

# CITY OF ARDEN HILLS STRATEGIC PLANNING SUMMARY



## Mission Statement

*To serve Arden Hills residents and businesses by fostering a vibrant, connected and sustainable community.*



## Core Values

### Community Vitality

We support thriving neighborhoods and a strong local economy through community-based planning.

### Responsible Stewardship

We maintain assets, manage financial resources wisely and protect our natural environment.

### Integrity in Service

We are committed to transparent, accountable and responsive governance.



## 3 Year Vision

Over the next three years, we envision Arden Hills operating sustainably and meeting the evolving needs of its community. The City Council and Staff have agreed to the following results to be in place by 2028:

- Defined Community Identity
- Effective and Productive Partnerships
- Parks System Plan is Actively Utilized as a Living Document
- Constructed Hwy 10 Trail and Financial Commitment to Lake Johanna Blvd Trail
- Defined and Addressed Evolving Staff Needs
- Effective Financial Stewardship
- A High Standard of Critical Public Infrastructure Maintained
- Completed Proposed Plans for Development and Maintenance

## 2 Year Strategic Directions and First Year Actions

To achieve the three-year vision of success, the following focused areas of action, also referred to as strategic directions, were established along with specific priorities that will be implemented in year one.



### Enhancing Our Identity & Strengthening Our Partnerships

#### Goals

Clear city boundaries, increased business participation and improved communication reach

#### 2026 Priorities

- Expand Adopt a Park (and sponsorship program)
- Communication assessment and improvement plan
- EDC approved work plan

## Investing in Natural Environment, Parks, Trails and Recreational Opportunities



### Goals

Hwy 10 Trail completed, 10-year parks implementation strategy, funding identified for Lake Johanna Blvd Trail, improved invasive species management

### 2026 Priorities

- Invasive species educational plan
- Complete Parks System Plan and project prioritization
- Identify parks plan funding opportunities

## Preparing Our Organization for Potential Service Growth

### Goals

Staff equipped with modern technology, increased operational efficiency

### 2026 Priorities

- Staff needs assessment complete
- Technology needs assessment
- Explore alternative funding sources



## Reviewing and Updating Our Policies to Support Community Development Initiatives

### Goals

Rice Creek Commons development underway, housing maintenance policy in place, vacant properties repurposed, data points available for major decisions

### 2026 Priorities

- Develop ADU policy
- Identify developers for Rice Creek Commons
- Complete Zoning ordinance overhaul
- Conduct City owned land discussion
- Redevelopment plan for vacant properties
- Rental review
- Implement encroachment policy

