



**Presented to the Lenexa Governing Body on
October 7, 2008**



Vision

Lenexa is a progressive, vibrant city in the Kansas City Metro that blends a small town atmosphere and strong sense of belonging with the best of city life. Lenexa is a quality place to live, a cohesive, active community in which to play, work, and most importantly, a wonderful place to call home.

Excerpted from the Vision Statement for Community Spirit and Amenities shown on page 15.



Letter from the Chairs October, 2008

In July 1996, then Mayor Joan Bowman initiated Lenexa's first community-based strategic planning effort. Mayor Bowman formed a Steering Committee comprised of citizens from different areas of interest and civic involvement. At their first meeting, the Steering Committee elected Cindy Green, now a City Council member, as Chair.

Community meetings were held, issues were identified and task forces were formed to study each issue. Over 2500 people-hours went in to the creation of Vision 2020, which was accepted by the Governing Body on August 19, 1997. Subsequent initiatives such as Rain-to-Recreation, which so far has resulted in the creation of Mize Lake and Lake Lenexa and the new park lands surrounding these lakes and other storm water improvement projects, and City Center, which spawned development all from corners at 87th Street Parkway and Renner Boulevard, grew out of Vision 2020.

In July 2007, current Mayor Mike Boehm felt that after 10 years filled with steady progress and many accomplishments, it was time to begin planning once again. Mayor Boehm was strong in his belief that developing a vision for the future of Lenexa should be "grass-roots-driven" by citizens from all parts of Lenexa and not just the governing body and staff. Mayor Boehm invited us (Mandy and Craig) to co-chair Vision 2030 in July 2007.

From the outset, we believed that Vision 2020 was a valuable tool. We also believed that our task was not simply to update Vision 2020. A fresh look at Lenexa, through the eyes of our citizens, young and old, with the assistance of a facilitator familiar with Lenexa was to be our charge.

You can read the history of our process in the following pages, so we won't repeat ourselves, but we feel it very important to acknowledge the support that

Vision 2030 has received from all parts of our community. In the more than twelve months that have passed since we began this effort, we have been very impressed with the sincere interest that has been shown by everyone for the betterment of Lenexa. Steering Committee and Task Force members and City Staff who devoted their time and talent to this effort are acknowledged in this document, but there have been countless others who have offered their "Vision of Lenexa" to us at community meetings, festivals, in the grocery store, at schools and using the City web site.

We also were privileged to have Megan Smith and Danny Neely as youth members of the Steering Committee. They provided an important perspective: the fresh ideas and insight of youth coupled with the knowledge that their generation will be in charge in 2030.

To all of those who had a hand in creating Vision 2030 in any way, we say thank you. It has been our privilege to serve the City of Lenexa. Our city and citizens have benefited tremendously from the visionary leadership of the many public servants who have occupied council and board positions over the years. As Lenexa continues to grow, it remains an outstanding place to live, work and play.

Sincerely,

Mandy Stuke
Lenexa Vision 2030 Co-Chair

Craig Denny
Lenexa Vision 2030 Co-Chair



History

In 1997, the City of Lenexa developed a strategic plan known as Vision 2020. Since that time, the Governing Body and city staff have used Vision 2020 as a guiding document as the city continued to grow and develop. Based on the success of Vision 2020, Mayor Michael Boehm and the City Council elected to initiate Vision 2030. This process would look at the future of Lenexa into the year 2030.

In July 2007, Mayor Boehm appointed Lenexa residents Craig Denny and Mandy Stuke to co-chair the Vision 2030 Steering Committee and to lead the community process. City liaisons Molly Deckert and Dawn Grosdidier assisted the co-chairs. Understanding the value of community involvement, the volunteer recruitment efforts began in August. Using oral, print and web methods, Lenexa's citizens were invited to participate. Well over 100 citizens completed applications to serve. In early October, informational meetings were held at two locations in Lenexa where the co-chairs explained the Vision 2030 process to interested volunteers. In early November, the city hired consultant Carl Neu to assist the Vision 2030 Steering Committee throughout the strategic visioning process.

In late November, citizens were invited to participate in two Community Forums to help identify important issues. Carl Neu led the citizens through a series of exercises to help them focus on their personal vision of Lenexa in 2030. The citizens then shared their ideas during round table discussions. Based on the input received at the Community Forums, the Vision 2030 Steering Committee identified seven key issues as the focus of the Vision 2030 Report.

In early December, Steering Committee members were selected from among the many interested volunteers using the following criteria:

Diversity of Residence (not all from any one part of the city)

Gender - ideally an equal number of men and women.

Diversity in Age

Diversity in length of time living in Lenexa - new as well as longer term residents

Maximum size of Steering Committee - 14

In early February 2008, the Steering Committee and all interested volunteers attended a workshop session lead by Carl Neu. Seven (7) Vision 2030 Community Task Forces were created and each task force was assigned one of the seven key issues identified at the Community Forums. The Steering Committee selected Task Force members from applications citizens submitted. The volunteers represented a cross section of the community. These volunteers included a minister, bankers, educators, attorneys, engineers, stay at home parents, retirees and representatives from other occupations. The Task Forces met regularly from February to June to study and research their issue and submitted draft issue reports to the Steering Committee in May. Each draft issue report included a vision statement, goals and strategies for attaining the goals for their issue.

In June and July, the Steering Committee met to discuss the issue draft reports and combine the separate issue draft reports into a single document. On July 24, after months of hard work by the Steering Committee and Task Force members, a Community Meeting was held to share an overview of Vision 2030 to that point. The feedback received from those attending that meeting was that the developed vision was consistent with the ideas expressed at the Community Forums held the previous November. The Steering Committee then focused on finalizing the draft report and preparing for a working session with the Governing Body.

On August 26, the Steering Committee and Task Force representatives shared the draft report with the Governing Body. The final report was presented to the Governing Body on October 7, 2008 and will serve as a working document for the future planning of Lenexa.

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Participants

Steering Committee Members

Craig Denny, Co-Chair
Mandy Stuke, Co-Chair

- Becci Akins
- Connie Andrews
- Candace Coleman
- Stuart Fedt
- Phil Hammond
- Greg King
- Joyce Portela
- Tom Riederer
- Lisa Tomlinson
- Barb Zook

Youth Members

- Danny Neely
- Megan Smith

Staff Liaisons

- Molly Deckert
- Dawn Grosdidier

Community Spirit and Amenities Task Force

Tim Van Wyngarden, Chair
Bob Zurcher, Vice Chair

- George Arnold
- Bill Cady
- Sharon Hammontree
- Linda Mace
- Angelo Mino
- Karen Poe
- Diane Schmidt
- Ron Ward
- John Van Nice

Steering Committee Liaison

- Connie Andrews
- Joyce Portela

Staff Liaison

- Don Krone



Education and Learning Task Force

Steve Smith, Chair

Kathy Marian, Vice Chair

- Bob Anderson
- Pat Harris
- Gene Jonson
- Russ Kokoruda
- Jeremy Lattimore
- Deb McArdle
- Vonda Morris
- Don Norwood
- Kay Plaster

Steering Committee Liaison

- Becci Akin

Staff Liaison

- Kelly Perkins



Housing and Neighborhoods Task Force

Mike McVey, Chair

Michael Joseph, Vice Chair

- Joe Blecha
- Lina Daniel
- Ron Drain
- Steve Haug
- Bill Holstun
- Jody Malotte
- Lynn Marten

Steering Committee Liaison

- Greg King

Staff Liaison

- Jim Finlen



Infrastructure and Transportation Task Force

Todd Thalmann, Chair
Bruce Daniels, Vice Chair

- Steven Bachenberg
- Kyle Bodenstab
- Glen Froelich
- Steve Lemons
- Susan Mertz
- Gary Proctor
- Rex Railsback
- Larry Sheppard
- Shannon Skoglund

Steering Committee Liaison

- Stuart Fedt

Staff Liaison

- Lonny Owens



Safe and Healthy Community Task Force

Jennifer Bryan, Chair
Keith Yocham, Vice Chair

- Brian Baker
- Gregg Brown
- Terri Olsen
- Tina Railsback
- Cindy St. John

Steering Committee Liaison

- Barb Zook
- Tom Riederer

Staff Liaison

- Stan Myrtle



Strong Economic Base Task Force

Stephanie Sharp, Chair
Bill McCollum, Vice Chair

- Doug Boyd
- John Cooper
- Jason Leib
- Carl Litif
- Katie Linden
- Karleen Novak
- Brian Schade
- Tom Stephan

Steering Committee Liaison

- Phil Hammond
- Lisa Tomlinson

Staff Liaison

- Tony Perkins



Sustainable Quality Community Growth Task Force

Bill Anthony, Chair

Dale Trott, Vice Chair

- Shirley Allenbrand
- Gary Ewing
- Rich Killeen
- John McEniry
- Joan Patterson
- Mike Ruble
- Keith Winterhalter

Steering Committee Liaison

- Candace Coleman

Staff Liaison

- Barb Inselman





Community Spirit and Amenities

Vision Statement

Lenexa is a progressive, vibrant city in the Kansas City Metro that blends a small-town atmosphere and strong sense of belonging with the best of city life. Lenexa is well-planned, safe, health conscious, environmentally-aware community with convenient access to extensive open space, natural areas, lakes, parks and trail systems. Frequent recreational activities, community festivals and cultural attractions in first class amenities provide intergenerational opportunities for citizens to connect with and know their neighbors, enhancing community spirit. Lenexans enjoy a beautiful city with lovely landscaping and architecture, infrastructure and amenities featuring unique identifying themes that honor Lenexa's history and midwestern culture. Lenexa is an exceptional place to live, a cohesive, active community in which to play, and most importantly, a wonderful place to call home.

Goals

- *Community involvement*
- *Shared emotional connection*
- *Influence*
- *Resident participation*
- *Beautification*
- *Recreation*
- *Cultural enrichment*
- *Enhancement of the Old Town Lenexa commercial area*

Community Involvement

Goal 1

Create a feeling of community membership for all residents.

Rationale:

Residents who feel they belong to a community will be willing to become involved with the community and have pride in their participation.

Strategy:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Establish a welcoming program and information center. This could be a physical site or a web site where city information would be available to current and new residents.



Shared Emotional Connection

Goal 2

Develop historical displays and social events to bring residents together.

Rationale:

People who interact with one another will develop trust and share an emotional connection to the community.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Prominently display Lenexa's history through exhibits, statuary and artistic representations so residents can share a common historical bond.
- Consider development of a Heritage Trail that interconnects with historical markers and other trail systems.
- Hold city-sponsored social events encouraging residents to meet and socialize with one another.



Resident Participation

Goal 3

Actively seek and continue to create opportunities for residents' participation in city plans and programs.

Rationale:

People who believe they have an influence in decisions that affect their lives will be more willing to become involved in the community.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Actively seek and encourage citizen participation in all aspects of city planning and programming.
- Engage all age groups in volunteerism. Initiate intergenerational programs such as seniors in schools, adopt a grandparent/grandchild and an intergenerational band.
- Recruit, train and reward volunteers.
- Recognize veteran's groups and organizations and build commemorative memorials.



Recognition

Goal 4

Recognize and reward people and businesses for their contributions to the community.

Rationale:

People who receive positive rewards for their contributions to the community are likely to become community advocates. Recognition of accomplishment will encourage more volunteerism.

Strategy:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Publicize rewards to individuals, non-profits and businesses for their contributions to the community and years of service.



Goal 5

Continue to make Lenexa a harmonious city through integrated landscaping, streetscapes and tasteful architecture.

Rationale:

The city's beauty displayed through prairie-themed landscaping, tasteful architecture, public art displays, waterscapes and streetscapes will attract high quality businesses, residents and visitors. Beautification contributes to community pride, enhances property values and establishes the physical identity of Lenexa.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Clearly and prominently identify the city's boundaries.
- Integrate open and green spaces with a system of parks, plazas, streetscapes and waterscapes using a unified, natural prairie theme.
- Integrate major arterials (Pflumm, Lackman, Renner, Monticello and Woodland) into the 87/95th Street Corridor and turn these roadways into places that are an extension of the City Center as well as gateways into Lenexa with thematic landscaping throughout the City.
- Plan and budget for the procurement of public art.
- Introduce new, and update current city ordinances, to maintain and strengthen Lenexa's natural resources, landscape and architectural quality.
- Establish a community garden/ arboretum.
- Bury all utilities by 2030 and minimize through the use of creative landscaping all man-made structures such as building facades and utility boxes. Continue enforcement of strict ordinances that support aesthetically pleasing signage.

Goal 6

Continue to develop and maintain outdoor and indoor recreational facilities to meet the diverse needs of Lenexa residents.

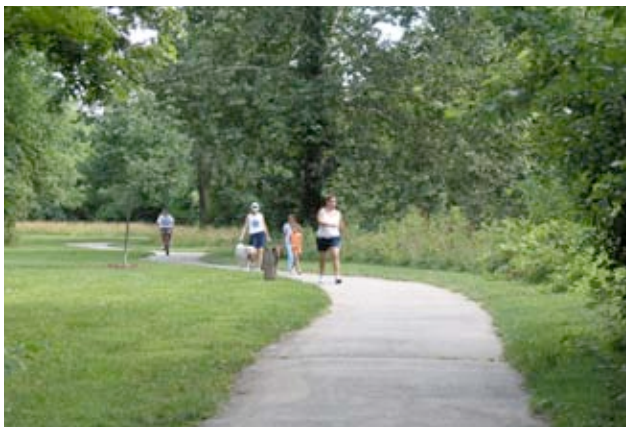
Rationale:

Lenexa residents are enthusiastic participants in a wide range of recreational activities. A strong recreational program is necessary to support their needs.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Continue to acquire land for future parks.
- Expand multiuse trails and nature trails.
- Ensure interconnectivity among parks and residential areas attempting to allow access without using roadways.
- Consider lifecycle needs when planning future parks and recreational facilities.
- Consider increasing the recreational facilities and parks maintenance budget and upgrading parks in older neighborhoods of the city.
- Develop a lifecycle indoor/outdoor aquatic center.



Cultural Enrichment

Goal 7

Develop programs and venues that will support art, education and cultural enrichment in the community.

Rationale:

Cultural activities are an expression of our lifestyle. These activities increase the educational level of the community, create a sense of place, contribute to people's use and enjoyment of public spaces, attract businesses and stimulate economic activity.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Sponsor art contests in the community and schools.
- Partner with local non-profits, such as the Kansas City Art Institute, to obtain local art for public display and find creative ways to increase utilization of public art.
- Encourage local businesses and corporate offices to display art and publically recognize those that do.
- Recognize historically significant people, events and sites throughout the community.
- Develop a coordinated city-wide public art master plan for Lenexa.



Enhancement Of The Old Town Lenexa Commercial Area

Goal 8

Enhance the unique character of the Old Town Lenexa Commercial Area.

Rationale:

The Direction Finder Surveys determined there is significant citizen concern over the maintenance and preservation of Old Town Lenexa. Enhancement of this area would benefit substantially the community with cultural amenities, increased business opportunity, tourism, and neighborhood revitalization.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Make the Santa Fe Trail Drive corridor an entranceway into Old Town Lenexa.
- Replicate historic architecture, streetscapes and landscapes using native stone and vegetation.
- Prominently display historic events and personages throughout the area.
- Partner with other historical organizations such as Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) and the Johnson County Museum for potential museum sites and displays in the area.
- Continue to provide financial incentives that encourage property owners to remodel storefronts to reflect historic architecture.





Education and Learning

Vision Statement

Lenexa: Leading the Way through Educational Excellence.

Goals

- *Educational growth through collaboration*
- *Learning and development partnerships*
- *Educational focus*



Educational Growth Through Collaboration

Goal 1

Foster the community's educational growth by promoting collaboration among the educational organizations serving Lenexa.

Rationale:

Education is one avenue that can unite the Lenexa community. Without a constant and diligent educational focus and awareness, Lenexa residents may lose sight of all the opportunities our educational organizations offer. Learning should be contextual and specific to the immediate environment and projected needs of the community and its citizens.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Support educational enterprises as a component of the Lenexa City Center development.
- Create a forum describing educational opportunities available to the Lenexa community from its educational organizations.

Learning And Development Partnerships

Goal 2

Promote learning and development partnerships.

Rationale:

Corporations and businesses in Lenexa and its adjoining communities require a skilled workforce that has the opportunity to learn continuously. Lenexa as a “geographic corridor” among these communities can initiate discussions and site visits featuring its educational efforts and achievements and those of adjacent communities so all can learn from each other as well as from various US and internationally-based groups. Lenexa, through sharing its educational achievements with others, can help shape a model for communities to follow.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Establish public, private, and home school system partnerships.
- Create a Lenexa “educational corridor” to help draw businesses to Lenexa and surrounding communities.
- Initiate discussions and site visits with adjoining communities on how Lenexa and they are accomplishing their educational achievements and what they can learn from each other.
- Create a city awards program to recognize learning and development partnerships.

Educational Focus

Goal 3

Create Lenexa Educational Centers of Excellence for Life-Long Learning.

Rationale:

Educational excellence is fostered through provision of facilities, instructional and environmental design guidance, and adaptive techniques that conform to available technology. The Lenexa community must encourage, support, and promote life-long learning opportunities for all its members.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Consider the development of an educational center of excellence for life-long learning.
- Create intergenerational education opportunities.
- Provide flexible, market-sensitive educational programs pertinent to society's needs and demands.
- Form partnerships with national, state, and local resources to extend access to early life educational programs.



Housing and Neighborhoods

Vision Statement

Lenexa is a vital and vibrant community which enables our neighborhoods to retain their unique identities and maintain their appeal for generations to come.

Goals

- *Sustainable neighborhoods*
- *Life cycle housing*
- *Revitalization and maintenance*
- *Environmentally sustainable practices*



Sustainable Neighborhoods

Goal 1

Enhance the ability of each neighborhood to retain its identity and maintain the property values of the residences for generations to come.

Rationale:

Our neighborhoods are the lifeline for sustained growth, pride, and love of community. The sustainability of our neighborhoods, or the ability for our neighborhoods to be maintained at an acceptable level well into the future, must begin with the individual property homeowners. It is imperative that any renewed and reinvigorated pride in ownership be supplemented with the support of local government, related agencies/departments, community organizations, and a unified network of viable home owners associations. With these elements in place, Lenexa will continue to move toward a unified goal of improved property values, aesthetic appeal, and continue in its role as a highly desirable family-oriented community.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Enforce rental regulations to ensure high quality rental properties.
- Consider adopting stronger property maintenance standards and consistently and proactively enforce them.
- Encourage social interaction through neighborhood organizations and neighborhood located facilities and spaces.

Life Cycle Housing

Goal 2

Promote a variety of housing options that serve the needs of citizens throughout their various stages of life.

Rationale:

The mature neighborhoods in the city will represent the first and best option for those families desiring starter-type housing. Ongoing property maintenance efforts will be necessary to maintain a high level of desirability for new residents and first-time homeowners. New single-family housing developments should be developed to attract families. As housing structures and their occupants' age, the structures will require more maintenance and renovation.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Consider flexible building codes and rezoning efforts that reflect the ever-changing needs for a balance of starter-type residences, single-family residences and life-cycle senior housing.
- Develop plans to target older areas of Lenexa for residential and commercial reinvestment.
- Instill a commitment to residential and commercial reinvestment through the organized efforts of local government, volunteer organizations, and county services to assist, coordinate programs, and offer support to all income levels and housing situations.

Revitalization And Maintenance

Goal 3

Focus planning on revitalization of commercial centers and residential areas.

Rationale:

The revitalization of areas requires a comprehensive, thought-out approach. Only an area-wide plan can cause the revitalization of a commercial center such as a shopping center, industrial district, or a residential area such as a subdivision or neighborhood. By using city resources to solicit involvement of the property owners and coordinate area specific task forces, this kind of planned revitalization can occur.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Promote the community development loan, private loan, and property tax programs.
- Enforce property maintenance codes.
- Define events such as remodeling which would cause current construction codes to apply to the established property.
- Repair or replace infrastructure to support revitalization.
- Use zoning to protect residential neighborhoods from commercial encroachment.
- Support and develop community/neighborhood centers.
- Develop and support community organizations that educate people and encourage their support of revitalization and maintenance efforts.
- Conduct codes inspection of rental properties when tenants change.

Environmentally Sustainable Practices

Goal 4

Develop an environmental sustainability action plan for city and residential development.

Rationale:

With support from the city and citizens, an environmental sustainability action plan will help Lenexa retain its vitality and remain a city of choice. Setting a trend for sound environmental practices, the city will lead community and citizens toward a cleaner environment.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Encourage homeowners to use alternative energy sources and be responsible energy consumers.
- Update new home construction standards through construction code direction so residential developers will be in the forefront of green practices.
- Enhance / improve codes to bring existing homes up to green practice standards.
- Develop economic incentives for construction of green new homes or home owners going green in homes through revitalization upgrades.
- Develop a city/citizens recycling program to manage waste following environmentally sustainable practices and providing citizen education on environmental practices.





Infrastructure and Transportation

Vision Statement

Lenexa continues to manage its infrastructure investment while working toward the ultimate build-out of infrastructure and transportation systems. The city's focus on a multimodal transportation network within Lenexa includes regional connectivity. Infrastructure and transportation should continue to be cost-effective, high-quality, aesthetically pleasing, and environmentally friendly. Lenexa provides regional leadership by employing state-of-the-art techniques and creative financing to achieve these objectives and demonstrates a willingness to share with and mentor communities throughout the metropolitan area.

Goals

- *Infrastructure maintenance and quality*
- *Transit options*
- *Regional leadership*
- *Innovation and technology*
- *Environmental management*
- *Infrastructure design*
- *Utility management*

Infrastructure Maintenance And Quality

Goal 1

Utilize a proactive, timely infrastructure maintenance and development program for the entirety of Lenexa.

Rationale:

By 2030, Lenexa essentially will be built out. To maintain high standards of residential life while retaining and attracting quality business, Lenexa's infrastructure should be inviting, innovative, well maintained and high-quality.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Identify specific monies to be set aside, after careful cost/benefit study analyses, for regular reinvestment in infrastructure.
- Design projects that maintain high-quality development to maximize usefulness and longevity.
- Prioritize the maintenance of roads, curbs and sidewalks, along with other infrastructure, in established areas to promote revitalization of these areas.
- Design roadways to ensure safety and ease of movement including smooth pedestrian and traffic flow.



Transit Options

Goal 2

Promote multimodal transportation options, including pedestrian, bicycle, transit and personal vehicles, in both public and private development.

Rationale:

As the cost of energy increases and the city reaches full build-out and thereby greater density, multiple and varied transportation options will be desirable for the economical and convenient movement of people and goods. By leading in this initiative, Lenexa will enhance its competitive advantage within the metropolitan area.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Encourage transit-friendly development.
- Promote high-density development in strategic locations to help sustain transit options.
- Make new construction bicycle friendly, and renovate existing infrastructure to accommodate bicycles where possible.
- Build on a scale that accommodates pedestrian traffic, adding sidewalks and other amenities such as landscaping and lighting, to link destinations, while also emphasizing aesthetics as well as safety.
- Segregate commercial interstate traffic from high-density pedestrian zones.

Regional Leadership

Goal 3

Continue to expand Lenexa's role and reputation as a regional leader in infrastructure and transportation planning and implementation.

Rationale:

To attract and retain high-quality businesses and residents, Lenexa must continue to be seen as a leader within the region in terms of planning, implementation and maintenance of infrastructure and transportation technologies. This also is essential to retaining the high level of satisfaction currently experienced by most residents. By taking a leadership role in regional interests, Lenexa not only enhances its image throughout the greater community, but also protects its own vital interests.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Pursue leadership roles on local and regional planning bodies and participate in subgroups or committees to represent Lenexa's vision for itself, the region, and promoting interagency cooperation.
- To assure the free flow of goods and services into and out of our community, plan for future access to interstate and regional routes utilized by traditional modes of transportation such as cars, busses, trucks, etc.
- Develop an intracity transit policy with an eye toward intercity and ultimately regional interconnectivity, because developing regional hubs will keep Lenexa on the forefront of providing transit options to its citizens and workforce.

Innovation And Technology

Goal 4

Encourage, as a city, innovation and the effective use of state-of-the-art technologies to increase the efficiency, safety, and sustainability of our community services.

Rationale:

New technologies will play an increasingly prominent role in the quality of life for residents and are essential for economic development and the expansion of our tax base. They also can help make our city services more efficient and accessible. Effective and engaging communications also can create a greater sense of community.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Build public/private partnerships to facilitate development and implementation of emerging technologies that meet the needs and requirements of businesses and residents.
- Embrace state-of-the-art technologies to enhance Lenexa's image and attract public and private investment.
- Continue to develop Internet tools that provide improved services to businesses and residents such as community announcements, activities, promotions, availability of city resources, etc.
- Implement new communication technologies for enhancing community involvement and educational activities.
- Encourage the adoption of wireless technologies to minimize the impact on infrastructure.
- Embrace state-of-the-art city asset management, public safety, and integrated emergency response systems.

Environmental Management

Goal 5

Continue to seek, develop and utilize responsible solutions to preserving Lenexa's environmental resources.

Rationale:

Infrastructure and transportation development has a direct impact on limited and valuable environmental resources. Therefore, maintenance and preservation of these irreplaceable resources are important for our continued quality of life.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Meet or exceed all federal, state, and local environmental regulations that protect human health and the environment.
- Achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification of new and remodeled public facilities and encourage LEED certification of private facilities.
- Apply the principles of Sustainable Sites Initiative (landscape sustainability) to land development and management of public properties; also, promote the initiative in private development.
- Apply Smart Growth principles to new and existing transportation and infrastructure.
- Examine and implement alternative energy sources for city transportation and infrastructure.

Infrastructure Design

Goal 6

Implement and maintain cost-effective, high-quality infrastructure that is aesthetically pleasing.

Rationale:

As Lenexa reaches full build-out in the year 2030, infrastructure development will shift from new design to maintenance. Infrastructure design, construction and maintenance should be cost-effective, high-quality, and aesthetically pleasing: projects that meet these criteria aid in the continued livability of our community by enhancing residential satisfaction.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Implement policies that encourage city departments to obtain the highest quality products and services within available resources recognizing that the lowest bid may not always ensure high quality.
- Implement policies to ensure that aesthetic design is always considered during planning and design phases.
- Utilize innovative funding methods to maintain city-wide infrastructure.
- Improve safety and minimize noise impacts of railroad grade crossings, including those in the Old Town Lenexa Commercial Area, by considering silent crossings, grade separation, etc.
- Maximize the value of the city's investment in infrastructure by utilizing long-term, life-cycle, cost-benefit analysis.
- Explore opportunities to use materials and methods that offer extended life and reduced maintenance cost for future infrastructure and transportation projects.

Utility Management

Goal 7

Provide safe and efficient utility services for the city's needs while minimizing disruption to existing infrastructure.

Rationale:

With the ever-increasing number of utility companies sharing public rights-of-way, management of these facilities becomes more critical to the protection of the city's investment in infrastructure. Proactive planning and management of utilities and their expansion can reduce future expenditures and infrastructure disruption.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Ensure that utility management and placement is a prominent component of infrastructure maintenance and development. One way this can be done is by providing adequate space within rights-of-way.
- Minimize barriers to competition among various utility companies.
- Plan for installation and the expansion of future utility services and new technologies.



Safe and Healthy Community

Vision Statement

Lenexa is the “Safest and Healthiest City” in the metro area. It is focused on bringing together abundant community resources. Its leaders, professionals and volunteers significantly support and promote the city’s public safety plans and initiative to engage citizens to become personally and socially responsible partners in the facilitation of community physical and mental well-being. Through innovative educational efforts, the city won broader and deeper commitments from those who live and work in Lenexa to participate in safeguarding the high quality of living we esteem.

Goals

- *Personal and community safety*
- *Emergency preparedness*
- *Critical incident response*
- *Community health*



Personal and Community Safety

Goal 1

Create an atmosphere of safety and security for Lenexa residents, businesses and visitors.

Rationale:

Lenexa currently has a high satisfaction rating from citizens and boasts one of the lowest crime rates in the area. As the city grows, Lenexa will need to add resources to maintain and expand services in mature, as well as newly developing, parts of the community to sustain this reputation.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Educate our children on safety issues and empower them to protect themselves by, for example, offering community personal defense classes to Lenexa youth at an early age and clearly identifying “safe places” for youth to go when they feel threatened.
- Offer education programs for the elderly on home safety issues and fraud such as phone scams.
- Explore the next generation of the Neighborhood Watch Programs with changes in community design standards to accommodate these programs.
- Continue promoting programs such as the Citizens Police Academy.
- Maintain the highest quality police and fire services through on-going training, regional and national certification, and recruiting top-quality candidates.
- Investigate how new technology (internet, wireless, video, etc.) could help improve safety services and public amenities for the community such as fire and police, walking trails, parks and lakes.
- Continue support of legislation that assists Lenexa’s fire and police departments in accomplishing community safety.

Emergency Preparedness

Goal 2

Ensure Lenexa is prepared for major disasters including tornado, massive-scale fire, pandemic events, terrorist attacks, and chemical, biological and nuclear disasters.

Rationale:

As with any American city, Lenexa faces risks to its population and infrastructures from calamities resulting from natural or man-made disasters. Loss of life and property are minimized only through proper planning and communication. The city, its citizens and businesses, share this responsibility. Each must play a role to ensure all persons have the greatest chance for survival in these threatening situations. No matter how improbable, the possibility requires a high level of preparedness beyond the normal routine of daily living.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Develop and maintain a formal disaster recovery plan to address mass-casualty scenarios.
- Dedicate resources for continued development and maintenance of the plan.
- Establish and communicate, with consideration of surrounding communities, evacuation routes within the community.
- Develop advance communication of emergency preparedness plans to include city, corporate and personal responsibilities.
- Develop emergency communication process which include interoperability among communication systems/departments and alternatives that avoid single points of failure.
- Engage the citizenry with periodic drills of the entire community emergency preparedness plans.
- Partner with adjoining communities and jurisdictions to ensure a cohesive and comprehensive plan that efficiently utilizes limited resources.
- Identify and provide locations for storage of water, food and other supplies for short-term consumption until normal channels are re-established.

Critical Incident Response

Goal 3

Develop and communicate a Critical Incident Response Plan with mental health professionals who will respond to tragic incidents that could occur within the City of Lenexa. This includes a stress debriefing team to address psychological aftermath issues (pre-arranged agencies or teams of mental health psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, counselors and psychiatric nurses who will supply stress debriefing).

Rationale:

As our society changes and the City of Lenexa grows, we must be prepared to react to critical incidents which involve any situation and/or event faced by emergency or public safety personnel (responders) or that may cause a distressing, traumatic or profound change or disruption in their physical or psychological functions. Johnson County is a community with excellent community resources which should be coordinated across the region in situations involving post-incident trauma.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Develop a critical incident response plan and critical incident stress debriefing plan in conjunction with surrounding cities and counties for best use of resources.
- Insure current critical incident plans and programs are updated as potential threats evolve.

Community Health

Goal 4

Reinforce the importance of a healthy community to all of Lenexa's citizens through education and awareness of resources available throughout Johnson County.

Rationale:

A healthy community is a strong and happy community. As the City of Lenexa grows, the population evolves socio-economically, and its ethnic makeup diversifies. The city must partner with private and government organizations to make citizens aware of resources that are available to meet individuals' needs and their personal responsibility in meeting this goal.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Include on the City of Lenexa website general health information and weblinks to local, state and federal resources such as the Johnson County Health Department.
- Provide citizens with general information and weblinks for charitable organizations that can provide community health service support. An example: United Way 511 resource number.
- Encourage local health service organizations to participate in city festivals by staffing an information booth to educate and assist citizens in completing government assistance applications, and review programs for possible corporate/health partnership that impact community health awareness, and provide health screenings for the citizens.



Strong Economic Base

Vision Statement

The City of Lenexa has a sustainable economic base achieved through revitalization, jobs and technology, and creation of economic gateways, while maintaining a healthy business-to-residential tax structure.

Goals

- *City-wide economic balance*
- *Maintain and update infrastructure*
- *Attract and retain jobs*
- *Leading edge technology and emerging market businesses*
- *Develop and expand alliances*
- *Economic gateway centers*
- *Destination venues within Lenexa*



City-Wide Economic Balance

Goal 1

Promote city-wide economic balance.

Rationale:

In this complex and competitive regional business environment, creative, prudent, and aggressive use of economic incentives are imperative to revitalize and grow Lenexa's business sector and maintain a reasonable business-to-residence tax structure.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Encourage the revitalization of established neighborhoods and commercial areas to the standards of new development areas.
- Encourage the use of incentives to make revitalization of established neighborhoods and commercial areas equally attractive to businesses and residents as green-field development.
- Provide ready access procedures to gain information and apply for commercial incentives.

Maintain and Update Infrastructure

Goal 2

Maintain and update transportation, utilities, public works and aesthetic infrastructure to promote and facilitate economic retention and growth.

Rationale:

As transportation and technology uses evolve, keeping up with modern conveniences and next-generation ideas is crucial to the movement of workforce and ideas across the city and throughout the region.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Encourage investment in transportation, utilities and public works infrastructure and aesthetics to ensure all areas of Lenexa are conducive to active, safe, and profitable commerce.
- Explore and encourage the redesign of existing commercial strip malls/shopping centers to pedestrian friendly mixed-use commercial areas.
- Preserve and enhance the unique character of the Old Town Lenexa Commercial Area.
- Invest in the commercial infrastructure of the I-35 commercial corridor to maintain existing businesses and attract new national retail commerce.
- Continue to invest in the Lenexa business parks' commercial infrastructure to retain existing industry and attract new industry.
- Create infrastructure that would support businesses and employees needs within the business parks.

Attract and Retain Jobs

Goal 3

Attract and retain jobs that meet the educational skill set and economic needs of Lenexa residents.

Rationale:

Developing a community where Lenexans can live, work and play will encourage increased community loyalty and enhance the business environment.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Establish a central point of contact to assist businesses with the process of identifying, seeking and processing economic incentives available from federal, state, and local agencies.
- Encourage the development of environmentally friendly facilities and opportunities for energy use reduction to provide business owners with cost saving, environmentally efficient facilities.
- Continuously review planning and zoning along the K-10, K-7, I-35, and I-435 economic corridors to facilitate viable, sustainable locations for development.
- Attract high-tech businesses and workforce by making Lenexa a leader the Kansas City metropolitan area in availability of high speed data connections and wireless availability.

Leading Edge Technology and Emerging Market Businesses

Goal 4

Develop and grow leading edge technology and emerging market businesses.

Rationale:

In order to keep pace with cities that embrace businesses associated with leading edge technology, Lenexa must maintain its competitive position as an attractive destination for these companies.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Emphasize availability of research and development resources from local universities.
- Emphasize engineering, bioscience and health resources and partnering opportunities with the abundance of local universities and specialty firms and organizations in the region to provide a base for expansion of cutting edge technologies.
- Utilize existing transportation infrastructure and skill base to leverage our centralized location in the United States.

Develop and Expand Alliances

Goal 5

Develop and expand alliances within the region to provide a more competitive advantage in attracting businesses and community services to Lenexa.

Rationale:

To maximize Lenexa's economic development, we need to take advantage of resources throughout the region to further Lenexa's economic goals and objectives.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Provide proactive leadership in establishing regional partnerships and alliances to provide complementary and mutually beneficial growth opportunities.
- Showcase the economic, educational, and recreational amenities that make our region attractive.

Economic Gateway Centers

Goal 6

Create unique and symbolic economic gateway centers to the City of Lenexa.

Rationale:

Lenexa is geographically surrounded by the cities of Shawnee, Overland Park, Olathe, and Desoto. As regional growth continues and economic competition increases, a means of differentiating the Lenexa economic environment from its surrounding communities will be increasingly important.

Strategically placed economic gateway centers, i.e. village commercial centers, at key entry points into the city will attract both residents and non-residents. Identifying these economic centers with signage, logos, etc. will develop visually attractive economic destinations.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Designate specific roadways and intersections as the main entry points to Lenexa and through a combination of branding and aggressive development strategies, allow these gateways to empower the Lenexa economy and reflect community spirit.
- Work with private developers to establish new gateway commercial centers and upgrade existing retail centers that will complement the new Lenexa City Center and its mixed-use zoning.
- Create and promote the image of these gateway hubs as quality business/retail/residential centers through publicity, marketing, and signage.
- Develop a virtual gateway utilizing technology to create centralized access to Lenexa's opportunities and providing ease of access to information for residents and visitors. Information should include, but not be limited to government, business, recreation, education, and housing opportunities.

Destination Venues within Lenexa

Goal 7

Develop family-friendly destination venues within Lenexa.

Rationale:

Lenexa 2020 established City Center as the economic hub for Lenexa. However, City Center alone will not attract sufficient economic traffic to meet the economic needs of 2030. Year-around family-friendly destination venues will broaden and strengthen the economic base and provide facilities and attractions to Lenexa residents and regional visitors.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Encourage the development of tournament-quality sports facilities that have spectator seating near City Center.
- Attract fine-dining restaurants to Lenexa.



Sustainable Quality Community Growth

Vision Statement

Lenexa is a sustainable community that leads the region by promoting high standards of quality development and application of green concepts.

Goals

- *Environmental leadership*
- *High-quality city services and amenities*
- *High development standards*
- *Create a “neighborhood feel”*
- *Well-thought-out growth*



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Environmental Leadership

Goal 1

Establish Lenexa as an environmental leader within the region.

Rationale:

Significant scientific studies and a growing consensus of public opinion indicate that there are rising concerns over the health of our environment. An important part of any solution will be how individual communities face these environmental issues and formulate action plans to address them on a local level. These actions will impact the quality of life for their citizens and neighboring communities. Lenexa has always demonstrated that it is a leader in community planning. The city should expand this leadership role to include environmentally-sound standards and best practices in all of its future planning.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Adopt a “green is gold” policy to promote ecologically sound principles in all Lenexa programs.
- Promote an environmentally sustainable message to the community through Lenexa’s inclusion in on-line searches such as: environmental protection, sustainable growth and climate protection.
- Maintain an awareness and knowledge of innovative new products, services, policies and procedures specific to improving Lenexa’s energy and natural resource uses.
- Promote sustainable, responsible citizenship as a part of academic and community education.
- Maximize green space.
- Recognize the importance of integrating both the natural and man-made elements of the environment by always considering the needs of resident wildlife which should be allowed to co-exist with Lenexa residents through the provision of wildlife corridors and habitats in balance with human uses of land.

High-Quality City Services and Amenities

Goal 2

Continue to provide high-quality city services and amenities as the city grows.

Rationale:

Our citizens want superior services and amenities that will put Lenexa on the map as a place to be. They also want to maintain a high level of city services and amenities as we grow. We will strive to meet the community's expectation (requirement) for the highest level of goods and services by seeking the participation of citizens and others seeking to contribute to Lenexa's future (developers, service providers, city employees)

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Provide a level of service for Lenexa residents and businesses that exceeds that of other Kansas City area communities
- Require a high level of goods and services be provided by those seeking to participate in Lenexa's future (developers, service providers and city employees).
- Continue to promote citizen participation in our community's present and future planning.
- Provide cultural amenities that set Lenexa apart from most other suburbs such as a museum, an aquarium or other distinctive venues that support the arts, humanities and the finer endeavors of human kind.

High Development Standards

Goal 3

Continue to require high standards for new and existing residential and commercial development.

Rationale:

Aesthetically pleasing communities attract new commercial businesses and residents. By setting the standards of commercial and residential construction high, encouraging the revitalization of existing neighborhoods, and incorporating community connectivity, ecologically sound technologies and green spaces into communities, Lenexa will continue to be a sought after city in which to work and live.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Continually upgrade the quality standards for residential and commercial construction resulting in highly aesthetic architecture and enduring value.
- Promote redevelopment of existing neighborhoods that incorporate concepts applied to the developing parts of Lenexa.
- Promote rewards and incentives for those who engage in innovative best practices for quality construction and good green practices.
- Ensure city inspections and records report that public and private facilities continue to be operated in the most energy efficient and practical manner to achieve city approved design standards.

Create a “Neighborhood Feel”

Goal 4

Promote development that creates a “neighborhood feel”.

Rationale:

The citizens of Lenexa have articulated a commitment to create and maintain community structures and services that provide for a deeper human connection. They understand that positive human relationships that grow out of caring communities are the unifying force for the greater good that is the life-blood of a high quality of life.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Provide incentives for developments which are pedestrian friendly and create a “neighborhood feel”. Build a “forest of bonsai trees” (neighborhoods) to avoid the “big city” syndrome.
- Provide venues for a wide range of activities that cater to the interests of a diverse Lenexa population.
- Look for opportunities to promote and sponsor neighborhood events and activities.
- Enhance community events and festivals.
- Improve and expand city communications such as Town Talk.



Well-Thought-Out Growth

Goal 5

Continue well-thought-out, well considered, deliberate growth.

Rationale:

The main reason Lenexa has been successful thus far is because of the high level of professionalism of the city's elected officials and city staff. It has been their collective approach of forward thinking based upon due consideration and thorough investigation that results in an aggressive, yet calculated, process of community planning. This approach has served Lenexa well in the past and should continue into the future. The city should be willing to consider any promising new policy, but moving forward only when there is full evidence of the great likelihood of a successful outcome. This city will need to expand upon this leadership role and continue to include environmentally sound review, standards and best practices in all of its future planning.

Strategies:

To achieve the above goal, it is recommended the community explore the following:

- Implement ongoing reviews of all project plans, making necessary adjustments to meet new or changing goals, and being flexible enough to allow for the adoption of upgraded best practices.
- Keep current with innovative new products, services and policies that will maximize efficiencies, and anticipate changes in technology that will alter the need for and type of public facilities.
- Conduct plan reviews of new developments to ensure they address population density and transportation management issues.
- Review project information to determine fully costs the city will incur for providing public services required by plans it approves.
- Confirm maximum cost participation by state, federal, and developer before offering city incentives.



Umbrella Issues

The input gained through the community forums provided a basis for determining the critical issues facing the community. Additionally, common values and beliefs became evident. These values which overlap all seven critical issues were identified by the Steering Committee as “Umbrella Issues.” Part of each Task Force’s responsibility was to ensure these values or umbrella issues were addressed and incorporated in the Vision it developed. Following are five Umbrella Issues that readers will see woven throughout all seven task force reports:

FINANCIAL LIMITATIONS

Lenexa’s financial situation is strong and the city enjoys citizen support for critical needs as evidenced in the recent voter approved 3/8-cent sales tax. However, the community understands there are financial limitations that will affect accomplishing the Vision. It does not want big tax increases and encourages consideration of creative financing tools.

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

The community feels it is imperative to reach out to its residents and encourage their involvement. Through citizen involvement and effective communication, Lenexa will continue to be a community where people desire to live, work and play.

PARTNERSHIPS AND ALLIANCES

The community recognizes the value of creating and enhancing partnerships with other communities and public and private organizations. These relationships are imperative to Lenexa’s success.

SUSTAINABILITY

The community values its resources and encourages all decisions give due consideration to financial impacts, environment impacts, and long-term sustainability of the community.

DIVERSITY

The community recognizes the overall value that diversity among its people and institutions bring to it and supports consideration of ideas that promote and encourage the benefits of diversity throughout the City of Lenexa.



APPENDIX

During the community forums and the deliberations of the Issue Task Forces, numerous ideas and viewpoints were presented some of which were not included in Lenexa Vision 2030 because of their specificity or concerns about the city's ability to implement them. However, the Steering Committee wanted to ensure these ideas and viewpoints were preserved for the benefit of the readers and implementers of Lenexa Vision 2030. Some of the ideas and viewpoints preserved in this appendix, over time, could spark initiatives the community and city might desire to pursue.

Community Spirit and Amenities

Beautification

- Clearly and prominently mark city boundaries with monuments that display the city's prairie star symbol.
- Landscape these roadways, especially the intersections with 87th and 95th streets, consistent with Prairie Star Parkway features.
- Landscape bus stops as miniature plazas with seating and shelter.
- Improve the Quivira/95th Street overpass facades by utilizing the aesthetics of the 87th Street corridor theme. Repeat arching light posts from that overpass as well.

Cultural Enrichment

- Initiate a program to install commemorative markers of these people and events throughout the community.
- Hire a city Art Director.
- Commission artists to capture significant community events and accomplishments.
- Expand the museum budget to produce more displays and exhibits.

Enhancement of Old Town Lenexa Commercial Area

- As Old Town is a bus stop, a combination of a bus stop and outdoor plaza may be an appropriate addition. The intersection of Pflumm and Santa Fe should be done in the same manner as Pflumm and 87th street with the prairie star, grass motifs and benches. This improvement should be tied into the overall Lenexa beautification plan.
- Develop a multi-purpose complex consisting of a community center, classrooms, art galleries and studios, dance rooms and a theater with the intent to make Lenexa the premiere venue in the region for mid-size and smaller art events .A square or plaza capable of hosting outdoor events should be part of the design. An abundance of public art, such as statuary, mosaics, murals, water fountains, etc. should be included in the design.
- Zone the area for historic land use.

Education and Learning

Foster Educational Growth through Collaboration

- Create a business-to-community-to-schools Lenexa City council subcommittee.
- Serve as a central information gathering point for educational opportunities.
- Consider the creation of a Lenexa-based educational advisory board to build unity across our independent educational organizations.

Promote Learning and Development Partnerships

- Create a registered list of teachers and business professionals who can provide guidance regarding educational science, technology, and math mentoring/mentorships.
- Create a business-to-community-to-schools Lenexa City Council subcommittee.
- Assist the Lenexa Chamber of Commerce to foster and develop programs that encourage mentoring and educating of entrepreneurs and small business owners within Lenexa by corporate leaders and other entrepreneurial teachers/mentors/facilitators.

Create Lenexa Educational Centers of Excellence

- Create an Excellence in Education Center. This would be a key facility and essential to the success of many, if not most, of the programs envisioned for the year 2030 and beyond. This facility would provide a central gathering point for exhibits, presentations and lectures, and training for Lenexa-sponsored events. It could have meeting room space for the Educational Advisory Board meetings, equipment storage space, as well as a museum and exhibition area.
- Create a Lenexa Learning Star Legacy endowment fund that organizations and individuals can contribute to directly to achieve the Lenexa Centers of Excellence Vision.
- Build a world class nature discovery center at Lake Lenexa. Provide a way to “overlook” the learning adventure area. Work with non-profit related businesses (i.e. Operation Wildlife (OWL)) to maximize facility use and depth.

- Build a weather study tower at Centennial Park. This could provide students with experience in observing weather as well as a storm watch lookout.
- Create a mobile facility that would contain a travelling library. This laboratory would provide the community education on numerous subjects. The laboratory could be set up at local business parking lots, schools, libraries, museums, or other areas with good exposure to the community. Exhibit preparations could be competitive and winners could compete at a state and national level. Funding would rely on corporate sponsorship and corporate technical assistance, and grant or endowment funding.
- Create a civil engineering playground. Coordinate with Lenexa's Parks and Recreation and Public Works to provide a playground atmosphere for the purpose of educating the public concerning the challenges and benefits of and opportunities in civil engineering and construction science. This could be funded through designing the civil engineering playground and then franchising it across the United States and the World. The civil engineering playground is one area that Lenexa's excellent Parks and Recreation and Public Works departments could extend its reach.
- Obtain assistance from students and student groups, educators, and community volunteers to construct travelling laboratories. The following are travelling lab recommendations:
 - Create a travelling Science laboratory.
 - Create a travelling Math laboratory.
 - Create a travelling English literature laboratory.
 - Create a travelling World Literature laboratory.
 - Create a travelling Adventures Across the World laboratory.
 - Create a travelling Mars laboratory.
 - Create a Goddard Space Museum quality hands on laboratory.
 - Create a Virtual Hospital to demonstrate medical techniques and technology.
 - Create an Octave Chanute interactive aviation laboratory to provide principles of flight education.
 - Create a mechanical/electrical engineering laboratory to explore robotic technology.
 - Create a software engineering laboratory to present and discuss software operating systems, languages, and networks.
 - Create a geology laboratory to educate the community about the strata and rock formations that surround us.

- Create an archaeology laboratory to explore the history of our community since the beginning of time.
- Create a genealogy laboratory to explore each person's history and connection to humanity.
- Create an annual "education icon." These are educational artifacts that help celebrate Lenexa's history and point Lenexa residents towards the future. The first "education icon" should be the recognition that Lenexa was the birthplace of the Kansas Academy of Math and Science. This icon would be followed annually by other educational commemorations.

Additional Comments

The draft report prepared by the Education Task Force included six goals. As the individual Task Force Reports were combined to form this document, the Steering Committee assimilated most, but not all of the draft report information under three goals. The following portions of the Task Force draft report could not be readily assimilated into one or more of the final three goals.

Vision-To-Value (V2V) Algorithm

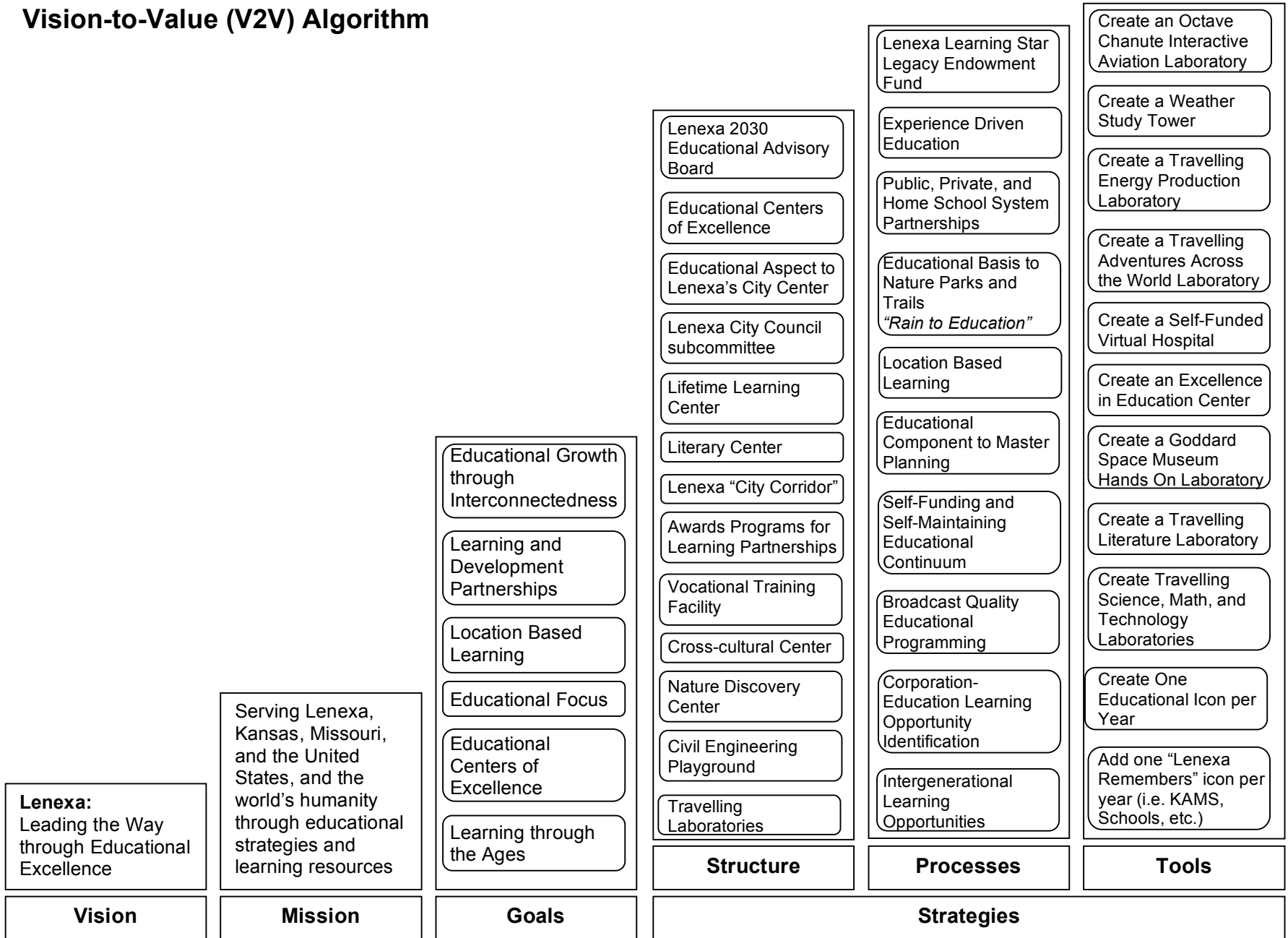
The Vision-To- Value (V2V) Algorithm shown on the next page creates a framework for educational excellence, specific details regarding strategies, and quite a bit of leeway and freedom to make sure that our recommendations serve as a foundation and not a limitation for future educational excellence.

Location Based Learning

- Create a Lenexa master plan for specific location based learning environments.
- Integrate with Lenexa Parks and Recreation and Rain to Recreation departments to integrate educational opportunities in Lenexa's continued development. This could be achieved through a "*Rain to Education*" type initiative that builds on Lenexa's existing *Rain to Recreation* movement.
- Review the Lenexa to Lawrence bike/walking path to determine Lenexa related educational sites.
- Add one "Lenexa Remembers" educational icon per year.

- Add one science based learning hands on exhibit per year.

Vision-to-Value (V2V) Algorithm



Educational Focus

- Integrate the educational health of the community into the Lenexa Mayor's State of the City address.
- Highlight educational accomplishments through City of Lenexa publications.
- Foster and support continued excellence in public and private educational organizations.
- Create *Rain to Education* environments within proximity to educational organizations.
- Encourage educational gurus to speak to Lenexa area and surrounding communities.
- Create a cross-cultural education facility.
- Create a literature center to facilitate book discussion groups and author presentations.
- Create a Lenexa "Free University" for community members to share their knowledge and specific talents with others.
- Seek funding from state institutions such as Kansas Humanities Council, Kansas Human Services, etc.

Learning through the Ages

- To encourage, support, and promote learning opportunities for community members from "cradle-to-grave."
 - Develop a "Lifetime Learning Center.
 - Create intergenerational education opportunities.
 - Address the needs of non-traditional learners.
 - Provide flexible, market sensitive programming pertinent to society's demands.
 - Form partnerships with national, state, and local resources to extend access to early life educational programs.
 - Provide guidance and assistance through the Educational Advisory Board.

Housing & Neighborhoods

Sustainable Neighborhoods

- Develop enhanced and standardized HOA minimum standards and create a super HOA that creates conduit among all associations for support and information sharing. A super HOA is made up of representatives from multiple HOAs and areas without HOAs.

Life Cycle Housing

- The local effort should be tasked with various initiatives:
 - To expand awareness of available homeowner and senior services.
 - To coordinate that assistance when necessary.
 - To further strengthen the City's Rental Registration and rental property maintenance efforts to offer a superior housing base for starter-type homes.
 - Facilitate the identification of those residences requiring renovation or extensive maintenance in order to stabilize the viability of the immediate neighborhoods.

Revitalization and Maintenance

- Develop an Old Town task force to determine the boundaries of the area, solicit property owner participation, create an identity and plan for redevelopment of the Old Town commercial area into a local retail center and the area residential community, and minimize the traffic disruption, noise and division caused by the railroad. If possible, the railroad could be used as an attraction or allow a transportation hub to be created in Old Town.

Transportation & Infrastructure

Transit Options

- Examples of transit friendly development characteristics: close-set buildings, fewer cul-de-sacs, and in-back parking lots.
- Establish task force to develop “Local Link” to promote transit and develop an identity for Lenexa (i.e., trolley cars, unique buses, etc.). Local Link should ultimately integrate with the Kansas City area’s transit network.

Additional Comments

The draft report prepared by the Infrastructure & Transportation Task Force also included a section on funding. As the individual Task Force Reports were combined to form this document, the Steering Committee identified funding as an Umbrella Issue and the following section was not included in the Infrastructure & Transportation section.

Funding

- Develop and implement creative funding for maintenance of existing infrastructure and for future infrastructure and transportation needs.
- To maintain a viable, productive, and attractive community, Lenexa must maintain current infrastructure at a high level and find methods to fund future infrastructure and transportation projects. As Lenexa’s infrastructure matures and maintenance of that infrastructure becomes more costly, it is imperative that Lenexa seek out and find alternative funding to augment the current funding methods.
 - Consolidate the research and preparation of applications for public and private programs and grants across all city departments to maximize the efficiency of the application process.
 - Develop new funding sources to aid in the maintenance of the city’s infrastructure. For example, a hotel room tax or rental car tax would spread the cost beyond Lenexa’s residents and businesses.
 - Controlling costs frees up existing resources. Streamline processes and utilize common resources to eliminate duplication and reduce expenditures.

Safe & Healthy Community

Community Health

- Form a task force to investigate how other cities across the country partner with local health services to educate citizens of services and make them more readily available.
- Create a task force to maintain dialog and communication within County, State, and Federal level health-related agencies to ensure meeting our goal to keep families and individuals healthy, both physically and psychologically.

Sustainable Quality Growth

Regional Leadership

- Demonstrate a willingness and readiness to become a leader in minimizing our community's own carbon footprint.
- Consider contests, scholarships, special events and activities that promote a constant note of environmentalism.

Vision 2030 Glossary

Citizen's Police Academy (CPA) – The goal of CPA is twofold: to educate Lenexa citizens about the structure and activities of their Police Department, and to provide an opportunity to get to know the men and women of the Lenexa Police Department, producing informed and educated citizens, making them more productive within their own neighborhoods. The ten week CPA course meets one night each week for three hours. Topics covered in the CPA class include overviews of the LPD organization and structure, recruiting, and training. For more information visit www.ci.lenexa.ks.us/police.html

Critical Incident Stress Debriefing – Mental health professionals addressing the psychological aftermath of highly traumatic tragic events that can occur within a City.

Green-Field Development – Public or private development that occurs on previously undeveloped land zoned for agriculture uses.

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) – The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ encourages and accelerates global adoption of sustainable green building and development practices through the creation and implementation of universally understood and accepted tools and performance criteria.

Old Town Historic Commercial Area (as referred to in Vision 2030) - The HBD, Planned Historic Business District is intended to accommodate development and redevelopment within the City's historic commercial core, while preserving the historical significance and unique qualities of the area. The HBD District regulations are intended to promote the economic vitality and to encourage compatible development by providing design flexibility. It is also the intention of the HBD District to provide for convenient and safe vehicular and pedestrian access patterns in the area.

Smart Growth - A perspective, method, and goal for managing the growth of a community. It focuses on the long-term implications of growth and how it may affect the community, instead of viewing growth as an end in itself.

Sustainable Sites Initiatives – The Sustainable Sites Initiative is an interdisciplinary partnership between the American Society of Landscape Architects, the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, the United States Botanic Garden and a diverse group of stakeholder organizations to develop guidelines and standards for landscape sustainability. For more information: www.sustainablesites.org



Tune In and Follow Our Progress

Lenexa Vision 2020 and Lenexa Vision 2030 are community created statements of ideas and desires about the future of Lenexa. They serve as guides for the City of Lenexa as we establish priorities, policies and programs.

We invite you to follow our progress and track the accomplishments we've made and will make in support of Vision 2020 and Vision 2030. Visit www.ci.lenexa.ks.us for bi-annual reports on the steps we've taken to help move Lenexa toward the future envisioned by our community.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-138

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE LENEXA VISION 2030 COMMUNITY REPORT ON BEHALF OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE VOLUNTEERS AND CITIZENS OF LENEXA, JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS

WHEREAS, the Vision 2020 Report has been a useful tool in guiding City initiatives over the past 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body determined that a formal plan for the future of Lenexa based on direct input from the community is desired and a priority; and

WHEREAS, the process began in August of 2007 with the selection of Steering Committee Co-Chairs Craig Denny and Mandy Stuke; a facilitator in October of 2007, and Steering Committee Members in December of 2007; and

WHEREAS, the facilitator and Steering Committee assisted Lenexa residents to participate and formulate certain visions of how they would like to see Lenexa in the year 2030; and

WHEREAS, from applications, town meetings and focus groups, individuals were selected to work in conjunction with the Steering Committee with assistance of staff, to form the following seven (7) task force committees – Community Spirit and Amenities, Education, Housing and Neighborhoods, Infrastructure and Transportation, Safe and Healthy Community, Strong Economic Base, and Sustainable Quality Community Growth (the “Task Force Committees”); and

WHEREAS, the Task Force Committees worked from February to June, 2008 preparing visions, goals and strategies; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee held a town meeting in July, 2008 to share the visions of each Task Force Committee and received positive feedback; and

WHEREAS, the visions, goals and strategies from each Task Force Committee were combined into a final report (the “Lenexa Vision 2030 Community Report”) presented this day to the Governing Body and recommended for acceptance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF LENEXA, KANSAS:

SECTION ONE: The future of Lenexa is a high-priority goal of the Governing Body, and as such, the Governing Body determined to develop a plan for the future based on input from the community.

SECTION TWO: Recognizing the assistance from the community, the Steering Committee, the Task Force Committees, and the facilitator, the Lenexa Vision 2030 Community Report is accepted by the Governing Body.

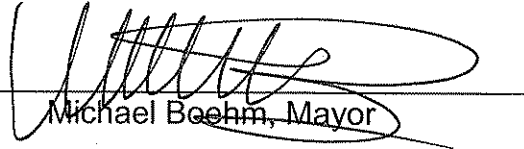
SECTION THREE: This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED by the City Council this 7th day of October, 2008.

SIGNED by the Mayor this 7th day of October, 2008.

CITY OF LENEXA, KANSAS

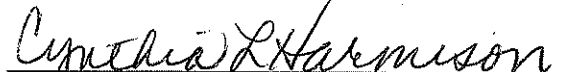
By:


Michael Boehm, Mayor

ATTEST:


Anna Ancil, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Cynthia L. Harmison, City Attorney





Conclusion

Lenexa and its citizens define and engage the future with vision, determination, clear goals, and the dedication of a Governing Body and City Staff who will integrate the vision and goals into the city's governance, long-term planning, and daily operations.

Vision 2020 and 2030 are about being a community and the absolute importance of active citizen participation in defining the future they desire and then working together to achieve that future.

Lenexa's culture of involving all of its stakeholders in creating the vision and goals for its future accounts for the city's extraordinary accomplishments and leadership the city has demonstrated within the community and the region. This is why Lenexa is the progressive, vibrant city that is the exceptional and wonderful place we are proud to call home.