



ITEM: Ordinance 2023-47 Monticello Comprehensive Plan	DEPARTMENT: City Administration
AGENDA SECTION: New Business	SUBMITTED BY: Callie Jo McFarland, Community Development Director
ATTACHMENTS: (X) ORDINANCE (X) OTHER SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	DATE: July 18, 2023

BACKGROUND:

The City engaged with Northern Illinois University Center for Government Studies, and Egret & Ox for services involved in the facilitation of an update to the Comprehensive Plan for the community. A Comprehensive Plan is a long-range (15-20 yr) plan that helps guide community leaders in future decisions that impact the community’s growth. Comprehensive plans are not meant to be restrictive, but provide general guidance for how a community desires to grow. Because trends and growth patterns change over time- intentionally or not- comprehensive plans are meant to be a fluid document that requires regular review and potential amendments where necessary. The important thing to remember is the comprehensive plan is the community’s plan, not City Council, staff or affiliates. It is based on input and feedback from the community.

Over the last 18 months, the facilitators have worked closely with City Staff and the task force, holding numerous public meetings, surveys, planning sessions and interviews to gather the information and input required for this plan. As per state statute, prior to adoption of a comprehensive plan by City Council, the Planning & Zoning Board must hold a public hearing soliciting public input regarding the plan. Notice of the hearing was published in the June 28th edition of the Piatt County Journal Republican, with a link to the plan listed on the City’s website. Hard copies could also be picked up at the Municipal Building for review. The Planning & Zoning Board held a public hearing at their regular meeting on July 17th, where public comment was solicited. After discussion, the Planning & Zoning Board voted to recommend approval to the Council as drafted of the City of Monticello Comprehensive Plan (5-0-2).

Prior to voting on this item, Mim Evans from NIU CGS and Todd Vanadilok from Egret & Ox Planning, LLC will present to the Council on the process and highlights of the Comprehensive Plan.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is recommended that the City Council vote on this ordinance at the July 24, 2023 City Council meeting.