

What is the General Plan?

The Payson General Plan is a long range plan that guides future growth of the community throughout the next decade and beyond. This comprehensive document includes policies and maps that provide the framework for decision-making.

Arizona's "Growing Smarter" Legislation requires all cities and towns to include a statement of community goals and development policies in their General Plan. In addition to maps, diagrams and text outlining objectives, principles, standards and plan proposals, the Town of Payson General Plan must include the following elements;

- Land Use
- Circulation
- Open Space
- Environmental Planning
- Cost of Development
- Water Resources

Why are we updating the existing General Plan?

Regular updates to the comprehensive plan ensure the plan reflects the values and updated objectives of all residents. Arizona's "Growing Smarter" Legislation requires that all cities and towns prepare and adopt a comprehensive, long-range general plan for the development of the community and update that plan at least every ten years. Payson's General Plan was last updated in 2002.

How is the plan adopted?

The General Plan must be approved by the Town Council and ratified by the voters in a general election. The updated General Plan is expected to be on a ballot for voters in early 2014.

How long will it take to update the plan?

This update of the General Plan began in late October, 2012 and is expected to continue through the end of 2013. Visit the bottom of the General Plan home page for upcoming meeting information or past meeting agendas and notes. Every resident is welcome to take part in the process.

Is the Town using a consultant for the General Plan update?

The Town of Payson has contracted with Tischlerbise, Inc. to facilitate the General Plan Update. The consultant will work closely with a Steering Committee and the Town's Community Development Department throughout the update process in order to assimilate the information received from residents through the public workshops, community survey, public hearings and written comments into a draft update to the plan.

How can I participate in the update to the General Plan?

- Take part in facilitated meeting opportunities

Residents that desire to participate in the plan update are encouraged to attend each of the planned public participation opportunities, including the community issues identification meeting, information symposium and workshops. Meeting dates, agendas and notes from previous meetings are posted at the bottom of the Town of Payson General Plan update webpage.

- By Mail

If you are unable to attend any of the workshops, you may submit comments in writing to the Town of Payson Community Development Department, General Plan Update, 303 N. Beeline Hwy, Payson AZ 85541.

- E-Mail Us

You may also click on the email link at the bottom of the webpage to ask questions or provide suggestions throughout the update process.

- Follow us on-line

Meeting information, draft plan documents and other information will be made available on the webpage as the update progresses.

- Town Council and Planning & Zoning Commission meeting dates

Public hearings on the draft plan update will be held by the Planning & Zoning Commission and Town Council prior to the final draft of the plan going to the voters. These hearings are held in the Town of Payson Council Chambers and will be televised on the local cable access channel and recorded and archived for on-line viewing.

Who can I contact if I have additional questions?

If you didn't get your questions answered here, please contact Sheila DeSchaaf, Town of Payson Zoning Administrator, phone (928) 474-5242 x 354 or email sdeschaaf@paysonaz.gov .