

**Amsterdam/Churchill  
Community Plan Presentation to the Planning Board/County  
Commission**

**I) GENERAL INTRODUCTION**

*Responsibility: Warren*

**II) PROCESS**

1) Purpose.

- a) Why the property owners' organized for the purpose of creating a community plan.

*Responsibility: Walt*

**2) Community Events**

**JIM POTTS**

- I AM A CHURCHILL RESIDENT AND GALLATIN VALLEY NATIVE
- I AM WORKING FOR THE AMSTERDAM CHURCHILL SEWER DISTRICT TO UPGRADE THE SYSTEM
- I'VE BEEN INVOLVED WITH THE PLANNING GROUP SINCE EARLY ON
  - PARTICULARLY WITH WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCUTRE

**(1) Four educational meetings – Summer 2007**

- ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION
- EDUCATION
- COMMUNITY SEWER AND WATER ISSUES
- FIRE DEPARTEMENT AND EMERGENCY ISSUES

**b) Kickoff – November 2007;**

- 80 PARTICIPANTS
- 4 MAIN QUESTIOINS
  - WHAT MAKES AMSTERDAM CHURCHILL A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE
  - WHAT CONCERNS DO YOU HAVE FOR THE FUTURE
  - WHAT SHOULD CHANGE IN THE FUTURE IN THIS COMMUNITY
  - WHAT SHOULD STAY THE SAME

This provided the **FOUNDATION FOR GOALS AND POLICIES**

**c) From Dialogue to Action – January 2008;**

**2<sup>nd</sup> PUBLIC MEETING TO EVALUATE THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES (GOALS AND POLICIES) DEVELOPED AT THE KICK OFF MEETING AND WHAT ACTIONS AND TOOLS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO IMPLIMENT THESE PRINCIPLES**

- **80 PARTICIPANTS**
- **GREAT INVOLVEMENT AND FEED BACK**

**d) Initial Recommendations – March 2008**

- **3<sup>RD</sup> PUBLIC MEETING**
- **PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED OUR INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS**
- **WHICH HAVE BEEN INCLUDED THROUGHOUT THE PLAN**

**e) Presentation of Draft Plan – June 2009;**

- **4<sup>TH</sup> PUBLIC MEETING**
- **PRESENTED THE COMMUNITY PLAN UP TO THIS POINT**
- **SOLICITED QUESTIONS AND INPUT FOR FINALIZING THE PLAN**

**f) Final presentation of Draft Plan – November 2009.**

- **5<sup>TH</sup> PUBLIC MEETING**
- **PRESENTED THE FINAL DRAFT OF THE COMMUNITY PLAN**
- **SOLICITED QUESTIONS AND INPUT FOR FINALIZING THE PLAN**

***Responsibility: Jim Potts***

- 3) Committee Meetings:
  - a) Schedule
  - b) Webpage
  - c) Funding
    - (1) Planning Board
    - (2) Montana Smart Growth Coalition
    - (3) Private Donations
  - d) Local resources used
    - (1) Facility

- (2) Time
- e) Numerous meetings with School Board, Fire Board, HOA's, large landowners, Sewer Board, individuals.

*Responsibility: Walt*

### III) VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES (CHAPTER II)

#### VISION

- How do we grow our core in a way that keeps the small town and rural nature of the area?
- What must be done to ensure that future development fits within the capacity of local public facilities and services?
- What must be done to sustain the agricultural landscapes and lifestyles on which the character of our area depends?
- What must be done to ensure that future rural residential development is compatible with the resources and lifestyle that attract people to live in our area?
- How can we continue to involve the community in the ongoing questions of growth and change?

#### GUIDING PRINCIPLES PROVIDE THE FOUNDATION FOR ALL POLICIES AND ANY DECISIONS TO AMEND OR UPDATE THE PLAN

#### VALUES

- **Small Town Values, Rural Character, and Quality of Life.** Many residents referred to small town and church-oriented values. Many people have stated that the community is a great place to raise a family, and the strong presence of the church and quality schools added to the overall sense of good values. Quality people and their neighborliness, care and respect for others, low crime, and the quiet, calm way of life have all been discussed as important values for the

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area which contribute to making Amsterdam/Churchill a great place to live.

- **Agriculture Heritage and Wide-Open Views.** Many community residents state the agricultural nature of the area adds significantly to the quality of life of the area. In addition to lending a strong sense of history to the area (note the reference to the founding of several family farms in the timeline), many residents appreciate the open spaces and views that active farms provide.

## GOALS

spaces and views that active farms provide.

### *Goals*

- **Infrastructure.** Numerous residents cite a need to address several infrastructure needs: an improved road system and road safety; a way to address pedestrian and bicycle needs, including sidewalks, throughout the community; and public/community water systems.
- **Increased Local Control.** Many residents expressed strong support for the promise of community involvement and grassroots democracy, and one of the top priorities discussed by participants was an interest in increasing local control through better planning. Additionally, tools such as zoning and incorporation were also brought up regularly, with many participants expressing a willingness and desire to explore options necessary to ensure that development occurred with the community's values in mind.
- **Agriculture and Rural Lifestyle.** Numerous residents expressed a strong desire to keep family farms in business and preserve the agricultural land, lifestyle, and heritage that helps define the Amsterdam/Churchill area.
- **Community Values.** Community values rose to the surface as a top priority for almost everyone. The church, the schools, the family-oriented atmosphere, and the community pride shown by residents were all discussed as something the Amsterdam/Churchill community needs to consciously nurture as the area grows and changes.

**Responsibility:** *Jim Potts*

#### **IV) THE MAP**

- 1) Two primary categories: Town Core and Rural A/C
- 2) Primary intent: direct majority of growth into Town Core where services are; protect ag land outside Town Core.

*Responsibility: Tim Van Dam*

#### **V) ELEMENTS OF THE PLAN**

- 1) Highlights from the Town Core (Chapter III) – *Tim Van Dam*
  - a) Land use categories – brief overview
  - b) Land Uses
  - c) Connections
- 2) Highlights from Rural Amsterdam/Churchill (Chapter IV) – *Leroy Logterman*
  - a) Intent – right to farm
  - b) Density
  - c) Uses
- 3) Implementation – *Ashley Mares-Jones*
  - a) Zoning
  - b) Conversations about water
  - c) Sidewalk

#### **VI) COMPLIANCE WITH THE GALLATIN COUNTY GROWTH POLICY**

*Responsibility: Warren*