

# NAPLES CITY GENERAL PLAN

## 1999-2000 Community Planning Project

### Introduction

The 1999-2000 Naples City planning project and subsequent Naples City General Plan are coordinated efforts by community leaders and residents to address the present and future needs of the community. Through the planning process, Naples City residents have truly "planned for their community's future". The adopted 2000 General Plan is the result of their combined interest, effort and expertise.

State of Utah statutes provide for the development of community-level plans under Title 10-9-301. Elements which may be addressed locally include: "land use, transportation, environmental conditions, public services and facilities, rehabilitation and redevelopment, housing, economic development, recommendations for plan implementation" and "any other elements that the municipality considers appropriate".

The Naples City General Plan focuses on community growth and development issues identified and discussed by residents during a year-long planning process. The City's general approach to these issues is articulated in the Plan as *Community Value/Goal Statements*. Issues determined to be "community priorities" are further addressed through *Community Objective Statements* and *Implementation Strategies*.

Benefits of the 1999-2000 planning project are two-fold. First, the City now possesses a single document that establishes comprehensive guidelines for community planning and development. In this light, it is anticipated that future planning activities and decisions will be consistent with, and incorporate, the values and objectives articulated in the adopted Plan.

Second, community leaders and citizens participating in the process have gained additional planning expertise and experience. A diverse group of residents actively participated in all stages of process including: issue identification, issue prioritization, objective identification and implementation strategy development. This experience will be invaluable as the community begins to implement their Plan.

### Naples City General Plan Process and Purpose

Naples City and State of Utah officials recognize the need for formally adopted community-level plans and development guidelines. As outlined in State Code, a community general plan may address land use, social, economic and environmental issues. State law also encourages active public participation in plan development activities.

The 1999-2000 Naples planning project went beyond the required level of community participation and provided numerous opportunities for residents to be involved. The City's Planning Commission was also an active participant throughout the process scheduling several additional work sessions to review and discuss *draft* plan materials.

The Naples planning project formally began in December of 1998 with two project orientation and issue identification workshops. Over 25 Naples City officials and residents attended. These initial discussions gave citizens an opportunity to identify the development issues

facing the City and determine which ones should be addressed in the community's General Plan. Following the scoping meetings, an "issue summary" was prepared and reviewed by community leaders. Community-prioritized topics then became the focus of the planning process and remaining public workshops.

Specific topics discussed by community leaders and residents during the scoping meetings include: establishing a community "center" and identity, maintaining attractive industrial parks, preserving the area's rural atmosphere and agricultural lifestyle, developing a vibrant commercial/retail area, and pursuing community outreach efforts to foster increased public understanding of the community's planning processes and development issues. A complete list of the topics discussed and prioritized by Naples City residents is attached as Appendix B, *Public Scoping Meeting Citizen Issue Identification and Prioritization*.

Beginning in January of 1999, Naples City residents and project consultants met monthly. During these work sessions, participants discussed each community "priority issue" in detail. These discussions included developing community goals, objectives and viable implementation strategies for each topic. Depending on the topic discussed, members of the community or other "experts" were invited to present background information and assist the group in developing a recommended community approach.

Based on community and Planning Commission participation and input as described above, a *draft* plan was prepared and made available to the general citizenry for review and comment. Following separate Planning Commission and City Council public hearings, the *draft* plan was officially adopted by the Council as the Naples City General Plan in April of 2000.

## **Using and Amending the Naples City General Plan**

It is intended that the 2000 Naples City General Plan will serve as a framework for local leaders as they make future land use and community development decisions. The Plan is also designed to provide a policy foundation for human and community services and economic development activities. To successfully implement specific portions of the General Plan, Naples City will need to take action beyond formal adoption. Recommended actions pertaining to the 2000 Plan are the *Implementation Strategies* following each *Community Objective*.

It should be anticipated that community priorities and development issues will change over time. In order for the City's General Plan to function as a valuable decision-making tool, the document should be reviewed and amended as necessary to address additional community issues and interests as they arise.

As outlined in State statute, amending a General Plan requires Planning Commission and City Council review and action through an open public hearing and amendment/adoption process. It should be noted that any interested party may propose an amendment to the Plan at any time by filing an application with the Planning Commission. A copy of the State of Utah "general plan adoption and amendment process" statute can be found in Appendix C, *General Plan Adoption and Amendment Process*.