

City of Forsyth

Dennis Kopitzke, Mayor

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The newly revised City of Forsyth growth plan has been adopted by the City council. The growth plan provides basic goals and objectives that will help guide the City through major improvements in the next 5 years. The plan emphasizes the need for major stakeholders (City, Chamber of Commerce, school district, law enforcement, businesses, community members) to step forward and help implement the major goals and objectives. Several key elements of the plan include: (1) City leadership needs to prepare and adopt a Capital Improvement Plan (being done); (2) the Chamber needs to be more active in providing support for local businesses (3) school system needs to help provide skills and training so students can more easily enter the workforce (4) sheriff's department must be more aggressive in dealing with drug related issues. Copies of the growth plan are available for viewing at City Hall, Rosebud County Library, and the Chamber's website: www.forythmt.com.

GOALS and MAJOR OBJECTIVES

Create a stable business climate for existing businesses.

- a. Analyze the impact of City ordinances and activities on existing businesses.
- b. Identify and adopt incentives to encourage business growth i.e. examine City regulations and fees.

Create an attractive environment for new businesses

- a. Develop a data base of available space/services/infrastructure to meet the needs of potential new businesses.
- b. Encourage community beautification through public and private efforts.
- c. Maintain adequate governmental services at economical costs.

Create desirable community aesthetics for the employee base.

- a. Continue community cleanup/beautification programs on both public and private spaces.
- b. Maintain strong communications with other partners: federal, state, county, schools.
- c. Investigate and expand recreational opportunities.

Create a desirable quality of life character of the community.

- a. Encourage a "family friendly" atmosphere for all age groups.
- b. Investigate methods to address and reduce the impact of the illegal drug culture.
- c. Communicate and coordinate with local groups (churches, youth groups, social clubs, fraternal groups) to identify and develop solutions to quality of life issues.

Provide cost-effective governmental services

- a. Undertake a capital improvements planning process.

Provide acceptable emergency services.

- a. Improve law enforcement services

Provide broad-based recreational opportunities.

- a. Undertake park and recreation planning.
- b. Create afterschool and summer recreational programs for residents of all ages.

Provide adequate senior citizen programs and services

- a. Assist the County in maintaining and improving its senior services

Provide adequate public infrastructure

- a. Undertake a capital improvements planning process.
- b. Utilize a capital improvements plan to guide decisions regarding infrastructure expenditures.

Ensure safe and effective infrastructure

- a. Develop a comprehensive capital improvements plan.

Provide adequate system redundancy for water and wastewater infrastructure.

- a. Build redundancy/backup capabilities into each system.

Maintain water and wastewater permitting requirements.

- a. Ensure that the system is regularly inspected and maintained.

Provide satisfactory transportation facilities.

- a. Continue using the street maintenance district to fund maintenance.
- b. Examine other options for funding street maintenance.

Create adequate housing opportunities

- a. Assess the City's housing stock
- b. Develop a plan for increasing housing options.
- c. Identify incentives for the renovation or redevelopment of dilapidated housing and vacant lots.

Develop appropriate land development requirements.

- a. Follow the zoning and subdivision regulations.

Provide family oriented neighborhoods.

- a. Enforce community decay ordinance.
- b. Identify incentives for the renovation or redevelopment of dilapidated housing and vacant lots.

Create appropriate commercial/industrial locations.

- a. Follow the zoning and subdivision regulations.

Manage State and Federal regulations that affect the City.

- a. Protect residents from the impacts of flooding.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

ECONOMY

Develop a community marketing plan to attract new businesses

Examine the potential for creating a senior living hub.

City of Forsyth, Forsyth Chamber of Commerce, SEMDC

City of Forsyth, Rosebud County, Forsyth Chamber, SEMDC

Examine the potential for creating a transportation center in Forsyth

City of Forsyth, Rosebud County, Forsyth Chamber of Commerce, SEMDC

Develop a tourism marketing plan.

City of Forsyth, Rosebud County, Forsyth Chamber of Commerce, SEMDC

Develop a youth mentoring and employment program.

Forsyth Chamber of Commerce, SEMDC, Forsyth School District, Montana Department of Labor and Industry

INFRASTRUCTURE

Develop a capital improvements plan.

Continue the maintenance and improvement of streets.

City Public Works Department, City Council

City Public Works Department, City Council

COMMUNITY SERVICES

City Public Works Department, City Council

City Public Works Department, City Council, School District, residents

LAND USE

Review and update City Zoning Regulations.

City Planning Board, City Council,

Review and update City Subdivision Regulations.

City Planning Board, City Council, City Attorney

Develop annexation policies and procedures.

City Planning Board, City Council, City Attorney

Improve enforcement of the community decay ordinance.

City Planning Board, City Council, City Attorney

Create an incentive program to remove or renovate dilapidated or unsound housing.

Zoning Administrator, City Council, City Attorney