

City of Opp Comprehensive Plan, 2023-2033

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This plan is the culmination of several planning efforts by various stakeholders within the City of Opp. The resulting document is the combination of ideas, desired actions, and policies developed from the ongoing efforts of the City of Opp's Mayor and Council, Planning Commission, and City Staff. They were assisted by various agencies including the Chamber of Commerce, Vision in Action, and the concerned citizens.

The following is an acknowledgement and commitment to the over-arching issues, goals, and desires of the decisions of the stakeholders, both public and private as the city continues to evolve and develop. The City of Opp thanks each person, group, and organization that has assisted in developing the vision and plan for our future. We encourage everyone to participate in the implementation of the following plan.

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Community Development

Goal: Seek to develop and ensure a solid “Quality of Life” for all the citizens

Objective: Provide abundant and diverse recreational opportunities for the citizens

Policy: Support and expand the Parks and Recreation department

Policy: Identify and develop open spaces in various neighborhoods

Policy: Encourage use of Lake Frank Jackson

Policy: Renovate and improve public spaces throughout the city

Policy: Upgrade and expand existing facilities, parks, and pools.

Policy: Increase passive recreation opportunities throughout the city.

Policy: Support and encourage organized recreational events, year-round.

Policy: Encourage community-based events and tournaments.

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Economic Development

Goal: Seek to develop and ensure the city has a stable revenue base

Objective: Develop the environment for investment, business attraction, expansion, and retention.

Policy: Grow and attract Retail businesses.

Policy: Expand small businesses that address community needs.

Policy: Support workforce training with industry and educational partners.

Policy: Support/utilize local vendors of goods and services.

Policy: Develop relationships with education and training organizations

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Future Land Use

Goal: Seek to ensure sufficient buildable land and buildings throughout the city

Objective: Encourage residential, commercial, and industrial development.

Policy: Redevelop existing sites to meet market demands.

Policy: Discourage development in environmentally sensitive areas.

Policy: Provide the proper infrastructure for each development.

Policy: Restrict development to provide greenspaces as needed.

Policy: Support redevelopment of Downtown.

Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization

Goal: Seek to provide a variety of housing types and increase availability for all income levels.

Objective: Encourage modernization of housing stock

Policy: Support redevelopment to include apartment, lofts, and townhomes.

Policy: Reduce the number of vacant/abandoned homes.

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Municipal Infrastructure

Goal: Seek to provide the safe and efficient infrastructure meeting the needs of the city.

Objective: Upgrade and maintain all public services.

Policy: Continue to repair, replace, and install stormwater infrastructure.

Policy: Continue to repair, replace, and install streets and sidewalks.

Policy: Continue to upgrade and replace water and sewer infrastructure.

Policy: Continue to replace and upgrade safety features and signage.

Goal: Seek to mitigate and limit the damage from hazards

Objective: Upgrade and maintain critical infrastructure throughout the city.

Policy: Strengthen stormwater infrastructure

Policy: Maintain all utility right of way, easements, and structures

Policy: Discourage encroachments on various infrastructure.

Plan Implementation

This document is a collection of long, middle, and short-term goals that reflect the needs and desires of the community. The goals are the guide and direction which the various stakeholders have identified. Additionally, in order to fulfill these goals, action is required.

The actions required are meant to be accomplished by both public and private participants. Various organizations and individuals can assist in the implementation of these goals and objectives. The public participants develop rules and regulations that mirror the aspirations of the goals. City policies are developed and improved with these goals in mind. Private participants assist by adhering to the policies, installing the desired infrastructure, and monitoring the public sector's actions.

Responsibility and Financing

An important concept that must be understood is that implementation of this plan is not the sole responsibility of the city government. This plan is a statement of expectation and aspirations that must be achieved by both the public and private sectors. The most effective way of achieving the goals and implementing the plan is continued development utilizing public private partnerships and collaborative efforts of local organizations, investors, and citizens.

Funding the projects can be accomplished through city funding, grants, donations, loans, and other incentives that are generated through the Chamber of Commerce, Industrial Development Board, Opp City Board of Education, Covington County and State of Alabama.

This document is intended to be adjustable to reflect the completion of projects and changing desires of the community. Regulatory tools that assist in the continued implementation of this plan include the city's zoning development code, design requirements, along with the various organization's mission/bylaws.

Conclusion

The plan is intended to be the shared point of view and direction which leads the community to address our needs together and as individuals, from time to time, new ideals will be reflected in the goals and actions of the city's plan. The plan is meant to be flexible and act as a guide for the development of the city, community, and its economy. The stated goals are intended to express the desired efforts that will add value to the City of Opp and the lives of its citizens. We are working together for the betterment of our families, friends, city, and community.