

DRAFT 2012 Comprehensive Plan Mission Statement and Goals and Objectives

The Urban County Planning Commission developed a draft Mission Statement and Goals and Objectives for the 2012 Comprehensive Plan between January and May, 2011. On May 26, 2011, the Planning Commission consented to post the Draft for public review and comment.

Please feel free to contact the staff with any questions or comments related to this Draft or other issues for the 2012 Comprehensive Plan. Our contact information is on the Web site and at the end of this document. All comments and suggestions will be reported to the Planning Commission.

A public hearing to adopt a draft and forward it for consideration to the Urban County Council will take place later in the summer. The Council will likely consider a draft for several months thereafter. You are encouraged to monitor the Web site for announcements of public input meetings and hearings. You can also be added to our contacts list for Email notification.

Thank you for your interest in the 2012 Comprehensive Plan.

DRAFT Mission Statement

The 2012 Comprehensive Plan seeks to provide flexible planning guidance to ensure that development of our community's resources and infrastructure preserves the quality of life, fosters regional planning and economic development, and aids in the attraction and retention of companies and creative entrepreneurial professionals. This will be accomplished while protecting the environment, promoting successful neighborhoods, and preserving the unique bluegrass landscape that has made Lexington-Fayette County the Horse Capital of the World.

DRAFT Goals and Objectives

Theme: Growing Successful Neighborhoods

Goal

1. Expand housing choices.
 - Pursue incentives and regulations that encourage creativity in housing development
 - Plan for housing that addresses the market needs for Lexington, including mixed-use, housing near employment and commercial areas, and housing for older citizens, while providing safe and low-cost housing for Lexington's vulnerable citizens

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- Develop or provide housing incentives that promote higher density and affordable housing that will strengthen the opportunity for economic development, new businesses, and jobs, including the creative class
2. Support infill and redevelopment throughout the Urban Service Area as a strategic component of growth.
- Identify areas of opportunity for appropriate infill and redevelopment utilizing adaptive reuse and design features whenever possible while preserving historic structures and streetscapes
 - Develop an accessible land bank process that facilitates new development
 - Create educational materials that explain the benefits and process for infill and redevelopment
3. Provide well-designed neighborhoods and communities for the ages.
- Enable existing and new neighborhoods to flourish through improved regulation and public commitment, including the options for mixed-use and mixed-type housing throughout Lexington
 - Strive for positive and safe social interactions in neighborhoods, including neighborhoods that are connected for cars and pedestrians
 - Minimize disruption to natural features when building new communities

Theme: Protecting the Environment

Goal

1. Work toward the complete implementation of the Consent Decree as directed by the Environmental Protection Agency.
2. Reduce Lexington's carbon footprint.
 - Implement the adopted Climate Action Plan
 - Anticipate the community's needs within the capacity of available natural resources
 - Provide incentives for green building, sustainable development, and transit-oriented development
3. Support the funding, planning, and management of a green infrastructure program.
 - Identify and protect natural resources and landscapes before development occurs
 - Incorporate green infrastructure principles in new plans and policies, including land use and transportation

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Theme: Creating Jobs and Prosperity

Goal

1. Support and showcase local assets to further job creation.
 - Strengthen regulations and policies that propel the agricultural economy, including local food production and distribution, agri-tourism, and the equine industry that showcases Lexington as the Horse Capital of the World
 - Collaborate with institutions of higher learning to foster a capable and skilled work force while engaging agencies that address the lack of prosperity for citizens by reducing joblessness
 - Foster the success and growth of large employment sectors, protect economic development land to meet the needs for high paying jobs, and enable infill and redevelopment that creates jobs where people live

2. Create opportunities that attract the world's finest and best jobs.
 - Identify and promote sectors of the economy that will flourish in Lexington, including improving opportunities for small business development and workers who rely on personal technology
 - Review and improve regulations and policies that attract and retain high paying jobs through close collaboration with agencies that focus on economic development, including the Urban County Government and Commerce Lexington
 - Provide entertainment and other quality of life opportunities that draw young professionals to Lexington

Theme: Improving a Desirable Community

Goal

1. Encourage an effective and comprehensive transportation system.
 - Implement the Complete Streets program, which includes the design and full use of the right-of-way for cars, bicycles, and pedestrians, among many other considerations
 - Develop viable transportation alternatives for residents and commuters
 - Improve traffic operation strategies

2. Provide community facilities and services to meet the needs of Lexington's citizens.
 - Encourage public safety and social sustainability by providing incentives for Secured by Design-certified developments, which include voluntary standards for the built and natural environments of neighborhoods that help deter crime

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- Provide a range of community facilities and services for improved health, safety, and quality of life
- Maintain a supportive relationship with educational and health care institutions

Theme: Planning for Lexington; Planning with the Bluegrass

Goal

1. Engage the citizens of Lexington in the Planning process.
 - Pursue all venues of communications, including electronic and social networking, to involve citizens
 - Establish early and continuous communication with citizens
 - Develop a network of diverse contacts and a means to engage them
2. Implement the *2012 Comprehensive Plan*.
 - Develop and update a work program for the *2012 Comprehensive Plan* that can be measured and analyzed
 - Provide a public report about the progress of implementation
3. Increase regional planning.
 - Compel other agencies in Fayette County to comply with local development standards
 - Engage leaders in surrounding communities about issues related to planning
 - Support legislative efforts and cross-border actions that improve regional planning

Contact the Division of Planning

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