

CHAPTER 8: ANNUAL PLAN REVIEW

Purpose

As the city implements this Comprehensive Plan, it will assess its progress in achieving its goals and policies by engaging in an annual review process. The review process will especially focus on the number of goals achieved through development decisions. This assessment consists of two distinct types of measures:

- **Quantitative Measures:** Key goals such as achieving a better jobs/housing balance; increasing the amount of parkland; and increasing the amount of retail space to serve the needs of residents.
- **Qualitative Measures:** Goals and policy objectives not calculable in quantifiable measures. Qualitative review will focus on whether the policy action has been completed (e.g., design guidelines created, plans adopted) and whether or not these policy tools have then been adhered to or used successfully to bring about the desired built environments or conditions within the city.

The assessment will enable city officials to clearly see the cumulative impact of separate development decisions. The primary objective of this assessment will be to determine, on a periodic basis, if the City is making progress towards its target goals. The results will either serve as an affirmation of success or illustrate the need for changes or additional policies to help shift development in the direction of the Plan.

Quantitative Measures

Several goals established by the city have measurable outcomes that can help the city track changes and assess its implementation performance in a quantitative way. The table below provides target values for various indicators, the ongoing monitoring of which will illustrate the city's performance in moving toward the target value. The three values that will be tracked and reported on an ongoing basis are:

JOBS/HOUSING BALANCE

This indicator expresses the ratio of jobs to households within the city and illustrates, in part, the city's performance in achieving its goal of a balanced land use mix. The base year level was derived from 2002 U.S. Census Bureau Economic Census data. The target value is based on the values found in comparable cities in the southwest, and represents the City's desired balance at buildout (year 2025). Since Economic Census data is compiled every five years, this ratio will only be evaluated on a five-year basis.

PARKLAND ACRES/1,000 PEOPLE

This indicator is a measure of the amount of parkland within the city and helps to illustrate the city's progress on building its parkland system that helps contribute to the quality-of-life of residents. The base year level was calculated and reported in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update (2004) as was the locally adjusted national average that serves as the target value. The Parks and Recreation Department expects to update its Master Plan in 2007. As part of that process, this ratio will be reevaluated and will likely change. It is also possible that the target will change from a per capita-based ratio to a

service area basis (i.e., average distance from a residence to a neighborhood or community park). For this reason, the target value for parkland acres should be considered to be a “placeholder” value.

Sq.Ft. Rentable Retail Space per Capita

This indicator expresses the amount of rentable retail space per capita and is a measure of how well the city is achieving its goals related to residents’ convenient access to needed goods and services. The base year value was calculated using data for the city; the target value is based on the values found in comparable cities in the southwest and the Las

Vegas valley, and represents a target value for the City’s buildout (year 2025). This data will be tracked using building permit data for new commercial construction. Due to the lag time between the construction of residential development and the commercial development that will follow to serve it, this data will be reported every two years.

Target levels may need to be adjusted as conditions shift over time and should be evaluated periodically to assess the relevance or desirability of the target value. Planning, Economic Development, and Parks and Recreation Departments will track the performance values.

Measure	Base Level (Year)	2025 Target Level*
Jobs/Housing Balance	0.64 (2002)	0.67
Parkland Acres/1,000 People	2.51 acres/ 1,000 residents (2004)	7.50 acres/ 1000 residents
Sq.ft. Rentable Retail Space per Capita	10.82 (2005)	19.25

- Target levels for Jobs/Housing Balance and Sq/ft. Rentable Retail Space per Capita are based on values found in peer cities throughout the southwest. The value for Parkland Acres/1,000 People is a national average for the region as cited in the North Las Vegas Parks and Recreation Master Plan. As noted above, this target value will be revised in 2007, based on an update of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Qualitative Measures

IS THE CITY ACHIEVING THE VISION? THE LARGER THEMES

The majority of the goals and policies established by the city in this Plan reflect ongoing efforts that will largely be achieved through the processes of development, redevelopment, and infill as well as city-initiated programs. Decision-makers need to be aware of the manner in which their decisions are working to implement or hinder the larger ideas or themes of the Plan. The following checklist will serve as the template for an annual Plan Implementation Assessment Report to be submitted to the City Council and Planning Commission.

EVALUATING IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

These questions and the reporting process assess the manner in which the city’s decision-making, budgeting, and policy actions over the past year have worked to achieve the specific Goals and Policies contained within the Comprehensive Plan. Each question will be given a two part response that identifies specific actions (e.g., policy decisions, development approvals or denials, programs initiated/continued, allocated funding, etc.) that:

- achieved or helped the city move closer to achieving certain goal(s) or policy(s), and
- illustrated a significant divergence from or lack of action taken to implement the Comprehensive Master Plan.

This review process should focus on “big picture” items and the report should be succinct, identifying larger patterns or areas where attention and action is needed to begin or continue implementation of the Plan. Many of these questions point not only

to the successful completion of an implementation item (e.g., design guidelines, Downtown Master Plan, Transportation Master Plan) but also, and perhaps most importantly, to whether these tools have been used and upheld in a consistent manner to guide decision making and bring about the desired changes identified within the Comprehensive Plan. Summary recommendations should be provided at the end of each question outlining the next steps the city can take to implement the plan objectives in the given area. The Plan Implementation Assessment Report should be completed prior to the establishment of the Capital Improvements Plan for the following year so that the recommendations can inform this process.

Annual Plan Review Questions

LAND USE

- Has the city created, adopted and adhered to a set of design criteria for new Master Planned Communities in the negotiation and approval of MPC development proposals in the BLM release area?
- Has the city created, adopted, and begun to implement the Downtown Master Plan?
- Has the city implemented the North Fifth Transit Supportive Concept Plan through street improvements and land use and development decisions within the designated corridor and station areas that are in keeping with the principles of transit-oriented development?
- Are approved projects deviating from the Plan, and if so, why?

HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOODS

- Has the city created and adopted a system of residential density criteria for Single-Family Low, Single-Family

Medium, and Mixed-Use
Neighborhood areas

- ☑ Has the city used the residential density bonus system in a manner that has successfully resulted in high-quality, amenity-driven residential neighborhoods that contain such features as:
 - Mixed-use neighborhood centers,
 - Connected system of paths and trails,
 - Variety of housing designs with quality architectural design and materials,
 - Variety of housing types and pricing contained within one neighborhood, and
 - Accessible, improved parkland.
- ☑ Has the city created a Neighborhood Planning Strategy that establishes priorities for neighborhood planning and improvements and worked to implement that strategy?
- ☑ Has the city developed or supported partnerships to increase the supply of affordable and attainable housing throughout the city?

PARKS, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE

- ☑ Has the city identified and addressed parkland and recreation needs to improve the level of service?
- ☑ Has the city developed additional segments of the Wash Trail and added new local connections to it?
- ☑

TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY

- ☑ Has the city successfully achieved its priority actions identified through a Transportation Master Plan?

- ☑ Has the city reduced the number of sawtooth roads and other impediments to safe, uninterrupted vehicular transportation?
- ☑ Has the city improved pedestrian connections throughout the city?
- ☑ Has the city worked with the RTC to increase availability of and access to transit?

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES

- ☑ Has the city ensured that adequate services and infrastructure were in place at the time of new development?

COMMUNITY CHARACTER AND DESIGN

- ☑ Has the city consistently upheld design guidelines for development intended to improve the quality of site plans and architectural design within new development including Master Planned Communities?
- ☑ Has the city adopted and implemented infill development design guidelines?
- ☑ Has the city planned and installed streetscapes and or Gateway features at prominent locations to create a sense of place for the community?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- ☑ Has the city successfully created and implemented a process that monitors the ratio between residential and employment supporting land uses?