

3. CITY VISION

On a day-to-day basis, the City provides many services that are needed to maintain a high-quality of living and contribute to the overall success of Arden Hills. This Plan is divided into fourteen chapters that address a range of topics, including land use, housing, and transportation among others. While each chapter has its own goals and policies, the chapters are not independent of each other. This Plan should be viewed as an integrated whole in order to take advantage of opportunities that may be able to advance the goals and policies from more than one chapter.

The chapters, goals, and policies in this Comprehensive Plan are not presented in order of importance or priority. Each goal and policy has been identified as a tool to advance the overall City vision. The primary purpose of this Plan is to support and advance the City's long-term vision:

City Vision – Arden Hills is a strong community that values its unique environmental setting, strong residential neighborhoods, vital business community, well-maintained infrastructure, fiscal soundness, and our long-standing tradition as a desirable City in which to live, work, and play.

The community seeks to achieve this overall City vision by working to advance the following goals in this Comprehensive Plan:

Active Living – Enhance the health, safety, and well-being of all who live, work, and play in the City.

TCAAP Redevelopment – Develop TCAAP in a way that accommodates a mix of land uses that is sensitive to the natural environment, economically sustainable, and of benefit to the community.

Land Use – Develop and maintain a land use pattern that strengthens the vitality, quality, and character of our residential neighborhoods, commercial districts, and industrial areas while protecting the community's natural resources and developing a sustainable pattern for future development.

Housing - Develop and maintain a strong, vital, diverse and stable housing supply for all members of the community.

Economic Development and Redevelopment – Promote the development, redevelopment, and maintenance of a viable, innovative, and diverse business environment serving Arden Hills and the metropolitan area.

Parks and Recreation – Create a comprehensive, maintained, and interconnected system of parks, pathways, and open spaces as well as a balanced program of recreational activities for residents of all ages, incomes, and abilities.

Protected Resources – Preserve, protect, and restore the community’s natural resources, including open spaces, lakes, wetlands, other significant natural features, and historic resources.

Transportation – Provide a transportation system that has convenient and effective multi-modal connections within Arden Hills and to adjacent municipalities, the remainder of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, and greater Minnesota.

Resilience and Sustainability – Promote resiliency and sustainable design practices in the preservation, development, redevelopment, and maintenance of the City’s natural and built environment.

Public Facilities, Infrastructure, and Services – Provide efficient and high-quality public facilities, services, and infrastructure.

Each chapter in this Plan includes the background information for each goal, policies to advance the goal, and suggested implementation options. The policies and other implementation techniques listed in this Plan are not intended to be all-inclusive and there is overlap between chapters. New opportunities or tools that arise over time should be considered even if not included in this Comprehensive Plan.