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Published December 22nd, 2010

Downtown Plan Ready for Action in Spring

By Cathy Tyson

Calling the last two workshops on the Shield Block and Golden Gate Way, "fruitful and productive," the Lafayette Planning Commission is looking forward to taking action in the New Year. "We should be ready to get on with it," said the chair of the Planning Commission, Tom Chastain, referring to the proposed framework for growth in the downtown for the next twenty years, also known as the Revised Draft Downtown Specific Plan.

Working on this project since December 2006, Planning Commissioners, who volunteer their time, are understandably exhausted with this topic. Now the workshops are completed, the economic and fiscal analysis and the Draft Environmental Impact Report are done - the Revised Draft Downtown Specific Plan is slowing lumbering into the home stretch.

In the spring, look for the Planning Commission to review major issues, economics and plan implementation, along with goals, policies and programs. A public review of the revised Draft Specific Plan is slated for April. Public hearings on the Final Environmental Impact Report and revised Draft Specific Plan are tentatively scheduled for May. The City Council public hearing will be in June.

Look for comments and photos from the Workshops on the city website. All the documents to date are also available at www.lovelafayette.org under the subhead Downtown Specific Plan and EIR.

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