

Existing Comprehensive Plan Goal Statements, Objectives, and Policies & Vision Statements - Block 3: Environmental Quality

Current Comprehensive Plan Language	Is the Current Language Obsolete, Outdated, Redundant or still Relevant?	What is Some Potential Language to Improve/Replace Existing Policy?	Are there related Vision Goal Statements or Actions or Other City Plan Policies that Should be Incorporated/Added?	What are Examples of Good Policy Language from Other Cities' Comprehensive Plans?
<p>Chapter 3 – Environmental and Natural Resources</p>		<p>Need to think about how we connect this section with the Natural Resources and Climate and Energy chapters.</p>	<p><i>Super Action 1: Make Milwaukie a Model of Resiliency, Environmental Stewardship and Disaster-Preparedness</i></p>	
<p>AIR, WATER AND LAND RESOURCES QUALITY ELEMENT GOAL STATEMENT: To meet federal and State air, noise and water quality standards.</p>	<p>Still relevant, although currently limited in scope to meeting federal and state standards. Air Quality is also covered in the Natural Hazard and Climate Change/ Energy chapters.</p> <p>This Element is supposed to cover Land Resources, but there aren't actually any land resource policies.</p>	<p>Expand to reflect the City's vision for environmental quality, instead of just meeting standards; incorporate more specific concepts related to environmental goals.</p> <p>Need to add policies related to land resources, such as management of brownfields.</p>	<p><i>Planet 1.1: Implement city programs, incentives and development code amendments that promote sustainable development and help to better integrate the built environment and natural environment.</i></p> <p><i>Planet 2.1: Develop a Natural Resource Plan and examine funding mechanisms for the restoration of Kellogg and Johnson Creeks and the removal of the Kellogg Dam.</i></p>	<p>Portland: Environment/Watershed Health <u>Goal 7.A: Climate</u> Carbon emissions are reduced to 50 percent below 1990 levels by 2035. <u>Goal 7.B: Healthy watersheds and environment</u> Ecosystem services and ecosystem functions are maintained and watershed conditions have improved over time, supporting public health and safety, environmental quality, fish and wildlife, cultural values, economic prosperity, and the intrinsic value of nature. <u>Goal 7.C: Resilience</u> Portland's built and natural environments function in complementary ways and are resilient in the face of climate change and natural hazards. <u>Goal 7.D: Environmental equity</u> All Portlanders have access to clean air and water, can experience nature in their daily lives, and benefit from development designed to lessen the impacts of natural hazards and environmental contamination. <u>Goal 7.E: Community stewardship</u> Portlanders actively participate in efforts to maintain and improve the environment, including watershed health.</p>
<p>Objective #1 – Regional Air Quality To assist federal and State environmental regulation agencies in their efforts to maintain and improve the quality of the air resources of the State and City.</p>	<p>Still relevant</p>		<p>The Climate Action Plan includes adaptation strategies related to air quality, including planning for cooling and air quality relief centers,</p>	<p>Hillsboro <u>(AQ) GOAL 1 CLEAN AIR</u> Improve air quality to provide a healthy and sustainable environment consistent with federal and state standards. <u>(AQ) GOAL 2 MINIMIZING POLLUTANTS</u> Reduce pollutant emissions to limit potential health risks and better maintain air quality. <u>(AQ) GOAL 3 HEALTHY COMMUNITY</u> Minimize impacts from pollutant sources for community members of all ages, abilities, cultures, and incomes. <u>(AQ) GOAL 4 COLLABORATIVE APPROACH</u> Promote education and collaboration in strategies for reducing pollutant emissions.</p>

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<u>Policy 1.</u> Milwaukie will continue to support and participate in the preparation and implementation of Regional Non-Attainment and Air Quality Maintenance Plans through Metro and DEQ.	Still relevant, but can be combined.	Collapse and combine with Policy 2.		
<u>Policy 2.</u> Milwaukie will continue to support and participate in regional public transportation planning efforts aimed at controlling air pollution in downtown Portland and throughout the region.	Still relevant, but can be combined.	Collapse and combine with Policy 1.		
<u>Policy 3.</u> Milwaukie, through its normal development regulation procedures, will work with DEQ to identify the need for and content of a local Statement of Compatibility required by local site-specific actions. (Reference Section 7.2 of Handbook for Environmental Quality Elements of Land Use Plans, DEQ, 1978)	Obsolete. This is something we are legally required to do, so does not merit a Comp Plan policy.			
Objective #2 — Local Air Quality <i>To control air quality problems through local land use and transportation planning.</i>	Still relevant, but revise awkward language.	<i>“Aim to improve local air quality” through local land use and transportation planning.</i>		<u>Tigard 8.</u> The City shall encourage citizens to reduce air quality impacts associated with household activities.
<u>Policy 1.</u> Milwaukie will encourage the monitoring of local industrial activities to ensure that applicable State and federal standards are met.	Still relevant		Vision Planet Action 2.4: Educate and address the impacts that local industries have on water and air quality	
<u>Policy 2.</u> Milwaukie will encourage the reduction of vehicle emissions by improving local flow and seeking ways to increase transit ridership. (See Transportation Element for specific policies)	Still relevant.	Improving traffic flow may run counter to traffic calming strategies in certain areas, so need to reconcile with transportation policies.		
<u>Policy 3.</u> Adequate employment opportunities will be encouraged locally to reduce the need for regional or inter-city work trips.	Still relevant, although this has already been covered in the Energy and Climate Change element.	Address land use aspect of reducing automobile usage and dependency		<u>Tigard 3.</u> The City shall promote land use patterns which reduce dependency on the automobile, are compatible with existing neighborhoods, and increase opportunities for walking, biking, and/or public transit.
Objective #3 — Noise <i>To assist federal and State environmental regulatory agencies in their efforts to ensure that noise levels generated within the City will be compatible with adjacent land uses.</i>	Still relevant, although most noise issues are covered at the local level through the nuisance code.	Consider policies that address different types of noise pollution beyond audible ranges for the general population— eg. High frequency, ultrasonic, etc. given health impacts on workers, community members, and wildlife.	The Vision does not include any discussion of noise impacts.	Noise is mentioned very infrequently in other cities’ Comp Plans.
<u>Policy 1.</u> Milwaukie will work with DEQ to identify the need for and to complete noise monitoring and projection programs for noise sensitive areas of the City.	Likely obsolete, as we have never done this in the past.			
<u>Policy 2.</u> Milwaukie will continue to support the enforcement of noise standards for industries and vehicles.	Still relevant	Clarify that this is done through nuisance provisions.		

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<p><u>Policy 3.</u> Industrial development will continue to be concentrated primarily in three major existing industrial areas (as described in the Economic Base and Industrial/Commercial Land Use Element) where it will have minimal impact on residential areas.</p>	<p>Still relevant, but can likely be deleted as covered under Economic Development chapter. Also need to update to account for updated policies in Economic Development chapter.</p>	<p>Update references to other Comp Plan elements.</p>	<p>Educate and address the impacts that local industries have on water and air quality</p>	
<p><u>Policy 4.</u> Developments which would result in substantial noise generation will incorporate landscaping and other noise mitigation techniques to reduce noise impacts to levels compatible with the surrounding land uses.</p>	<p>Still relevant, although current development regulations are limited to areas within 200 feet of McLoughlin, Highway 224, and rail lines.</p>	<p>The Portland policy is worded well because it includes more than just developments that would create “substantial noise.” It seems to incorporate the underlying value of a non-noisy environment by connecting people to the problem via “impact to building users and residents”. Update as needed to reflect current practices and development code provisions.</p>		<p><u>Portland. Policy 4.35 Noise impacts.</u> Encourage building and landscape design and land use patterns that limit and/or mitigate negative noise impacts to building users and residents, particularly in areas near freeways, regional truckways, major city traffic streets, and other sources of noise.</p>
<p><u>Policy 5.</u> The City will work with ODOT to implement traffic management measures designed to improve traffic flow on the Milwaukie Expressway, McLoughlin Boulevard and major arterials. In considering alternative management measures, excessive stopping and starting (which create considerable noise) are to be minimized.</p>	<p>Still relevant, although likely more appropriate in the Transportation chapter.</p>	<p>Coordinate with TSP policies.</p>		
<p><u>Policy 6.</u> All new residential development adjacent to the Milwaukie Expressway, McLoughlin Boulevard or other high noise impact arterials or rail lines will, through site planning or building design, provide that interiors and private outdoor areas are protected from excessive noise intrusion. Possible noise mitigating techniques include: building location out of sight of the noise source, landscape, berm or wall creating a dense barrier between the noise source and private areas, locating garages between private areas and the noise source, use of double glazing and acoustically adequate wall materials facing the noise source, etc.</p>	<p>Obsolete, as more appropriate for the Development Code. Current Development Code does not include any corresponding standards.</p>	<p>Update as needed to reflect current practices and development code provisions.</p> <p>Consider reducing level of detail.</p>		
<p><u>Policy 7.</u> The City will encourage, through its building code enforcement program, adequate noise protection be provided between adjoining attached or multi-family residential structures. Noise from inside adjacent living units should not reasonably interfere with normal domestic activities.</p>	<p>Obsolete, as would be implemented through Development Code, which can't include any standards that are more restrictive than what State Building Code requires.</p>			
<p>Objective #4 – Water Quality To assist federal and State environmental regulation agencies in their efforts to maintain and improve the quality of the water resources of the State and City.</p>	<p>Still relevant, although should better define what we do at the local level regarding water quality.</p>	<p>Address different kinds of water sources/resources and pollutants, threats – surface, groundwater, etc. Include an assessment of projected climate impacts to water quality.</p>		<p><u>Portland Policy 7.7 Water quality.</u> Improve, or support efforts to improve, water quality in rivers, streams, floodplains, groundwater, and wetlands through land use plans and investments, to address water quality issues including toxics, bacteria, temperature, metals, and sediment pollution. Consider the impacts of water quality on the health of all Portlanders.</p>

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<p><u>Policy 1.</u> Milwaukie will continue to support and participate in regional planning programs to improve sanitary sewer services in the area. The City will continue to cooperate with Clackamas County Service District #1 (CCSD #1) for the collection and treatment of sanitary sewage. One effect of regionalization should be to eliminate impacts to the City and the neighborhood from the Kellogg Wastewater Treatment Plant.</p>	<p>Outdated; delete.</p>	<p>This policy is duplicative of other policies in the Public Facilities section and can be deleted.</p>		
<p><u>Policy 2.</u> Milwaukie will continue to submit plans to DEQ for approval of any extensions of sewer systems prior to construction. The City will continue to work with the State to identify and certify construction grant applications and will explore alternative funding sources for sewer system needs.</p>	<p>Outdated and something that is required by law. Can be deleted.</p>			
<p><u>Policy 3.</u> Milwaukie will participate in studies and encourage the prompt implementation of resulting plans to provide sanitary sewer service to surrounding unsewered areas.</p>	<p>Still relevant, but should be reworded. Also, may be more appropriate within public facility policies.</p>	<p>Milwaukie will participate in studies and encourage the provision of sanitary sewer service to surrounding unsewered areas.</p>		<p><u>Hillsboro POLICY NR 3.4 Water quality.</u> Support plans and investments to address water quality issues including temperature, metals, toxics, bacteria, and sediment pollution in rivers, streams, floodplains, groundwater, and wetlands.</p>
<p><u>Policy 4.</u> Milwaukie recognizes and assumes its responsibility for operating, planning and regulating wastewater systems as designated in Metro's Waste Treatment Management Component.</p>	<p>Outdated</p>			
<p><u>Policy 5.</u> The City will cooperate with State and federal regulatory programs to protect domestic groundwater resources from potential pollution.</p>	<p>Still relevant</p>	<p>Specifically address the threats of climate change and natural disasters, given that the City relies on groundwater for its drinking water supply?</p>		

Big Ticket Questions

- How can the Comp Plan make explicit connections between environmental and human health, and create equitable outcomes for both?
- How should the Comp Plan connect its goals and policies around climate change with those for environmental quality?
 - Should the various chapters reference other policies in other chapters that are related/complementary, etc.?
- The City should examine the lens through which it sees interactions between natural resources and development, and consider how that relationship is expressed in local policies. Natural resources may pose a challenge to development, but development and the built environment is a massive challenge to natural systems, with the potential of changing them irreversibly.
- Existing policies in the Air, Water and Land Resources Quality element do not specifically address “land resources,” such as soils. Should the Comp Plan include policies that address soil loss, erosion, contamination, or other impacts to soil quality or function?
- The Comp Plan’s environmental policies briefly address groundwater protection. How can these policies be strengthened, especially in the face of climate change and natural disasters, given that the City relies on groundwater for its drinking water supply?
- Existing Comp Plan policies also fail to address light pollution. “Dark Sky” policies that limit light pollution have been linked to reduced energy consumption as well as benefits to wildlife and human health.

What is Missing?

- **Connection to climate change** – policies should reflect the close relationship between environmental quality and climate change; opportunities for shared policy/regulatory approaches to addressing both issues.
 - Should we reference climate change in this chapter, or leave most of the discussion to the Climate Change chapter?
- **Environmental justice** – policies to suggest mitigating unequal impacts of poor environmental quality
 - Example: Portland CP Policy 7.2 Environmental equity. Prevent or reduce adverse environment-related disparities affecting under-served and under-represented communities through plans and investments. This includes addressing disparities relating to air and water quality, natural hazards, contamination, climate change, and access to nature.
 - Bridging the connection between people and the planet has a lot of value. Centering the relationship people have with the environment helps connect it in people’s minds as well as brings it to people’s minds the negative impacts exposure can have and what can be done about it.
- **Light Pollution** – Existing Comp Plan policies also fail to address light pollution. “Dark Sky” policies that limit light pollution have been linked to reduced energy consumption as well as benefits to wildlife and human health.
 - Policy examples:
 - Portland. *Policy 4.38 Light pollution. Encourage lighting design and practices that reduce the negative impacts of light pollution, including sky glow, glare, energy waste, impacts to public health and safety, disruption of ecosystems, and hazards to wildlife.*
 - Multnomah Co. *5.43 Require outdoor lighting to be low intensity and designed in a manner that minimizes the amount of light pollution.*
- **Discussion of impact of development and growth on environmental quality**
 - Hillsboro POLICY NR 1.5 *Evaluate impacts of growth. Evaluate and address the potential adverse impacts of proposed development or urbanization on significant natural resource areas and ecosystems.*
- **Stormwater treatment**
 - Tigard. Environmental Quality. 5. *The City shall require measures to minimize erosion and storm run-off from development sites during and after construction.*
 - Tigard. Environmental Quality. 3. *The City shall encourage the use of low impact development practices that reduce stormwater impacts from new and existing development.*