the community room at the Augusta Public Library where they looked at where we have been as a community and shared some ideals for the future.

Additional meetings through the months of January and February will continue the process of developing a community vision for the future. The project is intended to address issues important to Augustans. A steering committee, made up of representatives from the City of Augusta, the Augusta Chamber of Commerce, Augusta Progress Inc., Downtown Augusta Inc., and USD #402 – Augusta, initiated the project, however public participation and input is an essential part of the planning process.

This committee will meet throughout the planning process and serve as the representative voice of the community’s residents. Three public meetings will be held at the Augusta Public Library to allow citizens, organizations and community leaders to provide insights and ideas regarding the city’s future. As the plan develops, residents will be given additional opportunities to react to key elements of the plan and voice their opinions.

Augusta cannot afford to allow future development to occur in a random manner. The vision statement and action plan will give the community a detailed road map for achieving unified economic and community development goals. The action plan will prioritize community projects creating public-private partnerships to secure implementation funding. Several of the issues anticipated to be addressed within the visioning plan include economic development, infrastructure, quality of life, land use and education.

Community Workshop Schedule:

January 10, 2008	(7:00pm)	Augusta Public Library Community Room – 1609 State Street
January 29, 2008	(7:00pm)	Augusta High School Library – 2020 N. Ohio Street
February 12, 2008	(7:00pm)	Augusta High School Library – 2020 N. Ohio Street