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City, county review joint development

By Josh Mitchell

Staff reporter

As the city and county grow, what kind of development pattern do residents want to see — status quo, more compact, or more sprawling?

These scenarios were reviewed during a meeting on the joint planning area for the city and county Thursday night at Sheridan College.

The joint planning area is about 60 square miles and includes the city of Sheridan and about a mile and a half outside city limits.

The development scenarios were explained by Clarion Associates of Fort Collins, Colo., which is updating the city and county's 1982 comprehensive plan, to about 50 residents and city and county officials.

The city and county's current approach to planning was described by Clarion Associates as "patchwork, scattered and fragmented."

Clarion proposed a more compact design that would keep urban development near the city and not disturb land for agriculture and rural residential development.

Those in attendance favored the more compact design or a different approach called "feathered," which would have a "clustered" development of urban residential, rural residential and commercial mixed together just outside city limits.

Under the compact design, industrial development would be near the interstate next to East Fifth Street, East Ridge Road and Brundage Lane.

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