

Executive Summary

This Comprehensive Plan serves as the blueprint for Jasper's Bright Future. Each chapter in this plan provides valuable details and insight relevant to Jasper County as it prepares for the next 20 years. Public Feedback and Planning Best Practices are also included in each chapter to provide rationale for the content and goals and objectives listed at the end of the chapter.



The Introduction describes the purpose of the Comprehensive Plan: Guide for Decision Makers, Legal Basis for Land Use Regulations, and the Community's Vision for the Future.

The Vision Statement:

“Jasper County will balance prosperity and preservation and be a community where people can put down roots to grow towards a brighter future.”

The Introduction also summarizes Iowa's Smart Planning Principles and the public engagement and planning process.



The Community Profile chapter summarizes the regional context and demographics of the county. The population projections indicate a change in population from 37,147 per the 2018 Census Bureau estimate to between 34,525 and 40,148 in 2040.

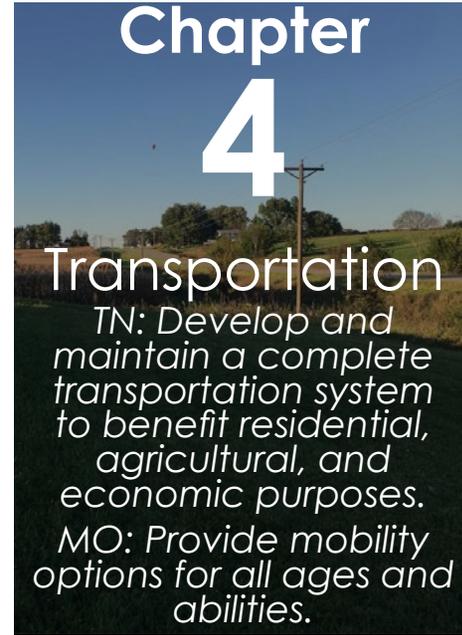


Chapter 3
Land Use

LU: Preserve the rural atmosphere while promoting responsible growth.

Land Use Objectives:

- ☀ LU-1: Improve communication between the county and cities regarding land use decisions
- ☀ LU-2: Promote the efficient layout and highest and best use of land



Chapter 4
Transportation

TN: Develop and maintain a complete transportation system to benefit residential, agricultural, and economic purposes.
MO: Provide mobility options for all ages and abilities.

Transportation Objectives:

- ☀ TN-1: Ensure that the transportation network is safe and efficient
- ☀ TN-2: Promote development of a grid roadway network
- ☀ TN-3: Use the street design to establish a character for the county, villages, and cities
- ☀ MO-1: Develop non-motorized connectivity for transportation purposes
- ☀ MO-2: Support motorized travel without individual motorized vehicle ownership



Chapter 5
Housing

Provide a variety of attractive housing options, accommodating all income levels in all stages of life.

Housing Objectives

- ☀ HS-1: Allow innovative and creative housing designs that accommodate the public's changing needs and preferences, while maintaining the county's character
- ☀ HS-2: Increase the availability of housing targeted toward households earning more than the County's median income
- ☀ HS-3: Ensure the housing stock is safe and attractive
- ☀ HS-4: Promote, incentivize, and facilitate housing development opportunities

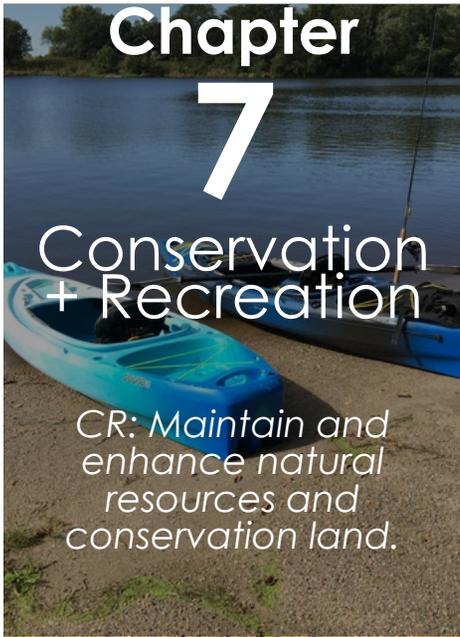


Chapter 6
Agriculture

Ensure the future of agriculture as a vibrant part of Jasper County's identity and economy.

Agriculture Objectives:

- ☀ AG-1: Support agricultural prosperity through educational, infrastructure, and marketing resources
- ☀ AG-2: Improve the public image and understanding of the role of agriculture in the county
- ☀ AG-3: Protect Jasper County's natural resources through environmentally-sensitive farming methods



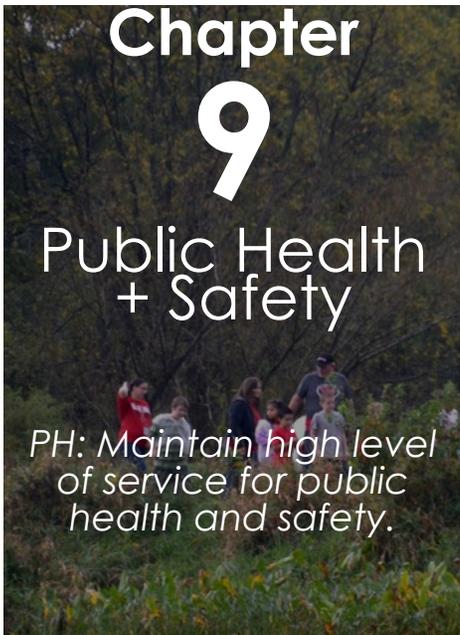
Conservation + Recreation Objectives:

- ☀ CR-1: Protect wetlands, prairies, stream corridors, and other wildlife habitat
- ☀ CR-2: Foster community connection, access and awareness of natural resources through wildlife parks, trails, and programs



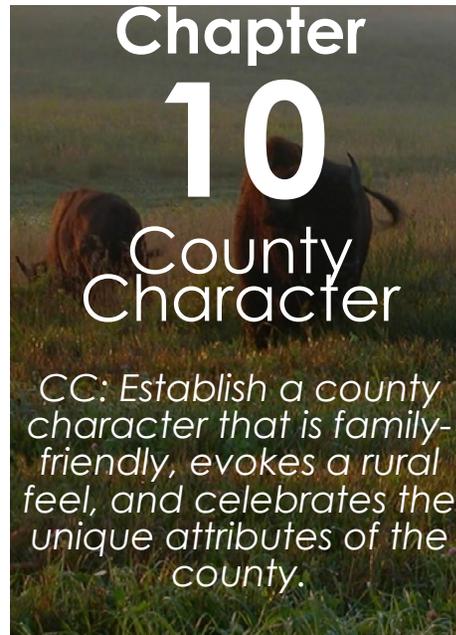
Economy Objectives:

- ☀ EC-1: Create and attract an educated and skilled workforce
- ☀ EC-2: Establish a business-friendly environment
- ☀ EC-3: Use county-wide marketing to promote tourism and local businesses
- ☀ EC-4: Seek new businesses that will diversify and strengthen the local economy
- ☀ EC-5: Encourage entrepreneurship and support of local businesses development



Public Health + Safety Objectives:

- ☀ PH-1: Ensure adequate and effective sheriff patrol and public outreach
- ☀ PH-2: Minimize injuries and loss of life and property due to impacts of natural hazards (JCMEMP)
- ☀ PH-3: Maintain a high level of communication with residents
- ☀ PH-4: Ensure that the health needs, both physical and mental, of all residents are being met



County Character Objectives:

- ☀ CC-1: Support and expand special events and festivals showcasing locations throughout the county
- ☀ CC-2: Create a unique identity for the county and its towns and villages
- ☀ CC-3: Be an environmentally-conscious leader



The Implementation Plan will serve as the guide to decision-making and initiatives in the county. It lists partners and resources that may be available to help implement the plan. Partnerships and collaboration will be the key to implementing the plan goals.

Each year, the Planning and Zoning Commission should develop a work plan for actions to prioritize that year and assess accomplishments of the prior year.



The appendix documents all of the public engagement details, including presentations and the full responses to the MetroQuest online survey. It also summarizes the relevant plans and provides the detailed population projections.