



Top Stories

City officials look for citizen input on retail

Print Page

By Nick McCormac

Published: Friday, November 6, 2009 9:18 AM EST

In an effort to put more focus on the development of retail services in the City of Clinton, city officials are partnering with Upstate Forever to host two events where residents can discuss what kind of planning needs to be done before more vendors can set up shop in the city.

Officials will utilize the Home Town 2030 process to better understand what needs to be done to expand retail services in Clinton.

Two different events will be offered Nov. 12 and 13 and will allow residents to participate in various critical thinking discussions where they can offer their input.

An orientation on Nov. 12 will teach participants about how the workshops will function and what kind of topics will be covered. It will be at 120 Musgrove from 7:30-9 p.m.

A daylong workshop will be offered the following day, Nov. 13, at the Broad Street Methodist Church. Beginning at 8:30 a.m., participants will see a presentation from the FA Johnson Consulting Group, a Columbia-based firm, who will offer ideas on how the city can develop.

Following the presentation participants will break off into smaller groups and take part in World-Café-style discussions where they can offer collaborative ideas and share knowledge in an effort to help overcome the challenges that arise during periods of development.

The topics to be covered include the development of a retail hub in the community, integrating retail into planned development of residential areas, and how existing retail areas can be improved.

The smaller group discussions will allow more people to cover a variety of topics and participants will have an opportunity to discuss all topics of discussion that day.

A continental breakfast and lunch will be offered to the participants at the Friday event and snacks will be available as well. The workshop ends at 4:30 p.m.

City Manager Josh Kay said the workshop will help them better craft their approach toward attracting new development as well as helping retailers already in the city.

"We want to get a better feel for what the community wants and what the city can and can't have," he said.

City officials will take suggestions into consideration when they eventually begin to plan for retail development.

"This is such a major part of the city's development and it's important we have our citizens offer their say on how they think we can expand," said Kay.

City officials are looking for citizen input on how officials can better address the long-term survival of the downtown area and the possible introduction of a retail center.

Residents interested in offering their say on how they think the city can attract more retail properties

are encouraged to attend. Contact Dianne Wyatt at 864-833-7505 to RSVP.

Copyright © 2009 - The Clinton Chronicle

[x] Close Window