

II. MASTER PLAN GOALS

A. Housing Goals

XEnable the development of more multifamily housing to improve Salem's performance relative to regional fair share goals for low and moderate income households, and to provide more diverse housing to support the local labor force

XControl the rate of residential development in relation to the Town's ability to provide facilities and infrastructure

XProvide opportunities for housing that incorporates supportive services to address the needs of Salem's older population

XMaintain compliance with statutory requirements for providing reasonable opportunities for the siting of manufactured housing

XProvide more opportunity for the development of townhouses or other attached housing for both the ownership and rental markets, for both elderly and non-elderly households, and at both affordable and market rates

B. Economic Development Goals

XEnable adequate highway capacity that will accommodate regional demands for commercial-industrial, entertainment and lodging uses consistent with the future land use plan.

XMinimize through-traffic impacts from non-residential development on residential neighborhoods, while providing resident access to local shopping and services and to local and regional employment.

XProvide for efficiency in commercial-industrial land development through density, coverage and building height allowances to provide for an adequate land supply for future growth, and to enhance the assessed value per acre of developed properties.

XEncourage the clustering of uses with similar functions such as regional retail and entertainment uses, manufacturing and distribution uses, and office and business campus uses.

XMaintain adequate buffers between residential and non-residential uses, and between residential and non-residential zoning districts.

XProvide for a reasonable range of home occupations for uses that do not impact on the residential character of neighborhoods.

XProvide adequate infrastructure for economic development

XAdopt design guidelines and standards to improve the appearance and image of economic development

XPromote the redevelopment of obsolete, abandoned, and underutilized commercial properties

C. Natural Resource and Conservation Goals

XPreserve, protect, and promote the wise use of the Town=s natural resources

XPreserve and enhance the environmental quality of the air, water, and land resources in Salem

XPermanently protect open space in order to provide for public recreation, for the conservation of natural resources, and for the protection of environmentally sensitive and visually important areas

XManage the Town=s public open spaces in order to maximize multiple use and public access to the extent possible without causing adverse environmental impacts

XEnsure that the Town=s land use regulations include effective and contemporary standards and requirements for the preservation of environmental quality and protection of natural resources and open space

XContinue to employ Current Use Taxation as a means of retaining open space, and perpetuate the dedication of funds from the land use change tax for permanent protection of open space

XPromote flood hazard mitigation through the adoption of regulatory measures, as well as the acquisition of land which is floodprone or acts as flood storage

XProvide connections between protected open spaces within Salem, and linkages to regional greenways

XDevelop an information program and promote public education relative to the Town=s natural resources, environmental concerns, and the benefits of open space

D. Historic Preservation Goals

XIdentify and preserve buildings, structures, sites, and landscapes that represent significant elements of the Town=s cultural, social, political, and architectural history

XFoster public appreciation and civic pride in the Town=s historical resources

XPromote the use of the Historic Museum for the education, pleasure, and welfare of the citizens of Salem

E. Recreation Goals

The Salem Recreation Master Plan contained a set of goals to guide the maintenance and development of current and future parks and recreation facilities, as follows:

- XTo promote a broad range of recreational opportunities for current and future residents
- XTo provide recreation facilities for all geographic areas of Salem
- XTo provide recreational opportunities and facilities for people of all ages and abilities
- XTo protect unique and sensitive undeveloped areas for recreation and conservation purposes
- XTo improve and expand the recreational potential of school district properties
- XTo improve the maintenance of all facilities
- XTo coordinate efforts to acquire and develop recreational resources
- XTo expand recreation programs
- XTo establish public access to surface waters
- XTo create greenways, trails, and bikeways
- XTo create educational opportunities

F. Community Facilities Goals

- XProvide appropriately located educational facilities of an adequate size in order to deliver the highest quality educational services in the safest and most efficient manner.
- XProvide public safety facilities sufficient in size and strategic in location in order to ensure rapid and adequate response to emergency calls from all sectors and sections of the community.
- XEnsure that all community facilities are adequately sized and appropriately supported by parking and/or public transit to guarantee the availability and accessibility of these facilities to the public.
- XProvide adequate operational and administrative space in all community facilities in order to ensure the maximum and efficient delivery of services by the departments and programs that are housed within these facilities.
- XReserve sites in appropriate locations and of adequate size to ensure the ability to expand community facilities in order to support anticipated economic and residential growth and development.
- XMaintain and upgrade community facilities and related infrastructure in order to maximize the utility of these facilities for the most extensive time period that is reasonable for the specific use of the facility.

G. Public Utility Goals

XAcquire water supplies adequate to serve the entire Town of Salem

XProvide municipal water service to the maximum number of residences and businesses within the limits of available water supplies

XPreserve and protect the quality of the Town=s sources of water supply

XProvide municipal sewer service to the maximum number of residences and businesses within the limits of available treatment capacity

XCoordinate land use planning with public utility companies to ensure adequate levels of service to the community

H. Construction Materials Goals

XProvide reasonable opportunities for excavation of known deposits of earth materials

XMaintain adequate regulatory standards to ensure proper operation and reclamation of excavations

XPursue the reclamation of all abandoned or completed excavations

I. Transportation Goals

XDevelop a transportation system that affords mobility for all and provides good access to employment, housing, services and recreation areas.

XManage, maintain, and enhance the existing transportation system in order to maximize safety and efficiency and reduce the need for new roadway and bridge construction.

XMinimize the impact of traffic on Salem neighborhoods, commercial areas, and the town street system by maximizing the use of regional highway facilities and transit for such trips.

XPromote a transportation system that minimizes negative cultural, social, economic, and environmental impacts while preserving, enhancing, or reclaiming neighborhood livability.

XReduce the need for roadway construction by developing viable alternatives that reduce per capita vehicle miles traveled and reliance on the automobile as a mode of travel.

XImprove the integration of land use and transportation planning.

XParticipate in the regional transportation planning process established under Federal and State law

J. Land Use Goals

XCoordinate the location, timing, and intensity of future development with the availability of public facilities and with the physical and fiscal resources of the community.

XEnsure that adequate land, appropriately located and provided with utilities and services, is designated for commercial, industrial, and institutional activities

XEncourage the redevelopment of abandoned, obsolete, or poorly utilized commercial and industrial properties

XProvide a variety of housing types to meet the economic, social, and physical needs of the citizens of Salem

XImprove and enhance the visual character, appearance, and attractiveness of the community

XRevise and update the Town=s land use regulations to reflect the recommendations contained in this Master Plan