

**April 15, 2010**

**Media contact:** Warren Richardson, 941-232-5388; [wrichardson@scgov.net](mailto:wrichardson@scgov.net)

**Project contact:** Matt Lewis, 941-232-9981; [mdlewis@scgov.net](mailto:mdlewis@scgov.net)

## **Sarasota County starts review of comprehensive plan**

It's your community, your future and your Comprehensive Plan. Now it's time to review Sarasota County's plan to see if still meets your desires for the future.

Every seven years, Sarasota County reviews its Comprehensive Plan to identify and respond to changing trends and conditions in the community, as well as changing state and regional growth management policies. The process results in Florida Department of Community Affairs-approved amendments that keep the plan aligned with community values and visions. The review process includes public input on issues that will define the future quality of life in Sarasota County.

Over the next week, three public workshops are scheduled for people to comment and identify the major community issues the comprehensive plan should address over the next seven years. The workshop schedule is:

- 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 20, second floor A/B conference room, County Administration Center, 1660 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota.
- 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 21, Englewood CRA office, 101 N. Orange St., Englewood.
- 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 24, Nokomis Community Center, 234 Nippino Trail East, Nokomis.

Each session will begin with an overview presentation. Then a facilitated work session will identify the major community issues to steer the future direction of the comprehensive plan.

This process will result in an evaluation and appraisal report that will be reviewed in public hearings by the planning commission and the county commission later this year. Sarasota County's EAR report is due to the Florida Department of Community Affairs by July 2011. Comprehensive plan amendments based upon that report will be completed in 2013. The major community issues identified in the EAR will be part of the discussions about the comprehensive plan amendments.

For more information, call the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask for Planning Services.

-end-