

6. How do you view the role of the Plan Commission and EDC in shaping economic development and community growth?

Dennis Faber's Response

As I mentioned above in my Land Use Planning comments, for our 2050 Smart Growth Plan, Planning and Zoning (P&Z) and our Economic Development Committee (EDC) should work “hand in hand.” This is something I believe is forthcoming, as our EDC is a new committee and still evolving, but certainly these two committees should work together.

Steve Dunn's Response

These two commissions are imperative to the Village. Each commission has an expertise to bring to the table and a voice. It is better to have the ability to hear from multiple voices in the community rather than just having seven Board members make decisions.

Adam Miller's Response

Both the Plan Commission and the EDC play important roles. They bring expertise, help attract businesses, support grant opportunities, and contribute to efforts to lower taxes. Their work is valuable to the community, and they do a great job.

Kerry Verenski's Response

I believe both the Plan Commission and the EDC play an important role. These bodies guide thoughtful growth and ensure development aligns with our community's values. Creating an EDC that includes community stakeholders is a

positive step, bringing diverse perspectives to the table and helping ensure decisions support both economic vitality and the character of our Village.

James Woodke's Response

Both commissions - Planning and Zoning and Economic Development - serve the Village Board. So, both commissions should have clear and concise direction from the Village Board. The Board should provide clear objectives and goals.

The Planning and Zoning Commission's primary responsibility is to provide P&Z recommendations and changes to the Village Board for consideration.

In my opinion, the Economic Development Commission should try to attract and retain businesses in the Village of Salem Lakes. Some ways to do that would be to talk to current business owners - what would help them? Have an "Open House" inviting businesses to our Village and show them what we have to offer.