

Built Environment – Land Use

GOAL 1 - Welcome growth to the city by directing most of new housing and employment to the city's mixed use centers and employment districts, allowing for the continuation of the scale and character of Hopkins' existing neighborhoods.

- Encourage the development of housing and employment in Neighborhoods, Centers, and Districts future land use categories, as defined and designated in the comprehensive plan.
- Plan for appropriate amenities, high quality design, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and open space in high growth areas, particularly in the Neighborhood Center, Activity Center, and Downtown Center future land use categories or other areas in close proximity to transit.

GOAL 4 - Support and strengthen the city's residential areas with reinvestment and appropriate infill.

- Conduct neighborhood level planning to further identify community character and planning priorities to create more complete, sustainable, and resilient neighborhoods.
- Encourage the preservation and enhancement of the community's detached single family housing stock, especially in the Estate Neighborhood and Suburban Neighborhood future land use categories.
- Consider methods to alleviate development pressure and affordability challenges in low density residential neighborhoods, particularly in the Traditional Neighborhood future land use category.
- Engage the community to explore how to increase the mix of housing types near transit corridors, parks, and the Centers future land use categories as defined and designated in the comprehensive plan.
- Promote maintenance and reinvestment of existing residential land uses that have experienced deferred maintenance, deteriorating property values, high vacancy rates, or have reuse opportunities.

GOAL 5 - Reinforce Hopkins' unique identity and sense of community through high quality urban design.

- Reinforce the distinctive characteristics of Downtown and existing neighborhoods by encouraging developments that are compatible in design and supportive within their context.

GOAL 7 - Encourage all public and private developments to be well-designed, durable, human-scaled, and pedestrian oriented.

- Encourage all new projects to have a positive relationship to the street by orienting main entrances to the front of the property, connecting the front door to the sidewalk, and reducing parking between the building and the street as much as possible.
- Encourage all development projects to be durable and environmentally responsible.
- Encourage all developments to incorporate common spaces (interior or exterior) that help enhance the public realm and sense of community.

Built Environment – Housing

GOAL 1 - Grow the supply of housing in Hopkins, particularly in targeted areas.

- Support the development of moderate to high density housing in appropriate locations, particularly near commercial nodes and activity centers.

GOAL 2 - Maintain an inventory of housing that is affordable to low and moderate income households.

- Support programs and initiatives that create long term affordable units.
- Strengthen partnerships with developers, nonprofits, banks, and others to create and preserve affordable units.

Built Environment – Transportation

GOAL 2 - Promote travel demand management practices where feasible with existing and new development.

- Continue to review the site plans of major new developments to ensure that they support TDM principles, such as provisions for preferential parking for ride-sharing vehicles, transit rider incentives, accommodation for nonmotorized travel, or other such elements.

GOAL 4 - Work with Metro Transit to promote convenient, reliable bus service on corridors throughout the city

- Review major new developments to encourage the inclusion of bus shelters and pullouts as needed if such sites are along existing or planned bus routes.

Social Environment – Quality of Life

GOAL 1 - Support the vision of a community where everyone has access to the resources and opportunities needed to live healthy, active lives.

- Work in partnership to restore and maintain a clean and healthy environment, with particular attention to impacts on vulnerable populations.
- Support investments in infrastructure that encourage the incorporation of physical activity into daily routines, such as walking or bicycling to destinations.

Natural Environment – Sustainability and Natural Resources

Building and Site Efficiency

GOAL 1 - Encourage sustainable practices in locating, designing, constructing, and maintaining development in the city.

- Minimize and mitigate construction impacts on environmentally sensitive areas, locations with high ecological value, and areas with severe development limitations.
- Support development in areas that are or will be served by transit, bicycle, and pedestrian infrastructure to reduce dependency on automobiles for travel.
- Support site design that efficiently and sustainably uses space.
- Encourage the use of sustainable construction techniques that promote the reuse and recycling of materials.
- Support greener development patterns through stormwater management and landscaping of sites.

GOAL 2 - Increase the use of solar power and other renewable sources for city infrastructure, facilities, and operations and encourage residents and businesses to make renewable energy improvements.

- Encourage energy efficiency measures to reduce the overall energy consumption and carbon dioxide emissions from development.
- Support the development and use of renewable energy sources in Hopkins, including solar, geothermal, biomass, and other alternatives.
- Promote balance between the benefits of urban forests and the benefits of enabling solar development.
- Encourage development projects to evaluate on-site solar opportunities and incorporate solar system installation into designs.

GOAL 3 - Conserve water resources by continuing education and incentive programs to ensure the city has adequate water supply to meet the long term needs of the citizens.

- Encourage the use of drought-tolerant plantings, promote irrigation systems that utilize reclaimed water, and incentivize systems that collect rain water for reuse.

Environmental Quality

GOAL 5 - Promote the cleanup and reuse of brownfields sites, and use sustainable practices to prevent future soil contamination.

- Support the development of planning, implementation, and maintenance controls for brownfield remediation and reuse.
- Encourage the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfield sites in the city.

Economic Environment – Downtown

GOAL 1 - Maintain a viable downtown core that serves as an economic and social center for the community.

- Continue the active management of public parking as a means of promoting efficient land use and creating high quality urban form.

GOAL 2 - Continue to grow Downtown's population and jobs base.

- Encourage the growth of Downtown's share of housing and employment and continue its growth as the city's center for innovation and exchange through commerce, employment, arts, culture, entertainment, education and government.
- Continue to expand medium density residential opportunities in Downtown to support businesses and provide housing options.
- Create a public realm throughout Downtown, the Avenues, and Excelsior Boulevard that is human scaled, pedestrian oriented and welcoming to all.

Economic Environment – Economic Competitiveness

GOAL 1 - Support the development of a strong, vibrant, livable community that attracts jobs, population, and investment.

- Support investments and strategies that strengthen and grow the city's tax base to ensure long term fiscal sustainability.