Comprehensive Plan

An Overview of the City of Meridian Comprehensive Plan

Adopted in April of 2011, the City of Meridian’s Comprehensive Plan integrates the concerns and expressions of the community into a document that guides the growth and development of the City. The Comprehensive Plan contains a Future Land Use Map (over) as well as goals, objectives, and actions items that relate to implementing the Plan. The Comprehensive Plan is especially important when it comes to the review of development applications.

0 This icon indicates additional information available at links on the next page

Purpose

There are many reasons to have a Comprehensive Plan, but the primary purpose is to promote health, safety, and general welfare of the community. As they relate to Meridian, specific objectives of State law include ensuring adequate public facilities, encouraging urban development within the City, growing the economy, protecting the environment, and balancing those elements with private property rights.

State Comprehensive Plan Requirements

Idaho State code, § 67-6508 (the Local Land Use Planning Act), requires certain elements to be addressed in a Comprehensive Plan. 1 The following are state required topics that are addressed in the plan:

- Property Rights
- Population
- School Facilities
- Economic Development
- Land Use
- Natural Facilities
- Hazardous Areas
- Public Services
- Transportation
- Recreation
- Special Areas or Sites
- Housing
- Community Design
- Agriculture
- Implementation
- National Interest Electric Transmission corridors
- Public Airport Facilities

In addition to the state requirements, the City has also chosen to address other elements critical to realizing a successful community. Elements such as sustainability, quality of life, the arts, and more. In total, there are around 500 Goals, Objectives, and Action Items in the plan, which address these elements. These policies are a critical part of the development review process. At time of application, most projects applying for annexation and zoning or for a rezone are reviewed for compliance with the text of the Comprehensive Plan, including these policies.

What is LLUPA?

» Title 67 Chapter 65 of Idaho Statute is the Local Land Use Planning Act of 1975 (known as LLUPA). This section of State law both enables and requires that cities and counties in Idaho plan. Not only does this legislation provide a purpose and requirements for planning (see the left), but it also sets up the process and means for how local governments should go about their business. This Statute has been expanded several times to include new requirements and provisions. For more on LLUPA, see: https://goo.gl/gmGy4q

Contact Information

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Specific Area Plans

The City of Meridian also has several sub area plans, which have specific development goals, guidelines, and in some cases, detailed development standards. See the following links for more information:

- Ten Mile Interchange Specific Area Plan
- Destination Downtown Vision Plan

Future Land Uses

One of the key components of the Comprehensive Plan is identification of future land uses. The City has a Future Land Use Map, which depicts where certain land uses are envisioned. For additional information, see the City of Meridian Comprehensive Plan website, Future Land Use Designation Cut Sheets, or Future Land Use and Zoning Handout.

Links & References

In addition to specific area plans, the Comprehensive Plans works in conjunction with other adopted plans. Of special note is the relationship between land use and transportation planning. For more information, see the references below.

1. City of Meridian Comprehensive Plan:
   - www.meridiancity.org/compplan
2. City of Meridian Future Land Use Map:
   - http://meridiancity.org/FLUM/
3. Future Land Use Map Designation Cut Sheets:
   - Summary of each of the City's different future land uses.
     - http://meridiancity.org/landcutsheets/
4. Future Land Use and Zoning Handout:
   - What is the preferred zoning and densities for a property?
     - http://www.meridiancity.org/landuse_zoning/
5. Ten Mile Interchange Specific Area Plan:
   - www.meridiancity.org/TMISAP
6. Destination Downtown:
   - www.meridiancity.org/downtown

Other Agency Plans

- ACHD Transportation & Land Use Integration Plan
    - https://goo.gl/7c3GXP
- COMPASS Regional Long-range Transportation Plan
  COMPASS is the regional metropolitan planning organization which among other duties, prioritizes use of federal transportation dollars.
    - http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/reglrtranpl.htm