

2014-2015 Mansfield Town Council Goals and Objectives

Economic Development

Goal: Establish policies, procedures, relationships and infrastructure that support a vibrant, diverse and sustainable business community in Mansfield, in accordance with sound land use and Smart Growth principles. ♦

Objectives:

- Focus development and redevelopment efforts in areas designated as appropriate under Plan of Conservation and Development or zoning (e.g. Storrs Center; Four Corners; Perkins Corners; Eastbrook Mall area; Frontage Road).
- Make progress on Four Corners water and wastewater project.
- Increase tax base (new growth), including completion of Storrs Center, in a responsible manner.
- Leverage UCONN Tech Park for job and business growth.
- Participate in UCONN development plans.
- Provide quality customer service to the business community and implement a streamlined permitting process consistent with zoning and other regulations.
- Research the feasibility of allocating resources for a dedicated economic development staff member under Planning and Development.

Education

Goal: Maintain high quality, holistic education for all of Mansfield's youth while celebrating the individuality of each child. ♦

Objectives:

- Identify PreK-8 school infrastructure needs.
- Utilize enrollment projections, including anticipated impact associated with UCONN's expansion, to plan for infrastructure needs.

Financial Management

Goal: Responsibly manage available financial resources to maintain quality services that are responsive to community needs.

Objectives:

- Engage in responsible budgeting; balance service needs with revenue constraints.
- Diversify revenue base in response to declining state revenues.
- Identify replacement schedules for capital needs and allocate resources through the capital budgeting process.
- Review infrastructure needs for the Town and schools; identify capital maintenance needs and lifespan for major buildings and facilities and allocate resources through the capital budgeting process.
- Review financial, human resources, and other policies as needed.

Open Space and Agriculture

Goal: Work with stakeholders to preserve and maintain open space and viable working farms. ♦

Objectives:

- Preserve working farms and enhance agricultural opportunities.
- Acquire, preserve, and maintain open space.

Quality of Life

Goal: Improve quality of life for all residents and stakeholders regardless of (dis)abilities, gender, race, religion, ethnicity, or socio-economic status. ♦

Objectives:

- Reduce blight in neighborhoods town-wide.
- Review feasibility of expanding the rental certification zone town-wide.
- Build a community supportive of young children and families.
- Enhance and maintain athletic fields.
- Ensure Storrs Center owner occupied housing is built to community vision.

Service Delivery

Goal: Provide a range of quality services for quality living. ♦

Objectives:

- Re-define core services.
- Research and identify service sharing opportunities.
- Continue to improve positive Town-University relationships and partnerships.
- Continue to provide Human Services, with a focus on seniors and low to moderate income families.
- Provide support for recreation, health and wellness.
- Build organizational capacity for program evaluation, including a commitment to performance measurement.
- Continue review and implementation of the police services study, as resources permit.
- Evaluate service delivery for Fire and Emergency Services.
- Complete study of impact of Next Generation Connecticut and related UCONN initiatives on Mansfield.
- Consolidate and/or reduce the number of citizen advisory committees; review membership composition and engage residents aged 20's-40's.
- Review the Town's portion of the Storrs Center project to determine what lessons have been learned.

Sustainability

Goal: Embrace sustainability as a principle in decision making. ♦

Objectives:

- Embrace sustainability and energy conservation as part of economic development strategy.
- Reduce municipal government's carbon footprint.

♦ Denotes accomplishment, goal or objective links to the Town's following strategic vision points: *Education; Historic Character, Open Space & Working Farms; Housing; Public Safety; Recreation, Health and Wellness; Regionalism; Senior Services; Sustainability; Town-University Relations.*