

Community Culture Vision Statement

Our educational, cultural and recreational opportunities strengthen the social fabric of the community. Our top-rated schools offer excellent education and reinforce the value of the community as a desirable place to raise a family. Our outstanding library, parks, and community amenities provide a wide range of programs and special events. Public art and historic resources enrich our cultural identity.

THE ARTS

People, Places and Prosperity

Arts resources support a sustainable Lake Oswego in the following ways:

People: The arts support creative expression for residents of all ages and create connection among community members.

Places: The arts help create a strong and unique sense of place(s) and space(s).

Prosperity: The arts serve as a local and regional economic attractor. Installations, festivals, performances, classes, markets, galleries, and studios all contribute to a unique sense of place and a diverse and resilient economic base. Arts activities also attract visitors to Lake Oswego, to contribute to the local economy.

Existing Comprehensive Plan Goals

There is not a current arts and culture goal included in the existing comprehensive plan. Lake Oswego has significant arts and culture resources that will be reflected in the Plan update to support the 2035 vision. New goals and policies will need to be developed to support the arts.

Policy Questions Posed at Summit

1. Lake Oswego's arts and culture opportunities are currently concentrated in the downtown area, including the Lakewood Center for the Arts, the Gallery Without Walls, and the City's visual art collection at City Hall, the Library and ACC. The Arts Council has also drawn up a new Public Art Master Plan that envisions public art to be integrated into the neighborhoods and city gateways.
 - Looking at the 2035 Vision Map, where and how should arts and cultural opportunities be focused or integrated into the community over the next 25 years?
2. The City's primary involvement in arts and culture today is through programming public concerts, movies and special events, and supporting the Arts Council of Lake Oswego and public art program.
 - Over the next 25 years, how should the City support a thriving arts and culture scene in Lake Oswego?

DRAFT Community Culture Goals and Policies

Summit Themes Based on Citizen Comment

- Spatial Distribution: Respondents stated that art is too clustered downtown and should be spread more evenly across the city. Some spoke to showcasing art at the city's "gateways" while others did not want art in their neighborhood.
- New Locations: Kruse Way and Lake Grove were highlighted as being art-deficient while Downtown was consistently pointed to as a place with too much public art. There were mixed thoughts on art in the Lakewood Center, but respondents generally supported it.
- Support Current Art Programs: Respondents supported the variety of programs and events in the City, including the Festival of the Arts, Gallery Without Walls, and concerts.
- Costs: Respondents concerned that budgeting for the arts isn't a top priority and that the City has enough public art.

DRAFT Goals/Policies based on Community Culture Summit, including all comment opportunities

Goal:

The City will enhance and celebrate its commitment to the arts by providing access to the arts throughout the city and by promoting art as an economic engine for the City.

Policies:

1. Foster the arts in our community by increasing access to the arts in neighborhoods, improving access to spaces for artist and providing a forum for social interaction through public art installations to strengthen a sense of place while celebrating the distinct and unique neighborhoods in the community.
2. Build upon the arts and culture infrastructure, to encourage arts-related businesses and strong arts tourism.
3. Add interest and vitality to the pedestrian experience, as well as increase economic development opportunities in the employment centers, town centers, neighborhood villages, and hubs by enhancing the streetscape, gathering places, and civic spaces through the thoughtful selection and placement of public art.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

People, Places and Prosperity

Providing the opportunity for civic engagement supports a sustainable Lake Oswego in the following ways:

People: Civic engagement activates civic pride, innovation and community dialog.

Places: Civic engagement fortifies a sense of stewardship and increased awareness of the City's role in the community, public resources and limitations.

Prosperity: Civic dialog and engagement recognizes and supports community organizations focused on prosperity and economic vitality such as the Chamber of Commerce and other organizations that work to support a thriving business community.

Existing Comprehensive Plan

The current Comprehensive plan contains three goals and eleven policies in the existing comprehensive plan.

Policy Questions Posed at Summit

- 1) What strategies (include new technologies and social media) are needed to ensure all segments of the community are able to participate in decision-making?
- 2) What is the best way to get you involved in your neighborhood and local government?

Note: *The Community Vision for 2035 does not mention civic engagement. The CAC may want to add some language to the Community Culture vision statement.*

Themes Based on Citizen Comment

- **Technology:** Respondents overwhelmingly supported social media in the form of Facebook, texting, e-mails, conducting online surveys and posting all information online.
- **Neighborhood Associations:** Attendance at neighborhood association meetings was widely suggested as a good way to get involved in neighborhood and local government.
- **Disenfranchisement:** Respondents felt as though citizen input was not being incorporated into the planning process and look for more recording and response to citizen input. Some respondents question the city council's willingness to listen to their opinions.

DRAFT Community Culture Goals and Policies

DRAFT Goals/Policies based on Community Culture Summit, including all comment opportunities and work with Historic Resources Advisory Board

Tracked Changes Version

GOAL:

Provide accessible, meaningful and transparent public engagement processes that offer a wide range of opportunities for all citizens to participate in local government decision-making.

The City shall:

- ~~a. Create opportunities for every interested citizen to be involved in all phases of the planning process to ensure that their concerns are heard;~~
- ~~b. Encourage broadly based public participation including all geographic areas and diverse interests; and,~~
- ~~c. Ensure regular and ongoing two way communication between citizens and City elected and appointed officials.~~

POLICIES:

- ~~1. Provide opportunities for citizen participation in preparing and revising local land use plans and ordinances.~~
1. Provide citizen involvement opportunities that are appropriate to the scale of a given planning effort and ensure an opportunity for those affected by the proposal to be included in the process. ~~Large area plans, affecting a large portion of community residents and groups require citizen involvement opportunities of a broader scope than that required for more limited land use decisions.~~
- ~~2.~~ Encourage public participation by providing a wide range of opportunities for citizens to receive clear and concise information and to provide input into City decision-making, including online and social media, printed materials, and a variety of public meeting formats, times and locations. Ensure that technical information necessary to make policy decisions is readily available in a simplified, understandable form
3. Seek citizen input through service organizations, interest groups and individuals, as well as through neighborhood associations. (Moved up in Policy list)
- ~~3-4.~~ Provide for and encourage formation of neighborhood organizations and support their efforts to inform and engage their neighborhood in neighborhood and community-wide issues. ~~These organizations, when recognized under the criteria outlined in the Citizen Involvement Guidelines, may:~~
 - ~~a. Recommend neighborhood boundaries.~~
 - ~~b. Make policy and implementation recommendations on issues affecting its neighborhood.~~

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- ~~c. Engage in planning activities for its neighborhood and participate in community-wide planning issues. (This list was incomplete, and full list is provided in adopted Citizen Involvement Guidelines).~~
4. ~~Encourage citizens to participate through their neighborhood without excluding participation as individuals or through other groups.~~
5. ~~Seek citizen input through service organizations, interest groups and individuals, as well as through neighborhood associations.~~
6. ~~Establish and m~~Maintain a Commission for Citizen Involvement (CCI) to assist City Council in developing and maintaining a program to promote and enhance Citizen Involvement in land use planning and periodically evaluate that program. The CCI-Planning Commission shall ~~be broadly representative of geographic areas and interests, and members shall be selected by an open, well-publicized process~~serve as the CCI.

Alternative: Create a new Commission for Citizen Involvement (CCI) independent of the Planning Commission that is broadly representative of geographic areas and interests, to assist the City Council in promoting and enhancing Citizen Involvement in City decision-making. (This has been an idea for years, but the discussion always concludes with keeping the PC as the CCI. May be considered again).
7. ~~Support citizen engagement by~~ Clearly clearly state stating at the beginning of the planning process, a description of the project such as; purpose, process, timeline, how to get involved, and the mechanism(s) through which citizens will receive a response from City policy-makers.
8. Appoint special purpose advisory bodies, as needed, which represents a cross-section of the community to aid in the development and implementation of detailed programs to carry out Comprehensive Plan elements.
89. Actively implement these Comprehensive Plan goals and policies and the Citizen Involvement Guidelines through the provision of adequate human, financial and informational resources.
10. Provide, communicate and promote opportunities through City programs and services for citizens to volunteer and engage with the Lake Oswego community.
9. ~~Ensure that technical information necessary to make policy decisions is readily available in a simplified, understandable form. (Moved to Policy 2)~~
10. ~~Provide opportunities for citizens to be involved in the planning process, including data collection, plan preparation, adoption, implementation, evaluation and revision. (Concepts included in Policy 2; processes deleted)~~
11. ~~Appoint special purpose advisory bodies to aid in the development and implementation of detailed programs to carry out Comprehensive Plan elements. (Moved up to Policy 8)~~

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Accepted Changes Version

GOAL

Provide accessible, meaningful and transparent public engagement processes that offer a wide range of opportunities for all citizens to participate in local government decision-making.

POLICIES

1. Provide citizen involvement opportunities that are appropriate to the scale of a given planning effort and ensure an opportunity for those affected by the proposal to be included in the process.
2. Encourage public participation by providing a wide range of opportunities for citizens to receive clear and concise information and to provide input into City decision-making, including online and social media, printed materials, and a variety of public meeting formats, times and locations. Ensure that technical information necessary to make policy decisions is readily available in a simplified, understandable form
3. Seek citizen input through service organizations, interest groups and individuals, as well as through neighborhood associations. (Moved up in Policy list)
4. Provide for and encourage formation of neighborhood organizations and support their efforts to inform and engage their neighborhood in neighborhood and community-wide issues. (This list was incomplete, and full list is provided in adopted Citizen Involvement Guidelines).
5. Maintain a Commission for Citizen Involvement (CCI) to assist City Council in developing and maintaining a program to promote and enhance Citizen Involvement in land use planning and periodically evaluate that program. The Planning Commission shall serve as the CCI.
Alternative: Create a new Commission for Citizen Involvement (CCI) independent of the Planning Commission that is broadly representative of geographic areas and interests, to assist the City Council in promoting and enhancing Citizen Involvement in City decision-making. (This has been an idea for years, but the discussion always concludes with keeping the PC as the CCI. May be considered again).
7. Support citizen engagement by clearly stating at the beginning of the planning process, a description of the project such as; purpose, process, timeline, how to get involved, and the mechanism(s) through which citizens will receive a response from City policy-makers.
8. Appoint special purpose advisory bodies, as needed, which represent a cross-section of the community to aid in the development and implementation of detailed programs to carry out Comprehensive Plan elements.
9. Provide opportunities through City programs and services for citizens to volunteer and engage with the Lake Oswego community.
10. Actively implement these Comprehensive Plan goals and policies and the Citizen Involvement Guidelines through the provision of adequate human, financial and informational resources.

EDUCATION

People, Places and Prosperity

Education supports a sustainable Lake Oswego in the following ways:

People: preserves a well-educated community with strong foundations and life-long learning opportunities.

Places: utilizes schools and education centers as places of learning and as gathering places around which a vibrant community may connect, collaborate and cooperate.

Prosperity: supports education and skills required for individuals to make a living and contribute economically to their community.

Existing Comprehensive Plan

In the existing Comprehensive Plan there is one goal and two policies related to education and land use specifically.

Policy Questions Posed at Summit

1. During the first year of public outreach the idea of Lake Oswego as a learning community was raised. What role should the City play in supporting and enhancing community education and learning opportunities?
2. Some of the school locations are noted on the 2035 Vision Map as “neighborhood hubs” or gathering places. What role, beyond their primary role of childhood education, should school facilities play within the neighborhoods and community, and how can these roles help to keep closed schools viable until they can be re-opened in the future?

Themes Based on Citizen Comment

- Financial Role: Respondents were divided on whether the City should play a financial role in the LOSD. Some felt that the schools should be helped in any way possible and others felt that it is not the role of the City.
- Coordination: Respondents identified the need for Parks and Recreation to coordinate with LOSD on programming, services and the use of sports facilities.
- Education as a core value: Respondents generally noted that the top education system in the City is a core value of the community.
- Continuing Education: Life-long learning and a center for learning at all ages were brought up by the majority of respondents.

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- Encourage young families to move to LO: Respondents indicated that there should be a range of housing choice to attract young families as well as keep services the in City affordable so young families can afford to live here.
- Facility Usage: Respondents supported using schools as community meeting space, perhaps after hours or on the weekend. Respondents suggested allowing private schools, churches, and other organizations rent or buy closed school facilities. Boy scouts, neighborhood groups, and day-care were all suggested as potential uses for closed school facilities. Use for continuing education classes and library services was also suggested.
- Recreation: Respondents suggested using sports fields, gyms, and playgrounds to supplement the demand for recreational ball fields. Respondents stated that the City should coordinate with schools as there may be overlap in recreational services, and also coordinate shared facility use.
- Maintenance: Respondents thought maintenance of existing and closed facilities was important.

Existing Comprehensive Plan Goals/Polices

Goal:

The City shall ensure the availability of administrative and general government services and shall coordinate with efforts of others to provide schools, energy and communication services.

Policies related to schools:

1. Review all residential development proposals for potential impacts on the school system including the adequacy of existing schools and the need for new facilities.
2. Require safe and accessible transportation routes to schools.

DRAFT Goals/Polices based on Community Culture Summit, including all comment opportunities

Goal:

Ensure that Lake Oswego continues to be a community known for educational excellence with a strong public school system as well as opportunities for lifelong learning.

Policies:

1. Provide diverse opportunities for youth and adult education through Parks and Recreation, Adult Community Center and Library programs.
2. Develop and implement strategies to attract families with children to live in Lake Oswego and enroll in the School District. Increase opportunities for family-oriented housing that is

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affordable to a range of income levels.

3. Partner with local organizations that provide educational opportunities to the community.
4. Support student learning opportunities through City work experience, mentorship and classroom-based relationships with City departments.
5. Partner with the School District and Community Schools to provide coordinated educational and recreational programs.
6. Provide land use flexibility to allow schools to utilize vacant school buildings for new uses that support community learning and recreation, and to continue the role of school facilities as neighborhood gathering places.
7. Coordinate with schools when facility and enrollment changes occur to plan for safe and effective transportation for students and surrounding neighbors.
8. Prioritize transportation investments that improve the ability of students to safely walk, bike and bus to all schools.

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION

People, Places and Prosperity

Planning for our historic resources supports a sustainable Lake Oswego in the following ways:

People: Preserves unique community heritage, culture, sense of civic pride

Places: Identifies buildings with unique structures and historic attributes; adaptive reuse and careful demolition conserve resources

Prosperity: Supports neighborhood revitalization, “main street” type redevelopment, historic tourism, visitors and education

Existing Comprehensive Plan

The current Comprehensive plan contains one goal and five policies in the existing comprehensive plan.

Policy Questions Posed at Summit

1. Should the City consider exploring ways to encourage historic preservation through strategies such as developing incentives (e.g., priority permitting, grant façade improvements) for requiring/allowing:
 - a. Deconstruction of historic buildings instead of demolition
 - b. More adaptive reuse (reusing an old site or building for a purpose other than which it was built or designed for) of historic structures and older buildings
 - c. Incorporation of new energy saving building materials into historic buildings
2. Archaeological resources are referred to in the current historic resources goal and polices in the current plan. In the past, the only action the City has taken to preserve and enhance “archaeological resources” is to call the state which has a specialist on staff to handle the issue. Should the City consider the cost and benefit to taking on more responsibility for protecting archaeological resources?

Themes Based on Citizen Comment

- Incentives: While respondents felt incentives could be a good way to encourage historic preservation, they stressed that such incentives be funded with private money/grants.
 - Deconstruction: Deconstruction was viewed favorably by most respondents. Respondents also added that the City should do everything in its power to prevent demolition and deconstruction.
 - Energy-saving: Respondents do not favor energy-saving materials as they may impede development and profitability.
- Historic character: Historic buildings are part of Lake Oswego’s character. Respondents supported historic preservation and indicated that historic buildings were important to them.

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- Archeological Resources: Respondents felt that potential cost of taking on more responsibility for archeological protection was too high.

DRAFT Goals/Policies based on Community Culture Summit, including all comment opportunities and work with Historic Resources Advisory Board

Tracked Changes Version

Goal:

The City shall Preserve, promote, and maintain the historical, archaeological and cultural resources of the community.

Staff comment: The background report stated that there is some controversy over the use of the word "shall" due to the meaning of the word shall (definitely will; must; is or are obliged to), therefore, one suggested would be to remove the word shall. Additionally, adding the words "promote and maintain" could be removed from the policies and captured in the goal. HRAB concurred with these revisions?

Policies:

1. Preserve, ~~and~~ enhance, and protect Lake Oswego's historic resources through procedures and standards designed to the ~~identification~~, restoration and protection ~~of~~ structures, sites, objects and districts ~~of~~ historic and cultural value with the City.
2. ~~Designate as Landmarks*, those structures, sites and objects which possess historic significance pursuant to Statewide Land Use Planning Goal 5. Ensure that all National Register properties are inventoried and placed on the City's Landmarks list.~~
3. ~~Enact and enforce standards and ordinances which protect historic and archaeological resources* _____ by:~~
 - a. ~~Reviewing Landmark and district designations;~~
 - b. ~~Requiring that major alterations* and other land use actions not diminish the significance of a historic resource; and,~~
 - c. ~~Reviewing relocation and demolition requests.~~
4. ~~Utilize a historic resources advisory body* to implement Lake Oswego's historic preservation program.~~

Staff comment: This policy could be removed because the policy has been adopted by ordinance. A revised policy, that HRAB concurs with, acknowledges the CLG status which requires that the City meet a number of qualifications to maintain CLG status.
5. ~~Ensure archaeological resources on City owned lands are surveyed and adequately protected prior to developing park and open space lands and conducting public works projects.~~

Staff comment: See comment under policy 1.

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Accepted Changes Version

Goal:

Preserve, promote, and maintain the historical, archaeological and cultural resources of the community.

Policies:

1. Preserve, enhance, and protect Lake Oswego's historic resources through procedures and standards designed to identify, restore and protect structures, sites, objects and districts of historic and cultural value with the City.
2. The City will maintain its status as a certified local government under programs administered by the State Historic Preservation Office and National Park Service.
3. Conserve and promote the best use of historic resources through strategies such as; adaptive re-use of historic and older buildings, allowing incorporation of new energy saving building materials, reinvesting in historic neighborhoods and buildings, deconstruction, and incentives for historic preservation.

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LIBRARY

People, Places and Prosperity

Library resources support a sustainable Lake Oswego in the following ways:

People: Provides opportunities for lifelong learning, self-education, arts and culture enrichment and community interaction.

Places: Provides community gathering and place for sharing of information and ideas; as a physical facility, can work to reduce its ecological footprint and maximize savings over time.

Prosperity: Supports Lake Oswego's reputation for educational quality, sense of community and thoughtful leadership.

Existing Comprehensive Plan Goals/Policies

The current Comprehensive Plan does not contain a goal or policy for library services.

Policy Questions Posed at Summit

1. How can the library continue to support and enhance the city's vibrancy and sense of community?
2. How can the library enhance accessibility to library resources for all community members?

Themes Based on Citizen Comment

- **New location/expansion:** Respondents were split as to where the central library should be located. Some said that it should be down town, others said it should be moved to the WEB. Respondents stated that the library services location(s) should be carefully studied, but most that the library should be located in a central location with smaller satellite computing facilities or annexes around town.
- **Technology:** Respondents indicated that the library should embrace technology; including expanding online resources, e-book offerings, audio downloads, and DVDs.
- **Programming/services:** Generally, respondents felt that library services are currently adequate. Respondents expressed their approval and support for the library's free lecture series, children's storytelling, and exhibits.
- **The library's role:** The library is a cornerstone of the community and supports education. Some respondents mentioned expanding the library to include a community meeting space

DRAFT Goals/Policies based on Community Culture Summit, including all comment opportunities

Goal:

The City of Lake Oswego should continue to provide library services that provide opportunities for lifelong learning, personal enrichment, arts and cultural activities and community interaction for all residents.

Policies:

1. Increase accessibility to library facilities and services throughout the community for all ages by expanding the facilities, providing safe transportation multi-modal options, and increasing online services.
2. Increase the availability of larger community gathering spaces within library facilities.
3. Capitalize on the opportunity the library provides for creating a vibrant community.

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RECREATION (coordinating with Parks. Should be available Dec. 13)

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