



Staff Report

Agenda Item: **JOINT WORKSESSION WITH PLANNING COMMISSION REGARDING THE ARIZONA SMART GROWTH SCORECARD** – Joint worksession and discussion regarding the Arizona Smart Growth Scorecard.

Staff Contact: Sherry Bailey, Community Development Director

Meeting Date: September 23, 2008

Background:

The Department of Commerce has issued the revised Growing Smarter Scorecard. The instructions to each community are to have the scorecard filled out and returned to the state by January 1, 2009. Discretionary funding will take into consideration the fact that each community has filled out the scorecard. The score that each community gives itself will be independent of the fact of whether each community has submitted their scorecard.

In reviewing the draft document, the Planning Commission felt that a joint worksession with the Council where the procedure was discussed would be valuable for reviewing the scorecard, the process for establishing who should participate in filling out the scorecard, and the process of evaluation and public input. How the scorecard is validated by the Council before being submitted was also a point of concern. In order for this scorecard to have value to the Town of Clarkdale it was felt that a good self evaluation is needed to occur. How that will be accomplished is up to each community and council.

A joint worksession whereby these and other questions are reviewed and direction given to staff on the best approach to fulfilling the requirement seemed like a reasonable solution.

After discussion at the regular meeting of the Planning Commission on August 28, 2008, the Planning Commission would like to purpose to the Council that the Planning Commission take the lead on answering the questions in the Growing Smarter Scorecard. They felt that a list of knowledgeable people could be generated by the Council, the Town Manager and the Staff. Those people could then be requested to work with the PC to answer the questions. Once the questions were answered a public hearing could be held at the Planning Commission meeting wherein the scorecard answers could be reviewed. The scorecard could then be presented to the Town Council for their review and direction. The end product could then be submitted by the Town Manager to the state. The Planning Commission felt there would be two points for public review and input; one at the Planning Commission Public Hearing and one before Council.

Recommendation:

Direction to staff on the best approach to accomplish this task would be appreciated.