

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

General Plan Update

1. What is a General Plan?

The General Plan is a long-term comprehensive guide for physical development within the City of Phoenix and is a vision of where citizens want the city to be in the future.

2. What is the difference between the General Plan and the Zoning Ordinance?

The General Plan establishes a vision for the entire city along with policies and goals to guide future development. The Zoning Ordinance implements the General Plan policies and goals via development regulations and standards that govern individual uses on property.

3. Why update the General Plan?

The last General Plan update was completed in 2002 and the Arizona Revised Statutes require cities to update their plans every 10 years. A five-year extension was added into the law to allow cities to incorporate data from the 2010 census. The deadline to update the General Plan is 2015.

Phoenix has experienced significant changes since 2002 in areas such as population growth and physical development and the General Plan needs to be updated to more accurately address these changes.

4. How is this Plan different from previous plans?

This Updated General Plan differs from the others in the sense that it seeks to be a more visionary, concise and strategic document that is user friendly for residents and developers. Additionally, it tells the story of Phoenix, to engage more people in Phoenix's vision and future.

5. Why should I be involved?

Your involvement in the General Plan Update is crucial for knowing the direction that the City of Phoenix should go with regards to policy and planning. With your input and feedback, the City is able to identify areas that are considered strengths and weaknesses, and then implement the necessary policies and tools to either preserve the status quo, or modify what has not worked. Your input and feedback fundamentally guide how your City, Neighborhood and Community are shaped.

The more feedback we get, the more your values and visions are reflected in the document; so please get your family, friends and neighbors "in the know"!

6. What is the schedule to update the General Plan?

2014

- **September:** The Draft General Plan is released for public review (for a 60-day review period)
- **October - November:** Outreach efforts and collaboration with the Village Planning Committees (VPCs)
- **November 15th:** PlanPHX Summit
- **December:** Planning Commission Public Hearings & Votes by VPCs and Boards & Commissions

2015

- **January:** Public hearing and vote by the Planning Commission
- **February:** Public Hearing(s) and vote by Phoenix City Council
- **March:** Vote by Phoenix City Council
- **August:** General Election vote

7. How can I obtain more information about the General Plan Update?

You can find additional information by visiting the official Phoenix General Plan Update website at www.phoenix.gov/planphx or by contacting Mr. Joshua Bednarek at 602-262-6823 or joshua.bednarek@phoenix.gov.

You can also send an e-mail to the General Plan Update project team at planphx@phoenix.gov

8. How can I stay connected to the General Plan Update?

Sign up for the General Plan Update listserv at the website. You can also send a friend request to the Phoenix General Plan Update Facebook page or follow us on Twitter to receive the most up to date information.

9. How can I get involved?

Continue to provide input and feedback on the www.myplanphx.com website.

E-mail: Let us know what you think by sending an e-mail to the project team at planphx@phoenix.gov.

Attend one of the upcoming village planning committee meetings. Check the planPHX website for a meeting schedule.