Thirty-nine years, seven updates, and 2010 data show need for new Kenton comprehensive plan

President Richard Nixon was running for re-election when Kenton County’s comprehensive plan was adopted for the first time. Seven presidents have been elected since then. Seven updates to that initial plan have been adopted. And, if those numbers don’t indicate a passage of time, perhaps demographic changes from the 2010 Census will convince you. It’s time for a new Kenton County Comprehensive Plan.

Staff is launching a major public engagement campaign this month. Designated Direction 2030: Your Voice. Your Choice., its focus will be to initiate a public discussion about: (1) the changes this community has experienced since the current plan was first adopted in 1972; (2) the demographic, generational, and economic-based changes the community is experiencing now; and, (3) the possibilities that these changes open for the community over the next 20 years.

Work has begun already with a task force of local elected and appointed officials in preparation for the public engagement phase of this process. The challenge for this effort will be to determine the extent to which economic, lifestyle, and demographic trends will affect Kenton County and to develop a plan which reaches the aspirations of its residents.

To facilitate the public engagement that will undergird development of the new comprehensive plan, Direction 2030: Your Voice. Your Choice. is providing a number ways in which citizens can participate. It’s also including several opportunities for citizens to meet with friends, neighbors, and staff to discuss these issues publicly. The first round of public meeting opportunities will be held as follows.

- Wednesday, October 26 (5:30 to 7:30) at Dixie Heights High School cafeteria
- Thursday, November 17 (6:30 to 8:30) at the Kenton County Extension Service
- Tuesday, November 29 (5:30 to 7:30) at Calvary Baptist Church
- Tuesday, December 6 (6:30 to 8:30) at Piner Elementary School

The following technologies are also being used to connect with Kenton County residents. (Note that none of these tools that we take for granted now were even dreamed of, let alone used when the current comprehensive plan was adopted for the first time.)

- Direction 2030 website
- Direction 2030 newsletter (sign up here)
- Direction 2030 on Facebook
- Direction 2030 blog
- Direction 2030 on Twitter