



HOPKINS COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

*Vision, Goals &  
Objectives*

2

# CHAPTER 2

## VISION, GOALS & OBJECTIVES

### [INSIDE THIS CHAPTER]

This chapter provides the foundation for all future decisions regarding the Hopkins County Comprehensive Plan.

- Vision Statement
- Goals & Objectives



■ Hopkins County's Comprehensive Plan vision, goals and objectives were developed through input from the Planning Committee, residents, business owners and various governmental departments and leadership.

It is important to understand the purpose of each statement, goal or objective listed in this chapter. A vision, usually written in the present tense, is a broad statement which communicates where the county would like to be in the future. Goals, like vision statements, are broad in nature but usually provide a level of specificity which seeks to give purpose or define results. Goals are lofty, but attainable within the planning horizon. The planning horizon for Hopkins County's comprehensive plan is 20 years, or 2035. Finally, plan objectives provide a level of specificity to each goal and often provide direction necessary to reach a goal.

Implementation or action steps put the goals and objectives in motion and name specific tasks, responsible parties, and the appropriate timeframes to complete each step. Action steps for the Hopkins County Comprehensive Plan can be found in *Chapter 11: Implementation*.



Figure: Hopkins County Scenic Views

## VISION STATEMENT



The Vision for Hopkins County is centered on uniting its **diverse cities and scenic countryside** while building upon the community's geographic **location** for future **growth**.

From providing **utilities** for expanding businesses to presenting residents with new and fun **entertainment, arts, cultural and recreational opportunities**, Hopkins County will support planned and pro-active growth for the future. A **comprehensive and responsive** educational base will meet the needs of a **dynamic workforce**. Residents will enjoy a **diverse job base** that attracts and retains business and industry while supporting new business formation.

The County will provide optimal community and neighborhood connectivity through **roads, trails and sidewalks** to serve residents and visitors. Capitalizing on the **opportunity for tourism**, the County will work to **express the character, history and identity** of this community through the built and natural environment. As Hopkins County achieves its goals, the community will implement **strategic policies** that continually create a successful future. ))

## GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The following goals & objectives are over-arching to include the county as a whole. Each member community has individually prioritized and tailored each goal and corresponding objectives to their individual community. The priorities, goals and objectives for each community can be found in *Appendix D: Individual Community Goals and Objectives*.

1

Designate **LAND USE** to provide suitable locations for future growth in Hopkins County.

- a. Develop a program for adaptive reuse of abandoned mining areas or land that is now unbuildable due to previous mining activity.
- b. Preserve prime agricultural land within Hopkins County for agricultural purposes.
- c. Provide for industrial growth in strategic locations.
- d. Protect the integrity of wetlands, floodplains and other natural resources by limiting development in these areas.

- e. Provide for a variety of housing types, including senior living, affordable living and new growth areas and multi-family.
- f. Reinvest in aging housing areas to promote redevelopment.
- g. Provide for planned growth at interchanges along I-69.
- h. Encourage mixed-uses within the urban areas.

**2**

Diversify the **JOB BASE** to provide economic development opportunities.

- a. Expand the existing job base to focus on industrial, manufacturing, technical and related industries.
- b. Place a priority on occupying empty industrial buildings before new development.
- c. Promote the agricultural-business industry to support local farmers and promote tourism.
- d. Retain existing businesses and industry and support their expansion and growth.
- e. Create an environment supportive of small business creation and development.

**3**

Provide ample **UTILITY** capacity to existing development before future growth areas.

- a. Improve the existing water and sewer capacities to serve existing and future development.
- b. Replace aging water and sewer infrastructure that is failing or outdated.
- c. Place a priority on providing water and sewer capacity to industrial growth.
- d. Enhance coordination efforts between the multiple water and sewer providers.
- e. Continue to improve drainage and flooding issues.
- f. Improve cellular service and internet service throughout the county.

**4**

Develop necessary **FACILITIES** and adequate personnel levels.

- a. Support necessary and appropriate personnel levels for all emergency management staff, including fire and police.

- b. Analyze existing fire district boundaries to determine the best manner to serve residents and businesses.
- c. Build a training facility for all emergency management departments, including fire, police, and EMS.
- d. Update and modernize school facilities while maintaining local community identities.
- e. Evaluate spillway and dam development options for reservoirs through the county.
- f. Continue to develop regional sports complex and enhance other recreational facilities.
- g. Encourage growth and re-vitalization of the existing library to accommodate trends in use and in technology.
- h. Promote arts and cultural opportunities for residents to enjoy.

**5**

Provide a functional **TRANSPORTATION** network for commerce, commuters, and recreation.

- a. Complete road improvements throughout the county, including road widening where needed.
- b. Provide bicycle and pedestrian connections throughout the county with a focus on connecting neighborhoods and parks.
- c. Preserve the functionality of the roadway network by ensuring new development does not overburden the system.
- d. Implement access management guidelines near the I-69 interchanges to protect the level of service of existing roads.
- e. Implement practices to alleviate congestion with a focus on the urban areas and near schools.
- f. Support public transit/bus service for those without private transportation and the elderly.
- g. Evaluate the need for and impacts of a new bypass near Madisonville.
- h. Promote the relocation of CSX railroad line out of downtown Madisonville.
- i. Enhance the airport with additional hanger space and maintenance facilities.

## 6

Promote and develop a unified **CHARACTER & IDENTITY** for Hopkins County.

- a. Develop entry points or gateways into Hopkins County that are reflective of the community.
- b. Create a unified vision for the county as a whole.
- c. Reinforce the identity of cities or neighborhoods through identification signage.
- d. Create a wayfinding system to help visitors navigate to major destinations.
- e. Continue to promote and market Hopkins County to increase tourism.
- f. Emphasize Hopkins County as a place with a small town atmosphere with countryside beauty.
- g. Preserve and restore the historically important sites and build upon Hopkins County's character.
- h. Break the threshold of 50,000 residents in order to market Hopkins County as a larger community.

## 7

Expand and improve **RECREATIONAL & ENTERTAINMENT** opportunities.

- a. Expand the existing park system to meet the needs of future growth.
- b. Encourage growth of retail and shopping opportunities.
- c. Encourage new and support existing dining opportunities that serve residents and visitors.
- d. Provide opportunities and options for youth entertainment.
- e. Support arts and cultural activities for residents and visitors of all ages.
- f. Promote private recreational opportunities that increase tourism.

## 8

Foster an **EDUCATION** system which supports the marketplace and the communities in which they serve.

- a. Work with educational institutions and major employers to create programs that match market needs for jobs.

