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## **Downtown Plan Almost Ready to go to City Council**

*By Cathy Tyson*

With unanimous dissent among the handful of residents still voicing concerns regarding the Downtown Specific Plan, Planning Commissioners continued to wrap up their final review of the lengthy draft document at their April 30 meeting.

Over the multi-year process a core group of opponents have consistently made their objections known. "Less congestion? - that was a tough one to swallow," said Susan Callister skeptically. Eliot Hudson added, "Why are we doing this? What is the point?"

Going over the draft plan with a fine tooth comb was slow going and the Commissioners immediately got bogged down with slight grammatical changes and formatting concerns. Ann Merideth, Special Projects Manager, suggested, "This is really just to facilitate your review," explaining typos, formatting and the like did not need to be addressed at the meeting.

Going forward, the Commissioners made a few edits to the Downtown Specific Plan which will be brought back to the Planning Commission at the May 7 meeting. According to Merideth, staff will recommend that the Commission prepare resolutions for May 21. If they adopt the resolutions on May 21, then the Downtown Specific Plan and the Environmental Impact Report will go to the City Council on June 11 for more public hearings.

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