

DRAFT MATERIAL

The following draft goals and objectives have been compiled from the November and December focus group meetings along with feedback from listening session worksheets. Please note that similar statements/concepts have been combined and some statements have been sorted into either broad goal statements or more specific objective statements. Also, some statements may have been edited to clarify the meaning, provide consistency in style and format or to conform with legal concepts. Further refinement, consolidation, and even shifting of statements to other focus groups is anticipated.

Safety & Wellness Topics, Goals & Objectives

Topic 1: Bike/Walk/Trail

There is a need to enhance the mobility of our community by increasing alternative transportation choices in order to improve the health and wellness of the population. Transportation services and systems can be improved to provide increased access for underserved populations and locations around the city.

Goal 1: Encourage healthy lifestyles by having a walkable and bikeable environment for all abilities and recreational opportunities.

Goal 2: Missoula will have active transportation options such as walking and biking that are safe, clean, beautiful and navigable for all.

Objectives:

1. Develop a system of connected non-motorized transportation routes in the community.
2. Plan for, enhance, promote and incentivize active transportation options such as walking and biking.
3. Make transportation improvements to enhance driving safety and accommodates bicyclists and pedestrians.
4. Provide transportation options for the population that is unable to drive. (Elderly, youth, households that don't own cars)
5. Improve connectivity of trails and sidewalks by completing the sidewalk and trail system.
6. Ensure connectivity between neighborhoods/shopping centers via all forms of transportation.
7. Encourage increased support by businesses for active transportation.
8. Ensure that neighborhood plans consider non-motorized transportation.
9. Promote safe routes to schools by emphasizing active transportation and investing in sidewalks near schools.
10. Support free fares and expanding hours of public transit service.
11. Identify alternate routes for crossing the river.

12. Establish a goal of transportation mode split of 20% active transportation (biking, walking, transit).
13. Support the development of new bike infrastructure.
14. Consider permeable surfaces for sidewalks where possible / practical to reduce heat and increase water absorption to return to aquifer.
15. Encourage maintenance and regular updating of the Missoula Active Transportation Plan to ensure relevant policy decisions.
16. Educate people about bicycle laws and enforce such laws to improve safety for bicyclists, pedestrians and vehicle traffic.
17. Enforce snow removal regulations.

Topic 2: Parks, Recreation and Open Space

Areas around Missoula lack proximity to parks and open recreation space along with the necessary connectivity to existing available recreation areas. Additionally, parks, recreation and open space may be proximal to living areas but the residents aren't aware of the facilities or all the programs that each facility offers. Enhancing parks and recreation areas and programs helps to enrich health and wellness through community activity.

Goal 1: Missoula will grow and sustain parks and recreation spaces and open spaces to provide safe and accessible places for outdoor activities and viewsheds, each important to health and wellness.

Goal 2: Missoula residents of all ages and abilities will have ample opportunities through organized and unstructured recreation for indoor, outdoor and multi-seasonal recreational activities.

Objectives:

1. Provide and maintain adequate, inviting and conveniently located park and open spaces and equipment that can be easily accessed in every Missoula neighborhood.
2. Provide support for community center to be able to offer a wider range of programs to all demographics.
3. Offer affordable programs to all. Continue to improve scholarship funds.
4. Update and redesign park and recreation facilities to maintain safe and attractive facilities to meet current recreational trends.
5. Invest in parks to promote healthy lifestyles.
6. Provide connectivity between parks through trails and greenways systems.
7. Develop additional parks to meet the present and future needs of the citizens of Missoula.
8. Maintain open space areas within city limits and in the view shed of the city.
9. Review development regulations to ensure that park and recreational facilities are available to residents of new development in a timely manner.

10. Support the development of venues for community events and link these to economic development efforts.
11. Support programs that encourage youth connecting to the natural environment.
12. Conduct outreach to increase awareness of the benefits of a well-developed park and recreation system.
13. Partner with irrigators for cleaner water; unused water rights could be put to use in parks
14. Develop replacement schedule & budget for Missoula's parks and urban forest.
15. Expand Missoula's gardens / local food production capabilities.
16. Develop a long term management plan for the urban forest and identify a funding source to implement measures.

Topic 3: Health Care Quality

Planning for community infrastructure includes more than sewers, transportation systems, water, and telecommunications. It also includes consideration of our social infrastructure that provides for the “public welfare” and includes health, safety, educational, and social services. Support for the health of Missoulians comes from many directions so coordination and cooperation between as many entities as possible is needed to support a healthy built environment. Additionally, where you live in Missoula should not be a barrier to receiving good health care.

Goal 1: Missoula will have access to high-quality, convenient, and affordable health care for all.

Goal 2: Recognize and foster conditions that improve the health of all Missoulians.

Objectives:

1. Support efforts to expand convenient, affordable, high-quality health care for everyone.
2. Help bridge inter-facility cooperation between health care facilities.
3. Support the provision of access to high-quality complementary care as well as traditional (allopathic) care.
4. Continue to work with public health agencies and health providers to conduct a community-wide health assessment to determine benchmarks and identify service needs.
5. Encourage health care providers to develop plans to specifically meet the needs of the aging population including more options for in-home medical services.
6. Encourage well integrated health service oriented businesses.

Topic 4: Health and Wellness Promotion

For many reasons health care, social service and physical activity opportunities go unnoticed around the community. People are often so busy addressing daily needs that it becomes difficult to plan for more balanced and long term wellness. Additionally, lack of knowledge of services and stigmas associated with accessing certain services keep people

away from health and wellness programs. Being aware of active lifestyle opportunities, nutritious foods, clean air & water for all helps to support an enhanced healthy environment.

Goal 1: Missoula will be a community that promotes and supports personal health and safety for all.

Objectives:

1. Provide sufficient education and outreach so that all Missoula residents are aware of active transportation options.

2. Promote cooperative health practices initiatives in k-12 schools, UM, and general population.

3. Address barriers to health care access to all populations, including transportation

limitations, lack of knowledge of resources and / or reducing stigma associated with accessing services.

4. Consider a “happiness initiative” supporting mental health, ways to find joy, practice of gratitude, etc. Make decisions with this in mind: “does it contribute to happiness in this way”?

5. Encourage businesses to provide incentives to employees for biking/commuting sustainably.

6. Promote active transportation to schools.

7. Promote lifelong learning through access to social services.

8. Support early childhood development programs and programs focused on creating strong families to provide the optimal environment for youth in the community.

9. Encourage public agencies to adopt practices that promote healthy lifestyles, well-being and longevity.

10. Educate homeowners, renters, and businesses on the proper disposal of home hazardous waste and electronic waste and expand opportunities for disposal.

11. Support opportunities for congregate meals for the aging population and increase awareness about these opportunities.

12. Support outreach among senior citizens to increase awareness about aging services and to reduce the stigma in using such services. (Central clearinghouse of information)

13. Support offering more educational and training opportunities for senior citizens.

14. Work with city-county public health officials to promote health, environmental health and sanitation through education and enforcement.

15. Encourage more tolerance in schools.

Topic 5: Homelessness and Poverty

Economic disparity is an issue in the community which often results in homelessness and poverty. There are higher rates of poverty among the younger and older populations segments. There is a lack of support services for the homeless population and a need for more coordination.

Goal 1: People living in Missoula will have a permanent residence that is safe and supportive of their physical and mental well-being.

Objectives:

1. Encourage a comprehensive, community-wide approach that involve government, business, & non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to help prevent people from becoming homeless including consideration of affordable housing, a nutrition safety net, and livable wages.
2. Support services that help assist/care for homeless persons, or disadvantaged families in order to gain access to food & shelter.
3. Address infrastructure needs (sewer, water, transportation and social infrastructure) in under-served areas first.
4. Establish partnerships with businesses to address homelessness and poverty issues.
5. Support the provision of medical services to the homeless population at service provider locations in order to reduce emergency room visits.
6. Support implementation of the 10-year plan to end homelessness.

Topic 6: Social Services

Addressing the personal health and wellness of the community requires a multi-faceted approach. There are community members of all ages and incomes in need of assistance, whether it be just a little help and direction or comprehensive support. Issues like addressing personal safety as it pertains to children in abusive homes, teens' respect for self and others, adults/families utilizing park/trail/streets and natural areas, UM institutional relationship with the community, the homeless & impermanently housed, and elders in changing care relationships only just begins to scratch the surface of needs being experienced by Missoulians. By supporting social service provision and encouraging coordination among providers we all benefit with a healthier outlook on Missoula's future.

Goal 1: Missoula residents of all ages & socioeconomic status will have access to social services aimed at supporting physical and mental health and improving a sense of personal safety.

Objectives:

1. Establish immediate education & intervention policies to address the issue of personal safety.
2. Encourage development of a broad range of services addressing such things as preventative health, mental health and aging as well as active lifestyle opportunities and active lifestyle options.
3. Support the development of a single cooperative process for providing social service programs that is a collaboration among social services/agencies/businesses.
4. Conduct necessary analysis to identify gaps in mental health services and to develop evidence response programs to meet the needs of the community.
5. Support expansion of addiction treatment programs.

6. Support efforts regarding suicide prevention.
7. Support funding for nutrition programs and education to reduce rates of childhood obesity.
8. Support the expansion of mental health services to meet the needs of residents with a focus on preventative measures.
9. Support expansion of senior services.
10. Support expanding services for in-home care and respite care for senior households.
11. Support the quality of early childhood education.
12. Support programs that actively prevent childhood trauma in order to reduce adult physical and mental health issue in the future.

Topic 7: Emergency / Disaster Services and Crime Prevention

A key guiding component of community planning is to provide for the public health, welfare and safety of the community. As new growth and development occurs, it is important to have appropriate facilities and services in place to prevent crime and be prepared for emergencies and disasters while also maintaining the same or improved level of service for the existing community. Looking at (for example) whether areas of Missoula have sufficient lighting and maintained infrastructure, whether people feel safe in their neighborhoods, walking at night or using public transit, or whether the city is prepared for an urban avalanche are important considerations. How the community responds to emergencies, disasters and crimes effects the sense of community well-being and identity.

Goal 1: Feel secure in the community with the help of well-developed and responsive emergency and disaster services.

Goal 2: Growth and redevelopment will facilitate the provision of adequate, integrated and sustainable emergency and disaster services.

Objectives:

1. Support funding as necessary for urban services such as police and fire protection to allow critical response to emergencies.
2. Encourage development of a well-integrated emergency preparedness system to help create and maintain public safety including crime, wildfire, flooding, avalanche, disease, wildlife, hazmat.
3. Missoula will have a well-developed plan for avoiding disaster related to train collisions and spills and preparedness for dealing with any that happen.
4. Implement crime through environmental design (CPTED) to reduce neighborhood crime.
5. Encourage public agencies to develop training and a coordinated approach for public safety, emergency personnel and volunteers in psychiatric as well as general crisis response situations.
6. Evaluate the structure of mutual aid agreements for police and fire services and consider mechanisms for the city to be reimbursed for costs to provide services in unincorporated areas.

7. Work with law enforcement to identify strategies to address the perception of safety and crime issues in the downtown areas and on trails.
8. Encourage a land use pattern that facilitates provision of emergency services.
9. Encourage an urban level of development in those areas that are or can be adequately served by emergency services as determined by the emergency service agencies and local governing bodies.(From Plans)
10. Continue inter-jurisdictional cooperation between public safety agencies.

Topic 8: Environmental Quality

Clean air and water, coupled with access to local food, open spaces and physical activity are fundamental to Missoula's health and wellness. Being able to live in a built environment with the proximity of natural amenities and resources like our wildlife, vegetation and waterways makes Missoula unique. Balancing the human impact on the environment with conservation of natural resources remains a challenge for our growing community. Additionally, there is a need to understand and address potential future impacts to our environment by initiating sustainability policies.

Goal 1: Missoula is committed to maintaining a clean and healthy environment for all.

Objectives:

1. Support development of strict environmental quality standards.
2. Maintain clean and accessible open & public spaces.
3. Redesign transit to decrease air pollution/emissions.
4. Promote alternative energy sources within Missoula.
5. Provide reliable, dependable, affordable access to, and control over, fresh clean water.
6. Consider health impacts of poor air quality when reviewing policies for transportation, development regulations and industrial developments.
7. Support upgrades in the water distribution and treatment facilities to provide for clean drinking water and phase out individual wells that have water problems.
8. Support efforts to improve access to local foods through additional community gardens, urban farming and by working with retailers to market local products.
9. Consider "zero-waste" policies to provide local examples of best practices.
10. Explore use of incentives for local food production that target small local producers.
11. Develop a river corridor plan to address water quality, access, and beautification.

12. Promote and link Health Department air quality information to automobile travel. When pollution is high try to reduce single-occupancy vehicles.

Topic 9: Built Environment

Missoulians recognize the close connection between our development pattern and our environmental health. A healthy environment helps to sustain our sense of social, economic, and physical well-being. Preserving or enhancing the condition of our environment is one of the most important goals for well-managed growth.

Goal 1: Buildings and community spaces in Missoula will be healthy for humans and pets.

Goal 2: Missoula recognizes the close connection between development patterns, community infrastructure and environmental health as well as the importance of a health environment to our sense of social, economic, and physical well-being.

Objectives:

1. Support stringent zoning requirements for visitability.
2. Require new developments to include improvements that promote healthy lifestyles through community gathering, walking and physical fitness.
3. Encourage use of non-toxic building materials.
4. Adopt regulations to ensure accessibility in all housing types for persons with disabilities.
5. Locate higher density housing near transit/biking/walking routes.
6. Encourage home improvements that will allow for seniors to remain in their homes for longer periods. (Aging in Place)
7. Integrate community gardens into neighborhoods and require garden space in new multi-dwelling development and provide education on gardening and food preparation.
8. Support efforts to create public art in Missoula (i.e. Missoula art museum art park)
9. Support a community recycling plant that would generate a funding stream to support recycling efforts and develop a reuse alternative for recycling glass.
10. Provide effective and cost efficient solutions for collecting recyclables such as curbside recycling.
11. Locate recreational open spaces (parks, ball fields, golf course, etc.) near areas where development already exists or where it is desired, and where the need for recreational space is established.
12. Provide access to adequate community centers for activities, co-located where possible, to minimize costs and maximize joint usage.
13. Explore alternative strategies to encourage new development to locate in areas close to existing service systems. Discourage development which does not have the infrastructure necessary to support it.