

CHAPTER 8: SUMMARY MATRIX FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Overview

This chapter provides a comprehensive look at all goals, policies and action items mentioned earlier in the comprehensive plan document, and is organized by the following:

- Future Land Use Recommendations
- Housing Recommendations
- Transportation + Mobility Recommendations
- Community Identity + Downtown Recommendations
- Parks + Trails Recommendations
- Natural Resources + Energy Recommendations

Additionally, each policy or action item that was prioritized from the public open house and online input is identified as follows:

 High Priority (7+ stars)

 Medium Priority (5-6 stars)

Goals, Policies, and Action Items

Each chapter within the Springfield Comprehensive Plan concludes with a list of goals, policies and action items. A sample chart and definitions is provided below to better summarize how these recommendations are intended to be used. The recommended goals, policies, and action items for the Future Land Use Chapter are provided on the opposite page.

Chapter code: FLU = Future Land Use and follows with the rest of the core chapters.

Goals are intentionally broad and aspirational.

GOAL FLU-1: GOALS ARE VISIONARY AND REFLECT WHAT THE CITY SHOULD ASPIRE TO ACHIEVE.

Policies

P-1.1	Policies are standard operations and procedures that the City should follow to encourage sustainable growth and activity in the community.
-------	--

Action Items

AI-1.1	Action items are steps the City should consider taking to support the goal. Some items are one-step components, while others are intended to be practiced long-term.
--------	--

*Policies = P, Action Items = AI
The numbering practice follows Chapter #, Item #*

GOAL FLU-2: PROMOTE SMART AND BALANCED GROWTH THROUGHOUT SPRINGFIELD

Policies

✱	P-2.1	Preserve sensitive environmental areas, such as streams, floodplains, and areas with significant tree cover. Future regulatory tools for this could include a floodplain and/or stream buffer ordinance and others.
	P-2.2	Encourage a mix of residential typologies to promote housing choice in Springfield.
	P-2.3	Concentrate higher intensity developments, such as commercial, business park, and industrial uses, along major roads and locate less intense developments, such as residential and public spaces, on local roads. Continue to inform residents about the benefits that business parks and industrial developments bring to the community by tracking and showcasing their value.
	P-2.4	Utilize transition land uses, as presented in the Future Land Use Plan, to gradually change densities and intensities of uses. Landscape buffers should also be considered for buffering uses and spaces throughout the community.
	P-2.5	Follow the Sarpy County + Cities Wastewater Agency Master Plan's recommendations for growth from the identified sewerable land to support growth within the planning boundary.
	P-2.6	Practice strategic growth and decision-making by supporting developments that align with the goals and vision of Springfield, and denying developments that do not.

Action Items

	AI-2.1	Update the zoning code as needed to support the comprehensive plan and Future Land Use Plan recommendations. Explore opportunities to consider maximum lot sizes in some residential districts and tree planting ordinance for new construction.
✱	AI-2.2	Practice flexibility with the zoning code and Future Land Use Plan to encourage right-sized growth and activity in Springfield.
	AI-2.3	Coordinate with local developers to discuss preferred development products and locations within city limits and beyond.
	AI-2.4	Support and encourage infill redevelopment throughout the Springfield community.
	AI-2.5	Preserve right-of-way easements for future utilities and streets, ensuring enough space is also dedicated for street trees and sidewalks.
	AI-2.6	Develop both immediate and long-term growth areas by considering the availability and serviceability of sewer infrastructure.
✱	AI-2.7	Host a round table with local and regional developers to discuss residential and commercial needs identified by the community to maintain small town feel and potential land assembly.
	AI-2.8	Proposed future developments should be coordinated with other public agencies, such as Natural Resource District, utility providers, etc., to ensure coordination and/or compliance.
	AI-2.9	Consider design guideline typologies to help steer the look and feel of development, ensuring it maintains Springfield's small town character and identity (i.e. enhance current overlay districts).

GOAL H-3: ATTRACT QUALITY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS TO SPRINGFIELD THAT MEETS THE NEEDS OF CURRENT AND FUTURE RESIDENTS.

Policies

P-3.1	Follow the recommendations of the Future Land Use Plan for proposed residential developments.
P-3.2	Balance quality residential developments with flexibility in the zoning code by providing some variation in parking requirements, maximum lot sizes, and creative lot configurations, especially for residential infill developments.
P-3.3	Maintain an open-door policy with developers to discuss potential residential development projects in Springfield.

Action Items

AI-3.1	Add a development-ready webpage to the City's website to highlight the Future Land Use Plan and ready to develop land or infill potential sites in the community.
AI-3.2	Support and encourage medium- and high-density developments to broaden housing choice and increase access to quality rentals.
AI-3.3	Work with developers to install utilities, sidewalks, streetlights, and 1-2 trees per residential lot to enhance the community's infrastructure and aesthetic.

GOAL H-4: PROMOTE BEST PRACTICES AND RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION TO CREATE STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS.

Policies

	P-4.1	Do not allow any residential development within the floodplain to maintain the safety and welfare of current and future residents.
	P-4.2	Prioritize contiguous boundaries and limit leapfrog development to reduce strains on infrastructure.
	P-4.3	Limit cul-de-sacs to allow for greater through connections to the roadway network.
	P-4.4	Preserve the existing housing stock to maintain community character and unique nodes of development.
*	P-4.5	Promote walkability and connectivity for pedestrians and bicyclists.
*	P-4.6	Encourage strong neighborhood characteristics throughout new residential developments with varied residential design, sidewalk connections, landscaping, lighting, and other quality of life features.

Action Items

*	AI-4.1	Consider requiring sidewalks to be constructed on at least one side of the roadway with any new residential developments.
	AI-4.2	Explore partnerships or funding opportunities to create a small-scale housing fund for rehabilitation projects.
	AI-4.3	Allow for residential infill redevelopment projects to leverage vacant lots and provide much needed housing.

GOAL TM-5: PROVIDE A TRANSPORTATION NETWORK THAT CONNECTS THE COMMUNITY AND PRESERVES THE SMALL TOWN FEEL

Policies

P-5.1	Require development to accommodate all identified roads and streets within the future streets plan.
P-5.2	Require developers to dedicate the necessary right-of-way based upon the recommended road and street cross sections.
P-5.3	Discourage direct driveway access on high traffic arterial roads.
P-5.4	Encourage traffic calming measures on collector and local streets and on roads where possible.
P-5.5	Encourage branding elements on arterial streets within city limits.
P-5.6	Discourage cul-de-sacs as they limit neighborhood connectivity.
P-5.7	Maintain the feeling of safety for pedestrians and cyclists by requiring roads and streets to be built at a regular, pedestrian interval that is walkable, dense, and public.
P-5.8	Provide full community connectivity across major arterials through grade separated infrastructure.

GOAL TM-5: PROVIDE A TRANSPORTATION NETWORK THAT CONNECTS THE COMMUNITY AND PRESERVES THE SMALL TOWN FEEL

Action Items


AI-5.1	Develop a standard corridor cross section for each road/street classification that provides adequate space for pedestrians, cyclists and for streetscaping and street trees, looking at the existing streets within Springfield as precedent.
AI-5.2	Complete a study of Highway 50 – reviewing pedestrian and cycling crossings and seek funding for plan implementation of the study area.
* AI-5.3	Collaborate with local, county, and state agencies to strategically plan and build support for the future bypass, ensuring it is designed in a way that minimizes disruption to Springfield’s future growth and development.
AI-5.4	Collaborate with other agencies (such as county and State DOT) to create a coordinated design for roads and streets on the state/county system that fall within city limits or the planning boundary that maintain a small town feel while ensuring safety of the transportation system.
AI-5.5	Collaborate with MAPA and other agencies to align the latest WE-STEP recommendations with the updated future streets plan and future land use visions within this document.

GOAL CI-6: ENHANCE SPRINGFIELD'S COMMUNITY IDENTITY AND AESTHETIC APPEAL THROUGH STRATEGIC BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS, BRANDING INITIATIVES, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS.

Policies

P-6.1	Incorporate the Springfield brand into the built environment to reinforce community identity and pride.
-------	---

Action Items

AI-6.1	Implement landscaping, median treatments, and light poles with custom banners along major and minor arterial roads to create visually appealing entrances to Springfield.
AI-6.2	Enhance collector streets throughout the community with street trees, vehicular and pedestrian light poles with banners, limited site amenities, and utility wraps to improve the overall streetscape.
 AI-6.3	Improve downtown aesthetics by adding street trees, enhanced landscaping, expanded on street parking where possible, planters, benches, bike racks, trash cans, and pedestrian light poles with banners to create a welcoming and vibrant downtown area.
AI-6.4	Position primary gateways along high-volume traffic roadways with appropriately sized and legible signage for cars traveling 35-45 miles per hour to ensure clear and attractive entrances to the community.
AI-6.5	Position secondary gateways along slower high-volume traffic roadways to showcase community pride and create a sense of arrival.
AI-6.6	Identify and continue to host major Springfield events that are consistent and high quality to attract residents and visitors, with a focus on agritourism and the rural arts.
AI-6.7	Continue to showcase life in Springfield through various marketing efforts to promote the community's unique character and attractions.
AI-6.8	Leverage recent branding efforts to expand the marketing campaign and reach a broader audience.
AI-6.9	Continue to improve consistency in the application of the Springfield brand across all initiatives to strengthen community identity and recognition.
AI-6.10	Explore funding and grant opportunities to enhance the community tree canopy.

GOAL CI-7: ELEVATE SPRINGFIELD'S DOWNTOWN INTO A VIBRANT, WELL-CONNECTED HUB THAT FOSTERS DEVELOPMENT AND SHOWCASES EXCEPTIONAL AESTHETIC APPEAL.

Policies

* P-7.1	Work to preserve Springfield's small town charm as it grows by promoting a sense of place and belonging through infill development and strong downtown characteristics.
---------	---

Action Items

* AI-7.1	Provide a safe pedestrian connection across the creek to connect Highway 50 and future development to the west to Downtown.
AI-7.2	Promote infill development along Main Street with buildings that promote transparency (i.e. first floor windows).
AI-7.3	Establish a downtown business improvement program focused on façade enhancements and major infrastructure renovations, such as roof and HVAC systems, to support the revitalization of downtown businesses.
AI-7.4	Conduct a study to explore the potential for extending on-street parking on Main Street, particularly west toward the creek, to accommodate future development and maintain the urban character of downtown.
AI-7.5	Work with local schools to create job and volunteer opportunities for high school students within the community and downtown.
AI-7.6	Study ways to provide a safe pedestrian route across Highway 50 to enhance the connection between the existing downtown area and the future commercial development west of Highway 50. Consider exploring the idea of a future pedestrian overpass and at grade enhancements.
AI-7.7	Implement vegetation buffers for non-historic downtown businesses without retail storefronts to enhance the aesthetic appeal and create a more cohesive streetscape.
AI-7.8	Apply to become a Creative District through the Nebraska Arts Council's Creative District Program.

GOAL PT-8: PROVIDE A HIGH-QUALITY PARKS AND TRAILS SYSTEM FOR EXISTING AND FUTURE SPRINGFIELD RESIDENTS.

Policies

*	P-8.1	Expand trail connections, including intra-neighborhood trail access like those found in the Springfield Pines SID development.
*	P-8.2	Expand neighborhood parks as new residential areas developed according to the Future Park Node map.
*	P-8.3	Routinely upgrade and perform maintenance of playgrounds, fields, courts, and other park facilities on a rotating schedule to be efficient with limited funding.
*	P-8.4	Continue to partner with the Springfield Platteville Community Schools on shared park facilities for recreation space.
	P-8.5	Ensure parks and recreation facilities are served by pedestrian and bicycle facilities to and inside of the facility.
*	P-8.6	Integrate low-maintenance landscapes such as native prairie land to add variety to the user experience and reduce mowing and other maintenance costs.
	P-8.7	Explore expanding the park space south of town along Spring Creek to connect to the future regional lake.
	P-8.8	Incorporate green infrastructure into community parks and recreation facilities to provide on-site stormwater management, reduce irrigation, and for use as an educational tool for residents.
	P-8.9	Connect all parks and community facilities with adequate trail connections.

GOAL PT-8: PROVIDE A HIGH-QUALITY PARKS AND TRAILS SYSTEM FOR EXISTING AND FUTURE SPRINGFIELD RESIDENTS.

Policies (Continued)

P-8.10	Encourage the use of wayfinding signage along the Springfield trail system.
P-8.11	Encourage public art and other placemaking efforts along trails and within parks in Springfield.
P-8.12	Work with partners to establish a regional trail connection.

Action Items

AI-8.1	Complete a parks and recreation master plan to help enhance existing and future parkland in Springfield.
AI-8.2	Create a neighborhood park planning policy for all future park planning that emphasizes quality design and neighborhood input.
AI-8.3	Evaluate indoor recreation needs to determine long-term need for a community-owned indoor recreation space.
AI-8.4	Identify a timeline for long-term park and recreation staffing increases, including the creation of separate Parks and Recreation Department that handles administration, programming and operations/maintenance.
AI-8.5	Monitor the development of the JEDI Potential Lake Location south of Springfield as well as trail connections to this potential future amenity.
AI-8.6	Design a timeline for a new parks and wayfinding signage package to improve wayfinding, aesthetics, and placemaking in Springfield parks.
AI-8.7	Explore opportunities to connect regional trail to key destinations throughout Springfield, such as coffee shop and winery.
AI-8.8	Leverage floodplain for future trail extensions as a way to connect future developments (i.e. trail oriented development) to existing Springfield neighborhoods and districts.
AI-8.9	Coordinate with Heartland B-Cycle to establish electric bike stations at Platteview Road and the Platte River to create an out and back tourism loop.

GOAL NE-9: PROTECT SPRINGFIELD’S NATURAL FEATURES, RESIDENTS, AND PROPERTIES THROUGH THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

Policies

P-9.1	Discourage development and/or introduction of new impermeable surfaces in the floodway, floodplain, or stream buffer areas.
P-9.2	Encourage high quality wetlands be incorporated as a site amenity for aesthetics and on-site flood control.
P-9.3	Promote the preservation of any existing tree cover in the planning boundary.
P-9.4	Participate in any existing or additional regional watershed management planning studies or organizations like the South Sarpy Watersheds Partnership (SSWP).
P-9.5	Discourage the unnecessary conversion of agricultural land into the built environment to reduce sprawl and preserve farmland.
P-9.6	Continue to integrate stormwater management best practices into construction and development in Springfield following the recommendations of the South Sarpy Watersheds Partnership watershed management plan.
P-9.7	Educate Springfield residents and businesses on stormwater management best practices such as water conservation and water quality through pollution prevention.
P-9.8	Integrate green infrastructure on public properties and encourage private property owners to add green infrastructure such as rain gardens or rain barrels.
P-9.9	Promote energy efficiency for residential and commercial properties by sharing resources such as links to Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) energy efficiency programs.
P-9.10	Support regional efforts for renewable energy generation and consumption.

GOAL NE-9: PROTECT SPRINGFIELD’S NATURAL FEATURES, RESIDENTS, AND PROPERTIES THROUGH THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

Action Items

	AI-9.1	Explore the creation of a sustainability grant to help financially incentivize homeowners to increase energy efficiency of homes or add on-site green infrastructure installations.
	AI-9.2	Enhance the floodplain ordinance in Springfield to discourage or prohibit new development in the floodplain.
	AI-9.3	Add low-impact trails along any newly created greenway stream buffer corridors.
	AI-9.4	Consider adopting a slope preservation ordinance to prevent erosion and promote water quality.
*	AI-9.5	Create a plan to accommodate for a potential future lake project in Springfield planning boundary.
	AI-9.6	Install energy efficient upgrades to all city properties and structures to promote energy conservation.
	AI-9.7	Consider adding solar panels to existing or new city facilities and structures.