Economic Development Policies

Comments

- We will identify and put in place the requisites of the desired "**Quality of Life**" within our community, including the following economic issues:
  - Adequate **housing** and appropriate **infrastructure** (roads, water, waste, energy and communications) to support and accommodate anticipated levels of growth;
  - Training of the **workforce and availability of jobs** within a reasonable commuting distance;
  - Necessary **planning and development ordinances** to direct the future shape of the City as desired;
  - **Leadership** capable of responding to any development pressures.
- We will carefully consider **costs** as well as **benefits** in making decisions on proposed economic development projects.
- We will support programs that **retain, expand and create businesses** that provide a good fit for our community's economy in terms of job skills required and links to existing businesses.
- We will consider **access to housing** and impacts on **transportation** when considering **economic development** projects.
- We will consider impacts on **infrastructure** and **natural resources** in our decision making on **economic development** projects.
- We will consider **employment needs** and **skill levels** of our existing population in making decisions on proposed **economic development** projects.

Natural and Cultural Resources Policies

Comments

- We will encourage more **compact development of land** in appropriate designated areas in order to **preserve natural resource** areas and preserve **contiguous green open spaces**.
- We will encourage **new development** to locate in suitable locations **close to transportation and infrastructure** resources in order to protect environmentally sensitive areas and valuable historic, archaeological or cultural resources from encroachment.
- We will consider potential impacts to **air and water quality** in making decisions on new developments and transportation improvements and steer new development away from sensitive natural resource areas.
- We will promote the **protection and maintenance of trees** and **contiguous green open space** in new development.
- We will promote low impact site development that encourages **maintaining the natural topography and existing vegetation** on a site when feasible, and in some cases when required.
- We will protect **ground and surface water sources** to promote the maintenance of safe and adequate supplies of water.
- We will promote enhanced **solid waste reduction and recycling** initiatives.

Facilities and Services Policies

Comments

- We will minimize inefficient land consumption and encourage more **compact urban development** in the **Major Employment Center Character Area**, and possibly in the **Neighborhood Center Character Area** in order to preserve green open space and natural resource areas in all areas.
- We will encourage **new development to locate in suitable locations** in order to protect natural resources, environmentally sensitive areas, or valuable historic, archaeological or cultural resources from encroachments.
- We will consider potential **impacts on air and water quality** in making decision on new developments and transportation improvements.
- We will promote the **protection and maintenance of trees** and **contiguous green open space** in new development.
- We will promote low impact site development that encourages **maintaining the natural topography and existing vegetation** on sites that are being developed.
- We will work with public utilities to **protect site aesthetics and scenic views**.
- We will direct development pressure **away from agricultural areas** and **encourage development to occur close to transportation opportunities**.
- We will invest in **parks and open space** to enhance the quality of life for our citizens.
- We will work with the Fulton Public Schools to encourage **school location** decisions that support overall growth and development plans of the community.
- We will seek ways for new growth to **pay for public infrastructure and services** to support the development to the maximum extent possible.
- We will use **planned infrastructure expansion** to support development in areas identified as suitable for such development in the Comprehensive Plan.

Housing Policies

Comments

- We will encourage the **completion of partially-developed properties** in existing subdivisions.
- We will encourage development of housing opportunities that enable residents to **live close to their places of employment**.
- We will accommodate our diverse population by encouraging a compatible **mixture of housing types, densities and costs** within the City.
- We will encourage housing policies, choices and patterns that increase opportunities for people to move into **affordable owner-occupied housing**.

Intergovernmental Coordination Policies

Comments

- We will seek opportunities to **share facilities and services** with neighboring jurisdictions when they would be mutually beneficial.
- We will work with neighboring jurisdictions to **develop shared solutions for regional issues** (such as growth management, watershed protection, transportation solutions, etc.).
- We will work with neighboring jurisdictions to pursue joint processes for **collaborative planning** and decision-making.
- We will consult with Fulton County and other public entities in our area when **making decisions that are likely to impact them**.
- We will provide input to Fulton County and other public entities in our area when they are making decisions that are likely to have an **impact on our community** or our plans for future development.
- We will engage in cooperative planning between the City of Milton, Fulton County, and Fulton County Public Schools in regard to the **appropriate location and use of schools as community facilities**.

Land Use Policies

Comments

- We will encourage development that is **sensitive to the overall setting** of the community and will contribute to our **community's character** and **sense of place**.
- We will encourage development that provides **appropriate employment opportunities** to serve our current and future population.
- We will encourage development of a balanced network of commercial activity centers to meet the service needs of our citizens while **avoiding unattractive and inefficient strip development**.
- We want development whose **design, landscaping, lighting, signage and scale** add value to our community.
- We will create **gateways and corridors** to establish a "sense of place" for our community.
- We will seek opportunities to provide pleasant, accessible, **public gathering places and parks** throughout the community.
- We will encourage **mixed-use developments** that are human-scale and less auto-oriented where appropriate.
- We will encourage the development of **Milton's centers** as vibrant areas of the community in order to improve overall attractiveness and local quality of life.
- We will support new land uses that contribute to **protecting the environment** and **preserving meaningful open space**.
- We will be open to **land planning and development concepts that may be new to our area**, but have been tried successfully in other places.
- We will encourage the **efficient use of land** to avoid potential costs and problems associated with urban sprawl.
- We will support new land uses that enhance housing options in our community while maintaining support for the existing developed **lower density, rural, agrarian, equestrian and residential** areas of the City.
- We are committed to creating walkable, bicycle and wheelchair friendly access for safe and attractive neighborhoods throughout the community, where people have **attractive, barrier free, and low-energy access options** to schools, parks and necessary services (grocery store, drug store, etc).
- We support appropriate residential and non-residential **infill development** and redevelopment in ways that complement surrounding areas.

Transportation Policies

Comments

- We will encourage walking, biking, car-pooling, and other **alternative transportation choices** in making development decisions.
- We will target transportation improvements to support **desired development patterns** for the community.
- We will require that our new and reconstructed roadways be appropriately designed using **context sensitive design** considerations to enhance community aesthetics and to minimize environmental impacts.
- We will encourage our new and reconstructed roadways be designed to accommodate **multiple functions**, including barrier free pedestrian facilities, parking, bicycle routes, horses, golf carts, public transit as well as local vehicular circulation where appropriate.
- We will promote connectivity of our road network through fostering a **grid network of streets** in newly developing areas and establishing multiple local street access connections between residential subdivisions.
- We support creation of a community-wide **barrier free pedestrian/ bike path network**.
- We will use **traffic calming**, **signage**, and other design considerations to limit the impacts of excessive vehicular traffic on the peaceful nature of our existing residential neighborhoods.