



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Human Dignity, Community Education, & Civic Participation Steering Committee

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AGENDA

March 12, 2014 – 4:30 p.m.

East Lansing Hannah Community Center
819 Abbot Road, Room 235

- 1) **OPENING**
 - A) Roll Call
 - B) Approval of Agenda
- 2) **REVIEW OF DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DOCUMENT**
- 3) **CITY MAP ACTIVITY**
- 4) **ADJOURNMENT**

Goals are the broadest expressions of a community's desires they give direction to the plan as a whole. They are concerned with the **long term**, and often describe **ideal situations** which would result if **all** plan purposes were fully realized. Since goals are value-based, their attainment is difficult to measure.

Objectives are broad statements that set preferred courses of action – choices made to carry out the goals in the **foreseeable future (mid- to long-term)**. They need to be specific enough to help determine whether a proposed project or program would advance community values expressed in the goals.

Actions are specific statements that carry out a plan in the **short term** which accomplish the broader statements expressed in the goals and objectives. Actions are generally implemented through the City Council's Strategic Priorities and are activities that can realistically be carried out within a two to five year period and guide the City's day-to-day operations.

GOAL 1: To have strong neighborhoods which are diverse, attractive, and safe.

Objective 1-1: Increase supply of diverse housing opportunities which accommodate the needs of all residents.

Action 1-1.1: Utilize Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) funding in collaboration with Hometown Housing Partnership (HHP) to finance improvements to owner-occupied homes where the family income is below 80% of the Area Medium Income (AMI).

Action 1-1.2: Create a program to incentivize development projects where a predetermined percentage of housing units are set aside for persons with income below 80% of the Area Medium Income (AMI).

Action 1-1.3: Provide development incentives to ensure options are available for senior housing. (How do we ensure that the units stay senior housing? Need more specificity?)

Action 1-1.4: Expand on the Downtown Development Authorities (DDA) Housing Policy by developing guidelines which

promote a variety of housing sizes and styles within mixed-use developments.

Action 1-1.5: Work in collaboration with Michigan State University (MSU) to ensure that desirable and safe student housing is available near campus.

Action 1-1.6: Establish land use policies which encourage the redevelopment of aging student housing structures to accommodate the needs of current and future residents, both students and non-students.

Action 1-1.7: Create a program to educate property owners on the cost-benefit of using universal design standards in new housing construction.

Objective 1-2: Support activities, policies and institutions that maintain neighborhood stability.

Action 1-2.1: Provide Neighborhood Associations with resources which will increase their resident levels of participation.

Action 1-2.2: Support neighbors, organizations, and institutions that work toward better social integration of students in the community to encourage collaborative problem solving on neighborhood issues.

Action 1-2.3: Develop new land use policies which reduce the number of nonconforming rental properties in single-family residential districts.

Action 1-2.4: Amend land use policies to allow appropriately scaled expansions to existing owner-occupied, single-family residential dwellings.

Action 1-2.7: Continue to protect the integrity of the City's historic neighborhoods and structures through Code enforcement.

Action 1-2.8: Consider the creation of a new Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) when the existing one expires in 2015.

Objective 1-3: Enhance the safety of neighborhoods.

Action 1-3.1: Pursue funding options to eliminate gaps in neighborhood street lighting.

Action 1-3.2: Develop a best practices manual for neighborhood traffic calming.

Action 1-3.3: Seek funding sources to expedite accessibility improvements to the neighborhood sidewalks.

Action 1-3.4: Continue and where appropriate expand “community policing” in the neighborhoods.

Action 1-3.5: Continue enforcing quality of life ordinances such as snow removal, noise, litter and bulk rubbish.

Action 1-3.6: Finalize and implement the American's with Disabilities Act transition plan for the entire City.

Objective 1-5: Improve the appearance of neighborhoods.

Action 1-5.1: Develop a streetscape improvement program targeted at major streets.

Action 1-5.2: Create an assistance program for improvements to neighborhood entrances and other common areas.

GOAL 2: To have a diversified and growing tax base and economy.

Objective 2-1: Increase the attraction and vitality of the downtown.

Action 2-1.1: Provide incentives to support commercial adaptive reuse or redevelopment of properties in the core downtown specifically where new sewer and water infrastructure has been constructed.

Action 2-1.2: Create active streets through the promotion of art, plazas and outdoor seating in the core downtown.

Action 2-1.3: Continue to improve the City’s “Wayfinding” system which includes uniform signage with clear directional information for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians.

Action 2-1.4: Encourage alternative parking options.

Action 2-1.5: Continue to collaborate with downtown property owners to recruit a broader diversity of retail including, but not limited to urban grocery, soft goods, and higher quality restaurants.

Action 2-1.6: Implement design guidelines for the downtown that include enhancements to both the public and private portions of the streetscape.

Action 2-1.7: Work with the Capital Area Transit Authority to maintain downtown access, greenspace, and median alignment during Bus Rapid Transit design and development.

Objective 2-3: Support the development of Mixed-Use Neighborhood Service Districts to provide basic retail services for the convenience of residents.

Action 2-3.1: Revise zoning and land use policies in a way that will balance the housing, office, technology, and commercial needs of the City.

Action 2-3.2: Institute a minimum building height in commercial districts to prevent strip center development and encourage the redevelopment of existing commercial areas to include mixed-use, multiple-story buildings.

Objective 2-4: Encourage continued growth where appropriate.

Action 2-4.1: Revise land use policies for the area along Lake Lansing Road to improve upon existing land uses patterns.

Action 2-4.2: Market opportunities for the redevelopment and revitalization of underutilized commercial properties.

Action 2-4.3: Promote the redevelopment of the commercial properties at the intersection of Harrison and Michigan Avenues into a new and more efficient neighborhood commercial area.

Action 2-4.4: Promote collaboration with the City of Lansing to improve properties along West Michigan Avenue with innovative redevelopment.

Action 2-4.5: Provide economic incentives to support the implementation of the East Village Master Plan.

Objective 2-5: Promote the development and growth of the knowledge-based economy.

Action 2-5.1: Create a program to retain Technology Innovation Center (TIC) graduates within the City limits.

Action 2-5.2: Partner with Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) to provide business support services for management of the TIC.

Action 2-5.3: Support the University's efforts to commercialize technology.

GOAL 3: To have land use patterns with higher density providing better community self-sufficiency and quality of life.

Objective 3-1: Develop land use policies which foster the integration rather than segregation of land use.

Action 3-1.1: Develop a hybrid form-based code to allow for mixed-use development with an emphasis on the design of the public realm.

Action 3-1.2: Develop land use policies that allow for redevelopment and revitalization within the existing neighborhood fabric.

Action 3-1.3: Monitor the development pressures on the current agricultural use conducted on the 1,000 acre Bath Annexation property to begin developing land use policies for its future development.

GOAL 4: To have quality community assets.

Objective 4 -1: Improve the use of public facilities and resources to meet the needs of a growing community.

Action 4-1.1: Integrate alternative and/or additional uses in underutilized public facilities. (Should this be struck in favor of specifics?)

Action 4-1.2: Regularly update the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenways Plan to manage and improve public recreation facilities.

Action 4-1.3: Expand curbside recycling program to allow cardboard and boxboard.

Action 4-1.4: Study the possibility of creating a public recycling (composting?) facility for food waste.

Action 4-1.5: Determine an end user and funding source for renovations to bring the third floor of the Hannah Community Center to a productive use for the community.

Objective 4-2: Provide public access to the Red Cedar River.

Action 4-2.1: Seek resources to implement a riverfront park.

Action 4-2.2: Work with Michigan State University and other governmental jurisdictions to improve public access to the Red Cedar River.

Objective 4-3: Enhance the City's natural features through the creation and preservation of programs and policies that guide development.

Action 4-3.1: Protect and enhance high quality wetlands facing development pressure.

Action 4-3.2: Maintain use of the Tree Inventory for successful management of the City's urban forest. (Cathy D.)

Action 4-3.3: Procure conservation easements to mitigate the impact of concentrated development.

Action 4-3.4: Develop a program to create rain gardens in the area between the sidewalk and the street, where space allows.

Action 4-3.5: Plant and maintain a diversity of native vegetation.

Action 4-3.6: Eradicate invasive plant species on City properties.

GOAL 5: To have a safe and efficient multimodal transportation system.

Objective 5-1: Enhance the City's street network.

Action 5-1.1: Minimize vehicle vs. vehicle conflict using traffic calming tools where traffic studies and other community objectives support their use.

Action 5-1.2: Collaborate with Regional Transportation Organizations to evaluate transportation routes based on population movement.

Action 5-3.1: Pursue engineering and design studies to extend State Road from Chandler Road to Webster Road.

Action 5-3.2: Pursue engineering and design studies to extend Coleman Road from West Road to Wood Street.

Objective 5-2: Improve alternative transportation opportunities.

Action 5-2.1: Minimize pedestrian vs. vehicle conflict through innovative road designs.

Action 5-2.2: Connect the River Trail and the Northern Tier Trail to the surrounding regional trails.

Action 5-2.3: Convert the Department of Agriculture property off Kalamazoo Street to a non-motorized pathway to allow pedestrian and bike access north/south without going onto Harrison Road.

Action 5-2.4: Assist the East Lansing Public School System in the implementation of safe routes to schools.

Action 5-2.5: Improve Collingwood Drive to create a safe access point for bikers going to or from MSU's campus.

Action 5-2.6: Implement alternative fuel usage in City vehicles in partnership with MSU to utilize existing facilities on campus.

Action 5-2.7: Expand electric car charging opportunities in the City.

Action 5-2.8: Incorporate moped and motorcycle parking in all City parking structures and lots.

Action 5-2.6: (Bike racks)

Action 5-2.7: (Prevent Bikes on sidewalks and cars in bike lanes)

GOAL 6: To capitalize on and strengthen existing citizen assets

Objective 6-1: Utilize neighborhood associations to further neighborhood 'togetherness'

Action 6-1.1: Assist neighborhoods in developing an "Adopt a Neighbor" program to partner younger residents with seniors to assist with property maintenance needs.

Action 6-1.2: Finalize neighborhood association handbook to provide residents a basic framework to run their organizations.

Action 6-1.3: Expand Neighborhood Partnerships Initiative to encourage more participation in City Government.

Action 6-1.4: Promote collaboration among the Neighborhood Partnership Initiative, the Prime Time Senior's Program, Neighborhood Associations, and MSU to create neighborhood wellness and safety programs.

Objective 6-2: Support programming for seniors to continue utilizing the Senior community and its assets in the City.

Action 6-2.1: Assist neighborhoods in developing an "Adopt a Neighbor" program to partner younger residents with seniors to assist with property maintenance needs.

Objective 6-3: Enhance cultural integration of residents of differing national origins.

Action 6-3.1: Enhance the language programs at the library (Practice your English, French, Spanish) and educate the public on the volunteer/learning opportunity.

Objective 6-4: Support student residents in becoming active, socially integrated members of the community

Action 6-4.1: Create a program for tutoring and mentoring of high school students through the Prime Time Senior program.

Action 6-4.2: Develop an education program to teach high school aged students more about being a citizen in East Lansing.

Action 6-4.3: Partner with Michigan State University to create and enforce an Off-Campus Code of Conduct.

Action 6-4.4: Collaborate with the MSU Center for Service Learning to encourage volunteer opportunities in the City.

Action 6-4.5: Promote citizen volunteerism with the City's human service and public service agency grantees.

Action 6-4.6: Connect the MSU Greek community with the Community Resource Coalition to provide volunteer support for all neighborhoods to maintain quality of life.

Action 6-4.7: Create a campaign to promote social norms and a one community mentality for all residents, including street harassment issues, rental occupancy, and employment highlights.

Action 6-4.8: Create a Calendar of Events which highlights both City of East Lansing and Michigan State University community events and activities

HUMAN DIGNITY

Stuff that still needs work/discussion

- Research and evaluate what attracts young professionals to a community; Don't concede that we've lost.
- Implement/ Work towards implementing at least five aspects that have shown to attract young professionals.
- Research/analyze the economic drivers behind over occupancy of rental units.
- Implement program aimed at decreasing the number of students choosing to over occupy rental units.
- Pursue options for creating a welcoming community program for the month prior to MSU beginning fall session.
 - Implement a "Welcome Back" branding campaign for the month of August.
- Implement a signage program in neighborhoods and downtown (Possible Verbiage: Pursue options for the temporary installation of "Welcome" banners at entry-points into the City)
- Signage campaign to restaurants to remind people to behave responsibly.
- Implement a bike tour or other community building event to promote student and permanent resident interaction.
- CRC and Haven House connection?
- Redefine senior housing in the zoning code to allow for more options.
- Discuss options for providing senior housing without violation the City's nondiscrimination ordinance.
- Education about the cab system/changes to the cab program
- Sustainability ethos throughout the City



PLANNING, BUILDING & DEVELOPMENT

Quality Services for a Quality Community

MEMORANDUM

TO: Human Dignity Steering Committee Members

FROM: Amy Schlusler, Community Development Specialist II
Timothy R. Schmitt, AICP, Community Development Analyst
Megan Clark, Assistant to the City Manager

DATE: March 12, 2014

SUBJECT: Goals and Objectives for Comprehensive Plan Update

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At the February Steering Committee meeting, staff presented data analysis related to the completed *Senior Housing Survey Report*, as well as information gathered during a study of student housing trends throughout the community.

Committee members were tasked with providing suggestions for services they would like to have offered within the City limits. Enclosed you will find a list of proposed services titled *Committee Responses on February 28*.

During the March meeting, Human Dignity Committee members will be asked to review a working Comprehensive Plan document. Discussion will focus upon the goals, objectives, and action items previously considered. Verbiage present in purple text directly relates to recommendations made by Human Dignity Committee members.

Discussion during the March meeting will center upon three main areas of focus:

- 1) Review of the Working Comprehensive Plan Goals, Objectives, and Action Items document (enclosed)
- 2) Review of Human Dignity List “Items to Still Be Considered” (enclosed)
*These items still require further discussion by committee members and/or research to be conducted by City staff for possible implementation
- 3) Discussion of additional items to be added to working document

In addition, staff will lead committee members in a map activity, focusing upon development preferences throughout the City limits.

If you have any questions prior to the meeting, please do not hesitate to contact staff at (517)319-6930 at anytime.



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At the February Steering Committee meeting, staff presented information regarding the Senior Housing Survey report, as well as information gathered during a study of student housing trends throughout the community.

Committee members were tasked with providing suggestions for services they would like to have offered within the City limits. Committee member responses were as follows:

- Expansion of Walking, Running, Bike Pathways
- Creation of a “Designated Driver” program to East Lansing residences
- Recruitment of an urgent care facility near the downtown
- Recruitment of a grocery store into the downtown district
- Creation/Management of a year-round farmer’s market
- Expansion of existing recycling program (i.e. acceptance of cardboard, etc)
- Facilitation of Street Musicians/Street Artist programs in the downtown
- Creation of “Wellness check” program for at-risk seniors

During the March meeting, committee members will be asked to review the draft Comprehensive Plan document. Discussion will focus upon the goals, objectives, and action items previously considered. In addition, staff will lead committee members in a map activity, focusing upon development preferences throughout the City limits.

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