

MONROE — 2044 —



Planning Commission
February 12, 2024

Tonight's Agenda

- Discussion: Draft Plan Framework
- Discussion: Draft Guiding Principles

Draft Plan Framework

Implementing the Imagine Monroe Vision



Existing 2015 Plan Organization

- Introduction and Project Background
- Vision
- **Organized around eight broad goals**
 - **Policy Framework (200+policies)**
 - Elements (Land Use, Transportation etc.)
 - **Policies repeated in each element**
 - Implementation

Proposed 2044 Plan Organization

- Organized by Required and Optional Elements:
 - Introduction and Project Background
 - **Vision and Guiding Principles**
 - Elements (Land Use, Transportation etc.)
 - **Policy Framework (goal/policies/actions)**
 - Implementation

Imagine Monroe

Imagine Monroe: A lively center surrounded by nature. A place of beauty and goodwill.

Our parks, waterways, and environment are healthy and accessible for everyone to enjoy. Our historic downtown and business districts are thriving and full of locally owned businesses and locally sourced products. We can find everything we need with regional connections and a variety of choices for work, housing, dining, shopping, arts, and activities.

Friendly and responsive, we strengthen connections through gathering spaces, events, services, and community-centered infrastructure – creating a safe space for all.

In Monroe, everyone feels at home and everyone feels they belong.

Proposed Plan Framework

- The **Policy Framework** includes goals, policies, and actions that implement the Vision and Guiding Principles. They are sorted by Comprehensive Plan element to provide clarity on how each part of the Comprehensive Plan is working to implement the Imagine Monroe Vision and Guiding Principles.
- The **Purpose Statement** describes the element and background, as needed.
- **Goals** are statements that help set direction for future policies and actions.
- **Policies** are statements that provide guidance for implementing goals through one or more actions. Each Goal has one or more policies.
- **Actions** are projects, programs, or activities that support implementation of goals and policies and are measurable. Not every policy is supported by an Action. Certain policies reflect direction and expectations.

Guiding Principles



Equity-Centered

Monroe is a community where everyone feels at home, and everyone feels they belong. Equity is central in achieving this vision as it addresses opportunity, power, influence, and resources to meet the needs of all people, regardless of life experience, prosperity, or background including, but not limited to age, ability, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, income, education, culture, race, citizenship, or former incarceration status. Equity is the principle by which institutions proactively adopt policies to take genuine actions that work to eliminate inequitable adverse impacts, and to facilitate increased access to resources, opportunities, and representation in planning and decision-making processes to currently and historically marginalized and underrepresented people and communities. Equity shall be incorporated into all aspects of land use planning and development to ensure everyone has access to the services, opportunities, and activities to meet their essential needs, advance their well-being and that contribute toward a high quality of life.

Connected and Active

Monroe is a community of neighborhoods where people of all abilities can access daily services, parks and green space, and community hubs through a variety of travel options. We support our locally owned businesses, Downtown and elsewhere, and desire to create new neighborhood centers of activity that meet daily needs within short distances from our homes and businesses that do not require a vehicle.

Safe and Accessible

Monroe is welcoming to all, with a diverse community where everyone feels safe, and they belong. We believe that all residents, employers, employees, and visitors should have access to safe, dependable, and efficient multimodal transportation options and community services. This includes safe access to parks, schools, health care, police, and fire services. Community services are in central areas that serve the broader community.

Local and Community Driven

Monroe is a community of people that support locally owned businesses, arts, and culture, and enjoy the outdoors. We imagine that all residents should have the opportunity to grow and flourish in Monroe and celebrate its many cultures. We actively participate in civic engagement, community events and cultural activities. We take advantage of outdoor activities in our parks, community spaces, and natural areas. We are stewards of the environment.

Affordable and Diverse Housing

Monroe is a diverse community with a wide range of incomes and housing needs. Our housing stock is varied, with many options throughout the community and accessible to people of different ages, abilities, and household structure. A person's housing needs often change over time; Monroe's housing choices allow for people to find housing that is accessible and meets their needs and lifestyle. Housing options include emergency shelters, temporary dwellings, accessory dwelling units, apartments, townhouses and condominiums, and detached houses with yards. Everyone has a place to call home in Monroe.

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2015 Goals

Goal 1: Establish and maintain a safe, secure environment in Monroe for residents, businesses and visitors.

Goal 2: Manage Monroe's environment and natural resources, supporting the health, safety, welfare, recreational needs and economic well-being of current and future generations.

Goal 3: Grow as a regional center and destination, providing employment opportunities while sustaining a balanced, diverse, resilient economy for Monroe.

Goal 4: Provide for and appropriately locate the types, quality, and quantities of development in Monroe to assure land use compatibility, enhance neighborhood character, and facilitate the City's long-term sustainability.

2015 Goals

Goal 5: Provide for a wide range of housing types for all Monroe residents

Goal 6: Provide and promote both utility and transportation infrastructures that coincide with need, growth, and long-term objectives.

Goal 7: Provide parks and civic facilities, recreational opportunities, and arts and cultural activities on pace with need, growth and long-term objectives.

Goal 8: Establish downtown Monroe as a thriving commercial, civic, and residential area