



# The Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth

# What is the City's Comprehensive Plan?

- A *Visioning Document* that guides public and private growth and land development decisions
- A *Tool* that addresses land use, transportation, housing, economic development, etc.
- A *Guide* for City's development that balances **opportunities** and promotes a **high quality of life** for residents and visitors

# General City Information

## ■ Community Data Profile

- Population - 382,618 (2000 Census)
- 2030 population forecast - 435,000
- Average age – 33.6 years
- 2030 projected employment – 346,000
- 175,695 Housing Units
- Median household income - \$43,369
- Over 33,000 students enrolled in the Minneapolis School District
- Land Area – 59 square miles
- 1 acre of parkland for every 60 residents



- Heart of a large and complex metropolitan region
  - with seven counties, 138 cities and 44 townships
- 81 diverse neighborhoods
  - with housing at varying densities and price-points
- Over 150,000 people are employed in downtown Minneapolis
- One of the most literate cities
  - with over 40.5% with college and advanced degrees



# Updated Comprehensive Plan Contents

- The Plan consists of chapters organized in ten topical areas:
  - *Land Use*
  - *Transportation*
  - *Housing*
  - *Economic Development*
  - *Public Services and Facilities*
  - *Environment*
  - *Open Space and Parks*
  - *Heritage Preservation*
  - *Arts and Culture*
  - *Urban Design*
- Each chapter includes *Goals; Context Analysis; Policies, and Implementation Steps*

# Land Use

- Describes land use designations with policies to protect, maintain, revitalize or develop the city's residential, commercial, industrial, transit station areas, and employment centers. This chapter introduces the future land use map and land use designations showing how the City intends to grow.



# Land Use Goal

*Minneapolis will develop and maintain a land use pattern that strengthens the vitality, quality and urban character of its downtown core, commercial corridors, industrial areas, and neighborhoods while protecting natural systems and developing a sustainable pattern for future growth.*

# Land Use Policies

- 1.1: Establish **land use regulations** to achieve the highest possible development standards, enhance the environment, protect public health, support a vital mix of land uses, and promote flexible approaches to carry out the comprehensive plan.
- 1.2: Ensure appropriate **transitions between uses** with different size, scale, and intensity.
- 1.3: Ensure that development plans **incorporate** appropriate **transportation access** and facilities, particularly for bicycle, pedestrian, and transit.
- 1.4: Develop and maintain strong and **successful commercial and mixed use areas** with a wide range of character and functions to serve the needs of current and future users.

- 1.5: Promote growth and encourage overall city vitality by directing new commercial and **mixed use development to designated corridors** and districts.
- 1.6: Recognize that market conditions and neighborhood traditions significantly **influence the viability of businesses** in areas of the city not designated as commercial corridors and districts.
- 1.7: **Limit new and expanded auto-oriented uses** in the city so impacts on the form and character of commercial areas and neighborhoods can be minimized.
- 1.8: Preserve the **stability and diversity of the city's neighborhoods** while allowing for increased density in order to attract and retain long-term residents and businesses.

- 1.9: Through **attention to** the mix and intensity of **land uses and transit service**, the City will support development along Community Corridors that enhances residential livability and pedestrian access.
- 1.10: Support development along Commercial Corridors that enhances the street's character, **fosters pedestrian movement**, expands the range of goods and services available, and improves the ability to accommodate automobile traffic.
- 1.11: Preserve and **enhance a system of Neighborhood Commercial Nodes** that includes a mix of housing, neighborhood-serving retail, and community uses.
- 1.12: Support **Activity Centers** by preserving the mix and intensity of land uses and **by enhancing the design features** that give each center its unique urban character.

- 1.13: Support **high density development near transit stations** in ways that encourage transit use and contribute to interesting and vibrant places.
- 1.14: Maintain **Industrial Employment Districts** to provide appropriate locations for industrial land uses.
- 1.15: Support **development of Growth Centers** as locations for concentration of jobs and housing, and supporting services.
- 1.16: Support a **limited number of Major Retail Centers**, while promoting their compatibility with the surrounding area and their accessibility to transit, bicycle and foot traffic

# Transportation

- Emphasizes integration between land use and the city's multi-modal transportation system. Recommendations include additional access for pedestrians and bicycles, transit and rail service and automobiles.



# Transportation Goal

*Minneapolis will build, maintain and enhance access to multi-modal transportation options for residents and businesses through a balanced system of transportation modes that supports the City's land use vision, reduces adverse transportation impacts, decreases the overall dependency on automobiles, and reflects the city's pivotal role as the center of the regional transportation network.*

# Transportation Policies

- 2.1: Encourage growth and reinvestment by sustaining the development of a **multi-modal transportation system**.
- 2.2: Support successful streets and communities by balancing the needs of **all modes of transportation** with land use policy.
- 2.3: **Encourage walking** throughout the city by ensuring that routes are safe, comfortable, pleasant, and accessible.
- 2.4: Make **transit a more attractive** option for both new and existing riders.
- 2.5: Ensure that **bicycling throughout the city is safe**, comfortable and pleasant.
- 2.6: Manage the role and **impact of automobiles** in a multi-modal transportation system.

- 2.7: Ensure that **freight movement and facilities** throughout the city meet the needs of the local and regional economy while remaining sensitive to impacts on surrounding land uses.
- 2.8: **Balance the demand for parking** with objectives for improving the environment for transit, walking and bicycling, while supporting the city's business community.
- 2.9: Promote reliable **funding and pricing strategies to manage transportation demand** and improve alternative modes.
- 2.10: Support the development of a **multi-modal Downtown transportation system** that encourages an increasingly dense and vibrant regional center.
- 2.11: Minneapolis recognizes the economic value of **Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport** and **encourages its healthy competition** to reach global markets in an environmentally responsible manner.

# Environment Policies

- 6.1: **Integrate environmental**, social and economic goals into decision-making **processes at all levels**.
- 6.2: Protect and enhance air quality and **reduce greenhouse gas** emissions.
- 6.3: Encourage **sustainable design practices** in the planning, construction and operations of new developments, large additions and building renovations.
- 6.4: Expand the use of **renewable energy**.
- 6.5: Support the efficient use of land and development that **reduces the reliance on fossil fuels**.
- 6.6: Advocate for federal, state, metropolitan and county **policies** and programs **that support sustainable development**.

- 6.7: Preserve and protect land from pollution and encourage the **remediation of contaminated sites**.
- 6.8: **Encourage** a healthy **thriving urban tree canopy** and other desirable forms of vegetation.
- 6.9: Be a steward of clean water by protecting and enhancing its **surface and groundwater systems**.
- 6.10: Coordinate and operate **waste management programs** that focus on reducing, reusing and recycling solid waste prior to disposal.
- 6.11: Take measures to **reduce noise pollution** at point and non-point sources.

- 6.12: Minneapolis recognizes the economic value of the Minneapolis-St. Paul (MSP) International Airport but will advocate for measures to **reduce its noise impacts**.
- 6.13: Promote **optimal indoor environmental quality**.
- 6.14: Preserve and **enhance** the quality of the urban environment to promote **sustainable lifestyles** for its citizens.
- 6.15: **Support local businesses**, goods and services to promote economic growth, to preserve natural resources, and to minimize of the carbon footprint.

# Other Chapters

## Housing

- 3.1: Grow by **increasing the supply of housing**.
- 3.2: **Support housing density** in locations that are well **connected by transit**, and are close to commercial, cultural and natural amenities.
- 3.7: **Maintain** the quality, safety and **unique character** of the city's housing stock.

## Economic Development

- 4.4: **Remove site contamination** as a barrier to private investment and redevelopment.
- 4.7: Focus resources and efforts on **connecting residents to good jobs**.
- 4.13: **Downtown** will continue to be the most **sustainable place to do business** in the metro area.

# Other Chapters

## Open Space and Parks

- 7.4: Work to restore and **preserve ecosystem** functions in green open space areas.

## Heritage Preservation

- 8.7: Create a regulatory framework and consider implementing incentives to support the ethic of “**reduce, reuse, and recycle**” and revitalization for buildings and neighborhoods.
- 8.10: Promote the **benefits of preservation** as an **economic development tool** and a method to achieve greater environmental sustainability and city vitality.

# Other Chapters

## Urban Design

- 10.2: Integrate **pedestrian scale design features** into Downtown site and building designs and infrastructure improvements.
- 10.6: New multi-family development or renovation should be designed in terms of **traditional urban building form** with pedestrian scale design features at the street level.
- 10.15: Wherever possible, restore and maintain the **traditional street and sidewalk grid** as part of new developments.
- 10.23 Promote **climate-sensitive design principles** to make the winter environment safe, comfortable and enjoyable.
- 10.24: **Preserve the natural ecology** and the historical features that define Minneapolis' unique identity in the region.

# Additional Information

- More information about the Comprehensive Plan update process is available online at [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/comp\\_plan\\_update.asp](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/comp_plan_update.asp)
- Email comments and questions to
  - [update@minneapolisplan.info](mailto:update@minneapolisplan.info)
  - or
  - call (612) 673-2098

