

Block 3 Goals and Policies – “Pinned Down” Version

Natural Resource & Environmental Quality Policies

Overarching Chapter Goal: Protect, conserve and enhance the quality, diversity, and resiliency of Milwaukie’s natural resources and ecosystems, and maintain the quality of its air, land and water. Utilize a combination of development regulations, incentives, education and outreach programs, and partnerships with other public agencies and community stakeholders.

Goal 1 - Prioritize the protection of Milwaukie’s natural resources and environmental quality through the use of best available science and increased community awareness and education.

1. Partner with community groups, environmental organizations, and others to pursue legislative and administrative rule changes and regional, state, and federal funding for the acquisition, protection, or enhancement of natural resources.
2. Promote public education and encourage collaboration with community partners and organizations when developing strategies to protect air and water quality and other natural resources.
3. Support the clean-up and remediation of brownfields and other potentially contaminated land by identifying and pursuing available resources for such work in an effort to protect natural resources and the City’s groundwater supply.
4. Periodically update the City’s inventory of wetlands, floodplains, fish and wildlife habitat and corridors, and other natural resources through both technology and in-field verification.

Goal 2 – Enhance water quality and water resources.

1. Support programs and regulations to enhance and maintain the health and resilience of watersheds, riparian and upland zones, and floodplains.
2. Support efforts to restore Kellogg and Johnson Creeks and their tributaries and remove the Kellogg Dam.
3. Improve and expand coordination with adjacent jurisdictions on the protection and restoration of local rivers, creeks, and other natural resources.
4. Maintain the City’s regulatory hierarchy that requires a detailed analysis, including alternatives, of how development will 1) avoid, 2) minimize, and 3) mitigate for impacts to natural resources.
5. Regulate floodplains to protect and restore associated natural resources and functions, increase flood storage capacity, provide salmon habitat, minimize the adverse impacts of flood events, and promote climate change resiliency.
6. When considering development proposals, take into account changes in water flow and quantity associated with climate change and evaluate the downstream impacts of development in upland areas.
7. Protect water quality of streams by using best available science to help control the amount, temperature, turbidity, and quality of runoff that flows into them, in partnership with other regulatory agencies.

8. Improve stormwater detention and treatment standards through the use of best available science, technology, and management practices to meet water quality standards and achieve wildlife habitat protection and connectivity goals and standards. Establish the City's preference for sustainable stormwater facilities that utilize natural systems and green technology through the use of incentives as well as future code changes.
9. Monitor water table levels and ensure protection of the City's groundwater supply, particularly those water resources that provide the City with potable water.
10. Coordinate and partner with State and federal regulatory programs to protect the quality of the City's groundwater resources from potential pollution, including potential impacts associated with infiltration from water, wastewater and stormwater pipes.

Goal 3 – Protect and conserve fish and wildlife habitat.

1. Protect habitat areas for indigenous fish and wildlife species that live and move through the City, especially those subject to Native American fishing rights. Focus these efforts on habitat that is part of or helps create an interconnected system of high-quality habitat, and also considers downstream impacts of activities within Milwaukie.
2. Consider impacts to habitat connectivity when reviewing development proposals.
3. Work with regulatory agencies and private property owners to remove barriers to fish passage and wildlife movement corridors between the Willamette River and its tributaries.
4. Protect and enhance riparian vegetation that provides habitat and improves water quality along creeks and streams through the use of best available science and management practices to promote beneficial ecosystem services, such as managing water temperature and providing woody debris for habitat.
5. Require mitigation that restores ecological functions and addresses impacts to habitat connectivity as part of the development review process.
6. Encourage and incentivize voluntary restoration of natural resource areas, including removal of invasive-species vegetation, on-site stormwater management, and planting of native-species or climate-adapted vegetation.
7. Develop a habitat connectivity analysis and strategic action plan.

Goal 4 – Develop a healthy urban forest in Milwaukie.

1. Implement and maintain an urban forestry program.
2. Pursue the City's goal of creating a 40% tree canopy through a combination of development code and other strategies that lead to preservation of existing trees and planting of new trees and prioritize native and climate-adapted species.
3. Provide flexibility in the division of land, the siting and design of buildings, and design standards in an effort to preserve the ecological function of designated natural resources and environmentally-sensitive areas and retain native vegetation and trees.

4. Prioritize increased tree canopy in areas that are currently canopy-deficient and can help provide a more equitable distribution of trees in the city, including street trees.
5. Enhance protections for existing native-species and climate-adapted trees that contribute to a diverse and multi-aged tree canopy.
6. Evaluate the stormwater impacts associated with tree removal as part of the development review process.

Goal 5 – Encourage and incentivize sustainable design and development practices.

1. Provide information about alternatives to conventional construction and site planning techniques that can help increase energy efficiency, utilize existing buildings and reclaimed materials, and reduce long-term costs
2. Incorporate sustainable and low-impact building- and site-planning technologies, habitat-friendly development strategies, and green infrastructure into City codes and standards.
3. Identify and develop strategies to remove barriers to sustainable design and development, including affordability and regulatory constraints.
4. Identify additional opportunities for partner agencies and environmental organizations to provide early feedback and recommendations on reducing environmental impacts associated with development.
5. Examine development code changes that help reduce impacts on wildlife, such as bird-friendly building design.

Goal 6 – Maintain a safe and healthy level of air quality and monitor, reduce, and mitigate noise and light pollution.

1. Coordinate with federal and state agencies to help ensure compliance with state and federal air quality standards, while advocating for improved regional air quality standards.
2. Advocate for a consistent, effective level of environmental monitoring of local industrial activities by state and federal agencies to ensure that applicable State and federal air quality standards are met.
3. Support local efforts such as good-neighbor agreements and partner with community organizations and/or governments that aim to evaluate and reduce local sources of air and noise pollution and their impacts on local residents.
4. Encourage or require building and landscape design, land use patterns, and transportation design that limit or mitigate negative noise impacts to building users and residents, particularly in areas near freeways, regional freight ways, rail lines, major city traffic streets, and other sources of noise.
5. Continue to enforce and enhance noise standards and pursue other nuisance codes such as odor to address the adverse impacts of industries and vehicles.

6. Evaluate impacts to both humans and wildlife related to light and noise pollution and require appropriate mitigation.
7. Create standards and best practices for the demolition of buildings to reduce impacts associated with creation or release of dust and air pollutants.
8. Incorporate emission reduction and other environmental requirements into the city's contracting process to reduce air quality impacts associated with use of city equipment and activities on city-owned properties or developments.

Public Facilities and Services Policies

Overarching Chapter Goal – Plan, develop and maintain an orderly and efficient system of public facilities and services to serve urban development.

Goal 1 – Provide high quality public services to current and future Milwaukie residents.

1. Maintain and enhance levels of public facilities and services to City residents, businesses, and vulnerable populations as urban development or growth occurs.
2. Ensure that existing residents and taxpayers do not pay for services that don't directly benefit Milwaukie residents.
3. As an element of the Comprehensive Plan, maintain a Public Facilities Plan, in conformance with Statewide Planning Goals, that incorporates key components of the master plans for water, wastewater, stormwater, and other public facilities under City control.
4. Use the Public Facilities Plan to help guide the programing of improvements as the City's Capital Improvement Plan is updated, and to establish Public Work Standards that identify the public facilities improvements that are required for properties to develop.
5. Use public facilities to strategically invest in different parts of the City and to help reduce disparities, enhance livability, promote growth and redevelopment, and to maintain affordability.
6. Require developers to pay their proportionate share of the cost of utilities and facilities needed to support their developments, except in such cases where the City may provide incentives to achieve priorities outlined in the City's vision.
7. To maximize the efficient provision of all services and to encourage cooperation and coordination, maintain up-to-date intergovernmental agreements with all public service agencies and service agreements with the providers of private services.
8. Work with other regional service providers in to plan for supply security, new technologies, and resiliency in the delivery of urban services.
9. Provide infrastructure, facilities and systems that are resilient to changes in climate, can reasonably withstand natural or man-made disasters, and will continue to function during an emergency event.
10. Design, upgrade and maintain systems to ensure that they are sustainable and resilient and utilize best available science and technology.

Goal 2 – Provide an adequate supply and efficient delivery of water services.

1. Maintain and safeguard clean groundwater as the primary water supply source for the community. Utilize wellhead protection zones and land use restrictions to avoid impacts on wells and to maintain water quality.

2. Increase storage capacities and provide interconnections with the water systems of other providers in the region to ensure a reliable water supply for use during emergencies or periods of extremely high demand and to mitigate the impacts of climate change.
3. Continue to develop water storage and well sources to provide adequate water supply and water pressure in all areas of the City, including levels sufficient for firefighting throughout the City.
4. Provide a self-sufficient and resilient water system that meets the demands of current and future City residents.
5. Develop programs and establish targets for water conservation by customers of the City's water system and achieve them through community outreach and education, clearly identified metrics, and incentives.
6. Encourage and remove code barriers to the use of grey water systems and rainwater collection, with clear strategies and targets for expanding water supply and reducing the demand for water provided by the City.

Goal 3 - Continue to provide adequate wastewater collection and treatment services to all Milwaukie residents.

1. Comply with federal and State clean water requirements in managing the wastewater collection system.
2. Maintain and improve the existing sanitary sewer collection system through preventive maintenance and ongoing appraisal.
3. Encourage alternative distributive systems and other wastewater microsystems that help increase the efficiency and resiliency of the wastewater system.
4. Encourage the optimization and improvement of the Kellogg Water Resource Recovery Facility (the sewage treatment plant). Encourage capacity expansion through water conservation and the use of pre-treatment by heavy users.
5. Work with plant operators to minimize or eliminate external impacts of the wastewater treatment process by reducing the overall physical footprint of the plant, covering portions of the plant, reducing vehicle trips, eliminating odors, or other viable strategies.
6. Participate in developing long-term plans for the treatment plant, including examining the potential for generating energy from plant and system operations, recovery of nutrients and other resources, and the possible acquisition of the plant by the City.

Goal 4 - Maintain and improve the City's stormwater management system to ensure that waterways are clean and free flowing.

1. Preserve and restore natural functioning and historic floodplains and healthy uplands to better manage flood events, provide and enhance wildlife habitat, improve water quality, and increase climate change resiliency.
2. Require that stormwater be managed and treated on-site, except where to the City determines it to be infeasible.

3. To the extent possible, stormwater should be managed with green infrastructure such as green roofs, water quality swales, rain gardens, and the intentional placement of appropriate trees.
4. Restrict development within drainageways and their buffers to prevent erosion, regulate stormwater runoff, protect water quality, and protect and enhance the use of drainageways as wildlife corridors.
5. Provide resources and tools to facilitate stormwater retrofits for existing development.
6. Consider potential stormwater impacts during the land use review process.
7. Examine the feasibility of daylighting creeks that provide opportunities to conserve or enhance vegetation and wildlife habitat.
8. Expand public outreach and education programs on how the community can help protect Milwaukie waterways.
9. Encourage and incentivize the reduction of impervious surfaces for both existing development and redevelopment.

Goal 5 - Improve and expand solid waste services available to City residents.

1. Utilize franchise agreements with private operators to coordinate the collection of solid waste, recyclable materials, and yard/food waste, reduce environmental impacts, identify strategies to reduce waste generation, and provide educational materials and programs to Milwaukie residents.
2. Manage and monitor the adequacy of the solid waste hauler service and communicate with private operators when problems arise.
3. Require solid waste haulers to provide curbside or onsite recycling and composting services.
4. Examine and pursue strategies to reduce food waste and expand opportunities for composting.
5. Require new development to provide on-site and enclosed space for recycling.
6. Create an equity and inclusion strategy that aims to increase opportunities for underrepresented groups and reduce the potential for monopolies through implementation and enhancement of the City's solid waste franchise system.
7. Work with partners, including haulers, to educate residents on recycling and waste reduction.
8. Establish clear targets for waste reduction by residential, commercial, and industrial customers.

Goal 6 - Maintain facilities and personnel to respond to public safety needs quickly and efficiently.

1. Support efforts to implement Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles in building and site design and transportation corridors.
2. Increase public awareness of crime prevention methods and involve the community in crime prevention programs.

3. Coordinate with the fire department to address fire safety in the design of buildings and through site planning, consistent with state fire code requirements and other best practices for fire protection.
4. Distribute resources throughout the city for responding to fires, floods, and other natural and human-induced disasters, including staff designated to help coordinate the city's response.
5. Work with partners to require streets be designed and maintained to meet the minimum needs of emergency services providers while also ensuring that street widths are appropriate and create a quality environment for for pedestrians and bicycles.

Goal 7 - Coordinate with local partners in planning for schools, medical facilities, and other institutional uses.

1. Coordinate community development activities and public services with the school district.
2. Work with the district, in coordination with the City's park and recreation provider, to meet community and neighborhood recreational and educational needs.
3. Provide transportation improvements such as sidewalks and bikeways that promote safe access to schools.
4. Support creation of a master plans for institutional uses such as parks, schools and hospitals.
5. Support the provision of temporary housing for the families of local medical patients.
6. Establish a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program for schools and other large institutions and businesses.

Goal 8 - Provide high quality administrative services to the people of Milwaukie while maintaining cost-effectiveness and convenience.

1. Maintain the efficiency of the City's land development processing, including provision of a one-stop development permit center.
2. Maintain and improve library service levels and facilities that keep pace with the demands of existing and future residents.
3. Maintain a public safety building which houses City police services.
4. Strive to consolidate public-facing city services (other than public safety) in one city facility.

Goal 9 - Ensure that energy and communications services are adequate to meet residential and business needs.

1. Coordinate with public utility and communications companies to provide adequate services, while minimizing negative impacts on residential neighborhoods, natural and scenic resources, and recreational areas.
2. Encourage grid modernization to promote energy security and grid resiliency and to work toward producing enough renewable energy to fully meet the community's energy demand.
3. Encourage the provision of electric vehicle charging stations in appropriate locations.

4. Explore opportunities to create a public communications utility to expand equitable access to high speed broadband internet service.
5. Work with utility companies to underground utility systems and infrastructure to improve aesthetics and reduce damage from storm events and other natural disasters.
6. Promote and prioritize renewable energy production and use.