

Vision and Objectives

The Vision

This section of the Master Plan describes the collective vision for the future of the Greater Thompsonville Area - what we would like the community to look like. The vision statement establishes expectations for future development, conceptualizes the values upon which the goals and objectives are developed and presents a long-range view of the future. The vision statement is based upon the *Tenants of Smart Growth*, the Pillars and Principles of *Strategic Growth*, discussions with the joint planning commission and input collected at the public meeting and subsequent joint planning commission meetings.

Community Vision - The Greater Thompsonville Area has a healthy mix of beautiful natural areas and rural residences surrounding a vibrant village with small town charm and modern amenities. The people of the area are welcoming, cooperative and work together to support community events, preserve and rehabilitate downtown buildings, cultivate and support new and existing businesses and manage the community's natural resources. From the thriving Crystal Mountain Resort & Spa to the pristine waters of the Betsie River and to the lively streets of downtown, the Greater Thompsonville Area offers residents and visitors of all ages access to world-class and year-round recreation. There are great restaurants and services, access to fresh foods, walkable areas, a vibrant downtown, engaging community events and an entrepreneurial culture with abundant employment opportunities.

Goals and Objectives

This section of the Master Plan describes the goals and objectives of the community. The goal statements are intended to be realistic and achievable, inspire action and describe the future as the residents of the area would like to see it. As described in the *Introduction*, the goal statements are based upon the *Tenants of Smart Growth* most applicable to the Greater Thompsonville Area.

- Goals**
- Create a Range of Housing Opportunities and Choices
 - Foster a Distinctive and Attractive Community, with a Strong Sense-of-Place
 - Preserve Open Space, Farmland, Natural Beauty and Critical Environmental Areas
 - Provide for a Variety of Transportation Choices
 - Provide Opportunities for Economic Growth that are Diverse, Environmentally Friendly and Offer Meaningful Employment
 - Efficiently and Effectively Provide and Maintain Important Public Services
 - Make Development Decisions Predictable, Fair and Cost Effective

Community Vision - The Greater Thompsonville Area shall continue to be a walkable community.



Goal: Create a Range of Housing Opportunities and Choices

- Objective: Increase opportunities to accommodate new professionals, young families and others within the lower and medium income range.
- Objective: Provide housing options that meet the needs of seniors.
- Objective: Ensure residential development is attractive, well built, well kept and integrates into the natural surrounding and built environment.

Goal: Foster a Distinctive and Attractive Community, with Strong Sense-of-Place

- Objective: Establish high-quality visual character throughout the community.
- Objective: Work to develop a unique but resort-oriented identity for the downtown.
- Objective: Maintain, expand, and market the community’s outdoor recreational resources.
- Objective: Increase the number of community events.
- Objective: Encourage civic engagement and volunteerism.
- Objective: Provide for a healthy and active community.
- Objective: Continue to foster collaboration between the two Townships and the Village.
- Objective: Help to assure the development of a well-prepared and educated youth ready to compete in the global knowledge economy.

Community Objective - Ensure residential development is attractive, well built, well kept and integrates into the natural surroundings and built environment.



Community Objective - Work to develop a unique but resort-oriented identity for the downtown.



Goal: Preserve Open Space, Farmland, Natural Beauty and Critical Environmental Areas

- Objective: Preserve the community’s scenic and rural character by minimizing the impacts of development on key natural features.
- Objective: Protect the quality of surface and groundwater resources.
- Objective: Direct development towards the Village.

Goal: Provide a Variety of Transportation Choices

- Objective: Maintain and improve the existing road system.
- Objective: Increase public transportation services to the community.
- Objective: Promote and provide for safe and efficient transportation infrastructure that serves pedestrians and bicyclists, especially in the downtown.

Goal: Provide Opportunities for Economic Growth that are Diverse, Environmentally-Friendly and Offer Meaningful Employment

- Objective: Provide mixed use areas that offer a combination of residential and commercial uses.
- Objective: Establish an entrepreneur-friendly environment within the community.
- Objective: Foster greater participation in regional economic and community development efforts.

Goal: Efficiently and Effectively Provide and Maintain Important Public Services

- Objective: Maintain existing services.
- Objective: Work to address the social needs of area residents.
- Objective: Continue to provide for a safe community.

Community Goal - Provide a variety of transportation choices.



Community Objective – Promote and provide for safe and efficient transportation infrastructure that serves pedestrians and bicyclists, especially in the downtown.



Objective: Explore new opportunities to utilize alternative technologies (such as solar and wind) while considering the impacts on area residents.

Goal: Make Development Decisions Predictable, Fair and Cost Effective

Objective: Develop a joint zoning ordinance that is readable and supports the Master Plan.

Objective: Encourage community and stakeholder collaboration.

Objective: Provide a clear set of guidelines and expectations for developers.

DRAFT