

COUNTRY CHRONICLE EDITORIAL

Master plan process: Roadmap to the future

Tuesday night's kick-off presentation of Blythewood's master plan process revealed several things.

First, the 50 or so residents that attended and joined in the discussion proved there are many who really care about the future of our community.

Secondly, the work (including research and interviews with many folks) community planning consultants Tunnell-Spangler-Walsh have done in just a few days is proof that the town did its homework during the screening process to come up with the right group to spearhead such an important project. TSW has a long and successful history in development of "new urbanism" communities.

Finally, the amount and kinds of work that has been and will continue to be done this week and for the next five months reveals a comprehensive, complicated and very detailed process.

But it's one that must be completed, TSW representatives cautioned. They offered one gloomy prediction that would result if such a plan is not implemented within the next 10 years or

so: you can plan to see a six-lane Blythewood Road.

TSW has the right approach to this master plan.

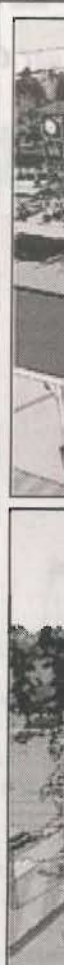
Caleb Racicot, project manager, says. "We're not starting from scratch. We want to enhance what Blythewood already has.

"Blythewood has a rich history of old buildings and great stories of people," Racicot says. "We want to create places people will love, be proud of and willing to pay for."

Another public meeting, billed as an open house, was held Wednesday night; TSW and the other players in the process plan a final presentation to the community Saturday afternoon at 3 in the community center. Racicot says folks will be "amazed" at exhibits, concepts and proposals that will be on display.

We know Saturdays are often busy for many folks who use the weekends for things that can't be done during the week. But for those that can, set aside a couple of hours this Saturday to view the work that has been done, and offer your comments and suggestions.

It's *your* community's future we're talking about.



Town
For the
detail
thewe
struc
clock
aged
Chron
ley@



THE COUNTRY CHRONICLE

P.O. Box 904, BLYTHEWOOD, SC 29016

PHONE: (803)786-5681 • FAX: (803)691-1544

The Country Chronicle is an award-winning community newspaper distributed in Blythewood, Ridgeway, Northeast Richland County and Winnsboro and is a member of the South Carolina Press Association.

The Country Chronicle is distributed free to Blythewood and Northeast Richland County. A subscription mailed to residents outside 29016 or 29229 ZIP codes is \$60 a year or \$120 for two years; this covers only the cost of postage. Please call Camden Media at (803)432-6157 for subscription details.

If you have news, e-mail editor@countrychronicle.com. To place an ad, e-mail ads@countrychronicle.com. The office is located at 509 Main Street in Blythewood. The Country Chronicle is a publication of Camden Media Co. LLC.

Michael Mischner
Publisher

Anna Rumsey
Columnist

Martin Mobley
Editor
editor@countrychronicle.com

Mary Ann Adams
Gardening Columnist

Barbara Stevens
Production Director

John Combs
Columnist

Tonya Page
Advertising Representative
Columnist

Dede Ruff
Correspondent

Beverly Frierson
Columnist

Amanda Wells
Correspondent