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CITY OF TYBEE ISLAND

PRESS RELEASE:
For immediate release

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The City of Tybee Island to Update Master Plan

Tybee Island, Ga. – (May 17, 2007) The City of Tybee Island has begun the process of updating the City's Master Plan. The Master Plan will address City-wide issues such as population growth, housing affordability, City facilities and services, transportation, natural resource preservation, etc. New comprehensive planning requirements, developed and administered by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, include three main components: 1) a Community Assessment, 2) a Community Participation Plan, and 3) a Community Agenda. The City has contracted with the local firm of Integrated Science & Engineering to provide support and technical assistance throughout the duration of this project.

The Community Participation Plan has been completed and identifies opportunities for citizens to provide input throughout the planning process. The City has selected a variety of different public involvement strategies to ensure that all citizens have the opportunity to participate. An Open House will be held at City Hall on Wednesday, May 23, 2007 from 6:30 til 8:30pm to present work completed to date to the public. This event will give people the chance to learn about the planning process and to offer feedback.

The City has also formed a Stakeholder Committee, meeting on a regular basis throughout the duration of the plan, which will consist of representatives from the City staff, local elected and appointed officials, home owners, business owners, environmental groups, historic preservationists, builders, etc. This group will work to make sure that the concerns of the many different stakeholders on Tybee are addressed through the Master Plan update. The first meeting of the Stakeholder Group was on May 16, 2007, and the public is invited to the next meeting at City Hall on Tuesday, June 19, 2007 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM.

The City will be mailing a survey to all property owners and residents of the island, asking for feedback on various issues related to the island. This feedback will be analyzed and addressed in the plan. Information about the plan will be available at City Hall, other public places around the island, and on the City's web site. Presentations will be given at Planning Board and City Council meetings throughout the planning process.

For more information about the Master Plan please contact Diane Schleicher, City Manger, City of Tybee Island at (866) 786-4573 ext. 109.

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