



**Golden Gate Area Master Plan  
Golden Gate City- Introduction  
Public Workshop, June 8, 2016  
Golden Gate Community Center**

**Introduction:**

The Collier County Community Planning staff provided an introduction to the Golden Gate Area Master Plan (GGAMP) restudy, which will result in an update to the GGAMP. The purpose of the staff presentation was to identify the major components of the GGAMP, particularly as it pertains to Golden Gate City and environs. Emphasis was placed on major themes and the idea that visioning for the future should consider many factors as they contribute to the well-being of the next generation. The meeting was noticed and 3 electronic signboards were placed in collector roadways in the City for a period of three days. Approximately 25 people attended.

**Meeting Summary:**

**Community Planning Manager Kris Van Lengen** provided a PowerPoint presentation, and stated that this would be the first of several GGAMP meetings, and that this first meeting is in the nature of an introduction. Content included an overview of all area restudies, concepts currently embedded in the GGAMP, and finally a high level visioning exercise for the future of Golden Gate City.

The presentation explained the interrelationships between studies and the timing of each. Discussion also included the process, identifying current plan provisions of importance to the community, identifying opportunities for improvement and incorporating the community's vision and values to bring forward to the Board for its consideration. The role of the Growth Management Oversight Committee was also covered.

The discussion on current GGAMP provisions began with an emphasis on website content and various opportunities for interaction and input and an overview of currently scheduled meetings, which will be rotational among Eastern Estates, Western Estates and Golden Gate City.

A brief history described the major Restudy between 2001 and 2003 as well as the several private Growth Management Plan amendments that followed. Key features of the current GGAMP, as pertain to Golden Gate City, were described under the 2 major portions of the GMP: Goals, Objectives and Policies, and Land Use Designations. Interpreting the current goals of the Golden Gate Area Master Plan as it relates to the Golden Gate City, an "existing vision" was derived and described as a recognition of distinct neighborhood areas within the City, the value of sub-area plans along with City-wide plans, consideration of a GG City Land Development Code, the importance of connections to the greater Naples area, and a reference to utility expansion.

Various Land Use categories were described and discussed, most notably the Mixed Use Activity Center, the Downtown Center Commercial Subdistrict and the Santa Barbara Commercial Subdistrict. The Golden Gate Parkway entryway into the City was also discussed. Questions and comments related to GMP and zoning overlays followed.

Of note were comments related to the desire for a focal point within the Activity Center or nearby, roadway concerns and beautification.



**Principal Planner Anita Jenkins** provided an interactive visioning session. She began by describing the nature and purpose of a community vision: what the community should look and feel like after implementation, as envisioned by residents. Key subject areas are land use, transportation, environment, economic and social activity and identity.

After discussing the purpose, Ms. Jenkins challenged the audience to complete brief answers or descriptions to a number of visioning questions: How does Golden Gate City complement the County as a whole, what is it the best location for, what would you like to read in the newspaper about the area 10 years from now, what things would you suggest to improve the area?

Consultants from AECOM also provided examples of streetscapes, walkability and City entryway features to stimulate imaginations. Overall, citizens seemed most interested in enhanced community facilities, infrastructure, and expression of art and culture native to the area. Specifically, a recommendation was made to extend the private utilities water to greater portions of the City (not wastewater), small business incubation, international food and arts locations, and the use of existing canals for recreation such as kayak and paddleboard.

Individual slips were distributed throughout, and attendees wrote their visions in answer to these questions. A total of 35 questionnaires were returned. Below is a summary of questionnaire responses:

**Golden Gate City will be known for:**

- Cleanliness
- Affordability
- New Growth and Development
- Celebrated Diversity



Safety

**Golden Gate City will be a great location for:**

Raising Families  
Affordability  
Community Services  
Mobility  
Recreation

**How does Golden Gate City complement Collier County?**

Diversity  
Center of Activity  
Accessibility to workforce

**What is the full potential for your community?**

Unifying to accomplish goals  
A place of flourishing families, business, and community services  
Safe and effective for all modes of transit  
A downtown destination

**Reading the newspaper in 10 years, what would the headline say about the Western Estates?**

Clean safe and friendly with a lush landscape  
Third fastest growing city in the state of Florida  
Golden Gate notes first million dollar home sale  
A great place to raise a family  
Number one most inviting community  
Golden Gate wins state championships in sports, music, arts and more  
More full-ride scholarships provided to residents per capita than anywhere in Florida  
Community rallies to improve image  
The remarkable turnaround and revitalization of Golden gate  
The city that met the needs of its people

**What three things would really improve the future of Golden Gate City?**

Code enforcement  
Safety of mobility (pedestrian, bicyclists)  
Infrastructure  
Creation of a CRA  
Reduced public transit headways  
Creation of a community trolley  
Lighting  
Preservation of green space  
Increased homeownership

