

## **SECTION 3. GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

### **Introduction**

What will Saint Hedwig be like in the year 2017 or 2027? The Comprehensive Master Plan establishes goals and objectives that help to shape and direct growth and development for the next ten to twenty years and beyond. The Plan is based upon a shared vision of the citizenry and stakeholders for the future of Saint Hedwig.

The following goals and objectives have been developed to guide the city's vision as it grows and matures. The goals and objectives establish a framework for specific actions (i.e. policies and codes) to be developed during later phases of the Comprehensive Master planning process. This framework was developed based on the findings of the City of Saint Hedwig Planning and Zoning Commission who sought a highly developed understanding of the citizens' vision for the city.

### **3.1 Critical Issues**

- Preservation of the rural character of the City through preserving current lot sizes and their current level of dispersal throughout the city.
- Minimization of the effects of suburban sprawl surrounding the City.
- Preservation of the current street network
- Establishment of a historical district, light commercial, industrial, residential and open agriculture areas with specific lot sizes
- Establishment of a "buffer" between the historical district and residential areas.
- Establishment of parklands for active recreational uses
- Preservation of open space throughout the City
- Retail and office development in a highly limited and controlled manner should be encouraged to increase City tax revenues
- Establishment and confinement of large commercial development to major perimeter highways

### 3.2 Goals and Objectives

In order to better understand the purpose of this section, general definitions of goals, objectives and policies have been included below:

**Goals** are general statements concerning an aspect of the City's desired ultimate physical, social and/or economic environment. Goals set the tone for development decisions in terms of the citizens' desired quality of life.

**Objectives** express the kinds of action necessary to achieve the stated goals without assigning responsibility to any specific action.

**Policies** will clarify the exact position of the City regarding a specific objective, and will encourage particular courses of action for the City to undertake to achieve the applicable stated objective. Policies are often associated with Plan recommendations, and they will be developed during that phase of the master planning process.

The goals and objectives formulated during the Master planning process pertain to the following areas:

- Physical Form of the City
- Transportation and the Thoroughfare Network
- Infrastructure and Utility Systems
- Public Services and Facilities
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Historical District
- Parks and Open Space

**Physical Form of the Town**

**Goal 1: To preserve and enhance the rural character of the City.**

**Objectives:**

- 1.01 Maintain a continuous and coordinated planning process that involves citizens, City Council, City boards/commissions, City departments, and other public and private entities in policy development and decision-making.
- 1.02 Provide for the efficient use of land, coordinated with the provision of applicable public infrastructure and facilities.
- 1.03 Utilize the Comprehensive Master Plan Land Use Map in daily decision-making regarding land use and development proposals.
- 1.04 Develop companion policies and guidelines to assist in the review of zoning and subdivision regulations and development requests.
- 1.05 Determine appropriate locations for future retail and office development that will minimize any negative effects upon the City of Saint Hedwig's rural character.

**Goal 2: To encourage development of high quality residential neighborhoods that are aesthetically pleasing and conform to the large-lot, rural setting that defines the character of Saint Hedwig.**

**Objectives:**

- 2.01 Institute basic architectural controls for future single- family high density residential districts (R-2, R-3 and R-4) to ensure development that is consistent with the look and feel of the City.
- 2.02 Institute design guidelines for future high density residential developments that enhance a rural and community lifestyle by addressing such issues as lot lines, landscaping and building orientation.
- 2.03 Improve enforcement of City codes and regulations pertaining to property maintenance, upkeep and appearance.
- 2.04 Develop a density plan that provides a variety of residential large lot sizes, beginning with minimum two and a half (2 ½) acre lot sizes.

**Goal 3: Retail and office development should have a minimal impact on the rural character of the city, is pedestrian friendly, and serves as the social and economic focal point of the community.**

**Objectives:**

- 3.01 Develop design guidelines for nonresidential properties that enhance the pedestrian environment and minimize the negative effects of automobiles with minimized and screened parking, wide sidewalks, streetscape requirements and controlled signage.
- 3.02 Establish an Office/Retail District that will be minimal in land area while adequate to facilitate the business tax revenues needed to support public services/facilities.
- 3.03 Locate office/retail development in the designated areas as indicated by the Comprehensive Master Plan map.

3.04 Develop design guidelines for Historic Downtown District (HD-1) that enhance the city's rural and historical character.

### **Transportation and the Thoroughfare Network**

**Goal 4: To provide Thoroughfare Plan that discourages expansion of the street network and encourages multi-modal travel through the use of pedestrian friendly areas and possible bike lanes.**

#### **Objectives:**

- 4.01 To maintain a continuous, coordinated transportation planning process that addresses long-term needs while emphasizing short-term problem solving.
- 4.02 To deter any extension, widening (except to accommodate bike lanes or increase safety), or addition of curb and gutter construction to any existing roadways.
- 4.03 To deter the addition of new roads except when absolutely necessary.
- 4.04 To deter "pass-through" traffic.
- 4.05 To ensure that if and when new development occurs, new roadway costs attributable to the development are borne by the developer and occur in a manner consistent with the overall character of the street system.

**Infrastructure and Utility Systems**

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**Goal 5: Ensure that utility and infrastructure systems (i.e. water supply, storm drainage, etc.) will adequately serve present and future residents and businesses.**

**Objectives:**

5.01 Define standards for adequate service levels for public utility infrastructure systems:

1. Water service adequate for fire fighting needs;
2. Onsite wastewater systems
3. Storm water/drainage management and erosion control (including non-point pollution prevention).

5.02 Provide utilities and infrastructure for all residents and businesses in the most efficient, equitable and fiscally responsible manner possible.

5.03 Use the Comprehensive Master Plan and future land use projections to help plan where infrastructure improvements will be needed.

5.04 Encourage new development to occur within areas that are already served by necessary utilities/infrastructure, or where utility extensions can be reasonably provided.

5.05 Ensure that, through the development review process, infrastructure improvement costs attributable to new development are borne by the developer and are appropriate to the level of development.

5.06 Ensure that adequate infrastructure and public facilities are in place before actual development occurs and that the cost of such additional infrastructure or public facilities attributable to new development are borne by developer..

5.07 Address future water demands within areas not already served, and within areas that will be difficult to serve.

5.08 Encourage private/franchise utilities (e.g., telephone, gas, electric, cable TV, internet, etc.) to provide service to existing and newly developed areas as efficiently as possible.

5.09 Ensure that private/franchise communications facilities and services are coordinated with City planning efforts.

5.10 Ensure that adequate drainage easements are established throughout the City.

5.11 Coordinate efforts with other agencies and entities (e.g., applicable water and utility districts, etc.) to ensure the long-term provision of adequate utility commodities and services for Saint Hedwig's residents and businesses.

5.12 Restrict development in flood-prone areas (i.e. areas within the 100 year floodplain, principally along Martinez Creek).

## **Public Services and Facilities**

**Goal 6: Ensure that public services and facilities (e.g., police and fire protection, library services, administrative facilities, etc.) will adequately serve present and future residents and businesses.**

### **Objectives:**

6.01 Define standards for adequate response/service levels for public services and facilities:

1. Police protection
2. Fire protection and emergency medical services
3. Solid waste management
4. Public administrative facilities

6.02 Provide public services and facilities for all residents and businesses in the most efficient, equitable and fiscally responsible manner possible.

6.03 Use the Comprehensive Master Plan and future land use projections to help plan where public service/administrative facilities will be needed.

6.04 Co-locate public facilities with other municipal facilities or with those of other quasi-governmental jurisdictions (i.e., School District, etc.), wherever possible.

6.05 Continue to encourage recycling efforts and other solid waste management techniques that are financially feasible and environmentally responsible.

6.06 Continue to contract all existing services until such time that an increased level of demand warrants providing some or all services by the City itself.

**Fiscal Responsibility**

**Goal 7: Ensure that future community facility and service expansions are accomplished through sound, long-range fiscal planning and policies established by the City Council.**

**Objective:**

7.01 Utilize recommendations contained within the Comprehensive Master Plan to assist in decision making on short and long-range capital improvement projects (e.g., streets, water, sanitary sewer, storm water management, purchase of major equipment, construction of public facilities, etc.).

7.02 Ensure that City staffing, real property acquisitions, infrastructure improvements, and facility construction/maintenance are based upon priorities set forth in the Comprehensive Master Plan and upon fiscal practicality.

7.03 Ensure that taxes paid by residents are kept to a minimum by encouraging the attraction of nonresidential land uses to the Office/Retail District to help support and subsidize the overall tax base.

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**Parks and Open Space**

**Goal 8: Maintain existing park and preserve an open space environment that supports the recreational and transportation needs of the residents of Saint Hedwig.**

**Objective:**

8.01 Establish parklands for active recreational uses such as playgrounds and unlit ballparks.

8.02 It is City policy that residential developers make a dedication of parkland within their development or in lieu of parkland dedication, contribute an appropriate fee to provide regional park facilities to serve the residents of the development. The City has final decision making authority as to which option would best support the Master Plan and the Community of Saint Hedwig as a whole.