Article 1

[Note: this first article should be used during the earliest stage of development of a new or updated comprehensive plan. It should announce the planning endeavor, outline the process to be followed, and encourage interested citizens to plan to get involved.]


[LG official/Group] from [LG] met [today/recently/(date)] to discuss plans for updating the [LG] Comprehensive Plan. [Plan Preparer], of [Entity], who will oversee work involved in the project, says that it is vitally important for citizens both to understand the process and get involved, as well. “We have a 20-year comprehensive plan that must be updated every 10 years,” [Name] says. “This plan is the single most important document a citizen can help create to provide a vision for the future of the community and a guide for local decision-makers about when, where, and how the community will grow and develop in the future,” [She/He] says. [Or] “Participating in this process is the single most important thing a person can do to tell community leaders what kind of community you want them to create and guide their decision-making on how it will look in the future,” [She/He] says.

[Name], Mayor [or Commission Chairman of [LG], agrees that people need to take advantage of the planning process in their communities. “It’s the best tool Georgians have,” he says, “to influence the quality of life our community will provide for years and generations to come.”

According to [plan preparer], citizens should look for news about the upcoming planning process by [visiting website / contacting ….]. [He/She] promises that participation will not be difficult. All meetings and any exercises are designed to be easy and fun for everyone who cares about the way their community will grow in the future. “We will not put people on the spot,” [she/he] says, “and there will be a variety of times and meeting formats, so all citizens should have multiple opportunities to share their ideas with the people who are putting the plan together.”