Communities coming together to build a stronger East Tennessee

REGIONAL FORUM SERIES 1

November 2011
WHAT IS PlanET?

- A **COMMUNITY CONVERSATION** about the future
- A **PARTNERSHIP** focused on improving the prosperity and livability of the region
  - Local governments
  - Local businesses
  - Non-profits
  - Institutions (UT)
  - Citizens/Civic Organizations
- A **PLAN FOR ACTION** that lays out strategies and prioritizes investments to reach the region’s goals
- Tools for **IMPLEMENTATION**, including leadership engagement and capacity-building programs

- 5 COUNTIES
- 16 CITIES
- 4 TOWNS
- And a diverse **COMMUNITY** of partners
PlanET will focus on five major themes to improve the livability and prosperity of the region.

- These themes are identified in the State of the Region report.
- Policies and strategies will be created to implement identified actions.
THE PLANNING PROCESS

PHASE ONE
Establishing a Shared Identity & Vision

- Project Start-Up
  - Kickoff Celebration
- Data Collection & Regional Assessment
  - Regional Forum Series 1
- Regional Future Vision
  - Regional Forum Series 2

PHASE TWO
Engage, Educate, & Develop a Shared Direction

- Understanding Future Trends
- Considering Alternative Futures: Scenario Development
  - Regional Forum Series 3
  - Regional Forum Series 4
- Regional Growth Framework

PHASE THREE
PlanET Report & Implementation Activities

- Draft Plan
  - Regional Forum Series 5
- Plan Endorsement
  - Public Review /Comment
- Progress Yardstick & Demonstration Projects
- Capacity-Building Training

CAPACITY BUILDING

PUBLIC OUTREACH
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The project’s comprehensive public outreach program includes:
  - Public Forums
  - Meeting in a Box
  - PlanET website
  - Social media (Facebook & Twitter)
  - MindMixer (Internet “town hall” forum)
  - Focus / advisory groups
  - Community surveys (validation)

- PlanET’s action strategies will be based on **WHAT CITIZENS WANT FOR EAST TENNESSEE**

PlanET Website: www.planeasttn.org
SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS
1. Everyone should have an equal opportunity to talk and be present in the conversation.

2. Focus on your group’s discussion.

3. Listen, avoid criticizing, and respect limited time.

4. Be honest, and try to understand different viewpoints.

5. Try not to interrupt the facilitator or other group members.

6. Avoid making things personal during the discussion.

7. Turn off the ringer on your cell phone!