

Top 10 Objectives

Missoula Growth Policy



At the April 30 Open House, we asked the public to rank their top 5 objectives from the six focus groups. The top objectives are grouped into themes with the number of votes in parentheses at the end and the abbreviated name of the focus group.

The top 10 (11) vote-getters are in orange

Transit & Active Transportation

Design for walkers, bikers, bussers & human interaction

- Support **pedestrian-scale design that encourages non-motorized transportation** and social interaction, especially in areas of the City that are now predominantly vehicular-oriented (e.g., Brooks Corridor). (28) CD
- Locate higher to mid-density housing with convenient accessibility to transit/ biking/ walking routes. (12) LIV
- Formulate land use policy that supports **compact development and transit and multi-modal accessibility**. (12) EH
- 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. (10) S&W
- Expand and improve the public transit system, including bus stop infrastructure; make the system more efficient. (8) ENV

Resilience

Grow Sustainably, so our Community is Resilient Now and in the Future

- Explore an incentives program for local **“green businesses”** that use reuse products and renewable energy. (12) EH
- **Reduce carbon footprint** through renewable energy, energy efficiencies, conservation, and carbon offsets. (12) ENV
- Encourage **agricultural land use preservation**. (12) CD
- 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. (11) S&W
- More **Community Gardens** integrated into neighborhoods (CD8-ENV9)
- Promote and advocate for **sustainable measures** that lead to a more livable, resilient community such as **recycling**, urban gardening, and other similar practices. (11) LIV
- Reduce reliance on carbon-based fuels (9) ENV
- Explore specific programs to **reduce air pollution** from vehicles, industry, space heating and other point sources. (11)ENV
- Discourage encroachment into the **Wildland-Urban Interface**. (8) ENV
- Increase the options for diverting waste from the landfill through the development of more **recycling** infrastructure within the city. (8) ENV (7) S&W
- Support efforts that allow **Aging in Place** for seniors (8) S&W
- Encourage development of a collaborative, community-wide **emergency preparedness** system to help preserve and maintain public safety including crime, wildfire, flooding, avalanche, disease, wildlife, transportation incidents, and hazmat. (8) S&W

Affordable Housing

Promote Affordable Housing with adequate supply, diverse housing types and centralized

- Assure an **adequate supply** of affordable housing in order to maintain a quality labor pool. (14) EH
- Promote affordable housing in the **urban core** that avoids pushing people with low to moderate incomes out of the City (12) CD
- Develop affordable housing opportunities, such as **condominiums** and micro-apartments, for older adults seeking to **downsize**. (7) LIV

Character

Preserve, Enhance, and Design Community Character

- Preserve and enhance **existing neighborhoods and open space** (12) 12 CD
- Encourage development that preserves **community character and the character of neighborhoods**. (12)LIV
- **Protect additional lands for Missoula open space, vistas, wildlife habitat, and recreational trails**. (10) ENV Goal
- Preserve **unique character** of Missoula’s setting by highlighting mountain views and river access. (10) LIV
- Encourage neighborhood plans based on **historic design patterns** that unify neighborhood and foster a sense of belonging. (9) CD
- Ensure that in-fill development and high-density development are **compatible** with the surrounding area. (9) LIV
- Use overlay zones to promote how **development looks and interacts** with the street system, higher density housing on transit corridors, and urban design to de-emphasize parking and emphasize pedestrian scale development (8) CD
- Missoula will have a **diverse and vibrant arts community** that fosters growth and development of cultural activities; including music, visual arts, and performance art. (8) GOAL: LIV
- Preserve historic elements and cultural institutions that contribute to a **unique and vital downtown**. (8) LIV

Compact Development

Promote Compact Development in the core of town

- Discourage **sprawling development**. (10) CD
- Develop **mix-used developments** and live/work opportunities in downtown. (10) LIV (9) HOUS
- Develop **mix of housing types** in the downtown area to attract new households to the downtown area (9) HOUS
- Reduce costs of transportation and providing city services through compact housing development and **in-fill** development. (9) HOUS
- Support compact development and mixed use developments to **reduce costly expansion of infrastructure** (9) EH (8) CD (8) S&W
- **Encourage compatible reuse** and redevelopment of vacant sites, vacant buildings, and historic buildings as a priority over outward expansion (9) LIV
- Create zoning districts and rezone land to allow for **diverse housing** that is compatible with the surrounding areas such as mixed-use developments and mid-range residential densities with access to neighborhood commercial services. (9) HOUS

Environment

Protect and Restore the Natural Environment

- Prevent **toxins** such as pesticides, fertilizers, and material from railroad spills, pipelines, and underground storage tanks from **entering the river system**. (10) CD
- **Promote green space** and the urban forest areas, restoration of riparian restoration, and development of community gardens. (10) CD
- Protect and **restore riparian, wetland, and floodplain** areas from development. (9) ENV

Broadband

Promote Next Generation Broadband

- Promote reliable and affordable **next generation broadband service city wide**. (13) EH)

EH Economic Health
LIV Livability

HOUS Housing
CD Community Design

S&W Safety & Wellness
ENV Environmental Quality