

## Meeting Notes

Meeting: Safety and Wellness

Date/Time: 1-29-15

Location: Jack Reidy Conference Room

Notes by: Laval Means, Development Services

Attended by: Anna Semple, Beth Schenk, Bob Wachtel, Dan Cederberg, Lauren Stevens, Michael Painter, Michael Dorshorst, Gretchen Sutherland, Orry Hatcher (Facilitator Assistant), Anita McNamara, Laval Means

## UPDATES

- Ms. Means distributed an updated timeline for the Growth Policy update. The Steering Committee will begin meeting in February.
- Staff distributed a handout summarizing accomplishments related to safety and wellness since adoption of the key guiding policy documents. The list is representative of the types of the initiatives that have been undertaken by the City to implement the recommendations of the Growth Policy. This handout illustrates that the Growth Policy is an important document that provides guidance on a vast array of city projects.

## REVIEW OF DRAFT GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The facilitator explained that the draft goals and objectives were compiled from the statements developed at the December and January focus group meeting. Facilitators combined similar ideas/concepts into a single goal or objectives statement. Statements also include ideas from the listening sessions' worksheet that focus group members completed at the last meeting. Statements were sorted by topic area and uploaded to Survey Monkey so group members could evaluate the statements.

The Group discussed clarifying concepts, refined goals, combined similar statements, and differentiated between action item and objectives. Based on this discussion, the group made the following changes to the draft goals and some objectives.

### Topic 1: Bike/Walk/Trail

**Goal:** Encourage healthy lifestyles by having a complete active transportation and transit network for all abilities and recreational opportunities that are safe, clean, beautiful, and navigable.

#### **Objectives:**

1. Develop a system of connected active transportation and transit routes in the community including connectivity between neighborhoods and community spaces such as schools, shopping centers and parks.
2. Provide transportation options for the population that is unable to drive. (Elderly, youth, households that don't own cars)
3. Establish a mode-split goal for the overall transportation system.

4. Provide opportunities to enhance, promote and incentivize active transportation and transit options by working with local organizations and entities such as the business community.
5. Ensure that neighborhood plans consider non-motorized transportation.
6. Promote safety of all transportation systems including vehicular, active transportation and transit options.
7. Make transportation improvements to enhance safety for all transportation systems including vehicular, active transportation and transit.
8. Establish and encourage the use of safe routes to schools by emphasizing active transportation.

**Actions:**

1. Complete the sidewalk and trail system.
2. Invest in sidewalks near schools.
3. Educate people about bicycle laws and enforce such laws to improve safety for bicyclists, pedestrians and vehicle traffic.
4. Enforce snow removal regulations for clearing right-of-ways and sidewalks.
5. Encourage maintenance and regular updating of the Missoula Active Transportation Plan to ensure relevant policy decisions.
6. Support free fares and expanding hours of public transit service.
7. Support the development of new bike infrastructure.

**Comment [HO1]:** Was considered a possible starting point for an action-item regarding more thorough enforcement of snow-removal regulations for bike lanes on main Missoula routes. Does the statement capture the point?

**Send to other groups:**

- Identify alternate routes for crossing the river. – A consideration for Community Design.
- Consider permeable surfaces for sidewalks where possible/practical to reduce heat and increase water absorption to return to aquifer. – A consideration for Environmental Quality.

**Topic 2: Parks, Recreation and Open Space**

**Goal 1:** Missoula will add and sustain parks, recreational spaces, and open spaces to provide safe and accessible places for outdoor activities and viewsheds.

**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 safe, inviting and conveniently located park and open spaces with recreational equipment as needed that can be easily accessed in every Missoula neighborhood.
2. Maintain open space areas within city limits and in the view shed of the city.
3. Encourage cooperative efforts between relevant (state/local/federal) entities to provide connectivity between parks through trails, neighborhood streets and greenways systems.
4. Provide facilities that allow for a wide range of indoor recreation and community programs for all demographics.
5. Support programs that encourage youth connecting to the natural environment.  
Alternative: Support programs that encourage all ages and abilities connecting to the natural environment, especially youth, older adults, and all-abilities.

**Comment [LM2]:** Do we keep “greenway” in?

6. Support programs that encourage organized as well as unstructured recreation for all ages and abilities.
7. Encourage organizations to provide affordable recreation programs.
8. Conduct outreach to increase awareness of the benefits of a well-developed park and recreation system.

**Actions:**

1. Develop replacement schedule & budget for Missoula's parks and urban forest.
2. Enact development regulations to ensure that park and recreational facilities are available to residents of new development in a timely manner.
3. Make recreation programs more affordable by supporting the development of scholarship funds.

**Comment [LM3]:** Is this already done?

**Send to other groups/topics:**

- Support the development of venues for community events and link these to economic development efforts. = A consideration for Livability
- Partner with irrigators for cleaner water; unused water rights could be put to use in parks. = A consideration for Environmental Quality
- Encourage the expansion of Missoula's gardens / local food production capabilities. = move to Topic 3 (Health Care Quality) or to Environmental Quality focus group (they have a topic for local food).
- Develop a long term management plan for the urban forest and identify a funding source to implement measures. = move to Environmental Quality topic or Environmental Quality focus group.

**Topic 3: Health Care Quality**

**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:**

Still being refined.

**Topic 4: Health and Wellness Promotion:**

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

**Objectives:**

Still being refined.

**Topic 5: Homelessness**

**Goal 1:** Missoulians will have access to affordable and safe housing that is 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.

**Comment [LM4]:** Suggestion to move the portion about who to involve in this direction to an action item.

**Alternative suggested by M. Dorshorst:** Encourage comprehensive, community-wide initiatives to prevent at-risk and impermanently housed Missoulians from becoming homeless.

2. Support services that help assist/care for homeless persons or disadvantaged families in order to gain access to food & shelter.

**Alternative suggested by Michael Dorshorst:** Encourage comprehensive, community-wide initiatives to permanently house and provide adequate support services for homeless Missoulians.

3. Encourage provision of primary-care medical services to the homeless population in order to reduce emergency room visits.

**Alternative suggested by Michael Dorshorst:** Support efforts to shift point-of-service care for uninsured and underinsured Missoulians from emergency rooms to clinical settings. *He also suggests moving this objective to topic 3 or 4 and make supporting health care for the at-risk, impermanently housed and homeless population.*

**Actions:**

1. Establish partnerships with businesses to address homelessness and related issues.
2. Support implementation of the 10-year plan to end homelessness.

**Send to other groups/topics:**

- Address infrastructure needs (sewer, water, transportation and social infrastructure) in under-served areas first. = Move to topic on social service below or to Community Design (infrastructure topic).

**Topic 6: Social Services and Poverty**

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

**Objectives:**

1. Support collaborative, community-wide efforts to immediately address personal safety, education & intervention policies for all Missoulians.
2. Encourage collaborate, community-wide efforts addressing such things as preventative health, mental health (preventative, addiction and suicide prevention), and healthy aging (nutrition, senior services), active lifestyle opportunities and options.
3. Support the development of a single cooperative process for providing social service programs that is a collaboration among social services/agencies/businesses.

**Alternative suggestion by Michael Dorshorst:** Support efforts to streamline existing social service programs.

4. Encourage a comprehensive, community-wide approach to providing livable wages and a nutrition safety-net.

**Alternative suggestion by Michael Dorshorst:** Encourage comprehensive, community-wide initiatives to provide opportunities for Missoulians living under the poverty line to elevate themselves out of poverty.

5. Support collaborative, community-wide efforts to address the childhood issues of proper nutrition, childhood obesity, mental and physical trauma, early childhood development and pre-K education.

**Action:**

1. Conduct necessary analysis to identify gaps in mental health services and to develop evidence response programs to meet the needs of the community.
2. Support efforts to address social service needs through expanded programs, services, and funding.
3. Support expansion of senior services
4. Support expanding services for in-home care and respite care for senior households.

**Topic 7 – Emergency and Disaster Services/Crime Prevention**

**Goal 1:** Ensure the security of Missoulians through the development of well-prepared and responsive emergency and disaster services and infrastructure.

**Objectives**

Still being refined.

**Topic 8: Environmental Quality**

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

**Objectives**

Still being refined.

**Topic 9: Built Environment**

**Goal 1:** Missoula encourages the close connection between development patterns, community infrastructure, and environment as well as the importance of a healthy environment to social, economic, and physical well-being.

**Goal 2:** Building and community spaces in Missoula will be healthy for all ages and abilities.

**Objectives**

Still being refined.

**NEXT STEPS**

The Safety and Wellness focus group is attempting to comment/refine the remaining objectives via the online forum. The group will complete the review of the draft objectives as well as considering land use relationships at their February meeting. Discussion of action items will continue to occur as a part of refining objectives and especially during the meeting in March.