
9

Roles and Responsibilities

Purpose

The other elements of the Comprehensive Plan focus on the natural and built environments, where the City has a mandated and historic responsibility. These preceding goals and policies are concerned with how lands are used and protected and the extent to which the physical environment and design promotes positive human interaction, mobility, and a sense of community. However, the City of Moses Lake and its citizens recognize the role and importance of individuals, the family businesses, government and public organizations in maintaining a safe, secure, and successful community.

The Roles and Responsibilities Element deals with the social environment, and aims to relate the goals and policies described elsewhere in the Plan to the City's role of compassion and support, responsibility and involvement, and education and organization that are essential to a viable community. It recognizes the importance of the individual and the need to provide for and support individuals, families, and organizations; and, therefore, that planning is not just for the broad community well-being, but for individual well-being as well.

The goal and policies of this element lay out the components of an approach to defining the roles

and responsibilities of the City of Moses Lake and how to implement them to achieve the community envisioned in this Comprehensive Plan.

Goal and Policies Developed for the Comprehensive Plan

The following goal and policies were developed for the Comprehensive Plan:

THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

Goal 1: PROVIDE A SERVICE ORIENTED GOVERNMENT THAT WORKS WITH CITIZENS AND CITIZENS GROUPS TO RECOGNIZE AND SOLVE PROBLEMS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

POLICIES

- 1.1 Ensure frequent and open communication as an operating principle in all affairs of the City.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- ▶ **Early public notification of land use applications.**

MOSES LAKE PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Roles and Responsibilities

- ▶ **Provide opportunities for all community members to be informed of local government issues, activities and events.**
- ▶ **Clear, well-documented administrative processes.**

1.2 Encourage community organizations (PTA, service clubs, community clubs, youth sport clubs, etc.) that highlight service and respond to issues and needs.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- ▶ **Allow city hall to be clearing house for the dissemination of information on local and regional programs.**

1.3 Ensure that land use, urban design, transportation and circulation policies, plans and projects in Moses Lake benefit existing and future populations in a equitable manner. Efforts should be made to promote health, safety, and the quality of life through responsive and responsible investment of public funds toward social and human services.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- ▶ **Seek strategies and incentive plans for public/private partnerships that will promote the development of day care and similar services, social services and offices, public recreational uses, and community facilities.**

1.4 Foster an environment of safety and security for those who live in, work in, and visit Moses Lake, through long-term partnerships between residents, businesses, schools, Moses Lake Police Department, and other City staff, in crime intervention and safety enhancement programs.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- ▶ **Design guidelines that implement defensible space principles for crime prevention.**
- ▶ **Community-oriented policing plan, (e.g. block watch program)**
- ▶ **Police satellite centers**
- ▶ **Education programs, such as D.A.R.E. and personal safety**
- ▶ **Strict enforcement of health and safety codes.**

1.5 Participate in the maintenance and updates of the county-wide Emergency Services Plan.

1.6 The City will design processes and programs that are user friendly for the public.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- ▶ **Clear, well-documented administrative processes**
- ▶ **Clear, well-documented permitting processes**
- ▶ **Periodic and comprehensive review of the Moses Lake Municipal Code to eliminate contradictions**
- ▶ **Regulations and programs that are easy to understand for all citizens.**
- ▶ **Re-examine and improve processes so that City staff may provide recommendations and findings at quasi-judicial procedures.**

1.7 Recognize the diverse population within the community and use a variety of participation techniques to reach all segments of the population, where appropriate, at a suitable level of involvement and effort for the issue at hand.

MOSES LAKE PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
Roles and Responsibilities

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- ▶ **Support programs that improve access to educational resources and economic opportunities for minorities, women and economically disadvantaged individuals.**
- ▶ **Develop additional citizen participation strategies which provide alternatives to conventional notification procedures when**

appropriate.

- 1.8 Encourage the participation of dedicated, community-oriented volunteers on City Boards and Commissions; aiming for a balance of men, women and minorities.