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Wildwood Seeks Citizen Input for Strategic Plan

Wildwood City Manager Jason McHugh today invited all city residents and businesses to provide input on the draft 2023-2027 Strategic Plan.

"This plan shapes the city's priorities and defines specific action items and measurables over the next five years," McHugh said. "We want to hear from citizens to ensure we are focusing on what is most important to them."

Mayor Ed Wolf emphasized the significance of public input, adding, "I've been in this city more than 50 years now, and I've watched it grow by leaps and bounds. I've had the pleasure of serving as mayor for the past 30 of those years and can tell you that every resident who shares their thoughts helps me do my job better."

The draft plan incorporates previous feedback from stakeholders provided during the 2020 update to the city's 2018-2022 Strategic Plan, the Downtown Master Plan information gathering phase, and the 2050 Comprehensive Plan public input sessions. It also draws from employee survey responses and a questionnaire answered by city commissioners.

The draft centers on the following key areas:

- Community Engagement
- Transportation
- Affordable Housing
- Downtown Redevelopment
- Infrastructure
- Employee Recruitment and Retainment

Residents can review the draft plan on the city's website, www.wildwood-fl.gov, and submit comments by email to <u>LPiotrowicz@wildwood-fl.gov</u>.

As the plan is tied to the city budget, citizens also may comment during the public budget hearings at 7:00 p.m. on September 12 and 26, 2022, in the City Hall Commission Chamber located at 100 N. Main Street.

"It is definitely not too late to be heard," McHugh stressed. "We are accepting written comments until September 9, 2022, so we can adjust the draft accordingly before the city commission votes on it later in the month."

Mayor Wolf agreed. "There is still time to weigh in. We really do listen and care what residents think. Honestly, it's why we serve as commissioners. It's about serving the people."

To learn more, visit www.wildwood-fl.gov and click on the Strategic Plan graphic.