For Immediate Release

Strategic Plan Feedback at Cider Days

The City of Springfield will begin seeking citizen feedback on the first draft of goals from the Strategic Planning Process during Cider Days on Historic Walnut Street this weekend. Cider Days runs from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 18 and 19. Representatives from the Strategic Plan Coordinating Committee will be on hand at a booth to discuss the goals outlined so far by the 13 citizen-led planning committees. A sheet with all of the goals will be provided so that citizens can tell the committee members which goals they strongly support or have strong concerns about. The complete draft chapters on each topic also will be available, and Coordinating Committee members will be able to answer questions about the goals and the process.

The topics addressed in the Strategic Planning Process include: Arts, Culture and Tourism; Early Childhood Development; Economic Development; Education and Workforce Development; Global Perspectives and Diversity; Growth Management and Land Use; Housing; Progressive Management Planning (internal City operations); Natural Environment; Public Health; Public Safety; Recreation and Leisure; and Transportation.

This is the first step in a feedback process that is expected to last throughout the fall. The City will begin presenting the draft goals to the public in various ways this fall in order to gather as much input as possible before the plan goes to City Council for approval. There is not an exact deadline for Council approval, but the plan is expected to go to Council by the end of the year.

Citizen support and feedback of this plan is essential. The Strategic Plan has been a citizen-led process from the beginning, starting with the City’s Listening Tour in late 2009, and continuing with the work done by each of the planning groups throughout 2010.

For updates and information on the Strategic Plan, visit: www.springfieldmo.gov/strategicplan.