City of Bristol Tennessee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, April 2, 2014

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City sets meeting to share information on Exit 74 land use study

The City recently completed a Strategic Economic Development Plan and is working toward its implementation. One of the objectives of that plan was to “complete a land use study around Bristol Regional Medical Center” to strengthen, expand and attract businesses (health care and others) while building community capacity for economic development and ensuring the fiscal health of the city. The Community Development Department was tasked with completing this project.

To that end, the city will be hosting a stakeholders’ meeting to learn more about the project and share information. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 10, 2014 at National Business College, 1328 Highway 11W, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Student Lounge. “I hope businesses and neighbors in the area will be able to attend. Their input would be greatly appreciated,” said Shari Brown, Director of Community Development. “Exit 74/BRMC is one of the most active construction and development sites in the city’s history. It’s a transformational area and future use of land, traffic patterns, utilities and zoning must be thoughtfully planned.”

The project centers on the Exit 74 interchange of I-81 and encompasses the surrounding area. During the past several months, city staff has gathered information about the physical features, infrastructure, and access, current and potential further use of the study area. “Land use plans provide a vision or broad view of the community and provide for public dialogue. They also define desirable future land use patterns while providing for non-arbitrary decision making. However, we must keep in mind that land use plans do not provide a parcel-by-parcel determination of future use nor do they rezone, grant permits or divide land,” Brown continued.
For more information or if special assistance is needed for the meeting, please contact the Community Development staff at 423-989-5514 or email sbrown@bristoltn.org.