

Introduction

What Are the Plan Elements and How Are They Used?

The Plan Elements are the background information used to support the land use goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan. The Plan Elements discuss in detail various past, present and expected population, economic, and housing trends which influence land development in the City. Also discussed in the Plan Elements are various environmental issues affecting land development, parks and recreation facilities and services planning, the Neighborhood Conservation Program, and utility services provided to City residents and businesses.

How Often Are the Plan Elements Updated?

Because the scope of the Plan Elements covers such a diverse array of issues, the Plan Elements are updated only periodically. Six Plan Elements are updated as part of the 2015 Comprehensive Plan. These updated elements include: Community Resources, Housing, Land Use, Neighborhoods, Population Profile, and Transportation. In addition, two new Plan Elements are incorporated with this year's update. These include the Safe Bicycle Use Outreach Project, as well as the South Overland Park Transportation Plan.

Recent policy issues, which might affect all of the Plan Elements, are found in the annual update of the Future Development Plan and Community Policy Issues sections of the Comprehensive Plan's Plan Implementation text.

If Only Updated Periodically, How Can the Elements Remain Timely?

Certain Plan Elements have separate documents which are reviewed and updated as part of the annual review of the Comprehensive Plan. These documents are separate from the main text of the Elements because the information displayed is in need of more timely review. Prior to 2006, the Parks and Recreation Element had two maps which were part of the

Comprehensive Plan's annual update. These maps are the Future Parks Plan and the Greenway Linkages Plan for Southern Overland Park. By their nature, these two maps have been modified annually to remain timely and relevant. New parkland and greenway linkages have been shown as modifications to both when necessary. The ability to modify the maps in a timely fashion is particularly useful during rapid growth years. In 2006, a third map, the Greenway Linkages Plan for Northern Overland Park was adopted. As is the case with the other two maps, this new map is reviewed annually.

The Transportation Element also has a map that is reviewed as part of the annual Comprehensive Plan update. This is the Street Network Map. The Street Network Map also serves as the base map for the Future Development Plan showing the type and location of existing and proposed major streets including freeways, thoroughfares and collectors.

Once adopted as part of the annual Comprehensive Plan update, the Street Network Map is also adopted as the Official Street Map of the City. In the map's role as the Official Street Map, it is used to identify the location of the existing and proposed major streets and highways within the City for which building and setback lines are established in the Unified Development Ordinance.

The Community and Neighborhood Boundaries Map is another map that is reviewed as part of the annual Comprehensive Plan update. This map shows the neighborhoods that are discussed in the Neighborhoods Element.

The Public Art Element includes the Public Art Master Plan. This map is also reviewed annually and updated if necessary.