



Press Release

For further information contact: Sara Jansen 761-1315

October 27, 2010

Economic Forum Planned in Palmer

Join us and weigh in on the economic future of your community!

The City of Palmer is hosting an Economic Development Strategy Forum on November 8, 2010 at the Palmer Depot from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. The Palmer Board of Economic Development has been working on an Economic Development Strategy for the last several months and is now seeking community input on ways to put it into action.

In a workshop setting, interested community members will be asked how to best implement the eight strategic goals of the economic plan. Members of the Board of Economic Development or Planning and Zoning Commission will host eight workstations in the Depot. Comments will be received on the eight goals of the Strategy, both orally or in writing at the Forum. A feedback form will also be available at the Forum and on the City's website during the same timeframe.

The public will be asked how best to implement the following eight goals of the Strategy.

Goal 1 - Strengthen Palmer's competitiveness as the region's institutional center

Goal 2 - Encourage expansion of technology and research-related economic sectors and other well-paid professional jobs in the Palmer area

Goal 3 - Strengthen Palmer's role as a place to shop for residents of Palmer, residents of surrounding areas, and visitors

Goal 4 - Strengthen Palmer as a tourism destination and stopping point for travel through the southern Matanuska-Susitna area

Goal 5 - Strengthen efforts to promote quality of life by supporting Palmer as the Agricultural and Educational center of the Mat-Su Valley

Goal 6 - Maintain high quality residential neighborhoods and promote a diverse range of quality housing from high density in or near downtown to single family housing which satisfies the needs of all sectors of the housing market

Goal 7 - Provide the necessary public infrastructure to support and facilitate the retention of existing industrial uses and the expansion of industrial development within the community to insure that Palmer remain as the industrial leader of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough

(more)



Goal 8 - Develop and market the municipal airport to maximize its impact on the Palmer economy

At the conclusion of the comment period at close of business on November 19, all the comments from the Forum, mail and website will be compiled for the December 6 Board of Economic Development meeting. The Board will use the information to help plan their 2011 forward work schedule.

###