

Community Policy Issues

Introduction

The Community Policy Issues section provides City leaders with a forum to examine key land use policy issues of interest. In the past, these issues have covered a variety of areas from carrying out a neighborhood conservation program in northern Overland Park, to developing a greenway linkages plan for the southern part of the City, to developing a set of design guidelines for reviewing infill and redevelopment projects. The most recent example is the Vision Metcalf plan.

Once examined, these issues have often led to a consensus on a course of action that has included undertaking new studies and the development of plans and programs to address issues. The 151st Street Corridor Design Concept Plan, Greenway Linkages Plans for Northern and Southern Overland Park, Neighborhood Conservation Program, Blue Valley Plan, Tomahawk Creek Drainage Basin Study, and the Comprehensive Plan land use goals are all examples of changes made to the City's land use policy in response to past community issues.

Current Status

“Vision Metcalf,” a process for creating a new vision for Metcalf Avenue was adopted as part of the Mid-Year 2007 Comprehensive Plan update. The plan defines and reinforces a coherent image for the corridor, one that will differentiate it from other thoroughfares and reinforce its identity as one of the primary business and residential corridors in the community. The Specific Plans section of this text includes a synopsis of Vision Metcalf. The first step of the implementation process, adoption of a form-based code for the downtown Overland Park node, is complete. Transit infrastructure, including transit stops, pedestrian connectivity improvements, and a new transit center along the Metcalf Avenue and Shawnee Mission Parkway transit corridor will be completed by the end of 2012.