

# South Kenton County Citizens Group



The South Kenton County Citizens Group (SKCCG), represented by residents from various areas of Southern Kenton County, is focused on addressing issues that affect the rural unincorporated portions of Kenton County.

The goal of the group is to offer a collective voice from Southern Kenton County to elected officials, participate in planning process and focus on implementation of Direction 2030. In order to do so, the SKCCG is constantly focused on

increasing participation from as many residents as possible by using various methods such as Facebook posts, surveys, focus group meetings and public meetings. The SKCCG has successfully involved and established partnerships with several public agencies for support.

## Planning Efforts in Southern Kenton County

Planning efforts in Southern Kenton County began with an effort in 1996 that mobilized residents to develop a vision for the future. View the:

- 1996 Study Charting a Path to the Future (PDF)
- Status Report on the 1996 Study (PDF)

A renewed effort to address issues in Southern Kenton County began when a meeting was held at Piner Elementary in November 2011 to seek residents input on the new Kenton County Comprehensive Plan. By the time a tornado struck Piner in March 2012, devastating the community and structures to the east of it, a small group of area citizens had met several times to try to bring their neighbors together. The immediate needs prompted by the Class 5 storm solidified that group's goals and provided fuel to move it forward. Talk of bringing neighbors and friends together was replaced quickly by actions that were more effective in helping southern Kenton County residents see the value of working together.

## Direction 2030

As the storm's devastation transitioned to a memory, local discussions moved on to Direction 2030, a coordinated effort by the Kenton County Planning Commission to engage as many Kenton County residents in the crafting of a new comprehensive plan for the community. Residents got together and discussed past planning efforts and current needs. In order to get a comprehensive understanding of the area's needs, the group decided to pursue a survey of their friends and neighbors across the southern part of the county. Results of the survey were then used to organize two focus group meetings that offered further insight into the results, and this input was then used to develop recommendations for the rural subarea portion of Direction 2030. Following the adoption of Direction 2030, residents reorganized to focus on implementation efforts.

On September 4, 2014 the Direction 2030 Comprehensive Plan was adopted by the Kenton County Planning Commission. In coordination with Planning and Development Services (PDS), the South Kenton County Citizens Group (SKCCG) used the basis of the public surveys and continued small group discussions to develop the language and recommendations for the Rural Subarea of the plan.

Subsequently, SKCCG has begun the work to implement Direction 2030 in coordination with PDS and county officials. On October 23, 2014, SKCCG met with the Kenton Cooperative Extension and the University of Kentucky. Information was presented on protections in place for agricultural communities and what other local rural communities have accomplished to protect their way of life.

### **Task Committees**

SKCCG members formed three task committees to work on the recommendations of Direction 2030. The South Kenton Citizen Group welcomes the input and participation of all citizens in the unincorporated area of south Kenton County.

If you have questions about the information presented in these files please contact Andrew Videkovich for further details.