

Amsterdam/Churchill Community Planning



WHO IS THE PLANNING COMMITTEE?

The Amsterdam/Churchill Planning Committee is a group of volunteers who meet twice a month to learn about and discuss issues related to growth and change in the greater Amsterdam/Churchill Area.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

The Planning Committee meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month at the Amsterdam Rural Fire Department from 7-9 PM. Anyone can attend and participate. Contact Walt Sales at 570-2128 or Warren Vaughan at the Gallatin County Planning Department at 582-3130. We need your help!

Amsterdam/Churchill Planning Process Moving Forward

This is the first newsletter of the Amsterdam/Churchill Planning Committee. The Planning Committee has been meeting twice a month since December 2007 to discuss and learn about issues related to growth and change in the greater Amsterdam/Churchill area.

Why form a Planning Committee?

As anyone who lives in the Gallatin Valley knows, things are changing quickly. We live in a great place, and there are a lot of people who agree with us and want to join in the fun. With the growth, however, has come some conflict. More cars are on the road, and more roads are in need of repair. More kids are in the schools, and school bonds have become a part of life. All of the construction has created a demand for gravel, and headlines have been devoted lately to potential conflicts between trucks and residential neighbors. A group of local residents, in consultation with the Gallatin County Planning Department, has begun meeting over the past several months to begin addressing these issues in the Amsterdam/Churchill area.

What have we done so far?

To date, three community-wide events have been held to gather input from community members: the Community Planning Kickoff, held November 15, 2007, From Dialogue to Action, held January 22, 2008, and Initial Recommendations, held March 17, 2008. Additionally, three meetings have been held specifically for the agricultural landowners in the area. Those events have formed the basis for all subsequent work by the Planning Committee

Next Steps?

The Planning Committee has drafted a number of "recommended actions" to address the primary values and goals identified at the community events. In general, those recommendations include identifying a "town core" for future growth, adopting standards protecting canals and ditches from future development, prohibiting bars and casinos, and exploring ways to provide sidewalks and trail connections within the area.

The Planning Committee meets twice a month to discuss these and other actions. In addition, the Planning Committee is in the process of forming a non-profit organization to provide a forum for continued discussion on issues important to area residents. Please join us as we tackle these important questions!