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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**“EXAMINE URBANA” COMMUNITY WEBSITE IS LAUNCHED - - -
BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR THE CITY’S NEXT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

The City of Urbana has launched its *Examine Urbana* website at Examine.Urbanailinois.us! Comprised of topic-themed “chapters”, *Examine Urbana* provides background information on topics important to the development of the City’s next Comprehensive Plan. Topics covered include Development and Taxes, Transportation, Arts and Culture, Housing, Energy and the Environment, and an assessment of the 2005 Comprehensive Plan. The public is encouraged to scroll through the *Examine Urbana* website “chapters”, which are filled with facts, trends, and related stories about Urbana’s history and present day conditions. The City made every attempt to use Urbana data, stories, images, and videos, wherever possible.

Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin stated, “Examine Urbana is meant to educate, empower, and encourage public involvement in the next phase of the City’s Comprehensive Plan discussions. It focuses on providing a people-centered, transparent lens on issues in Urbana.” She added, “Whether you are a life-long resident of Urbana, or new to the community, *Examine Urbana*, offers valuable insight for the City’s future Comprehensive Plan engagement discussions to be held later this year.”

Urbana’s Plan Commission will review *Examine Urbana* at its April 6 meeting in the City Council Chambers live on UPTV, and UPTV’s YouTube channel, at 7 p.m. Beginning April 10, there will be a 10-minute *Examine Urbana* Chapter presentation at each City Council meeting through May 15:

- April 10: Purpose of *Examine Urbana* and Introduction
- April 17: Transportation Chapter
- April 24: Development and Taxes
- May 1: Arts and Culture
- May 8: Energy and the Environment
- May 15: Housing

The City will next invite the public to in-person and online interactive community discussions related to the themes identified in the initial *Imagine Urbana* Comprehensive Plan community engagement phase. Access the 2022 Community Outreach Summary online at ImagineUrbana.com and the City’s website at Urbanailinois.us, or obtain a hard copy at the Urbana City Clerk’s Office and The Urbana Free Library. Drafting of the City’s new Comprehensive Plan will get underway following the conclusion of the interactive community discussions.

For more information about the City of Urbana’s *Imagine Urbana* Comprehensive Plan process, please visit ImagineUrbana.com and sign-up for *Imagine Urbana*’s newsletter to keep up to date on the status of the Plan and upcoming engagement opportunities.

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