

## Grow Worland Comprehensive Plan Background

### What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A comprehensive plan, often referred to as a "land use plan" or "master plan", will start with an inventory of the infrastructure, economy, population, existing land uses, and other physical factors of the community. The purpose of the comprehensive plan is to guide and achieve a coordinated and harmonious development of the municipality.

W.S. §15-1-501 through §15-1-512 address "planning" and define what a comprehensive plan is. The master plan is discussed in W.S. §15-1-503. This section contains the word "shall" - *"the planning commission, after holding public hearings, shall adopt and certify to the governing body a master plan for the physical development of the municipality."*

The Worland Comprehensive Master Plan (now known as the Grow Worland Plan), will be a blueprint for the future of the City of Worland. The overall theme of the Plan will be to develop a vision and action plan to improve the health and viability of the future of Worland, while at the same time preserving those things that are important to the community's character and are important to the quality of life in Worland. The Plan relies on broad public input to be truly representative of public interests and desires.

The Comprehensive Plan will describe the City of Worland's vision for the long-term future of the community. It will provide guidance for community decision-making, and establish goals and strategies to achieve the community's vision. It will also provide a blueprint for how and where development should occur in the City of Worland. The Community Assessment process from November 2013 will provide a valuable starting point for the development of goals and strategies for the Comprehensive Plan.

The required statutory components will be included; however, the focus will be on working with the community in a public engagement process that emphasizes economic development potential as well as community development needs. This approach will lead to a plan that truly can be put to work.

The City's only previous Comprehensive Plan was completed in 1978 (when the State of Wyoming first required their development), so it is definitely time for a new plan! Other planning documents and assessments have been conducted and will be integrated in to a document that will meet the changing complexion of the Worland Community.

The Plan will address the following topics:

- Community character
- Land use and zoning
- Business districts
- Neighborhood plans
- Parks and open space
- Traffic circulation, pedestrian access
- Public utilities and services
- Housing
- Economic development
- Environmental awareness
- Resource inventory and analysis

### **What Purpose Does a Comprehensive Plan Serve?**

A Comprehensive Plan influences policies that have a direct bearing on the quality of life in Worland. City leaders look to the Comprehensive Plan for direction on land use, transportation, housing, parks, trails, and open space, utilities and community economic issues.

### **Who will use the Grow Worland Comprehensive Plan?**

The Grow Worland Plan is designed to be used by anyone interested in the future of Worland, and can be useful in different ways to different groups:

- Residents may be interested in the location of parks, trails, schools, or community facilities.
- Business and property owners may be interested in land use recommendations or development policies for their property.
- Topics such as the economic development goals of the City are a priority for policy makers and other groups.

As an adopted City document, decision-makers will refer to the Plan to develop the budget and timing for capital improvements and in preparation of zoning and subdivision regulations.

The vision sets forth broad principles to guide the future of the City's development and serves as the foundation for more specific recommendations. Based on these principles, detailed policies and action items outline how the vision can be realized.