



Warrenton Draft Goal “Big” Themes

Introduction

This process will ultimately result in a comprehensive plan that is based on objective information and is meaningful and useful to the community of Warrenton. Through the use of relevant data and community input, Warrenton Moving Forward will first identify issues and challenges in the community. The plan will capture goals that are important to stakeholders, such as retail commercial opportunities, providing housing choice and transportation options, etc. Ultimately, the plan will include policies that guide future growth and development with the overall goal of enhancing the quality of life for its citizens.

This analysis includes the identification of community planning goals.

Community Engagement Process

The community engagement process for Warrenton Moving Forward is composed of three primary phases:

- Phase 1 – focuses on understanding and prioritizing the key issues and challenges facing Warrenton
- Phase 2 – focuses on the creation of goals related to the issues – the subject of this analysis
- Phase 3 – will review policies designed to achieve the goals of the plan and preferred direction

Ongoing public input was solicited through a variety of means. Detailed summaries for each of these efforts can be viewed on the project website.

- Community On-line Survey
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Perspective Group Meetings
- Public Workshop #1

The process provided the opportunity for stakeholders to engage over a range of subjects relating to the future of Warrenton and associated issues identification, which will inform the creation of goals, policies and will later directly inform the production of a set of emerging “what if scenario” alternatives for Warrenton.

Phase 2 – Goal Development

The process of identifying issues and determining the importance of these issues provides direction for development appropriate and valuable goals and policies. The public input gathered in the Phase 1 - Issue Identification phase provided a comprehensive list of issues facing Warrenton, and targeted the most critical issues that will be prioritized in the plan.

Once issues are identified, goals can then be established. Goals are overarching statements describing the direction that a community wants to go. They establish priorities for communities and help leaders make future decisions which will affect how the city grows.

This is a list of preliminary goals to evaluate as a starting point for discussion. During the process, additional goals will be identified. The process of identifying goals and determining the importance of these goals provides direction for policy development in Phase 3 of the process.

The PAC’s initial task is to produce a “first cut” at refining goal “big” themes for the future of Warrenton.

Step One: Refine Goal “Big” Themes

This is a first step. Ultimately, data will be added which reflects the input from all future public input opportunities that will be assembled. This will include topics that are of interest to some, but not others. Regardless of your individual perspectives, your role is to synthesize the input from the community into an initial pass at a product that reflects that community input.

Tonight’s exercise will focus on results taken from previous public input and your issues discussion during PAC meeting #4. The results of this exercise will be brought back to the PAC at your next meeting for your integration of additional community input gathered from Public Workshop #2. The PAC will work with community input through PAC meeting #6 to revise goals and draft policies.

Community

Preserve “small town” values and character
Encourage a healthy, active population

Economic development

Create more and better paying jobs
Help small businesses open
Attract larger business and industries
Train future workers
Develop business leaders
Promote what you have to offer
Support locally-owned, diverse businesses
Utilize strengths to attract market based opportunities and quality jobs

Growth

Manage growth
Revitalize downtown
Encourage quality development
Encourage good urban design
Locate development where services are readily available
Provide a sufficient mix of commercial/retail uses
Transform highway 47 commercial area

Transportation

Provide an efficient, safe, and cost effective roadway network
Provide range of options that can accommodate drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists
Reduce roadway congestion
Develop better vehicular access

Neighborhoods

Create more owner-occupied housing
Expand higher-end housing options
Invest in existing neighborhoods
Provide housing options for youth and seniors
New housing to meet future population growth

Quality of life

Sustain reasonable cost of living
Develop and preserve affordable housing
Promote available medical services
Maintain a safe community
Encourage provision of a variety of cultural activities

Education

Support a strong public education system
Support opportunities for higher education

Parks & open space

Preserve open spaces and parks
Maintain recreational areas
Develop a community trail system

Governance

Fiscal sustainability to ensure sufficient tax revenues to support public services
Enhance interagency coordination and cooperation
Provide basic services