



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Downtown Plan Presented to Planning & Zoning Commission

The City of Tomball is seeking public comment on its Draft Livable Centers Downtown Plan, which will serve as a guide for urban design and infrastructure improvements for Downtown Tomball.

With a presentation by representatives of the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) and consulting firm, HNTB Corporation, the plan will be discussed at the August 24, 2009 Special Planning and Zoning Commission meeting. There will be an opportunity for public comment on the draft plan at that meeting. The Commission will meet at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 401 Market Street, Tomball, Texas 77375. The Commission's recommendations on the Plan will be forwarded to the City Council for consideration on September 8, 2009.

The Livable Centers Study is a project chartered by H-GAC to assist local entities in enhancing community sustainability and addressing growth impacts. According to H-GAC, the eight county Houston-Galveston region is expected to grow by an additional 3.5 million people by the year 2035. This growth will have significant local and regional impacts to the transportation network if not addressed now through careful planning.

The Tomball Livable Centers Plan focuses on creating a livable, workable, and playable mixed use environment in the heart of Tomball. By clustering daily activities such as workplaces, shopping, entertainment, and/or housing choices the need for vehicle dependent travel is reduced and the opportunities for walking, bicycling, and transit trips increase.

Once adopted, the Livable Centers Downtown Plan will help advance the vision for Tomball's future through the Tomball Comprehensive Plan, which will be presented to the City later this year. The Comprehensive Plan will incorporate the Livable Centers mission of "Preserving, Promoting and Enhancing" the downtown into the goals, actions and policies, which will help guide future development and decision-making for the City in the coming years.

The Draft Livable Centers Downtown Plan may be viewed online at http://www.ci.tomball.tx.us/engineering-planning/livable_centers.html.

For more information on the Draft Livable Centers Downtown Plan, contact Kelly Violette at (281) 290-1491 or kviolette@ci.tomball.tx.us.

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