



CITY COUNCIL / PLANNING COMMISSION JOINT MEETING AGENDA

City of New Prague

Monday, March 11, 2024 at 5:00 PM

City Hall Council Chambers - 118 Central Ave N

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE REVIEW AND DISCUSSION
 - a. [Presentation by MSA](#)
3. ADJOURNMENT

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND NOTICES:

March 12	6:00 p.m. Park Board
March 13	7:30 a.m. EDA Board
March 18	6:00 p.m. City Council
March 25	3:30 p.m. Utilities Commission
March 25	4:00 p.m. Joint Powers Board – Fitness & Aquatic Center
March 26	6:30 p.m. Golf Board
April 1	6:00 p.m. City Council
April 3	6:30 p.m. Planning Commission
April 8	12:00 p.m. Community Center Board
April 9	6:00 p.m. Park Board
April 10	7:30 a.m. EDA Board

City of New Prague, Minnesota

MSA TEAM:

Chris Janson, Principal in Charge cjanson@msa-ps.com

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Emily Herold, Project Planner eherold@msa-ps.com



DATE:

March 6, 2024

NEW PRAGUE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Goals for Joint Planning Commission/City Council Meeting

The goals for this Joint Workshop include summarizing the Comprehensive Plan's progress to-date and reviewing the drafted Action Plan for Implementation, with the intention of assigning timelines and prioritization to Action Plan items.

Plan Highlights

- Vision for New Prague: *"The City of New Prague will continue to cherish its rich heritage while proactively embracing the opportunities of tomorrow. We will foster a harmonious balance between future development and preservation, continue to grow a thriving local economy by supporting a diverse range of industries, and continue to be a place of community focused growth, and opportunity for all residents."*
- Community Element Goals:
 - Community Development & Amenities
 - Goal 1: Establish the City's role as a primary driver of all types of development throughout the community.
 - Goal 2: Maintain reliable and quality public services, utilities, and facilities to encourage growth and reinvestment.
 - Parks & Recreation
 - Goal 1: Develop and support a comprehensive system of safe, aesthetically pleasing, and useful open spaces and trails that serve the entire community.
 - Goal 2: Continue partnerships with Le Sueur and Scott Counties, the State of Minnesota, adjacent communities, New Prague Area Schools, regional agencies, and civic organizations to provide comprehensive recreation facilities and programs.
 - Agriculture & Natural Resources
 - Goal 1: Protect and enhance the natural settings unique to the character of New Prague.
 - Goal 2: Manage, enhance, and preserve unique land and water resources by avoiding development on high value wetlands and floodplains.
 - Housing


PROJECT UPDATE



- Goal 1: Attract and retain residents including young professionals, families, and retirees by supporting Life Cycle Housing throughout the community.
 - Goal 2: Complement New Prague’s housing policies with economic development goals, growing businesses and population in tandem.
 - Economy & Employment
 - Goal 1: Support strategic economic growth within the MN 19, MN 21, and TH 13 corridors and downtown area, to provide additional retailers, businesses, and services for the community.
 - Goal 2: Develop strategies to promote sustainable and holistic economic development.
 - Intergovernmental Cooperation
 - Goal 1: Maintain mutually beneficial relationships and partnerships with neighboring counties and municipalities, as well as state and federal agencies.
 - Goal 2: Enhance the efficiency and quality of public services by collaborating with other governmental entities in the region.
 - Resilience
 - Goal 1: Encourage sustainable practices throughout the community, including development and infrastructure practices.
 - Goal 2: Encourage residents to build relationships within and across neighborhoods.
- Action Plan for Implementation
 - Language developed through a workshop with the Steering Committee.
 - When complete, will expand upon the goals in the Community Elements chapter by adding relevant implementation information such as partnering agencies and anticipated timeline for completion.

Project Next Steps

- Incorporate feedback from Joint Workshop into Comprehensive Plan document.
- Pause final completion of the Comprehensive Plan update until after the completion of the City Center Small Area Plan and Sewer Feasibility Study. This will allow those results to be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan without formal amendments to the goals, Future Land Use Map, etc.

 Community Development & Amenities		Partners	Target Completion			
			0-3 years	3-6 years	7+ years	Ongoing
Goal 1: Establish the City's role as a primary driver of all types of development throughout the community.						
1a	Utilize the Future Land Use map to plan for new development of the area.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission				
1b	Explore development incentives that prioritize infill development/ redevelopment of blighted properties and utilize existing public infrastructure.	Planning Dept, EDA				
1c	Utilize small area plans, when necessary, to generate implementation strategies for redevelopment of specific sites.	Planning Dept, Hired Consultant				
1d	Revise downtown design guidelines to support the mindful maintenance, renovation, and preservation of downtown's historical character.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission				
1e	Support public-private partnerships and work proactively with private business and landowners to facilitate investment in the community's public amenities, economic resources, and built environment.	EDA, Chamber, Businesses, Landowners				
Goal 2: Maintain reliable and quality public services, utilities, and facilities to encourage growth and reinvestment.						
2a	Consider adopting City ordinances and regulations to preserve and protect natural resources during and after development.	Planning Commission, City Council				
2b	Encourage connectivity among new and existing developments through pedestrian/bicycle facilities and trails.	Park Board, City Council				
2c	Use engagement feedback (Appendix B) to inform capital improvement planning, budgeting, and new project selection.	City Council, Dept Heads				
2d	Use annual capital improvement planning and budget processes to secure funding for regular facility/ infrastructure maintenance, replacement, and expansion.	City Council, Dept Heads				
2e	Regularly engage with residents and businesses to ensure that services and facilities meet the needs of the community.	Planning Dept, Chamber of Commerce				



Parks and Recreation

Partners

Target Completion

Section 2, Item a.

0-3 years

3-6 years

7+ years

Ongoing

Goal 1: Develop and support a comprehensive system of safe, aesthetically pleasing, and useful open spaces and trails that serve the entire community.

1a	Use the 10-minute walk principle to identify and address coverage gaps in the park system as future development occurs.	Planning Dept, Park Board				
1b	Continually plan for trail linkages to important community facilities, recreational assets, and neighborhoods.	Planning Dept, Park Board				
1c	Through the development review process, encourage new development that preserves natural features, contributes new parkland, and extends the Greenway trail system (if applicable).	Planning Dept, Planning Commission, Park Board				
1d	Complete an active mobility study to identify funding and implementation strategies for off-street trail network expansion.	Planning Dept, Hired Consultant				
1e	Update New Prague's Parks Master Plan to guide future development of the community's parks, trails, and green space.	Planning Dept, Hired Consultant				
1f	Consider rail-to-trail conversion opportunities as railroad tracks within New Prague's boundaries are abandoned.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission, Park Board				

Goal 2: Continue partnerships with Le Sueur and Scott Counties, the State of Minnesota, adjacent communities, New Prague Area Schools, regional agencies, and civic organizations to provide comprehensive recreation facilities and programs.

2a	Collaborate with the school district to share facilities for recreation and sports programs serving all populations within the community.	Planning Dept, Park Board, School District				
2b	Consider a public-private partnership to plan and build a multi-sport indoor athletic complex.	Planning Dept, Park Board, School District				
2c	Collaborate with local and regional entities to develop an off-road trail connection between the City of New Prague and Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park.	Park Board, Scott County, MN DNR, Three Rivers Park District				
2d	Create directional and/or informative signage about the community's recreational assets for visitors, employers, and potential residents.	Public Works, Park Board, Planning Dept				
2e	Gather community input and collaborate with local sports organizations to identify recreational amenities that should be expanded or enhanced.	Planning Dept, Park Board	In progress with Wold acting as consultant			



**Agriculture &
Natural Resources**

Partners

Target Completion

Section 2, Item a.

0-3 years

3-6 years

7+ years


Ongoing


Goal 1: Protect and enhance the natural settings unique to the character of New Prague.


1a	Continue to require areas of green space in new developments to provide for preservation and aesthetics.	Planning Commission, Park Board				
1b	Consider requiring conservation and/or comparable restoration of natural features during the development process – including preservation or replacement of trees and natural waterways.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission				
1c	Research, draft, and implement a tree preservation ordinance.	Planning Dept, Parks Board, Planning Commission				
1d	Prioritize infill development within the City over development on adjacent agricultural lands to maintain the rural charm surrounding the community.	Planning Commission				
1e	Raise residents’ awareness of Minnesota’s Right to Farm law to mediate potential conflicts between residential and agricultural uses.	Planning Dept				


Goal 2: Manage, enhance, and preserve unique land and water resources by avoiding development on high value wetlands and floodplains.


2a	Create a conservation overlay within New Prague’s zoning map that outlines specific development and conservation regulations for sensitive natural areas.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission, Parks Board				
2b	Acquire and incorporate wetlands into New Prague’s park system as natural amenities.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission, Parks Board				
2c	Support healthy ecosystems by minimizing polluted runoff, utilizing natural stormwater management techniques, remove invasive species, and engage in biodiversity conservation efforts.	Businesses, Landowners				
2d	Preserve the natural character of the watershed through green space acquisition, floodplain regulations, and drainage corridor and buffer protection.	City Council, Planning Commission, Park Board				
2e	Support and encourage sustainable agricultural practices to protect watershed and water resource health.	City Council, Planning Commission				

 Housing		Partners	Target Completion			
			0-3 years	3-6 years	7+ years	Ongoing
Goal 1: Attract and retain residents including young professionals, families, and retirees by supporting Life Cycle Housing throughout the community.						
1a	The City of New Prague should consider facilitating residential development of large and/or prohibitively expensive lots through buying and subdividing processes.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission				
1b	Explore a variety of housing opportunities (not just single-family homes) to provide more affordable housing for a range of households of differing needs and incomes.	Planning Commission, HUD, Scott County CDA, City HRA/CDA				
1c	Consider allowing the conversion of larger, centrally-located homes into two- or three-unit dwellings, as well as the installation of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) on smaller lots adjacent to downtown.	Planning Commission, City Council				
1d	Ensure that the drafted rental inspection ordinance provides relevant regulations for the conversion of large single-family homes into two- to three-unit dwellings.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission				
1e	Utilize development and land use plans to guide development and placement of a variety of housing units – include single-family detached homes, townhomes, duplexes, multifamily apartment buildings, manufactured homes, and mixed-use buildings, and other forms of housing sought out by homebuyers and renters.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission, City Council				
1f	Encourage and promote the development of independent adult/senior housing within the community as needed.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission, City Council				
1g	Regularly review zoning ordinances, subdivision codes, and City processes to encourage the removal of barriers to development.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission				

 Housing (Cont.)		Partners	Target Completion			
			0-3 years	3-6 years	7+ years	Ongoing
Goal 2: Complement New Prague’s housing policies with economic development goals, growing businesses and population in tandem.						
2a	Locate new housing in areas with adequate access to jobs, transportation, and other daily-need amenities.	Planning Dept, Developers				
2b	Reduce barriers and provide targeted development incentives to attract developers for new housing or mixed-use projects.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission, City Council				
2c	Encourage high-density development in areas in and near downtown, and near other commercial areas to provide a diverse and balanced housing type in the City.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission				
2d	Advocate for funding opportunities that are otherwise not accessible to fringe communities like New Prague (not currently eligible for most Metropolitan Council and rural funding).	Planning Dept, Minnesota Housing				
2e	Revise density and parking requirements to support the feasible development of residential and mixed-use areas.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission				

 Economy & Employment		Partners	Target Completion			
			0-3 years	3-6 years	7+ years	Ongoing
Goal 1: Support strategic economic growth within the MN 19, MN 21, and TH 13 corridors and downtown area, to provide additional retailers, businesses, and services for the community.						
1a	Periodically re-evaluate the current mix of retail, restaurant, and service businesses to identify new businesses that will attract residents and regional customers to New Prague.	Planning Dept, Chamber, EDA				
1b	Continue to engage with the community to understand what types of businesses residents want and need.	Planning Dept, EDA				
1c	Use capital improvement planning, development requirements, and development agreements to ensure that infrastructure is adequate immediately and in the future.	City Council, Public Works, Planning Dept				
1d	Consider creating a corridor plan or concept with future development options for MN 19, MN 21, and/or TH 13.	Planning Dept, Hired Consultant				
1e	Utilize this Comprehensive Plan document to promote continued commercial development along the corridor that is in character with the recommendations.	Planning Dept, EDA				
1f	Regularly conduct “business retention visits” with existing business owners to evaluate current and future resource needs.	EDA, Chamber				

 Economy & Employment (cont.)	Partners	Target Completion				
		0-3 years	3-6 years	7+ years	Ongoing	
Goal 2: Develop strategies to promote sustainable and holistic economic development.						
2a	Identify and address the complex network of needs that could deter employees from settling in New Prague, such as a lack of housing diversity, childcare, long-term job opportunities, entertainment, etc.	Planning Dept, Planning Commission, City Council, EDA				
2b	Support the needs of the growing population by actively assisting new business opportunities via programs, space, and infrastructure.	Chamber, EDA				
2c	Maintain an adequate supply of land for commercial and industrial development, either through annexation or redevelopment.	Planning Commission, City Council, Planning Dept, Surrounding Townships				
2d	Facilitate partnerships between the school district and local businesses for the development of a "youth workforce development" program, in which high school students receive career guidance from tradespeople in the community.	MNDOT, Counties, Local Orgs., Developers, Surrounding Townships				

 Intergovernmental Cooperation	Partners	Target Completion			
		0-3 years	3-6 years	7+ years	Ongoing

Goal 1: Maintain mutually beneficial relationships and partnerships with neighboring counties and municipalities, as well as state and federal agencies.

1a	Coordinate with Le Sueur and Scott Counties, the State of Minnesota, and surrounding communities to review proposed changes to land use, transportation system, and utilities that will have an impact on New Prague.	Planning Dept, Counties, State of Minnesota, Surrounding Communities and Townships				
1b	Revisit orderly annexation agreements with neighboring townships and consider drafting a short annexation phasing prioritization plan, if needed.	City Council, Surrounding Townships				
1c	Involve Rice County in any conversations concerning annexation of lands east of New Prague.	City Council, Rice County				
1d	Support New Prague Area Schools in their growth, community engagement activities, and site improvement initiatives.	City Council, School District				
1e	Partner with the school district on land use, utility, and transportation improvement planning.	City Council, School District				

Goal 2: Enhance the efficiency and quality of public services by collaborating with other governmental entities in the region.

2a	Coordinate with adjoining jurisdictions during outdoor recreation planning to seek complementary recreation investments where service areas overlap. Work to avoid duplication of unique amenities.	Park Board, Surrounding Communities, School District				
2b	Enforce, abide by, and maintain existing intergovernmental cooperative agreements with neighboring jurisdictions to provide predictability for property owners, avoid municipal boundary disputes, and plan for efficient provision of public services.	City Council, Surrounding Communities and Townships				
2c	Collaborate with MNDOT; Le Sueur, Scott, and Rice Counties; and local organizations and developers to execute development priorities as outlined in City plans.	MNDOT, Counties, Businesses, Developers				

 Resilience		Partners	Target Completion			
			0-3 years	3-6 years	7+ years	Ongoing
Goal 1: Encourage sustainable practices throughout the community, including development and infrastructure practices.						
1a	Encourage energy efficiency in buildings, lighting, and infrastructure.	Public Works, Utilities				
1b	Support development practices that allow for the capture and use of clean energy.	Planning Commission				
1c	Utilize native and/or disease-resistant plants to maintain aesthetic and natural qualities of the community.	Public Works, Park Maintenance Dept				
1d	Prioritize and protect vital natural resources from overconsumption and destruction.	Planning Commission, Park Board, Landowners				
1e	Support the addition of charging stations for electric vehicles at public entities as well as with new commercial development.	Planning Commission, City Council, Utilities Commission				
1f	Encourage the reduction of waste community-wide, while leveraging environmentally friendly disposal opportunities such as the existing community compost area.	Planning Commission, City Council, Utilities Commission				
1g	Continue implementing GreenStep best practices to achieve community sustainability and quality-of-life goals.	Planning Commission, City Council				
Goal 2: Encourage residents to build relationships within and across neighborhoods.						
2a	Collaborate with local leaders to improve residents' connections to City departments, local nonprofit organizations, and each other.	Dept Heads, Chamber, Residents, Police Dept				
2b	Encourage interaction among residents through small-scale gatherings such as neighborhood block parties.	Chamber, City Council				
2c	Continue to plan and support large-scale community gatherings and "legacy events" such as the New Prague Dožínky Festival.	Chamber, City Council				
2d	Explore ways of supporting and promoting community gardens, farmers markets and other similar community-based food projects.	Park Board				

DRAFT FUTURE LAND USE MAP

CITY OF NEW PRAGUE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

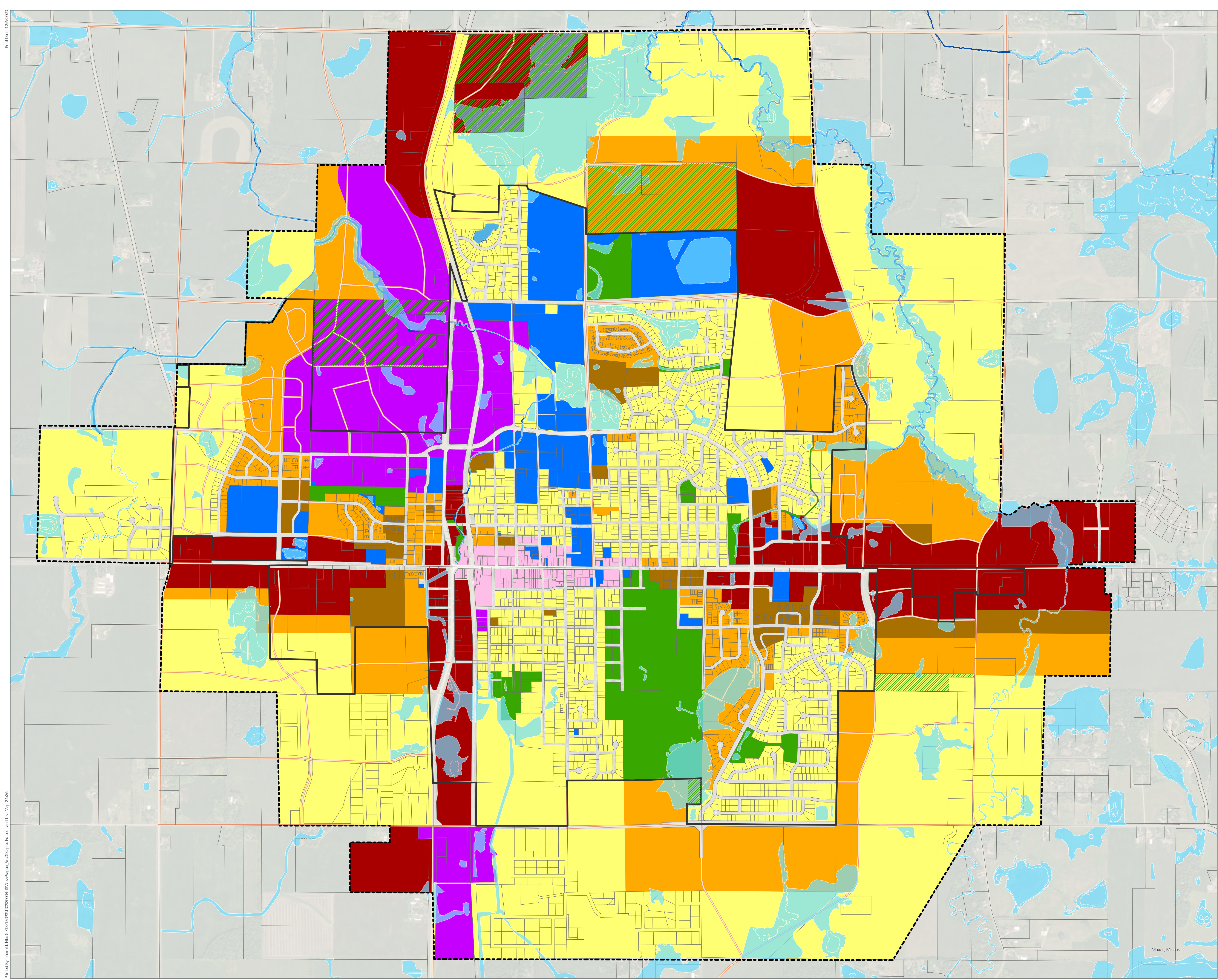
CITY OF NEW PRAGUE SCOTT/LE SUEUR COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Future Land Use Categories

- Single Family Res
- Medium Density Res
- High Density Res
- Downtown Flex
- Business Flex
- Industrial
- Parks and Green Space
- Public Uses
- New Prague City Limits
- Comprehensive Plan Boundary
- Future Road Corridors
- Wetlands
- Proposed Parks

Data Sources

Scott County, Le Sueur County, City of New Prague, FEMA



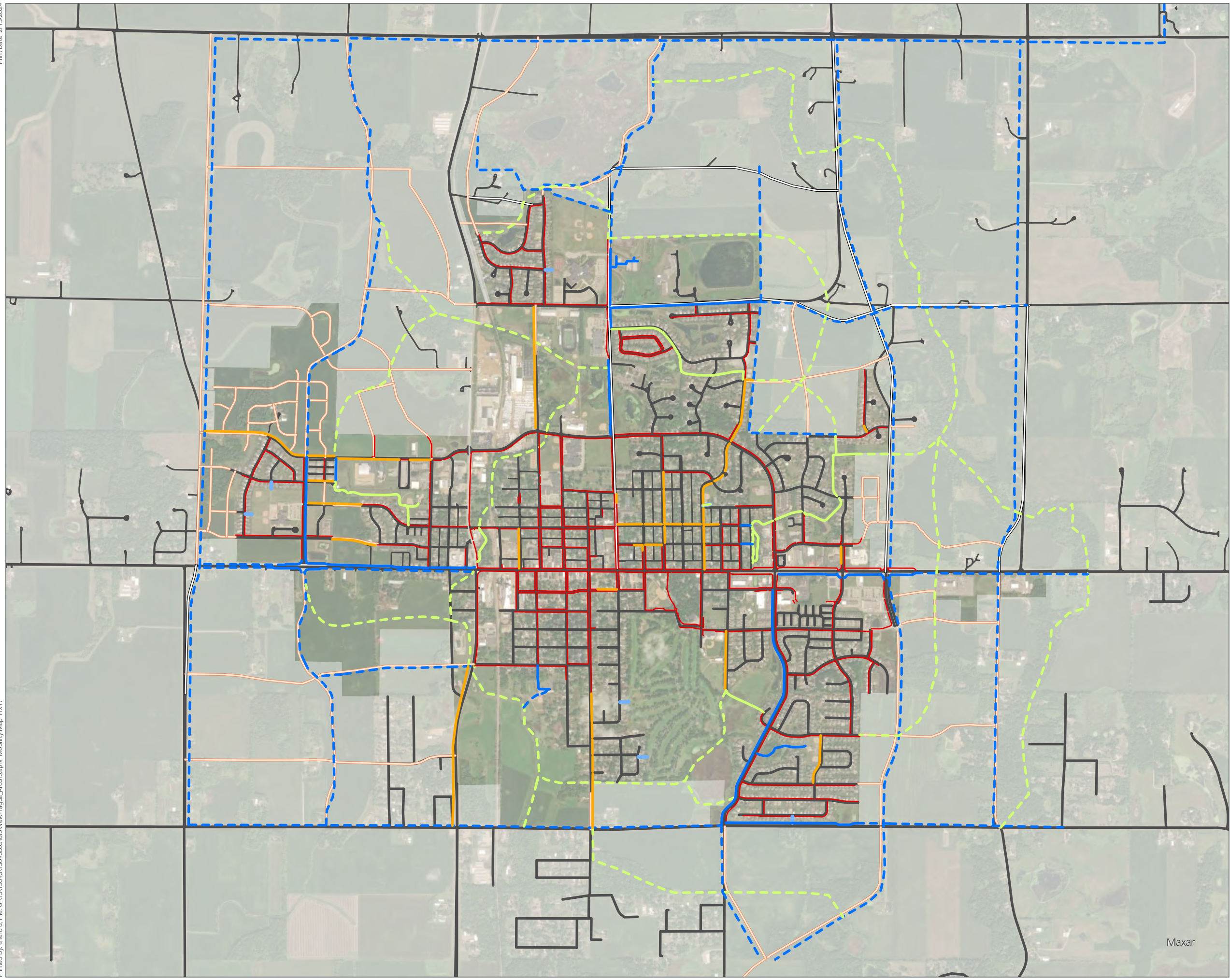
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Maxar, Microsoft

MOBILITY Section 2, Item a.

CITY OF NEW PRAGUE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

CITY OF NEW PRAGUE
SCOTT/LE SUEUR COUNTY, MINNESOTA



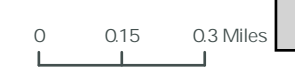
- Existing Sidewalks
- Existing Trails
- Existing Greenway Trails
- Sidewalk Gaps
- - - Potential Trails
- - - Potential Greenway Trails
- Trail Connections

- Roadways
- New Corridor
 - Route Change
 - Existing Roadway

Data Sources

Scott County, Le Sueur County, City of New Prague, FEMA
Data Sources

Maxar



COMMUNITY ELEMENTS

New Prague Comprehensive Plan Update



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & AMENITIES

Goal 1: Establish the City's role as a primary driver of all types of development throughout the community.

Strategies:

- Utilize the Future Land Use map to plan for new development of the area.
- Explore development incentives that prioritize infill development/redevelopment and utilize existing public infrastructure.
- Maintain and preserve the unique character of downtown New Prague due to its historical and cultural significance.
- Support public-private partnerships and work proactively with private business and landowners to facilitate investment in the community.

Goal 2: Maintain reliable and quality public services, utilities, and facilities to encourage growth and reinvestment.

Strategies:

- Consider adopting City ordinances and regulations to preserve and protect natural resources during and after development.
- Encourage connectivity among new and existing developments through pedestrian/bicycle facilities and trails.
- Use engagement feedback (Appendix B) to inform capital improvement planning, budgeting, and new project selection.
- Use annual capital improvement planning and budget processes to secure funding for regular facility/infrastructure maintenance, replacement, and expansion.
- Regularly engage with residents and businesses to ensure that services and facilities meet the needs of the community.



TRANSPORTATION

Goal 1: Create a multimodal transportation network that aligns with anticipated land use/development plans, protects natural resources, and balances motorized and non-motorized needs.

Strategies:

- Utilize Complete Street principles when evaluating highway and road improvement projects.
- Consider requiring and/or incentivizing developers to include non-vehicular transportation facilities in their subdivisions and development plans – particularly trail opportunities.
- Reduce the amount and density of cul-de-sacs in development to improve connectivity among vehicular and non-vehicular transportation facilities.
- Consider incentivizing sidewalk construction and maintenance to ensure a well-connected pedestrian network throughout the community.
- Ensure that City plans for vehicular and non-vehicular transportation align with each other for capital improvement planning and budgeting.

Goal 2: Develop a comprehensive and accessible system of pedestrian spaces that support users of all ages and abilities.

Strategies:

- Identify gaps in ADA-compliant access by engaging the community and analyzing current conditions.
- Identify funding opportunities and partnerships to fix instances of ADA non-compliance throughout the community.
- Utilize Safe Routes to School programs to enhance physical pedestrian crossings and educate students on safe traveling strategies.

Complete Streets are roads and adjacent areas designed with a balanced approach that better supports all modes of transportation. This is accomplished by adding more room for pedestrian and bicycle traffic while optimizing over-designed automobile infrastructure. With a Complete Street profile, visitors and residents of different ages and abilities can more safely access community events, shopping areas, and public amenities with the transportation mode that fits their lifestyle. If implemented properly, this redeveloped corridor can serve the dual purpose of creating a vibrant place (placemaking) and providing a more functional transportation network.



PARKS & RECREATION

Goal 1: Develop and support a comprehensive system of safe, aesthetically pleasing, and useful open spaces and trails that serve the entire community.

Strategies:

- Identify potential park locations in areas that have been identified as deficient in the park system as future development occurs.
- Continually plan for trail linkages to important community facilities, recreational assets, and neighborhoods.
- Through the development review process, encourage new development that preserves natural features, contributes new parkland, and extends the Greenway trail system (if applicable).
- Complete an active mobility study to identify funding and implementation strategies for off-street trail network expansion.

Goal 2: Continue partnerships with Le Sueur and Scott Counties, the State of Minnesota, adjacent communities, New Prague Area Schools, regional agencies, and civic organizations to provide comprehensive recreation facilities and programs.

Strategies:

- Collaborate with the school district to share facilities for recreation and sports programs serving all populations within the community.
- Collaborate with local and regional entities to develop an off-road trail connection between the City of New Prague and Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park.
- Create directional and/or informative signage about the community's recreational assets for visitors, employers, and potential residents.
- Gather community input and collaborate with local sports organizations to identify recreational amenities that should be expanded or enhanced.



AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Goal 1: Protect and enhance the natural settings unique to the character of New Prague.

Strategies:

- Continue to require areas of green space in new developments to provide for preservation and aesthetics.
- Consider requiring conservation and/or comparable restoration of natural features during the development process – including preservation or replacement of trees and natural waterways.
- Prioritize infill development within the City over development on adjacent agricultural lands to maintain the rural charm surrounding the community.
- Raise residents' awareness of Minnesota's Right to Farm law to mediate potential conflicts between residential and agricultural uses.

Goal 2: Manage, enhance, and preserve unique land and water resources by avoiding development on high value wetlands and floodplains.

Strategies:

- Consider designating a new zoning district for conservation or incorporating wetlands into New Prague's park system.
- Support healthy watersheds by minimizing polluted runoff, utilizing natural wastewater management techniques, and engage in biodiversity conservation efforts.
- Preserve the natural character of the watershed through green space acquisition, floodplain regulations, and drainage corridor and buffer protection.
- Support and encourage sustainable agricultural practices to protect watershed and water resource health.

COMMUNITY ELEMENTS

New Prague Comprehensive Plan Update

HOUSING

Goal 1: Attract and retain residents including young professionals, families, and retirees by supporting Life Cycle Housing throughout the community.

Strategies:

- The City of New Prague should consider facilitating residential development of large and/or prohibitively expensive lots through buying and subdividing processes.
- Explore a variety of housing opportunities (not just single-family homes) to provide more affordable housing for a range of households of differing needs and incomes.
- Consider allowing the conversion of larger, centrally-located homes into two- or three-unit dwellings, as well as the installation of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) on smaller lots adjacent to downtown.
- Utilize development and land use plans to guide development and placement of a variety of housing units – include single-family detached homes, townhomes, duplexes, multifamily apartment buildings, and mixed-use buildings, and other forms of housing sought out by homebuyers and renters.
- Encourage and promote the development of independent adult/senior housing within the community as needed.
- Regularly review zoning ordinances, subdivision codes, and City processes to ensure they are not a primary barrier to development.

Goal 2: Complement New Prague's housing policies with economic development goals, growing businesses and population in tandem.

Strategies:

- Locate new housing in areas with adequate access to jobs, transportation, and other daily-need amenities.
- Reduce barriers and provide targeted development incentives to attract developers for new housing or mixed-use projects.
- Encourage high-density development in areas in and near downtown, and near other commercial areas to provide a diverse and balanced housing type in the City.
- Advocate for funding opportunities that are otherwise not accessible to fringe communities like New Prague (not currently eligible for most Metropolitan Council and rural funding).

Lifecycle Housing is an approach to housing that aims to identify and accommodate the unique needs of every life stage, from college students/young adults to established families with children to empty-nesters/retirees. This approach advocates for the inclusion of numerous housing types, sizes, and price points in every neighborhood.

ECONOMY & EMPLOYMENT

Goal 1: Support strategic economic growth within the MN 19, MN 21, and TH 13 corridors and downtown area, to provide additional retailers, businesses, and services for the community.

Strategies:

- Ensure that there is an appropriate mix of retail, restaurant, and service businesses to attract residents and regional customers to New Prague.
- Continue to engage with the community to understand what types of businesses residents want and need.
- Use capital improvement planning, development requirements, and development agreements to ensure that infrastructure is adequate immediately and in the future.
- Consider creating a corridor plan or concept with future development options for MN 19, MN 21, and/or TH 13.
- Utilize this Comprehensive Plan document to promote continued commercial development along the corridor that is in character with the recommendations.

Goal 2: Develop strategies to promote sustainable and holistic economic development.

Strategies:

- Identify and address the complex network of needs that could deter employees from settling in New Prague, such as a lack of housing diversity, childcare, long-term job opportunities, entertainment, etc.
- Support the needs of the growing population by actively assisting new business opportunities via programs, space, and infrastructure.
- Maintain an adequate supply of land for commercial and industrial development, either through annexation or redevelopment.
- Collaborate with MNDOT; Le Sueur, Scott, and Rice Counties; and local organizations and developers to execute development priorities as outlined in City plans.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Goal 1: Maintain mutually beneficial relationships and partnerships with neighboring counties and municipalities, as well as state and federal agencies.

Strategies:

- Coordinate with Le Sueur and Scott Counties, the State of Minnesota, and surrounding communities to review proposed changes to land use, transportation system, and utilities that will have an impact on New Prague.
- Involve Rice County in any conversations concerning annexation of lands east of New Prague.
- Support New Prague Area Schools in their growth, community engagement activities, and site improvement initiatives.
- Partner with the school district on land use, utility, and transportation improvement planning.

Goal 2: Enhance the efficiency and quality of public services by collaborating with other governmental entities in the region.

Strategies:

- Coordinate with adjoining jurisdictions during outdoor recreation planning to seek complementary recreation investments where service areas overlap. Work to avoid duplication of unique amenities.
- Enforce, abide by, and maintain existing intergovernmental cooperative agreement with neighboring jurisdictions to provide predictability for property owners, avoid municipal boundary disputes, and plan for efficient provision of public services.

RESILIENCE

Goal 1: Encourage sustainable practices throughout the community, including development and infrastructure practices.

Strategies:

- Encourage energy efficiency in buildings, lighting, and infrastructure.
- Support development practices that allow for the capture and use of clean energy.
- Utilize native and/or disease-resistant plants to maintain aesthetic and natural qualities of the community.
- Prioritize and protect vital natural resources from overconsumption and destruction.
- Support the addition of charging stations for electric vehicles at public entities as well as with new commercial development.

Goal 2: Encourage residents to build relationships within and across neighborhoods.

Strategies:

- Collaborate with local leaders to improve residents' connections to City departments, local nonprofit organizations, and each other.
- Encourage interaction among residents through community-wide events and small-scale gatherings such as neighborhood block parties.
- Explore ways of supporting and promoting community gardens, farmers markets and other similar community-based food projects.

