



II.

POLICY FRAMEWORK







GP1: LIVABLE CENTERS, CORRIDORS, AND NEIGHBORHOODS

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT

Creating livable centers, corridors, and neighborhoods allows residents to live close to where they work, lead active and healthy lifestyles, conveniently access essential goods and services, and choose from a variety of transportation and housing options. This increased flexibility and greater choice of options allows us to remain in and move throughout the community during different stages of our lives. After many years of sustained growth, Longmont is maturing as a community, both in terms of the physical size of the City—whose outward expansion is increasingly limited by surrounding City and County-owned open space, conservation easements, and the boundaries of other municipalities—as well as in terms of our population which is becoming proportionately older. While some previously undeveloped land remains within the planning area, a growing proportion of future growth will likely need to occur as infill development and redevelopment in established areas of Longmont. This shift in focus inward presents an opportunity to enhance the livability of places in the City we would like to see change in the future, and highlights the need to protect the places in the community we value most. Although livability can mean different things to different people, the quality of life in Longmont’s centers, corridors, and neighborhoods will increasingly be defined by their ability to adapt to meet the needs of our changing population.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Longmont will encourage future growth and infrastructure investments that enhance the quality of life of existing and future residents, meet the long-term needs of the community, and reinforce the City’s identity as a free-standing community along Colorado’s North Front Range.



GOALS & POLICIES

KEY ELEMENTS OF A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT BUILT ENVIRONMENT:

Goals and policies in this section promote a more sustainable and resilient built environment, where:

- A compact growth pattern is maintained through a focus on infill and redevelopment, and reinvestment in the City’s historic, vacant, or underutilized buildings-ensuring land and available infrastructure are used efficiently.
- Open space and agricultural lands adjacent to the City’s planning area are preserved through the City’s Open Space program and coordination with adjoining counties and landowners.
- Community livability is enhanced through expanded housing options, investments in local and regional transportation, and ease of access to employment, health and human services, recreational facilities, and other amenities.
- The impacts of future growth on the City’s natural environment are minimized through the use of sustainable site planning and development practices.
- Risks and effects associated with future flood events or other disasters are minimized by focusing growth out of flood or disaster prone areas, and designing critical infrastructure to withstand severe stresses.



Embrace a compact and efficient pattern of growth.

1.1A: GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Prioritize the development of sites located within the Municipal Service Area, where infrastructure and services can be readily provided; continue to use open space buffers, agricultural easements, and other tools to ensure Longmont remains a free-standing community with a unique and separate identity from surrounding communities.

1.1B: INFILL AND REDEVELOPMENT

Support the adaptive reuse or redevelopment of underutilized sites and buildings and encourage higher density infill and redevelopment in centers and mixed-use corridors, and other areas of change where development can easily be accessed on foot, by bike, or using public transit.

1.1C: INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

Cooperate with neighboring jurisdictions, including Weld, Boulder, and Larimer counties, on issues and initiatives of mutual interest, periodically reviewing and updating intergovernmental agreements that recognize the comprehensive plans of applicable jurisdictions.

1.1D: THREE-MILE AREA

Consider the Municipal Service Area, the Longmont Planning Area, and the Coordinated Planning Area as the components of the City’s “three-mile area or plan” for purposes of annexation.



Promote a sustainable mix of land uses.

1.2

1.2A: OVERALL MIX OF USES

Strive for a balanced mix of residential, employment, retail, commercial, recreational, and other uses that allow residents to live, work, play, learn, and conduct much of their daily business within the City and increase the self-sufficiency of the community.

1.2B: DISTRIBUTION OF SERVICE- AND RECREATION-ORIENTED USES

Promote a geographic distribution of service- and recreation-oriented uses across the City, balancing the need to address potentially underserved areas while protecting the character of established neighborhoods and historic resources.

1.2C: COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Recognize the role community amenities play in the vibrancy of the City and the quality of life of residents, encouraging the use of distinctive features in design of the public realm, the presence of arts and cultural programs or facilities, and spaces for people to gather and host events.

1.2D: DEVELOPMENT TYPES

Plan for a combination of greenfield development, infill development and redevelopment, and adaptive reuse within the Municipal Service Area to meet the needs of Longmont's residents, businesses, and people who work in Longmont.



Cross-cutting topic: Housing

There are two goals pertaining specifically to housing. Goal 1.2 addresses housing more broadly within the context of a sustainable mix of land uses and a broader mix of housing types, and Goal 3.1 focuses more on housing access and affordability specifically. Goals 2.2 and 4.1 also relate. Section III. Growth Framework provides additional guidance as to the desired locations for specific types of housing within the community.

1.2E: MIX OF HOUSING TYPES

Anticipate and plan for the changing needs of the community, and diversify the City's housing stock by:

- Encouraging the development of a range of housing types, sizes, prices, and densities;
- Actively working with the private sector to promote and potentially incent the construction of housing types documented to be in short supply; and
- Supporting the integration of a more diverse array of attached and multifamily housing types in Mixed Residential neighborhoods and in defined centers and corridors.

1.2F: HIGHER DENSITY HOUSING

Support the incorporation of higher density housing types, such as townhomes, multifamily apartments and condominiums, live-work options—and housing for special populations such as seniors or people with specialized needs—in centers, corridors, Downtown, and Mixed-Use Employment Areas where transit and a range of services, employment opportunities, and amenities are accessible today, or are planned for the future.

1.2G: INTEGRATION OF USES

Encourage the integration of complementary uses within the same building (i.e., residential or office above retail) or on the same site (i.e., residential adjacent to employment and/or retail uses) as a way of revitalizing centers, corridors, and employment areas and improving access to services.



1.3

Maintain and enhance the character of established neighborhoods.

1.3A: NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER

Work with residents to define and preserve desirable characteristics of neighborhoods by:

- Encouraging infill development that is designed to be compatible with the scale and character of the City’s existing neighborhoods, especially in designated historic districts;
- Designing and locating public facilities to have positive impacts on established residential neighborhoods;
- Encouraging the adaptive reuse of homes located along arterial or collector streets, or adjacent to centers or corridors, to office, retail, or restaurant uses (as an alternative to redevelopment); and
- Supporting historic preservation efforts where applicable.



1.3B: QUALITY OF LIFE

Monitor neighborhoods for signs of decline or distress, and promote stabilization and revitalization by:

- Responding to code violations and providing information to homeowners and investor-owners in need of housing assistance to make necessary repairs to their properties;
- Targeting public resources for infrastructure improvements, resource conservation measures such as energy and water efficiency programs and rebates, and other neighborhood enhancements, or to enhance public safety; and
- Encouraging private investment in rehabilitation and targeted infill and redevelopment.



Focus infill and redevelopment in centers, corridors, and other areas of change.

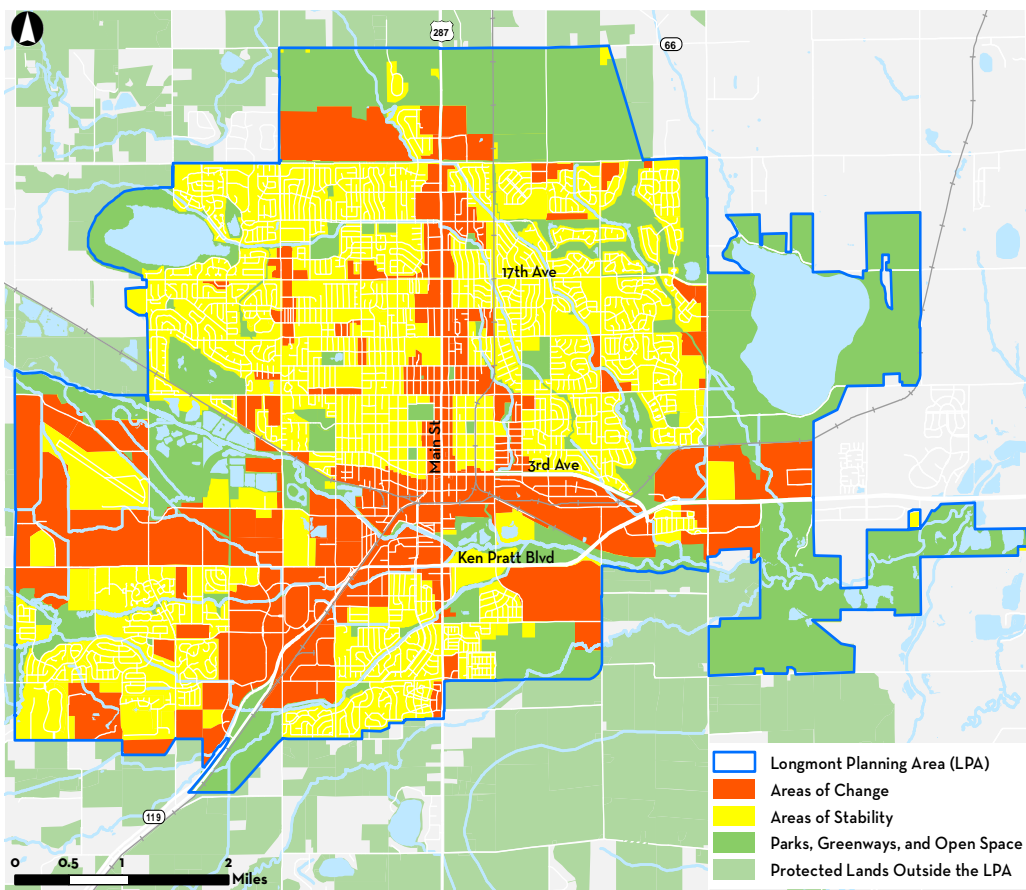
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1.4A: REINVESTMENT STRATEGIES

Employ a range of strategies to transform centers, corridors, and other areas of change into vibrant places that serve adjacent neighborhoods as well as the broader community, including, but not limited to:

- Encouraging targeted infill and redevelopment where surface parking or vacant lots exist or where existing structures and uses are no longer viable;
- Encouraging the adaptive reuse of existing buildings as a means to preserve structures of historic or cultural importance, adapt outdated City facilities, or otherwise bring new uses to vacant or underutilized buildings;
- Encouraging the rehabilitation of underutilized strip commercial areas and single use commercial centers as opportunities arise;
- Encouraging the consolidation and assemblage of properties to improve and coordinate the redevelopment of blocks or segments of centers and corridors, rather than employing a property-by-property approach; and
- Supporting and continuing to plan for ongoing redevelopment in designated Urban Renewal Areas, including, but not limited to, the Twin Peaks Mall Area Urban Renewal Area (Village at the Peaks) and the Southeast Longmont Urban Renewal Area.

AREAS OF CHANGE AND STABILITY



Areas of change (shown in red) and stability (shown in yellow) define locations where future growth would be 1) desirable and/or beneficial to the community, or 2) undesirable and/or potentially detrimental to the community. Much of the future growth in Longmont over the next 10-20 years is anticipated to occur in Areas of Change. These concepts are discussed in more detail in Section III. Growth Framework, which also defines the types of development (e.g., mix of land uses, density/intensity) that could occur in centers and corridors and other locations throughout Longmont.



1.4B: ACTIVITY-GENERATING USES

Promote a diverse mix of activity-generating uses in centers and corridors where they may be readily accessed by those who live or work in these areas, as well as by residents of adjoining neighborhoods and visitors to the City. Although the suitability of individual uses will vary by location, seek to provide a balanced mix of:

- Retail, office, multifamily residential, entertainment;
- Educational facilities such as schools and library services;
- Public and non-profit health and human services facilities and other service-oriented uses; and
- Community gathering spaces and recreational amenities—plazas, parks, community gardens, recreation centers, meeting space, and others as appropriate.

1.4C: TRANSIT-SUPPORTIVE DEVELOPMENT

Encourage Transit-Supportive Development—or development that emphasizes pedestrian and bicycle connectivity and a broader mix of uses at higher densities than may exist today—in all centers and corridors to enhance community livability and expand transportation options.

1.4D: TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

Concentrate Transit-Oriented Development—or development with a significant concentration of households, jobs, and density—within 1/4 mile of existing or planned rail or Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) stations, such as near 1st and Main, to support the City’s long-term transportation objectives and leverage major investments.

1.4E: CONNECTIVITY

Encourage and invest in pedestrian, bicycle, and transit improvements that will enhance multimodal connections within and between centers and corridors and adjacent neighborhoods, as well as to other parts of the City and region.

1.4F: RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOODS

Ensure infill development and redevelopment is designed to be sensitive to and compatible with the surrounding neighborhood context—providing transitions in height/scale, mass, and the intensity of activity programed along the shared street frontage or lot line(s).

1.4G: RELATIONSHIP TO GREENWAYS AND NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS

Balance center and corridor development with the needs of wildlife and the City’s natural resources, such as waterways, where applicable—such as along the St. Vrain Greenway.

1.4H: DISTINCTIVE DESIGN

Promote notable architecture or design at high visibility intersections to help give identity and a sense of place to centers, corridors, and neighborhoods.



Support the continued revitalization of Downtown as a community and regional destination.

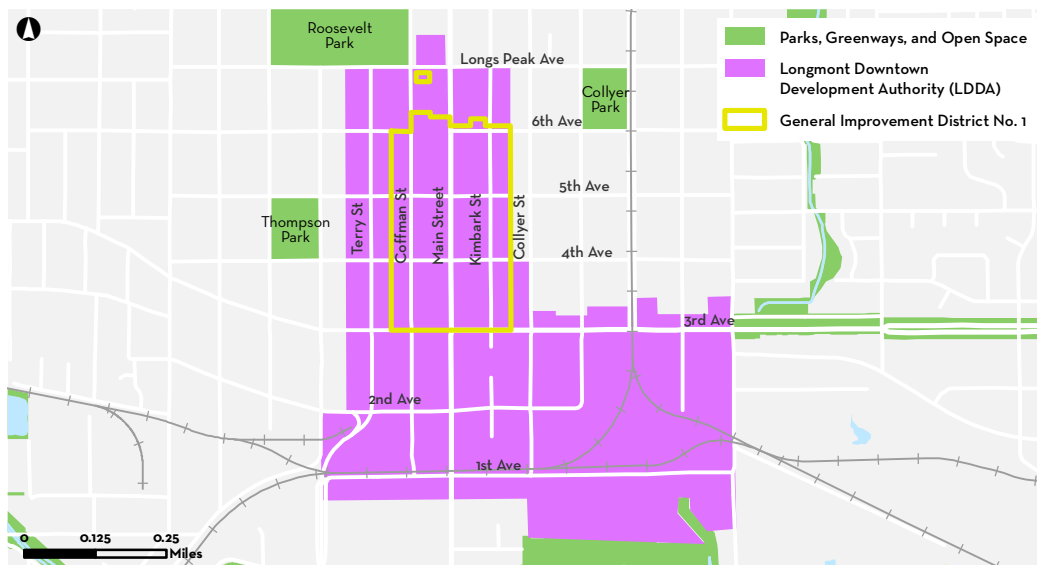
1.5

1.5A: DIVERSIFICATION OF USES

Encourage the attraction and retention of local businesses in Downtown that reflect Longmont's entrepreneurialism, creativity, and cultural diversity, and seek to promote a vibrant mix of uses—retail, restaurants, arts, entertainment, office, and housing.

1.5B: HISTORIC CHARACTER

Protect the historic character of the Downtown through the rehabilitation and restoration of historic structures and through the use of compatible design techniques for new construction.



1.5C: PUBLIC REALM

Support the continued transformation of Downtown's public realm—which includes alleyscapes, breezeways, plazas, sidewalks, and other outdoor spaces—into an inviting, safe, clean, walkable, accessible, and attractive place for people.

1.5D: CONNECTIVITY

Continue to enhance multimodal connections to Downtown by:

- Seeking opportunities to expand local and regional transit service;
- Enhancing pedestrian and bicycle connectivity within Downtown and to adjacent neighborhoods;
- Providing amenities such as bicycle parking and benches; and
- Managing parking and access in Downtown as activity increases and encouraging the use of structured parking where feasible.

1.5E: CREATIVE DISTRICT

Support the Downtown Longmont Creative District as a vibrant destination with arts, entertainment, and cultural activities to attract residents and visitors of all ages.

1.5F: COLLABORATION AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Foster a collaborative working relationship between the City, and Downtown business and arts and cultural interests, particularly in relationship to street festivals, parades, and other special events that promote Downtown's unique environment.



1.6

Provide, maintain, and enhance public infrastructure, facilities, and services to meet the changing needs of the community.

1.6A: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Annually prepare and adopt a five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and prioritize expenditures in areas consistent with the goals and policies of Envision Longmont, and in areas where the City's residents will receive the greatest economic, social, and environmental benefits.

1.6B: FINANCING

Ensure that new development pays for and provides its proportionate share of cost for basic improvements plus any improvements necessary to serve the property specifically, and consider alternative methods of financing public improvements.

1.6C: MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS

Invest in existing infrastructure and facilities as necessary to extend their useful life and meet the changing needs of the community. Budget adequate funds for the maintenance and operation of public improvements consistent with the City's budget priorities and accept responsibility for the maintenance and operation of those improvements.



1.6D: UTILITY SERVICE AREA(S)

Consider providing utility service outside of the Municipal Service Area only when City Council determines such extensions benefit the City’s interests, or as stipulated in existing agreements; coordinate with surrounding utility service providers in the St. Vrain Valley Planning Area to review the impacts of development and the impacts of service area changes on both the City and other utility service providers.

1.6E: PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE INTEGRATION OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

Coordinate the planning, design and construction standards for public improvements outside the City but within the Municipal Service Area or Longmont Planning Area to facilitate possible future integration with City public improvements.

1.6F: WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Protect the City’s investment in its wastewater treatment plant by promoting compatible land uses and activities adjacent to the facility.

1.6G: RESILIENCY

Design and construct new public improvements and repairs to existing infrastructure to withstand a greater degree of stress and receive less damage from future flooding or other natural disasters.

1.6H: SUSTAINABILITY

Promote sustainable development practices in redevelopment or new development of public facilities.



Photo Credit: City of Longmont

1.7

Reinforce Longmont’s unique identity and sense of community.

1.7A: GATEWAYS

Collaborate with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and neighboring jurisdictions on efforts to enhance the appearance of right-of-ways at the City’s key gateways and provide a sense of arrival when coming into Longmont through the use of distinctive landscaping, entry signs, public art, or other unique features. Key gateways are located at the Longmont Planning Area boundary on US Highway 287, State Highway 66, and State Highway 119.

1.7B: VIEWS

Encourage development that maximizes the ability for public enjoyment of the City’s significant views through the orientation of buildings and incorporation of outdoor patios, balconies, and other public gathering spaces.

1.7C: BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAMS

Encourage and sponsor programs and volunteer efforts that promote the beautification of the City’s public and private realm.

1.7D: COMMUNITY IDENTITY

Reinforce the distinctive characteristics of the Downtown area and surrounding neighborhoods, and other Community Identity Clusters identified in the Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan—Union Reservoir, Sandstone Ranch, St. Vrain Greenway, McIntosh Lake, and the Quail Campus—focusing on strengthening Longmont’s natural, historical, cultural, and recreational identity.

1.7E: COMMUNITY EVENTS

Support new events and continue to support existing events hosted at parks or recreational facilities in Downtown or other Community Identity Clusters, to help to foster a sense of community and celebrate Longmont’s distinct character and diversity.

1.7F: SIGNAGE

Encourage the use of signage that minimizes visual competition, does not dominate the streetscape, and results in attractive signs, while meeting business needs.

1.7G: MAINTENANCE

Promote maintenance of existing City facilities and a quality urban environment and streetscape that is free from inoperative vehicles, unscreened outdoor storage, weeds, refuse, and other unsightly materials.





Create an integrated and quality parks, recreation, greenway, and open space system.

1.8

1.8A: PARKS AND RECREATION

Encourage a system-wide approach to providing for the recreational needs of the community as a whole, continuing to:

- Develop neighborhood and community parks and nature areas consistent with the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Master Plan to serve the active recreation needs of the community;
- Pursue additional park land, recreation facilities, and trails as an integral part of a complete community, making play and recreation parts of daily life;
- Reinvest in the existing park, recreation, and trails system and the assets within each to ensure they retain their value, quality, and appeal to residents and visitors alike;
- Ensure parks and recreational facilities are designed, built, and managed to support public gatherings, as appropriate for the size and amenities of each facility; and
- Protect the long-term health of the park, recreation and trails system through sustainable financial policies, maintenance and operations practices, and planning and design guidelines.

Recreation Facilities:

- Centennial Pool
- Longmont Ice Pavilion
- Recreation Center
- Roosevelt Pool
- St. Vrain Memorial Building
- Senior Center
- Sunset Pool
- Other outdoor aquatics facilities
- Athletic fields/complexes
- Special event venues
- Municipal golf courses

Cross-cutting topic: Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails



There are three separate goals that directly address the parks, recreation, greenways, and open space system. Goal 1.8 addresses the overall system and its essential components, Goal 3.2 addresses the need for equitable access to the system, and Goal 5.5 addresses the ecological functions of the system. Goals 2.2 and 4.1 also relate. More detailed guidance in all of these areas is provided by the City's Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan, Open Space and Trails Master Plan, and Recreation Master Plan.

1.8B: OPEN SPACE

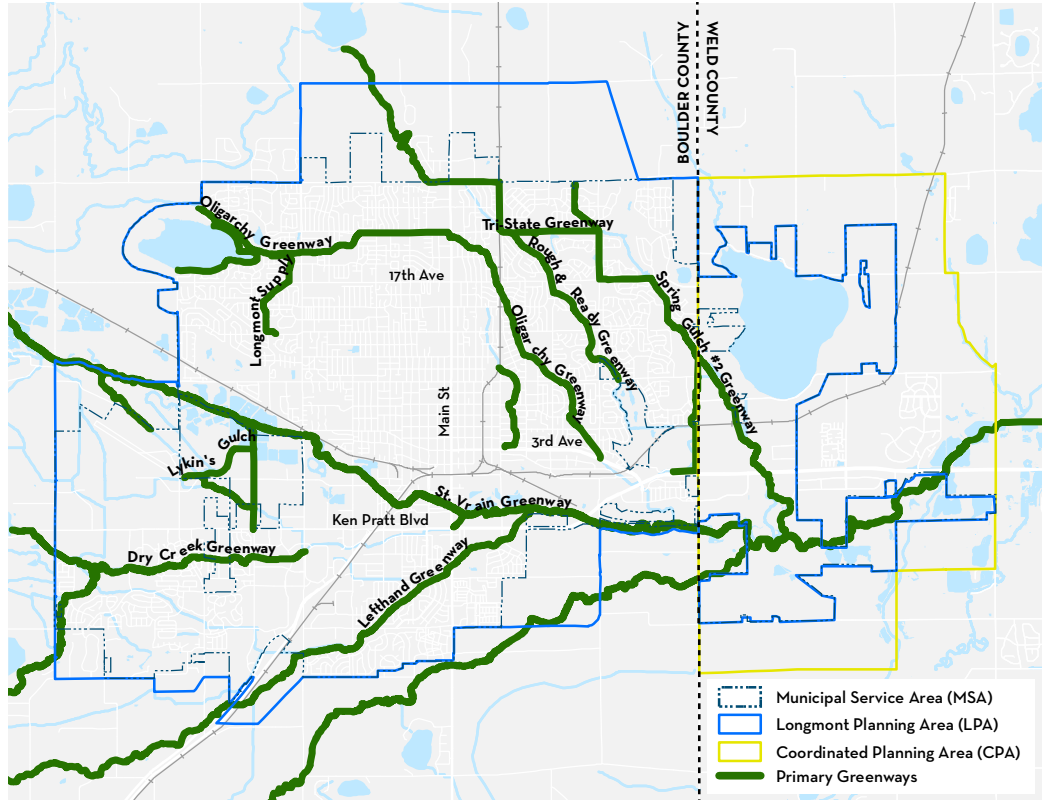
Continue to expand the City's network of open space and support the City's desire to remain a stand-alone community by:

- Preserving natural and cultural resources, including but not limited to: range lands, forest lands, wildlife habitat, wetlands, agricultural lands, aquifer recharge areas, surface water, and visual corridors;
- Providing urban shaping buffers between or around municipalities or community service areas and buffer zones between residential and non-residential development;
- Providing linkages to trails, access to public lakes, streams and other usable open space lands, stream corridors and scenic corridors along existing roadways; and
- Providing for low-impact recreation compatible with resource protection goals.

1.8C: GREENWAYS AND TRAILS

Continue to work towards completing the greenway system, developing and maintaining a system that:

- Includes both primary and secondary greenways;
- Encompasses habitat corridors, waterways, utility corridors, or any other natural or man-made open space corridors within the City that can accommodate trail-oriented recreation while connecting residential areas to the community's pedestrian and bike network, parks, schools, and other activity centers;



- Includes adequate and appropriate furnishings and other amenities, such as benches, bicycle parking, bicycle repair stations, and recycling/trash collection to support the safety and enjoyment of all users;
- Connects Longmont’s trails and greenways to other regional trails in accordance with the State Trails Plan and planned trails in surrounding jurisdictions;
- Considers alternative ways to fill gaps in the trail system that cannot be filled by primary or secondary greenways and that can accommodate a variety of recreational activities, such as walking, jogging, and biking; and
- Ensures that recreation connections are coordinated with existing and planned investments in the City’s transportation system so that such facilities can accommodate the community’s recreational needs, both active and passive, as well as its multimodal transportation needs.

MEASURING OUR PROGRESS

INDICATORS FOR LIVABLE CENTERS, CORRIDORS, AND NEIGHBORHOODS

A preliminary list of indicators that will be used to help track the City’s progress in achieving Guiding Principle 1: Livable centers, corridors, and neighborhoods is listed below. Unless otherwise noted, all sources for indicator data are City of Longmont.

Indicator	Geography*	Method	Baseline	Target
Overall Density	Areas within the municipal boundaries (except those zoned P or A)	Dwelling Units (DU) per acre	2015: 1.89 DU/acre	Increase density (20 year target: 10%)
Development in Areas of Change	Longmont Planning Area	New DUs and non-residential square feet built in Areas of Change, as a % of City total	(TBD)	Increase share of development in Areas of Change
Mix of Housing Types	Citywide	Other Residential (non-single-family detached units) as a percentage of total units permitted.	2013: 48.8%	Increase housing diversity (percentage of total housing stock classified as Other Residential)
Parks and Recreational Opportunities	Citywide	Percent of residential units located within 1/2 mile of a park, greenway, or City recreation facility	(TBD)	Increase or maintain the percentage of residents within 1/2 mile of a park, greenway or recreation facility
* Unless otherwise noted, “Citywide” refers to areas within the municipal boundaries of the City of Longmont.				

SUPPORTING DATA

Supporting data do not have specific targets, but will still be tracked and reported to help to tell a more complete story about how the community is changing over time.

- Development in centers and corridors
- City investments in improvements
- Arts and culture businesses
- Historic preservation investments
- Downtown sales
- Downtown Investments
- Public art
- Recreational facilities





GP2: A COMPLETE, BALANCED, AND CONNECTED TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT

Demand for expanded transportation options in Longmont is growing. This demand is driven by necessity for some and is a matter of choice for others. An aging population, reduced car ownership, increases in traffic and congestion, convenience, air quality concerns, fluctuations in gasoline prices, and a desire by some to lead active, healthier lifestyles are a few of the factors that influence how people travel. In previous transportation plans, travel was defined as separate systems; pedestrian, bicycle, transit and roadways. As a community, we recognize how each travel choice plays an essential and interconnected role in an overall system of moving people and how this system must be well coordinated to fill our current and future travel needs. The transportation system also plays a direct role in our surrounding land uses and quality of life, our economic vitality in our ability to attract and retain new residents and businesses, and our ability to retain and leverage the benefits of being a freestanding community. Additionally, the airport plays an important role in tying together the surface travel choices with international connections for general aviation.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Longmont will continue to invest in a complete, balanced transportation system that enhances safety, mobility, accessibility, and convenience for all modes—locally, as well as to key destinations around the region—reducing reliance on single-occupant motor vehicle trips, supporting healthy and active lifestyles, and protecting our environment.



GOALS & POLICIES

KEY ELEMENTS OF A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Goals and policies in this section promote a more sustainable and resilient transportation system, where:

- Land use and transportation planning and investments are deliberately aligned to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the transportation system.
- The livability and accessibility of the City’s mixed-use centers and corridors, and neighborhoods is enhanced through investments in pedestrian and bicycle connections, expanded transit service, and a commitment to Complete Streets principles.
- Risk and economic impacts associated with extreme events are minimized by designing critical transportation infrastructure to more readily withstand major stresses and creating redundancy in the system.
- Greenhouse gas emissions are reduced through the expanded use of transit, walking, and bicycling and reduced reliance on single occupancy vehicles.

2.1

Integrate land use and transportation planning to enhance the overall quality of life in the City.

2.1A: MULTIMODAL CONNECTIONS

Provide effective multi-modal connections within and between existing and developing neighborhoods, and mixed-use centers and corridors, parks, city facilities, and schools.

2.1B: TRANSIT-SUPPORTIVE DEVELOPMENT

Encourage Transit-Supportive Development—or development that emphasizes pedestrian and bicycle connectivity and a broader mix of uses at higher densities than may exist today—in all centers and corridors to enhance community livability and expand transportation options.

2.1C: TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

Concentrate Transit-Oriented Development—or development with a significant concentration of households, jobs, and density— within 1/4 mile (an approximate 10-minute walk) of existing or planned rail or Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) stations, such as near 1st and Main, to support the City’s long-term transportation objectives and leverage major investments.

Cross-cutting topic: Integrating Land Use and Transportation



The critical linkage between land use and transportation is reflected throughout this Plan. Focusing growth and a broader mix of uses in centers and corridors establishes a foundation for more robust local and regional transit, allows the City to more effectively target pedestrian and bicycle improvements and other system enhancements in locations where they will be most beneficial to the community, and improve access to a wide range of services and amenities.



Photo Credit: City of Longmont

2.ID: FIRST AND LAST MILE CONNECTIONS

Provide well-connected pedestrian and bicycle networks in areas where enhanced transit service exists (i.e., high frequency bus, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), and commuter rail) to enhance First and Last Mile Connections.

2.IE: TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Continue coordination among transportation providers, human service agencies and nonprofit organizations to fund accessible and affordable transportation options serving older adults, transit dependent populations and others with special transportation needs.

2.IF: SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS

Encourage programs that enhance transit, bicycle and pedestrian connections to and from schools to provide safe and healthy options for students and to reduce vehicular congestion in school zones.

2.IG: TRANSPORTATION FACILITY DESIGN

Mitigate the impact of transportation facilities on noise, light and air pollution, safety hazards, and aesthetics through appropriate traffic control, facility design, and site design on both public and private property adjacent to the transportation facility. Work with adjacent neighborhoods to balance transportation needs and facility design with neighborhood character when widening roads or constructing new roadways.

2.IH: PRESERVE RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW) FOR FUTURE CONNECTIONS AND ACCESS

Maintain existing ROW for a variety of modes of travel to the maximum extent feasible to preserve opportunities for future connections and access, particularly within designated Areas of Change. Vacate City ROW only under careful consideration of all other uses.



2.2

Provide a transportation system that offers safe, healthy, and reliable mobility for people of all ages, income levels, and abilities.

2.2A: INTEGRATED SYSTEM

Design the citywide transportation system to encourage the use of multiple means of travel:

- Minimizing barriers and creating a safer environment for active transportation modes including bicycling and walking;
- Identifying and improving First and Last Mile Connections to key transit facilities; and
- Addressing safety and efficiency of interfaces between travel modes, such as the role of the roadway accommodating multiple modes of transportation, trail crossings of railroads and pedestrian and bicycle crossings of busy streets.

Maintain a multimodal implementation plan that addresses the unique needs of each mode of travel, that integrates all modes of travel into a comprehensive transportation system, and that has efficient links between each mode.

The Multimodal Transportation System



A safe, reliable and complete transportation system must take into account all modes of travel—driving, walking, bicycling, and taking transit—and a commitment to ongoing system maintenance. Section III. Growth Framework describes the role of each of these modes in different parts of the City and plans for future improvements to help complete the overall system.

2.2B: REGIONAL CONNECTIONS AND COLLABORATION

Strengthen all types of transportation connections between Longmont and surrounding communities and employment centers, with an emphasis on alternative modes prior to single-occupant vehicles. Increase involvement with surrounding cities and counties, as well as regional, state and federal agencies to ensure the best connectivity and continuity along regional corridors that serve Longmont.

2.2C: ROADWAY SYSTEM

Provide a safe and efficient roadway system that:

- Encourages the use of arterial streets for cross-town and regional travel;
- Encourages the use of collectors to channel traffic between neighborhoods and arterials;
- Discourages the use of local streets for through traffic; and
- Provides efficient regional travel connections to other jurisdictions and activity centers in the region by multiple modes.

Monitor, maintain and improve the City’s arterial street system at an adequate level of service to reflect its importance as the backbone of the transportation system for all modes of travel. Modify, where appropriate, current street standards to safely accommodate motor vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, and public transit on all streets.

2.2D: TRANSIT SERVICE

Coordinate with all transit providers operating in the City to improve and expand transit service and frequency to serve existing and developing activity centers and neighborhoods, providing greater accessibility to Longmont’s residents and workforce. Evaluate existing transit stops and Park-n-Ride locations and promote improvements to them that would further support transit.



2.2E: RAPID TRANSIT CORRIDORS

Continue to work with regional partners including the Regional Transportation District (RTD), the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and neighboring jurisdictions on:

- Short-range implementation of BRT on the SH 119 and US 287 corridors to provide immediate regional transit service and transit system elements that can be phased toward Northwest Rail Corridor implementation;
- Phased implementation of commuter rail in the Northwest Rail Corridor along the Diagonal Highway (SH 119) and into Downtown Longmont as part of the 2004 voter approved FasTracks project; and
- Phased implementation of a future commuter rail line from the North Metro FasTracks line into Longmont and to communities north of the City.

2.2F: BICYCLE SYSTEM

Better integrate a system of on-street and off-street bicycle facilities to provide safe and convenient biking opportunities for users of all types and abilities by:

- Identifying and addressing gaps in the current bicycle system and barriers to biking for varying user groups;
- Providing bicycle parking and bicycle sharing opportunities at strategic locations to support bicycling as a viable means of active transportation; and
- Working with transit providers to increase capacity and convenience for bicycles on transit vehicles.

2.2G: PEDESTRIAN SYSTEM

Continue to provide sidewalks and paths to accommodate pedestrians throughout the City, focusing on:

- Developing accessible pedestrian facilities in key areas of the City where pedestrian activity is currently high or is expected to be high in the future, such as in Downtown, near existing or planned transit stations, around schools and other community facilities, and as part of centers and corridor development;
- Identifying and addressing sidewalk gaps and needs for pedestrian crossings, especially at major streets; and
- Enhancing the existing pedestrian system in older neighborhoods or neighborhoods with a higher percentage of transit-dependent residents whenever possible by widening or improving existing facilities.

2.2H: MULTI-USE FACILITIES

Integrate the transportation system and the greenway trails system to continue to provide recreational opportunities for walkers, joggers, and other trail users, while still allowing for the transportation function of these facilities. Continue to adapt and implement the most up-to-date and safe sidewalk and pedestrian crossing standards on all of Longmont's arterial, collector and local streets and utilize street right-of way to complete recreational and transportation multi-use connections where off-street facilities are not possible.

2.2I: AIRPORT

Ensure that the Vance Brand Airport continues to provide for the current and future general aviation needs of the community; providing efficient multimodal surface transportation connections to the airport and surrounding land uses.



2.3

Enhance the transportation system in a manner that improves the economic vitality of the City, while being responsible stewards of limited resources.



2.3A: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP)

Maintain the existing and useful infrastructure to a lasting quality. Reflect the City's priorities for multi-modal transportation needs as defined by the goals and policies in this Plan in the annual CIP.

2.3B: INTER-JURISDICTIONAL COORDINATION

Work closely with county, municipal, regional and state agencies to prioritize inter-jurisdictional transportation improvements and develop coalitions to finance and implement needed improvements. Continue to seek state and federal multi-modal grants to lessen the financial burden of transportation projects on the City.

2.3C: INNOVATION/EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

Use pilot projects and emerging technologies to test new and innovative concepts (including car shares or other private transportation options) for improvements to streets, pedestrian, bicycle and transit facilities where appropriate and in a fiscally responsible manner.

2.3D: ALTERNATIVE MODES

Promote less polluting alternatives to the single-occupant vehicle trip, including carpooling, transit use, bicycling, walking, and telecommuting, through alternative mode incentive programs such as bus passes, vanpools, preferential carpool parking and bicycle parking.

2.3E: TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT

Implement transportation system management and transportation demand management programs and traffic control measures that result in a more efficient use of transportation facilities and reduce travel demand, air pollution, energy consumption, infrastructure needs, and operational costs.

2.3F: PARKING MANAGEMENT

Implement transportation system management, transportation demand management, and parking management programs that result in better use of limited land in activity centers. Parking management can include a number of techniques, including paid parking, cash-out parking based on time, and unbundling parking spaces from multifamily dwelling units.

2.3G: RAILROAD IMPACTS

Explore, prioritize and implement cost-effective measures to mitigate noise and other impacts of railroads, including establishing quiet zones, grade-separated roadway crossings, greater setbacks or potential roadway or railroad realignments.



MEASURING OUR PROGRESS

INDICATORS FOR A COMPLETE, BALANCED, AND CONNECTED TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

A preliminary list of indicators that will be used to help track the City's progress in achieving Guiding Principle 2: A complete, balanced and connected transportation system is listed below. Unless otherwise noted, all sources for indicator data are City of Longmont.

Indicator	Geography*	Method	Baseline	Target
Mode Split	Citywide	Non-Single Occupant Vehicle (SOV) trips to work as a percentage of total trips	2014: 27.4%	Increase
Congestion	Citywide	Number of intersections exceeding Level of Service and volume-to-capacity ratio	2014: 3 (Ken Pratt & Hover, Nelson & Hover, and Ken Pratt & Main)	Decrease
Transit Ridership	Citywide	Number of trips made on transit	2014: 1,109,088	Maintain; increase
Greenways, Trails & Bikeways	Citywide	Miles of greenways, trails & bikeways	2015: 193.5 miles	Increase
Traffic Injuries	Citywide	Injury-producing and total traffic accidents per 1,000 population	2014: 24.9 per 1,000	Decrease
Connectivity	Citywide	Number of grade separated crossings	2 all vehicle grade-separated structures/bridges over the RR; 24 non-motorized grade separated structures under streets or RR	Increase
Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)	Citywide	Total VMT per capita on arterial and collector roadways	2013: 3,696.6	Decrease

SUPPORTING DATA

Supporting data do not have specific targets, but will still be tracked and reported to help to tell a more complete story about how the community is changing over time.

- Transit Service (service hours/number of residents living within 1/2 mile of transit)



PUBLIC LIBRARY



GP3: HOUSING, SERVICES, AMENITIES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT

Longmont is becoming more diverse—economically, racially and ethnically, and by age. This diversity translates into a strong sense of community identity, culture, and inclusion that is valued in Longmont. As Longmont continues to grow and develop, it will be vital that the City and its many partners ensure residents have access to the public facilities; recreational and cultural amenities; social, health, and human services; housing and transportation options; and educational opportunities they need to thrive and prosper. Access to these services and amenities is about more than just quality of life—it is a fundamental aspect of ensuring all residents are able to contribute to the economic and civic well-being of the community. We are all better off when everyone is able to achieve his or her fullest potential.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Longmont will be a vibrant community where prosperity and the opportunity to access both essential and non-essential services and amenities are available to all residents, regardless of their race, creed, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, age, height, weight, ability, socio-economic status, military status, marital status, and family type.





GOALS & POLICIES

KEY ELEMENTS OF A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITY

Goals and policies in this section promote a more sustainable and resilient community, where:

- A range of housing options are available to meet the needs of residents of all ages, income levels, and abilities.
- Future housing, employment, and services are aligned with investments in the City’s multimodal transportation system to increase their accessibility and help reduce the combined cost of transportation and housing for residents.
- Expanded focus is placed on educating residents-particularly older adults and other vulnerable populations-about the types of programs and services that are available and helping them access what they need.
- Inclusivity and equity are fostered through educational efforts and attention to issues of cultural and racial diversity and there is representation on City boards and commissions.
- All residents have access to a range of educational and recreational amenities.

3.1

Ensure there are affordable and accessible housing options that meet the needs of residents of all ages, abilities, and income levels.

3.1A: HOUSING OPTIONS

Diversify the City’s housing stock to meet the needs of a variety of socioeconomic groups and lifestyles by:

- Pursuing, in cooperation with other agencies, more housing opportunities dispersed throughout the City for low- and moderate-income people.
- Allowing for a mix of housing types and sizes (see Goal 1.2 and associated policies).
- Considering a range of incentives for developments that provide affordable housing units and prioritize use of incentives for development within centers and corridors where amenities and services are more readily available.
- Seeking public/private partnerships to support the construction of more permanently affordable homes.

3.1B: AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Strive for ten percent of total housing stock to be permanently affordable housing units affordable to households earning less than 80% of AMI for for-sale homes and less than 50% of AMI for rental homes.



Cross-cutting topic: Housing

There are two goals pertaining specifically to housing. Goal 1.2 addresses housing more broadly within the context of a sustainable mix of land uses and broader mix of housing types and densities, and Goal 3.1 focuses more on housing access and affordability specifically. Section III. Growth Framework provides additional guidance on the desired locations for specific types of housing within the community as part of the Future Land Use Plan.

3.1C: ACCESSIBLE HOUSING

Expand the supply of homes in the City that are accessible to seniors and persons with disabilities thorough the use of universal design and visitability principles in the construction of new housing and the rehabilitation of existing homes.

ENVISION LONGMONT AGING WELL

To meet the needs of its growing older adult population, Longmont must proactively plan for the future to ensure residents have the ability to age in place within the community. Concurrent with the Envision Longmont process, the City of Longmont initiated a process to explore the goals and strategies outlined in the Age Well Boulder County Strategic Plan and to develop targeted recommendations to address issues and opportunities specific to the City of Longmont. This process was facilitated using an Assessment Tool provided by the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) as part of its Boomer Bond initiative to assist local governments in evaluating existing resources, programs, and infrastructure for older adults. The Assessment Team included participants from City departments, health and human services providers, non-profits, and other partners in Boulder County. The Team's recommendations are reflected throughout the goals and policies and implementation strategies contained in this Plan.



3.1D: HOUSING PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

Provide support and promote programs that assist people seeking affordable housing options, help low- and moderate- income homeowners maintain and reinvest in their homes, and make modifications to housing to make it accessible for persons with disabilities or allow older adults to age in place.

3.1E: HOUSING STABILITY

Collaborate with local and regional partners on programs and resources to help prevent homelessness, provide stable housing, and help the homeless population find housing.



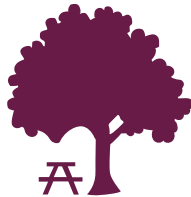
3.2

Provide residents in all parts of the City with access to a range of community amenities, including parks, open spaces and recreational opportunities.

3.2A: DISTRIBUTION OF FACILITIES

Evaluate the amenities and features of parks and recreational facilities throughout the City on a regular basis to ensure that they are balanced in terms of their distribution and adequately meet the needs of the community.

Cross-cutting topic: Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails



There are three separate goals that directly address the parks, recreation, greenways, and open space system. Goal 1.8 addresses the overall system and its essential components, Goal 3.4 addresses the need for equitable access to the system, Goal 4.1 addresses supporting active and healthy lifestyles, and Goal 5.5 addresses the ecological functions of the system. Goals 2.2 and 4.1 also relate. More detailed guidance in all of these areas is provided by the City's Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan and Open Space and Trails Master Plan.

3.2B: MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE OF FACILITIES

Regularly maintain existing public parks, spaces, and other facilities in all neighborhoods; monitor and evaluate programming, safety, and other issues over time; and seek to optimize existing facilities to address changing demands and community needs.

3.2C: PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Create partnerships with other public and private entities and organizations, such as the St. Vrain Valley School District, YMCA, Home Owners' Associations (HOAs), and others in order to provide public access to existing or planned parks, recreational facilities, or other facilities not owned or managed by the City of Longmont.

3.2D: RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Fill service gaps and expand or adapt recreation services and offerings to engage underrepresented groups and growing populations, such as teens, young adults, working families, members of the Latino community and people with disabilities. Prioritize efforts to create recreational opportunities within a 1/2 mile walking distance of every household in Longmont.

3.2E: ACCESSIBILITY AND USABILITY

Incorporate universal design features such as, hard surface paths, ramps, frequent benches, restrooms, and lighting for public facilities that improve the accessibility and usability for all users, regardless of age or ability.

3.2F: COMMUNITY TRAIL SYSTEM

Continue to develop a multiple-use community trail system that is usable by all residents by:

- Enhancing public amenities such as sidewalks, landscaping, street trees, and benches to improve the pedestrian and bicyclist experience in all neighborhoods; and
- Designating trails and other links—such as within the public right of way—to connect useable open space lands and stream corridors with parks, recreation facilities, public buildings, and other public places to provide access to these areas.



Ensure social, health, and human services are accessible to and contribute to the well-being of all residents.

3.3

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ORGANIZATIONS

Over 100 organizations in Longmont and Boulder County provide health and human services to the community. Providers range from non-profits, to county or city government, or school operated facilities, to churches and other religious organizations. Many focus on a specific issue or area of need, while others focus on understanding the broader needs of residents and providers in order to better direct and coordinate resources among related organizations. Goals and policies in this section are intended to reinforce the need for continued collaboration between the City of Longmont and its many partners in the community in addressing the needs of a growing and changing population.

3.3A: SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Promote health and human services and programs that strengthen and support individuals, families, and neighborhoods so that all Longmont residents have an equal opportunity to maximize their potential and enhance their quality of life. Focus resources on a continuum of services and programs to assist residents with varying levels of need that address human conditions or issues before they develop into significant individual, family, and/or community issues—ranging from basic needs (food, shelter, clothing, transportation, and protection from abuse and neglect) to early intervention and prevention.

3.3B: FUNDING PRIORITIES

Evaluate community needs, and target available City funding based on those demonstrated needs; involve the public and those who depend most on health and human services in decisions for funding of City services.

3.3C: FACILITY SITING

Coordinate and collaborate with health and human service providers, the school district, and others on the siting and design of new facilities; encouraging locations that are convenient for clients, exploring options for shared use facilities to maximize efficiency and client access.

3.3D: TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Continue coordination among transportation providers and health and human service providers to fund accessible and affordable transportation serving people with specialized transportation needs.

3.3E: PARTNERSHIPS

Foster close coordination among public, private, and nonprofit agencies that provide health and human services and participate in appropriate regional human services partnerships to determine more efficient and effective methods for delivering human services to Longmont's residents.



3.4

Ensure all Longmont residents have access to arts, cultural, and learning opportunities they need to thrive and prosper.

3.4A: LIFELONG LEARNING

Encourage the growth of educational institutions, community facilities, and programs that increase literacy and provide opportunities for learning throughout all stages of life: early childhood education, primary and secondary institutions, vocational programs, enrichment classes, and lifelong learning opportunities.

3.4B: CITY FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

Continue to support the library, museum, recreation centers, senior center, and youth center in their efforts to provide information, resources, programs and activities that offer the City's diverse and growing population opportunities to experience arts and culture, and to support their learning needs.

3.4C: ART IN PUBLIC PLACES

Seek opportunities to incorporate art into public projects, such as buildings, parks, recreation facilities, streetscape enhancements, and other infrastructure improvements. Encourage the incorporation of art amenities in private development and the involvement of local artists in the design process.

3.4D: EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

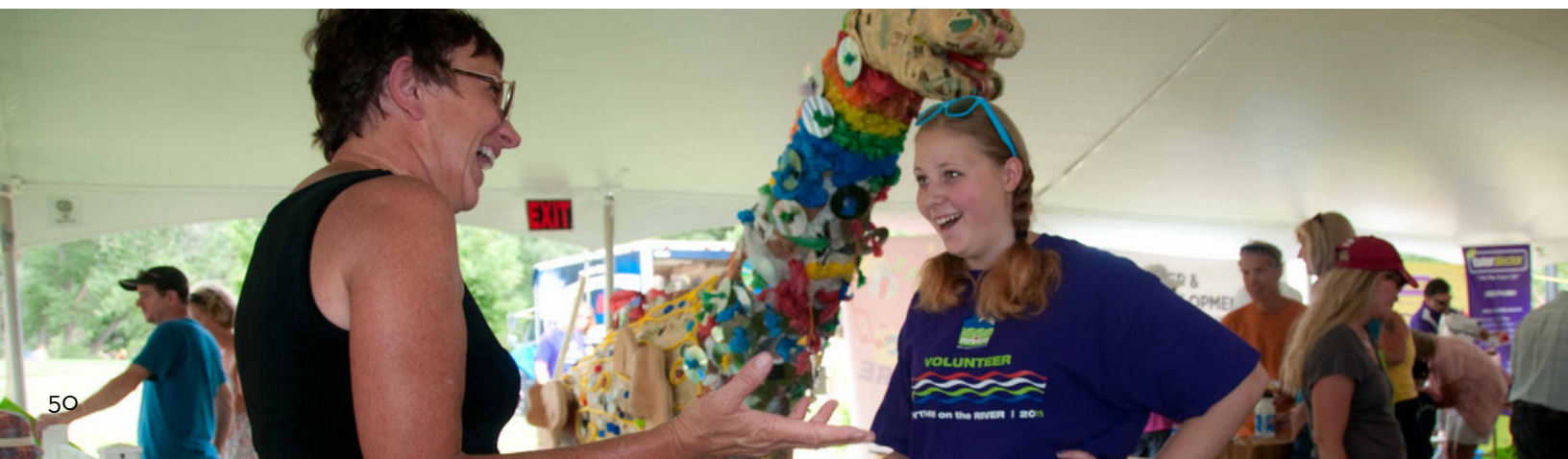
Continue to collaborate with local businesses and arts and cultural interests to support a diverse range of cultural events, music and theatre performances, and other events throughout the year and ensure they are accessible to all ages, abilities, and income levels.

3.4E: YOUTH INITIATIVES

Promote local initiatives, activities, and opportunities to retain and attract youth. Establish creative partnerships to engage youth through school-based art and music education, non-profit arts and cultural organizations, public and private sector collaborations, and parks and recreation programs.

3.4F: SCHOOL CAPACITY

Continue to collaborate with the St. Vrain Valley School District on methods that both the City and the District can use to mitigate the impact that additional students may place on capital facilities, such as coordinating development review with the District; and including school site dedication or cash-in-lieu by developers, so that the necessary school facilities will be constructed when the school district determines that they are necessary.





Protect civil liberties and ensure that all residents have equitable access to resources and opportunities to participate in the community and enjoy life.

3.5

3.5A: CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

Provide a welcoming environment and encourage all residents to participate in City government by:

- Encouraging residents to serve on boards and commissions that advise City Council on matters important to the City and striving to achieve representation that is reflective of the population as a whole;
- Periodically reviewing the purposes and roles of the City's boards and commissions to ensure that they continue to benefit the City and effectively use residents' time and energies;
- Seeking the involvement of diverse groups of residents in community issues and in City-sponsored activities; and
- Develop and administer strategies that actively involve neighborhood groups, business organizations, civic organizations, and residents in the City decision-making process.

3.5B: ACCESSIBILITY OF GOVERNMENT

Continuously seek ways to improve the accessibility of City government by:

- Meeting and exceeding the provisions of the Colorado Open Meetings Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act;
- Periodically reviewing the City's customer-oriented functions to make them easier for consumers to access; and
- Ensuring City policies and regulations and other information developed by and for the City are communicated in a manner that is clear and easy to understand.

3.5C: ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Get information to the public about issues the City is facing, and explore opportunities to supplement public information methods the City is currently using to serve Longmont residents better.

3.5D: ACCESS TO FACILITIES

Support cultural opportunities by providing meeting rooms, performance locations, collections, resources, educational programs, and activities at the museum, the Senior Center, recreation centers, the library, and at other City facilities.

3.5E: EDUCATION

Develop cooperative programs with educational providers to teach people of all ages about City functions and operations and the City decision-making process.



3.6

Recognize and celebrate the cultural diversity of Longmont’s residents.

3.6A: EDUCATION

Maintain an ongoing commitment and leadership role in promoting an understanding of, and appreciation for, the cultural diversity of Longmont residents.

3.6B: COMMUNICATION

Develop strategies to improve the City’s capability to communicate with residents who speak languages other than English.

3.6C: COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Encourage, support, and cooperate with community organizations and local businesses in offering events, programs, services, and activities that are culturally sensitive, actively involve and bring together diverse groups of residents, and create a strong sense of community identity.

3.6D: CITY FACILITIES

Maintain the City’s commitment to providing resources, exhibits, and programs that educate residents and celebrate the different cultures within Longmont through the museum, library, Youth Center, Senior Center, and various recreation facilities.

3.6E: LEADERSHIP

Sponsor leadership development training and mentoring programs for members of different cultures within Longmont.



MEASURING OUR PROGRESS

INDICATORS FOR HOUSING, SERVICES, AMENITIES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

A preliminary list of indicators that will be used to help track the City’s progress in achieving Guiding Principle 3: Housing, services, amenities, and opportunities for all is listed below. Unless otherwise noted, all sources for indicator data are City of Longmont.

Indicator	Geography*	Method	Baseline	Target
Affordable Housing ¹	Citywide	Number of affordable housing units added annually	2014: 5.07% of housing stock was affordable	Target: 50-100 affordable units per year; 10% of overall housing stock (20-year target)
City Staff Language Skills	Citywide	City staff who speak a language in addition to English (including American Sign Language), as a percentage of total staff	(TBD)	Increase
Housing Cost Burden	Citywide	Renter and homeowner households spending 30% of income or greater on housing, as a percentage of total households	2014: 34%	Decrease
* Unless otherwise noted, “Citywide” refers to areas within the municipal boundaries of the City of Longmont.				

SUPPORTING DATA

Supporting data do not have specific targets, but will still be tracked and reported to help to tell a more complete story about how the community is changing over time.

- Affordable For-sale Units
- Affordable For-rent Units
- School capacity
- Parks and Green Space

¹ Affordable housing is defined here as being affordable (i.e., costing no more than 30% of a household’s income) for sale to households earning 80% of AMI and for rent to households earning 50% of AMI.



G.A.R. ACTIVITY
APPRECIATION
Imagination
CHEERFULNESS
FOOD FOR ALL

Please Do Not
Stand on Top of Hand
on Mats.



GP4: A SAFE, HEALTHY, AND ADAPTABLE COMMUNITY

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT

While Longmont is a safe community overall, we are still vulnerable to risks. Crime, fires, natural disasters, and other natural or manmade hazards are all elements that have the potential to negatively affect the health and safety of our community. Even the St. Vrain Creek, one of Longmont's most important natural amenities, can threaten our safety, as it did during the flooding that occurred in 2013. Creating a healthy and safe community requires us not only to focus on prevention, but also on how the community can be more adaptable and resilient in the face of any risk, no matter its magnitude.

In addition to protecting residents from harm, there is a growing desire for the City to support its residents in leading healthy and active lifestyles and improving health outcomes. Longmont already provides residents with easy access to the outdoors through its extensive system of parks, open space, greenways, and trails and access to health and wellness programs and activities through Recreation and Golf, Senior Services, Children Youth and Families and other partnerships. However, some in the community lack access to healthy foods, while others are not able to receive the physical care and emotional support they require.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

The City will collaborate with community partners to offer resources that increase awareness about the benefits of leading healthy and active lifestyles; increase access to programs, facilities, and services that contribute to the health and wellness of residents; and create a resilient, disaster ready community through increased awareness of potential hazards, mitigation strategies and self-sufficiency options.



GOALS & POLICIES

KEY ELEMENTS OF A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITY

Goals and policies in this section promote a more sustainable and resilient community, where:

- The health and wellness of the community is valued, and health outcomes (e.g. rates of disease) are improved through expanded access to physical activity, health and human services, educational programs, and healthy food choices.
- Active and healthy lifestyles are supported through access to a robust bike and pedestrian network, and a variety of active and passive recreation opportunities.
- Exposure to manmade or natural hazards is minimized through careful planning-reducing future risks to people and property.
- Residents are well-informed about potential risks the community may face and are prepared to withstand future emergencies, reducing impacts from future crises on the City’s population, infrastructure, and institutions.

4.1

Support healthy and active lifestyles among residents of all ages.

4.1A: EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Collaborate with schools, community health and wellness organizations, and the medical community to encourage active lifestyles, to expand recreation options, and to increase awareness about fitness options and the benefits of healthy living.

4.1B: RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Integrate active living throughout Longmont, linking people to trails, parks, open spaces and other recreational opportunities that promote physical activity, foster a sense of community, and provide easy access to the outdoors. Strive to provide access to active and passive recreational opportunities within 1/2 half mile walking distance of homes or neighborhoods.



4.1C: PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Develop, encourage, and support programs and activities that enhance the physical and emotional well-being and quality of life of Longmont's residents.

4.1D: YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Promote healthy youth development by offering a wide variety of appealing, purposeful, and fun activities for all ages, backgrounds and interests.

4.1E: BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Integrate active lifestyle considerations as an essential component of the City's built environment:

- Encouraging mixed-use centers, corridors, and neighborhoods that support the ability of residents to meet their daily needs without having to use a car;
- Enhancing options for active transportation, such as pedestrian and bicycle travel; and
- Designing streets and other public spaces with an eye towards the safety and comfort of people.

4.1F: HEALTH OUTCOMES

Monitor key indicators of community health and wellness, such as obesity, activity levels, and rates of disease over time.





4.2

Support increased access to affordable, healthy food.

4.2A: ACCESS AND NUTRITION

Coordinate with schools, food banks, local providers, farmers, health and human services providers and others to address community nutrition needs and to expand access to healthy, affordable, and culturally appropriate foods.



Cross-cutting topic: Agriculture and Local Food Access

Agriculture and local food access are addressed in two contexts: Goal 4.2 addresses aspects of food access throughout the community and Goal 5.4 addresses agricultural land and the agricultural industry specifically.

4.2B: EDUCATION

Incorporate educational opportunities that support healthy eating habits, such as nutrition and cooking classes, as part of the range of courses and programs offered at City facilities.

4.2C: FOOD PRODUCTION

Support community gardens, personal food production, small scale agriculture, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA's), and the raising of some animals for food purposes within the Longmont Planning Area and St. Vrain Valley Planning Area.

4.2D: SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

Encourage water conservation, erosion protection, and other sustainable practices in all local food production activities, regardless of scale.

4.2E: SALES

Support a distribution of grocers and other healthy food retailers across the community, as well as local farm stands, farmers markets, and other activities that support the sale of locally-produced food products.

4.2F: EDIBLE LANDSCAPES

Consider the introduction of edible landscapes—fruit trees and/or vegetable and herb gardens—on private and public properties such as in parks, on open spaces, or in public rights of way where they may be readily accessed by the community. Utilize environmentally-friendly pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers in these areas.

4.2G: LOCAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM

Partner with landowners, business owners, neighboring counties, Boulder County, the Colorado State University Extension, and other organizations to promote the preservation of working farms and agricultural lands and other components of the local and regional food system.



Photo Credit: Boulder County Farmers Market



Ensure residents have access to health and human services.

4.3

4.3A: EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Work with local and regional health care and human services providers, schools and other partners on programs that increase awareness of available services and educate residents on the importance of making healthy choices in regards to their minds and bodies—such as programs to combat tobacco, alcohol, and drug dependency and raise awareness on suicide prevention resources.

4.3B: CO-LOCATION OF FACILITIES

Encourage the co-location of health and human services facilities with housing, commercial services, and other uses to enhance access for all residents—particularly for older adults, disabled, low-income and other vulnerable populations who may not have the ability or economic means to drive or take transit.

4.3C: TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

Work with local and regional partners to increase awareness of the transportation options and support services that exist and to support infrastructure improvements that increase opportunities for community members to access health and human services, such as transit service adjustments, and a focus on First and Last Mile Connections.

4.3D: VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Continue to encourage volunteerism among Longmont's residents and business community, recognizing the important role volunteers play in supporting health and human services providers at all levels, helping the City and its partners leverage available resources, engaging residents, and promoting a strong sense of community.





4.4

Partner with our community to ensure the best level of proactive, reactive and coactive public safety services are available.

4.4A: ACCESS AND RESPONSE TIMES

Ensure appropriate assistance, access to essential facilities, and adequate response in times of personal and community need, including emergencies.

4.4B: PARTNERSHIPS

Foster coordination and build partnerships with schools, hospitals, community groups and organizations, safety providers, the private sector, and the community with a goal of providing a coordinated approach to enhancing community safety.

4.4C: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Encourage proactive community involvement in neighborhood and City safety matters, through:

- Cooperation with law enforcement and safety personnel, neighborhood watches, home/business security and monitoring, and other grassroots efforts;
- Volunteer programming designed to build community stewardship and civic pride; and
- Support for Crime Free Multi-Housing and rental housing programs to reduce crime and improve the quality of life in neighborhoods.





Minimize risks to property, infrastructure, and lives due to natural disasters and other natural or manmade hazards.

4.5

4.5A: HAZARD PRONE AREAS

Implement best practices for mitigating risks and protecting the health and safety of residents, such as:

- Directing future growth and public/private investment away from the flood prone areas, except for the purposes of hazard mitigation or ecological restoration.
- Encouraging the use of floodplains and major drainage facilities for recreational uses, open space, and other appropriate uses that preserve the natural environment.

4.5B: MANMADE HAZARDS

Minimize the exposure of residents, workers, visitors, and other community members to hazardous materials or other chemical generally recognized to be harmful to human health by:

- Preventing the storage or manufacture of toxic or hazardous materials, chemicals, or waste in hazard prone areas;
- Facilitating the proper use and disposal of hazardous materials; and
- Participating in local review of the State's hazardous truck routing plans and proposed routes.

4.5C: INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES

Develop mitigation strategies, redundancies, and back-up systems, or consider relocation of City infrastructure and facilities located in the 100-year floodplain or in other areas prone to natural or geologic hazards. Where relocation is not feasible, upgrade existing infrastructure and build new infrastructure to be able to withstand a greater degree of stress or damage from natural disasters.

4.5D: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Ensure residents, first-responders, service providers, and City government are prepared to efficiently respond to and recover from natural and manmade disasters and other unexpected events.

4.5E: EDUCATION/PUBLIC AWARENESS

Improve public awareness regarding hazards, risks, and emergency preparedness and response procedures.

4.5F: PARTNERSHIPS/REGIONAL COLLABORATION

Promote strong partnerships with other governments and regional organizations to ensure that Longmont is involved in decisions, plans, and programs that could affect the City's ability to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, or recover from natural and manmade disasters and other unexpected events.



MEASURING OUR PROGRESS

INDICATORS FOR A SAFE, HEALTHY, AND ADAPTABLE COMMUNITY

A preliminary list of indicators that will be used to help track the City’s progress in achieving Guiding Principle 4: Encourage a safe, healthy, and adaptable community is listed below. Unless otherwise noted, all sources for indicator data are City of Longmont.

Indicator	Geography*	Method	Baseline	Target
Recreation Participation & Visitation	Citywide	Number of Recreation Center visitors and recreation program participant	2014: 847,034	Maintain, increase
Food Access	Citywide	Residents within 1/2 mile of a full service grocery store as a percentage of total residents; OR Number of students on free and reduced lunch	(TBD)	
Active Transportation	Citywide	Number of schools with a Safe Routes to School program; OR Number of students walking or biking to school	(TBD)	Increase
Safe Community	Citywide	Number of apartment complexes certified as Crime Free through the Crime Free Multi-Housing program	(TBD)	Increase

* Unless otherwise noted, “Citywide” refers to areas within the municipal boundaries of the City of Longmont.

SUPPORTING DATA

Supporting data do not have specific targets, but will still be tracked and reported to help to tell a more complete story about how the community is changing over time.

- Fire Service
- Police Service/Crime





GP5: RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF OUR RESOURCES

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT

Longmont's natural, historic, cultural, agricultural, environmental, and financial resources all play an important role in making our City unique, livable, and enjoyable. These resources help to define our community, remind us of our history, and set our community apart from others along the Front Range. The City of Longmont and its residents must work together to ensure, to the best of our abilities, that our diverse resources are protected and preserved so that they can continue to be enjoyed by future generations. Without clean air, clean water, and healthy ecosystems, future growth will not be sustainable. In addition, the City of Longmont is a steward of our community's public finances, which influence the types and quality of services that are available to residents. Demand for all of these resources will continue to increase as our community grows. Together as a community we will need to balance this demand with the need to protect and preserve all manner of resources, many of which are irreplaceable.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Longmont will continue to expand its resource protection programs and initiatives and work with the community to ensure the City's natural, historic, cultural, agricultural, environmental, and financial resources are preserved and enhanced for current and future generations.



GOALS & POLICIES

KEY ELEMENTS OF A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT ENVIRONMENT AND CITY ORGANIZATION

Goals and policies in this section promote a more sustainable and resilient environment and city organization, where:

- The need to accommodate future growth is in balance with the protection of the City’s natural environment, wildlife, and sensitive lands through continuation of the City’s Open Space program and conservation and restoration efforts, and a commitment to best practices for stormwater management.
- Greenhouse gas emissions are reduced through the expanded use of renewable energy, promotion of energy efficiency measures, expanded multimodal transportation options, and efforts to mitigate the urban heat island effect.
- The lifecycle of the City’s existing building stock is expanded and community character is enhanced through strong support for historic preservation and the adaptive reuse of underutilized buildings.
- Food security is enhanced through the preservation of agricultural lands and expanded support for local and regional food production, sales, and processing.
- As an organization, the City promotes a culture of transparency, accountability, and fiscal sustainability-ensuring policies are aligned with budgets and capital investment plans.

5.1

Protect and conserve Longmont’s natural resources and environment.

5.1A: NATURAL AREAS AND WILDLIFE

Actively pursue the preservation of Longmont’s unique natural areas, areas of environmental significance, and important wildlife habitat by:

- Coordinating with neighboring jurisdictions and the counties on the protection of open space areas with unique natural features including, but not limited to, wildlife habitat, wetlands, rare plant communities, and high-quality lakes, ponds, and streams;
- Managing and enhancing wildlife habitat and migration corridors within the Longmont Planning Area, and incorporating techniques to mitigate development impacts on wildlife and their habitat;
- Encouraging wetlands preservation and minimizing development’s impact on wetlands by requiring appropriate mitigation measures, including appropriate setbacks from riparian areas;
- Encouraging the use of native plants in landscaping, as well as plants that provide habitat, food, and other resources to wildlife; and
- Supporting volunteer programs that promote appreciation for Longmont’s natural resources, a land stewardship ethics, and a sense of community pride.

5.1B: AIR QUALITY

Strive to improve air quality and reduce citywide greenhouse gas emissions by increasing compliance with all applicable pollution standards, promoting efficient development patterns, and expanding multimodal transportation options.

5.1C: NOISE, ODORS, AND LIGHT

Minimize exposure to excessive and disturbing noise, light, and unpleasant odors.

5.1D: RESOURCE EXTRACTION

Encourage the economically feasible extraction of subsurface resources prior to development or annexation into the City, in accordance with state, county, and local laws and community priorities. Require mitigation of undesirable impacts to the natural environment and to the community as a result of extraction activities and cooperate with other jurisdictions to develop programs that address the community's interests regarding mineral extraction activity and reclamation plans within the Longmont Planning Area.

5.1E: ENERGY

Promote the conservation and efficient use of energy by engaging residents, businesses, and City staff in developing and reaching energy efficiency goals; and promoting the expanded use of renewable energy resources in both public buildings and operations and private development.

5.1F: REUSE AND RECYCLING

Reduce the amount of solid waste produced in the community, especially waste that is disposed of in a landfill, through programs and initiatives that:

- Encourage a shift from landfilling solid waste to alternatives that minimize landfill volume and conserve and/or generate energy;
- Continue to provide precycling and source separation recycling programs, such as curbside recycling, for households and businesses;
- Educate the community about the economic, social, and environmental benefits of waste reduction;
- Encourage the innovative reuse of "green waste," and promote composting and mulching, building on current initiatives; and
- Encourage the beneficial reuse of composted wastewater sludge (biosolids).

5.1G: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRACTICES

Encourage the creative use of sustainable development practices in all public and private development projects, focusing on practices with the ability to minimize the short and long-term impacts of future growth on the natural environment and improve the efficiency of City operations in measurable ways, such as:

- Expanded use of active and passive solar, and other renewable energy sources;
- Use of water- or energy-conserving fixtures;
- Use of Low Impact Development (LID) principles;
- Promoting the use of LEED or other green building standards; and
- Other techniques as applicable to new construction or the rehabilitation of existing buildings or facilities.





5.2

Maintain a quality renewable water supply to meet the long-term needs of the community.

5.2A: WATER RIGHTS

Designate domestic use of the City’s water rights as superior to any other use, while managing and maintaining open space water rights for the purpose of supporting agricultural uses and local food production.

5.2B: WATER SUPPLY

Acquire and maintain a raw water supply that will enable the City to respond to changes in supply and demand conditions and that is sufficient to meet the water demands of the City at full build-out of the Longmont Planning Area during a drought with a one in 100-year recurrence interval.

5.2C: WATER QUALITY

Work with local governments, the State of Colorado, and others to maintain and protect the quality and integrity of City’s water supply, which includes surface waters in the St. Vrain Creek Basin, the St. Vrain Supply Canal, storage reservoirs, and other sources.



5.2D: WATER CONSERVATION

Expand efforts to actively promote water conservation in both the public and private sectors by:

- Encouraging multiple uses of untreated water where such uses will not compromise the quality or supply of water available for treatment for domestic use or the health and safety of residents;
- Promoting the most efficient use of treated and untreated water resources and wastewater effluent;
- Encouraging the use of native and drought tolerant landscape materials and water conserving irrigation systems; and
- Considering use of untreated water and grey water for irrigation when it proves to be an efficient and environmentally acceptable alternative to treated water and does not pose a threat to the health and safety of residents or vegetation irrigated with this water.

Preserve Longmont’s historic and cultural resources.

5.3

5.3A: COMMUNITY IDENTITY AND CIVIC PRIDE

Reinforce Longmont’s community identity and civic pride by preserving its historical, cultural, architectural, and natural heritage.

5.3B: HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Promote the preservation, rehabilitation, and maintenance of Longmont’s designated historic buildings, signs, districts, as well as other sites of local, regional, and national significance.



5.3C: ADAPTIVE REUSE/INTEGRATION

Integrate historic and cultural features into the design of new development where feasible, using adaptive reuse as a tool to retain historic structures and convert them to community facilities or other uses.

5.3D: EDUCATION AND TOURISM

Continue to support Visit Longmont, the library, the museum, citizen advisory boards, and other opportunities to provide programs that educate residents and visitors on the history and culture of the Longmont area.



5.4

Preserve Longmont’s agricultural resources.

5.4A: AGRICULTURAL LANDS

Continue to collaborate with landowners, neighboring counties—Boulder, Weld, and Larimer—and other entities and organizations to promote the preservation of working farms and agricultural lands and keep prime farmland within the St. Vrain Valley Planning Area under agricultural production.



Cross-cutting topic: Agriculture and Local Food Access

Agriculture and local food access are addressed in two contexts: Goal 4.2 addresses aspects of food access throughout the community and Goal 5.4 addresses agricultural land and the agricultural industry specifically.

5.4B: AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY

Encourage the diversification and continued innovation of the agricultural industry, including small-scale agricultural production, within the Longmont Planning Area and elsewhere in the St. Vrain Valley Planning Area.



Photo Credit: Patrick Hurley

Recognize and enhance the ecological functions of the City’s system of parks, open space, greenways, waterways, and urban forest.



5.5A: PARK DESIGN, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATIONS

Protect the long-term health of the parks system through sustainable maintenance and operations practices, as well as responsible planning and design. Incorporate sustainable design features or elements—such as native or drought tolerant plants, or features that help manage stormwater and improve water quality, such as rain gardens, retention basins, pervious surfaces, and bioswales—into the design of new parks or into existing parks and recreational facilities as appropriate when these facilities undergo renewal or receive upgrades.

5.5B: GREENWAY FUNCTIONS

Enhance existing and future greenways to accommodate multiple functions, including stormwater management, water treatment, groundwater infiltration, wildlife habitat or corridors, and passive recreation; locate improvements and ensure appropriate setbacks within greenways to minimize negative impacts on wildlife habitat, particularly its fragmentation, and on native vegetation.

5.5C: OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION

Partner with other agencies, conservation organizations, and landowners to acquire open space and conservation easements in accordance with the Longmont Open Space and Trails Master Plan.

Cross-cutting topic: Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails

There are three separate goals that directly address the parks, recreation, greenways, and open space system. Goal 1.8 addresses the overall system and its essential components, Goal 3.4 addresses the need for equitable access to the system, and Goal 5.5 addresses the ecological functions of the system. Goals 2.2, 3.2, and 4.1 also relate. More detailed guidance in all of these areas is provided by the City’s Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan and Open Space and Trails Master Plan.

5.5D: OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT

Balance the needs of open space users with conservation objectives on open space owned or managed by the City by:

- Providing low impact recreational opportunities when such opportunities will not negatively impact agriculture, habitat preservation, or wildlife protection objectives;
- Ensuring the management of open space preserves existing wildlife habitats and promotes the improvement of degraded habitats, to the extent possible;
- Including the community in the creation of management plans; and
- Ensuring the City has the financial and technical resources to provide effective and responsible long-term management of open space properties.

5.5E: COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ETHIC

Promote volunteer opportunities to provide environmental education opportunities for residents and foster a land stewardship ethic and a sense of place.



5.6

Strive to be as efficient and effective as possible as a City organization.

5.6A: SERVICE-DELIVERY

Promote a service-delivery philosophy among City employees that encourages them to seek creative and flexible solutions to problems, to provide responsive, sensitive service to residents, to be efficient and result-oriented, and to establish partnerships with the community in making Longmont a better place to live, work, and visit.

5.6B: CUSTOMER SERVICE

Integrate the principles and techniques of quality customer service into employee's hiring, orientation, training and evaluation, and assist employees in providing high quality customer service to the public.

5.6C: ORGANIZATIONAL EFFICIENCY

Continually seek opportunities to improve the efficiency of the City organization such as eliminating service duplication, reducing overhead, and filling service gaps.

5.6D: BUDGET PRIORITIZATION

Maintain a budgeting process that promotes the delivery of City services and improvements in a manner that reflects community priorities, focuses on continuous improvement and achieving results, and advances the guiding principles, goals, and policies of this Plan.

5.6E: TRANSPARENCY

Monitor and share information regarding the status of the City's budget, including projected versus actual revenues and expenses, gaps, and current and future priorities.



MEASURING OUR PROGRESS

INDICATORS FOR RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF OUR RESOURCES

A preliminary list of indicators that will be used to help track the City’s progress in achieving Guiding Principle 5: Responsible stewards of our resources is listed below. Unless otherwise noted, all sources for indicator data are City of Longmont.

Indicator	Geography*	Method	Baseline	Target
Renewable energy	Citywide	% renewable energy in LPCs energy mix	2013: 23% (includes hydro)	Increase
Water	Citywide	Use per capita per day	2014: 143 gallons	Decrease
Historic preservation	Citywide	Number of historic landmarks	2013: 126	Maintain or increase
Agriculture	St Vrain Valley Planning Area	Acres of land irrigated for agriculture	2015: 34%	Maintain
Preserved City Lands	St Vrain Valley Planning Area	Acres of land acquired by the City or County for preservation or conservation purposes	2013: 26,516 acres	Maintain or Increase

* Unless otherwise noted, “Citywide” refers to areas within the municipal boundaries of the City of Longmont.

SUPPORTING DATA

Supporting data do not have specific targets, but will still be tracked and reported to help to tell a more complete story about how the community is changing over time.

- Air Quality
- Energy
- Solar energy
- Waste diversion
- Solid waste





GP6: JOB GROWTH AND ECONOMIC VITALITY THROUGH INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT

As the community and region continue to grow, Longmont must take an active role in positioning itself in the modern economy by expanding the availability of a range of job opportunities that provide residents with the opportunity to choose to both live and work in our community. Throughout its history, Longmont's economy has proven to be extremely adaptable. Firmly rooted in agricultural production and processing for more than one hundred years, the make-up of the City's economy has broadened in recent decades to include high tech and manufacturing employers. However, food production and related uses remain a major component of the City's economy as the City has targeted efforts aimed at attracting and growing food and beverage producers (breweries, distilleries, local food production) and culinary businesses. As a result, food production and other related uses are still an important component of Longmont's economy. Building on the City's history and emerging industries, the City has emerged as an incubator for entrepreneurs and innovative companies. In addition, Longmont has a number of highly competitive infrastructure assets, including the NextLight fiber-optic broadband internet network, affordable and reliable power, high quality water, a general aviation airport, and a low cost of doing business. While these advantages have led to economic growth in recent years, challenges remain. Many Longmont residents commute elsewhere for work and the City lacks the types of workspaces to meet the needs of the range of businesses it seeks to attract.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Longmont will work with partners locally and throughout the region to continue to grow and leverage its business-friendly assets in order to position itself for continued economic growth and expanded job opportunities. The City will also need to monitor and respond to global and national trends that have the potential for local impacts.



GOALS & POLICIES

KEY ELEMENTS OF A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT ECONOMY

Goals and policies in this section promote a more sustainable and resilient economy in Longmont and the surrounding region, where:

- The effects of future economic fluctuations on the community are minimized through increased diversity in the employment sectors represented and range of jobs available within the City.
- More residents have the ability to both live and work in Longmont—reducing commute times and associated strains on the transportation system, reducing combined housing/transportation cost burdens on residents, and increasing the vitality of the City’s mixed-use corridors and centers.
- The needs of new employers and existing employers are being met through targeted investment in infrastructure and services in employment areas and mixed-use centers within the City.
- Local capacity in the workforce and knowledge base is being built through the collaborative efforts of the City and its economic and educational partners.
- Longmont’s reliance on others in the event of future disasters or hazard events is being minimized reduced through its ability to tap into local resources and strong partnerships.

6.1

Recruit, support, incentivize, and retain quality businesses to provide a comprehensive range of job opportunities and promote economic diversity.

6.1A: BUSINESS RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT

Continue to grow and maintain a strong job base to guarantee a strong local economy in balance with the resident labor force by:

- Fostering a business-friendly environment that encourages the retention, growth, and continued profitability of existing businesses which benefit the City, its tax base, and its residents; and
- Focusing on supporting existing businesses and attracting new businesses within the target industries identified as part of Advance Longmont: Advanced Technology, Bioscience, Creative Arts & Culinary, and Professional Services & IT.

6.1B: PROGRAMS AND TOOLS

Use available tools such as federal, state, or other economic development programs and incentives to:

- Facilitate capital investment for the expansion of existing Longmont businesses and attraction of new businesses that benefit the City;
- Support economic development programs that incentivize development and economic activity in line with the City’s goals and target industry approaches; and
- Collaborate with the private sector and other housing providers in meeting the housing demands of Longmont employers and employees.

Promote and increase opportunities for collaboration, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

6.2

6.2A: WORK SPACES

Encourage the creation of new businesses and growth of small businesses and ensure there are ample building sites and spaces for these businesses to start and grow into by:

- Planning for and investing in public and private spaces in regional centers and employment areas that facilitate the interaction of local businesses, workers and residents; and
- Cooperating with the private sector in establishing an environment for nurturing small and start-up businesses.



6.2B: BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

Continually coordinate with the Longmont Economic Development Partnership to promote resources available to new and small businesses, address barriers to starting businesses in Longmont, and assist businesses that are either expanding or relocating within or to Longmont to make the process as simple and straightforward as possible.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

The City of Longmont actively collaborates with several organizations to address mutual goals and specific needs identified as part of the Advance Longmont strategy (prepared by the Longmont Economic Development Partnership, formerly the Longmont Area Economic Council). These organizations exist to promote economic growth in Longmont by developing local businesses and bringing in larger companies. The most active of these organizations include the Longmont Economic Development Partnership, the Longmont Area Chamber of Commerce, the Longmont Downtown Development Authority (LDDA), and the Latino Chamber of Commerce of Boulder County. For more information about these organizations or key findings from Advance Longmont strategy, refer to the Economy section of the Envision Longmont Community Profile report.

6.3

Address building space, infrastructure needs, and other considerations of target industries and the workforce.

6.3A: PRIMARY EMPLOYMENT AREAS

Use the City's annexation policies, land use authority, and capital improvement policies to provide an adequate supply of both finished sites and raw land suitable for businesses in the City's target industries in a range of sizes to accommodate the unique requirements of individual businesses. In addition:

- Work with private sector partners and consider incentives to increase the amount of high quality and modern office space, both within Primary Employment areas and in Downtown;
- Ensure that new development within and adjacent to the City's Primary Employment areas is compatible with and does not hamper the ability of existing and future businesses to operate, using primary and secondary uses outlined in Section III. Growth Framework as a guide;
- Communicate with the private sector when planning the timing and financing of utility extension to business and industrial sites; and
- Work with Longmont's economic partners and the private sector to market available Primary Employment sites to prospective developers and businesses and promote the diversity of available locations in Longmont to businesses within the region considering expanding or relocating.

6.3B: MIXED-USE EMPLOYMENT AREAS

Prioritize employment uses within Mixed-Use Employment areas—such as the St. Vrain Creek Corridor and the Sugar Mill—while supporting their diversification and enhancing their economic vitality by:

- Encouraging a range of secondary uses that benefit employees, but do not hamper the ability of existing businesses to operate—such as public gathering spaces, parks, trails, and recreational facilities, retail and restaurants, and multifamily housing;



- Reinvesting in and improving public infrastructure, such as streets, sidewalks, bikeways, and transit;
- Facilitating the development, rehabilitation, and/or adaptive reuse of existing properties to meet the contemporary needs of emerging businesses while making a positive contribution to the appearance of the City;
- Encouraging a mixture of building types and sizes; and
- Supporting the incorporation of multifamily housing and live/work opportunities to increase the number of households located near employment and transit corridors.

6.3C: CIRCULATION AND ACCESS

Support a transportation network in designated employment areas that facilitates the orderly movement of goods and people and offers workers the ability to commute using a variety of transportation modes. Support this network by:

- Working with RTD and other service providers to increase transit access to employment areas within Longmont;
- Periodically reviewing, and modifying as appropriate, equitable methods of financing capital improvements where existing and new development pay their appropriate share of the costs;
- Maintaining truck routing plans and regulations that use collector streets through industrial areas and arterial streets to facilitate access to Longmont's economic centers and corridors, and that minimize truck travel through residential neighborhoods;
- Developing creative solutions to address freight train traffic by improving communications with railroad companies to coordinate compatibility between rail system operations and the City's land use and transportation system; and
- Establishing an interconnected network of streets and blocks in new or redeveloping employment areas to promote walking and alternative transportation modes while still allowing for light industrial uses and truck traffic.

6.3D: BUSINESS INFRASTRUCTURE

Work with economic development partners to promote the City's assets in terms of existing infrastructure, competitive utility rates, and high-speed fiber optic broadband network, and invest in new infrastructure needed to support and grow employment within Longmont's target industries





6.4

Foster an educated and skilled workforce that meets the needs of local businesses and increases economic opportunities for residents.

6.4A: WORKFORCE TRAINING

Work with Front Range Community College, the Longmont Economic Development Partnership, Longmont Library, and others to align educational offerings with the City’s target industries, support workforce training programs and opportunities to increase employment and incomes of residents of all ages, and to ensure the workforce needs of local businesses can be met by residents.

6.4B: K-12 EDUCATION

Continue to support efforts by St. Vrain Valley School District to provide STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education programs and workforce readiness education and increase graduation rates. Explore opportunities to participate in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art + Design, and Math) education and related programs as appropriate.

6.4C: MARKETING

Promote Longmont as an attractive place to live, and market Longmont’s businesses and job opportunities at higher education institutions such as Colorado State University, the University of Colorado, the University of Northern Colorado, and others.





Ensure Longmont is a desirable place to live, work, play, learn, and start a business.

6.5

6.5A: QUALITY OF LIFE

Employ the following strategies in partnership with the private sector to enhance the quality of life of Longmont residents, attract the workforce needed to support local businesses, and to encourage local businesses to remain and expand in Longmont:

- Identifying opportunities to increase access to jobs that pay a living wage for residents;
- Ensuring a variety of housing options exist that are attractive to and affordable for existing and potential future workers in Longmont;
- Investing in essential infrastructure and community amenities, such as multimodal transportation, education, as well as recreational, retail, and cultural opportunities; and
- Supporting the expansion and diversification of retail opportunities, categories, and levels within the City as the market supports, allowing residents to meet more of their needs locally.



6.5B: RECRUITMENT

Maintain efforts to attract businesses and clean industries that would find Longmont an attractive location and that would benefit the City, its tax base, and its residents, with an emphasis on:

- Continuing to enhance efforts to market Longmont within the region and nationally by promoting the City's business-friendly climate, the City as a hub for entrepreneurship and innovation, and the City's business infrastructure; and
- Identifying and recruiting specific businesses or workers that complement or support the existing economic base by creating primary jobs or by diversifying the community's economic base.

6.6

Maintain a safe and efficient airport to meet the City’s needs for commerce and recreational aviation.

6.6A: AIRPORT ROLE

Maintain a safe and efficient airport to meet the City’s air transportation needs for commerce and recreation in order to attract and foster economic development.

6.6B: AIRPORT OPERATIONS

Administer airport operations in accordance with the Airport Master Plan:

- Managing airport operations to ensure their continued compatibility with other land uses in the airport environs;
- Operating the airport as a community asset and improve the facilities to increase its use and revenues;
- Mitigating airport-related noise impacts on development in the airport environs; and
- Allowing residential uses only in compatible areas around the airport



6.6C: LAND USE COMPATIBILITY

Plan for compatibility between nearby land uses and the airport through:

- Coordinated land use and airport planning;
- Coordination with Boulder County to manage land uses appropriately in the unincorporated areas of the airport environs; and
- Encouraging retention of ongoing agricultural operations where practicable.

6.6D: MULTIMODAL CONNECTIONS

Provide efficient multimodal transportation connections between the City’s employment centers and the airport.

MEASURING OUR PROGRESS

INDICATORS FOR JOB GROWTH AND ECONOMIC VITALITY THROUGH INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION

A preliminary list of indicators that will be used to help track the City’s progress in achieving Guiding Principle 6: Foster job growth and economic vitality through innovation and collaboration is listed below. Unless otherwise noted, all sources for indicator data are City of Longmont.

Indicator	Geography*	Method	Baseline	Target
Primary Employers	Citywide	Net change in primary employment	2014: 615 new jobs	Maintain/ Increase
Target industries	Citywide	Number of businesses within the Advance Longmont Target Industries	(TBD)	Increase
Place of work	Citywide	Residents living and working in Longmont as a percentage of all residents ages 16 and over	2014: 44%	Increase

* Unless otherwise noted, “Citywide” refers to areas within the municipal boundaries of the City of Longmont.

SUPPORTING DATA

Supporting data do not have specific targets, but will still be tracked and reported to help to tell a more complete story about how the community is changing over time.

- New non-residential space
- Jobs to residents
- Median incomes
- Utility rates
- Commute times
- Unemployment
- New Businesses
- Vacancy

