

Prescott

Section 1: Responsibility & Accountability

Score: 12/12 (100%)

Public officials should embrace the responsibility for guiding local communities toward beneficial long-term growth and development while seeking broad community benefit, engaging regional partnerships and facilitating compliance with planning and land use regulations. Because many growth issues transcend political boundaries, communities should actively engage in regional cooperation with local, state, federal and Tribal representatives. Planning processes should engage people in issues while facilitating the implementation of a unified community vision.

1. Is your general/comprehensive plan current and inclusive of all Growing Smarter elements as required by state statute? (required)

Our plan is current with all required elements and has one or more additional elements not required by statute; it is reviewed annually by staff and amended as necessary. (3 points)

"All required elements included and the following additional voluntary elements: Community Quality Element, Environmental and Economic Development Element. See attached for complete City of Prescott General Plan"

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

Our plan is current with all required elements and is reviewed annually by staff. (2 points)

We are currently preparing a general/comprehensive plan in conformance with the requirements established by the Growing Smarter statutes. (1 point)

2. How do you engage the local community in planning activities? (required)

We have an adopted public participation and neighborhood involvement plan that explicitly outlines methods to involve a broad representation of the community, including non-traditional partners (such as non-profit and faith-based organizations, school districts, etc.) using innovative public involvement techniques that go beyond conventional public hearings (design charettes, town halls, workshops, focus groups, youth programs, electronic communication, surveys, etc.). (3 points)

"We have public participation section in General Plan, and public noticing provisions in the Land Development Code. Community Development Director has authority to require additional public "neighborhood" or "area" meetings by developer. City's public notice process exceed State Law Regulations."

We have an adopted public participation plan for amendments to our general /comprehensive plan; and we have a neighborhood participation plan for rezonings. (2 points)

Citizens are encouraged to take part in our public meetings which are held on a regular basis. (1 point)

3. Are you using your general/comprehensive plan to determine your funding and planning priorities? (required)

We conduct a periodic review of the general/ comprehensive plan that includes scheduling program priorities according to our capital improvement plan (CIP) and other plans, codes, and regulations (e.g. zoning, construction, design review, water management, open space, etc.). (3 points)

"City Council considers General Plan and CIP as part of budget preparation process. Planning and Zoning Commission is given annual report regarding proposed CIP and upcoming budget. Staff reviews plan periodically for consistency with goals and objectives of adopted plans."

The general/comprehensive plan identifies implementation actions for adopting regulations or funding of public improvements. (2 points)

We have a general/comprehensive plan, zoning ordinance and capital improvement plan (CIP) but they are not linked. (1 point)

Section 1: Responsibility & Accountability

Score: 12/12 (100%)

4. **Does your community participate in regional planning by coordinating with Tribal governments and State and Federal land managers, and utilize regional plans and policies to guide local decisions and implementation? (required)**

We meet regularly with regional entities that are involved in land use decisions and we utilize cooperative mechanisms, such as sharing land use data, joint planning meetings, revenue sharing and intergovernmental agreements, to address regional issues and adjacent land use impacts. (3 points)

"City meets with regional jurisdictions to discuss water and transportation planning. This is done through the Mayor's quarterly breakfast meetings, the Central Yavapai Transportation MPO, and the Active Management Area for water related issues."

We participate in some committees (e.g. Council of Governments, etc.) on regional issues, such as water and transportation. (2 points)

We communicate with other jurisdictions on some regional issues. (1 point)

Prescott

Section 2: Preservation of Community Character

Score: 15/15 (100%)

Plans and investments should preserve each community’s sense of place by promoting its distinct identity, culture and history through a local vision created by its citizens. Careful evaluation of planning and zoning decisions should promote local character through the protection of historic and cultural resources, the promotion of art and cultural programs and the protection of recreation and natural areas of value to the community.

5. Has your community developed a vision statement with public participation that is reflected in the general/comprehensive plan? (required)

We have a vision statement crafted with public participation that guides our general/comprehensive plan and planning decisions. (3 points)

"Prescott's Vision Statement was recently recognized by the Sonoran Institute as an excellent example of a community adopted Vision Statement.

See attached for Prescott General Plan Vision Statement"

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

We have a vision statement but it is not incorporated into our general/comprehensive plan. (2 points)

We are developing a vision statement. (1 point)

6. Does your community have design mechanisms, such as design guidelines, form-based codes, special districts, area plans, or overlay zones so that streets, buildings, and public spaces work together to create a sense of place and promote local character? (required)

We have more than one of these or similar mechanisms in place overseen by a design review process. (3 points)

"Overlay districts are included within Land Development Code (Article 5 - Commercial Corridors Overlay). Article 3 of the Land Development includes the Specially Planned Community zone district, a zoning designation that permits uses based on specific Master Plan approved through rezoning process. City has 14 Local Preservation Districts incorporating design review into development review process relating to buildings, streets and public spaces, creating/preserving local community character. Design Guidelines are included within each local district, specifying the design criteria that must be followed for consistency within the district."

2 supplements have been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

We have one of these or similar mechanisms but do not have a design review process in place. (2 points)

We are in the process of developing design mechanisms. Design standards are encouraged, but not required. (1 point)

7. How does your community protect historic and cultural resources? (required)

a). Our city/town has policies in the general plan to inventory and protect historic and cultural resources; an active historic preservation commission and is a Certified Local Government (as defined by the State Historic Preservation Office); or b). Our county has a comprehensive plan with polices to inventory and protect historic and cultural resources and communicates regularly with unincorporated communities to implement these policies. (3 points)

"See attached excerpt from the 2003 Prescott General Plan"

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

My city/town or county has policies in the general/comprehensive plan to inventory and protect historic and cultural resources. (2 points)

Prescott

Section 2: Preservation of Community Character

Score: 15/15 (100%)

7. How does your community protect historic and cultural resources? (required)

My city/town or county supports the preservation of historic structures and cultural resources but does not have procedures or specific policies in place to protect them. (1 point)

8. Where does new development connect to your community? (required)

New development is encouraged to locate within designated Growth Areas and corridors, infill and redevelopment areas with planned or existing infrastructure; and includes a variety of uses and community services, such as employment, shopping, housing, public spaces, and multimodal opportunities. (3 points)

"The General Plan and various Area Plans encourage in-fill development. What "leap frogging" that has occurred is over an area that the community desires to preserve through open space acquisitions (the Granite Dells)."

Growth Areas/corridors, infill and redevelopment areas have been identified. (2 points)

Development generally occurs in a linear pattern along existing or planned roads. (1 point)

9. Does your community promote art, cultural, and community events for its citizens (such as festivals, farmer's markets, youth events, regional fairs, and rodeos)? (required)

We encourage community events through expedited permitting and/or a dedicated revenue stream; and financial or in-kind support for local and regional organizations that coordinate such events (such as convention and visitor bureaus, local visitor information centers, tourism councils, regional entities, chambers of commerce, and neighborhood groups). (3 points)

"Please see attached excerpt from the 2003 Prescott General Plan"

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

We encourage community events by partnering with local and regional organizations. (2 points)

We have adopted policies to encourage special events. (1 point)

10. Does your community have flexible parking regulations to improve circulation and promote community character?

Our development regulations prescribe maximum parking provisions; allow parking reductions for mixed use projects, development near transit facilities, or off-site parking provisions (e.g. on-street parking); allow for shared parking; and/or offer credit for parking provided off-site. (3 points)

Our development regulations are flexible and allow for some parking requirements. (2 points)

We are developing flexible parking regulations. (1 point)

11. Does your community have a sign ordinance that is protective of the community's architectural and historic character?

We have a sign ordinance with design review requirements that promotes community character through context sensitive design; parameters for size, color, lighting, and digital capabilities; or similar mechanisms. (3 points)

We have a sign ordinance but actions are not subject to design review. (2 points)

Prescott

Section 2: Preservation of Community Character

Score: 15/15 (100%)

- 11 Does your community have a sign ordinance that is protective of the community's architectural and historic character?

We intend to establish a sign ordinance in the near future. (1 point)

- 12 Does your community have requirements and incentives such as a streamlined permitting process, fee waivers, density bonuses and/or other incentives to encourage redevelopment, infill, and adaptive reuse of underutilized and vacant sites and buildings?

We offer a number of incentives to encourage redevelopment of underutilized or vacant sites and buildings and infill development; and we have reclamation requirements for big box development. (3 points)

We have a couple of these or similar incentives. (2 points)

We are developing a process to incentivize development of underutilized and vacant sites. (1 point)

Prescott

Section 3: Stewardship of Natural Resources

Score: 21/21 (100%)

Clean water, clean air and natural open land are essential elements of public health and quality of life for Arizona residents, visitors and future generations. Restoring and protecting natural assets and open space and promoting energy efficiency and green building should be incorporated into all land use and infrastructure planning decisions.

13 Has your community identified its natural assets (rivers, mountains, mesas, open space, viewsheds) and taken steps to restore or protect them? (required)

We identify our natural assets in our general/comprehensive plan and have taken steps to protect/restore them through water, wastewater and conservation easement programs; wildlife corridor planning; incorporating recommendations from Arizona Game and Fish Department’s Wildlife Friendly Guidelines; etc. (3 points)

"Through the General Plan and Specific Area Plans significant geographic features, wildlife corridors, water bodies, etc are identified. AZ Game and Fish Wildlife Friendly Guidelines have been presented in the General Plan, included in several Specific Area Plans and the preservation/protection included in development agreements with property owners."

We have identified our natural assets in our general/comprehensive plan and are developing policies and/or programs to begin the process of protecting them. (2 points)

We have identified natural assets. (1 point)

14 Does your community have programs to acquire and maintain open space? (required)

We have regulatory mechanisms and resources to acquire and maintain open space. (3 points)

"Yes, both through direct acquisition: Secondary Tax increase voter initiated and passed by overwhelming margin, the community voted to tax themselves in order to purchase Watson and Willow Lakes. Another ballot measure, the one cent street and open space sales tax was approved in 2000 which will result in \$40.1 million dollars available for community open space purchases. The Mayor’s Open Space Acquisition Committee takes the lead in identifying priority parcels for open space purchase. Also, see excerpt from the 2003 Prescott General Plan.

8.6 OPEN SPACE POLICY

The citizens of Prescott are committed to the acquisition, dedication and stewardship of open space as a community amenity and an economic development asset, which supports the tourism industry. The proportion of land dedicated to protected open space within the community has increased, reflecting a major shift in attitude regarding the importance of open space, essentially beginning with the public and private actions regarding trails in the early 90s. As undeveloped areas with traditional trails and/or access points to the national forest came under development pressures, the public requested that access to these areas be maintained. This was accomplished through agreements between the city and the developers, as well as with forest managers. The city adopted a master trails plan in 1998 and work with federal, state and private funding sources continues.

In addition to the trails efforts, another catalyst toward public commitment to protect open space was the Thumb Butte “scar” when a residential lot on the east slope was cleared for construction. With citizen action and city cooperation, a number of these lots, including the one damaged, were acquired and an easement requiring perpetual protection was negotiated between the city and the Central Arizona Land Trust non-profit organization. The recognition of the value to residents and visitors of protecting significant geological features, natural areas and viewsheds resulted in a number of private/public partnerships to achieve the goals of acquisition and stewardship. Prescott voters approved an open space initiative in 2000 setting aside sales tax revenues for acquisition, to be guided by the city’s adopted open space plan. Stewardship planning must be initiated for the open space parcels the city has acquired and will acquire in the future.

The City of Prescott Parks, Recreation and Library Department provides organized recreation space for softball, football, soccer, jogging, fishing, boating, picnicking, camping, tennis, volleyball, basketball, hiking, bird watching and myriad benefits of the outdoor experience for many citizens and visitors. The Department provides turf, trees, trails, open space, lakes, tables, benches, ramadas, restrooms, campgrounds, ball fields, and children’s play areas. Passive recreational opportunities include non-motorized trail recreation, birding, photography, nature study, rock climbing, orienteering, and other resource-based recreational activities.

The Department reviews plats and plans of developers to ensure that new trail opportunities are not overlooked. The Department is also active in the planning, acquisitions and management of City-owned open space, and is charged with implementing the City of Prescott - 1999 Open Space Plan. As of 2003 City Council appointed an Open Space Acquisition Advisory Committee which is researching options for future open space acquisitions, developing guiding policies and considering management issues and methods to address them. A division within the department - Trails and Open Space - is charged with planning, designing, constructing, maintaining, and managing Prescott's Mile High Trail System. As of 2002, this division maintains, enhances, and manages more than 18 miles of non-motorized trails. With grants and other funding sources, an additional 15 miles are being planned. Future additions of staff to manage the open space program must be considered.

The 2002 Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan listed the following professional services the city will provide in connection with open space:

- master planning
- real estate legal services and appraisals
- land surveying
- stewardship partnerships
- grant proposal writing
- resource inventories

Prescott has identified open space to be acquired based on outstanding characteristics of the land - biologic, geologic, recreation, cultural, historic, scenic, riparian, and as tourism and business economic assets for the future. Open space includes, but is not limited to areas for passive enjoyment of scenic beauty and for active recreational purposes, preserves for protection of riparian areas and streams, wildlife and vegetation, and cultural resources. The character and function of open space differs depending on the character of the area in which it is located as well as the purposes for which the open space has been put under public ownership or stewardship.

An Acquisition Advisory Committee was established in August 2003 to advise the City Council on strategies for open space acquisition. The Committee is charged with reporting recommendations to the City Council in February 2004.

Annexations required to meet standards for open space in the 2003 Land Development Code and new open space assets will be identified and stewardship plans adopted within the city limits by the city Council and in adjoining areas through intergovernmental agreements.

8.6.1 Open Space Policy Goals and Strategies

Goal 1. Acquire four distinct types of open spaces through fee simple acquisition, purchase of development rights or easements, acceptance of voluntary dedications and negotiation of intergovernmental agreements:

- developed parks for active recreation
- trails and contiguous open spaces along creeks or in other areas to connect trails or open spaces within the city and to like areas beyond the corporate limits
- passive natural open spaces to conserve wildlife and view corridors, or protect cultural resources such as sensitive historic/archaeological sites
- open space in Planned Area Developments

Strategy 1.1 Rezone the property to an open space designation for all parcels of land acquired by the City for open space protection or conservation.

Strategy 1.2 Initiate a charter amendment immediately following ratification of this General Plan to protect in perpetuity city owned open space as it is acquired through development, purchase or agreements.

Goal 2. Identify remaining open spaces of significance in the Prescott area.

Strategy 2.1 Prioritize open space parcels of significance for City acquisition. Periodically review and update this list.

Strategy 2.2 Continue where appropriate, to evaluate existing parcels of public or private open space to determine the most appropriate mechanism for conservation.

Strategy 2.3 Initiate a collaborative venture between the private, public, and non-profit sectors for stewardship.

Strategy 2.4 Promote proactive annexation of areas outside the city which have been identified as having significant open space value.

Goal 3. Achieve a community and region-wide balance between development and open space conservation.

Strategy 3.1 Continue long-range comprehensive planning which includes open space as a vital component by the city in cooperation with the transportation planning activity of the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization..

Strategy 3.2 Continue long-range regional cooperation in open space acquisition and stewardship.

Strategy 3.3 Provide incentives to promote the dedication of open space by property owners.

Goal 4. Maintain the biological, cultural, visual, and recreational integrity of protected and unprotected tracts of open space.

Strategy 4.1 Continue to provide stewardship for all components of protected and unprotected tracts employing the expertise within city staff and organizations and entities within the Open Space Alliance.

Strategy 4.2 Maintain preservation of habitats and ecosystems within existing open space in accordance with city, state and federal requirements.

Strategy 4.3 Protect connectivity of existing open space areas and trails by requiring developing areas to provide appropriate access.
Strategy 4.4 Encourage re-vegetation of disturbed or damaged areas and removal of invasive non-native vegetation.

Goal 5. Confer with Prescott National Forest, Bureau of Land Management, Yavapai County, other jurisdictions including towns and school districts, Prescott Area Coalition for Tourism, and the Open Space Alliance of Central Yavapai County to effect protection and stewardship planning for viewsheds, wildlife habitat, cultural resources and riparian areas, and to promote the integration of regional systems involving open space and recreation.

Strategy 5.1 Plan relevant stewardship functions to protect open space and to promote recreational opportunities.

Strategy 5.2 Create memoranda of understanding with public and private entities and review agreements on an established periodic schedule.

Goal 6. Create a City Council appointed advisory committee on open space acquisition and stewardship to exist for the term of the sales tax extension.

Strategy 6.1 Develop and adopt criteria for size and composition, and policies and procedures for use by the committee.

Strategy 6.2 Create a timeline for reporting procedures, staffing and measurement of the city's progress in achieving the goals of the open space acquisition and management policies.

Strategy 6.3 Recommend procedures for acquisition of specific properties

Strategy 6.4 Collaborate with other entities and volunteer groups to plan and recommend contracts for stewardship activities."

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

We have policies that address acquiring and maintaining open space. (2 points)

We are developing programs and policies for the acquisition and maintenance of open space. (1 point)

15 How does your community plan to minimize its susceptibility to wildfires? (required)

We have a plan and/or ordinance that identifies defensible space and buffer zones that includes a process for reduction of hazardous fuels. (3 points)

"Members of the Prescott Department played an active role and involvement in the creation of the Wildland Urban Interface concept. The City development regulatory codes include maps designating fire susceptible areas, specific building code requirements relating to structures within the Wildland Urban Interface. The creation of defensible space around structures. The City of Prescott is the only municipality nationally with an Urban-Wildland Hotshot Fire Crew.

Prescott has a plan and ordinance identifying defensible space / buffer zones that includes a process for reduction of hazardous fuels. The City is developing a wildfire defense plan and have already established a process for reduction of hazardous fuels. The city is also considering the possible adoption of a wildfire defense plan and/or process for reduction of hazardous fuels.

COMMENTS:

1. The City of Prescott has adopted the "2006 International Wildland-Urban Interface Code" as adopted by the International Code Council, Inc., and that certain document entitled "City of Prescott 2008 Amendments to the 2006 International Wildland-Urban Interface Code" through Resolution No 3848-0911 (attached).

2. The City is a national firewise model community in regards to mitigating the urban interface issue that exists within our region. <http://www.cityofprescott.net/services/fire/about.php>

The City is one of the firewise communities featured in the book "Firewise Communities: Where we live, How we live." by the National Wildland/Urban Interface Fire Program, [2003].

3. The City also assists homeowners in the creation of defensible space on their property through a public education program with website information:
<http://www.cityofprescott.net/services/fire/wildland.php>

Please also see attached Resolution adopting Wildland Urban Interface Code, and the Code."

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

We are developing a wildfire defense plan and have already established a process for reduction of hazardous fuels. (2 points)

Prescott

Section 3: Stewardship of Natural Resources

Score: 21/21 (100%)

15 How does your community plan to minimize its susceptibility to wildfires? (required)

We are considering the possible adoption of a wildfire defense plan and/or process for reduction of hazardous fuels. (1 point)

16 Do local regulations require open space within new development? (required)

New developments must contribute additional open space and should provide connections to adjacent open spaces (either existing or planned, such as a planned park or recreation trail). (3 points)

"Planned Area Development regulations requiring a minimum of 25% open space. Trail/open space connectivity addressed in several Specific Area Plans and encourage at the time of subdivision platting. Currently in process of working with Mayor's Open Space Cmte to amend Land Development Code provisions to increase percentage of open space required for PAD projects. The proposed code amendments are "incentive based" decreasing street paving requirements, increasing TDR's and greater transfer credits for hillside projects. Pls see attached, LDC Article 6 relating to hillside lot size requirements and PAD regulations currently in place (soon to be amended)."

New developments are encouraged to provide open spaces with access to them, but our regulations do not provide guidelines for the type and location. (2 points)

We are developing requirements for open space within new developments. (1 point)

17 Do you have a comprehensive water resource management plan(s) in place? (required)

Our community has a comprehensive water resource management plan, and a drought and conservation plan that is enforceable by ordinance; and we have an adequate and assured water supply for 100 years or more. (3 points)

"Both comprehensive water resources plan and water conservation plan that is enforceable by city regulations. City of Prescott has a FULL-TIME Water Conservation Coordinator and regulations, including incentives for water conservation."

2 supplements have been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

We have a water resource management plan in place; and have an adequate and assured water supply for 100 years or more. (2 points)

We are developing a plan for future water needs. (1 point)

18 Does your community's general/comprehensive plan have a natural open space element that strives for a regional integrated system that includes protected land critical for preserving wildlife habitat connectivity? (required)

We emphasize conservation of wildlife habitat and corridors in our general/comprehensive plan; strive for a regionally integrated system of open space that includes habitat that we are taking steps to conserve. (3 points)

"Element 8 of the General Plan addresses regional cooperation as well as additional acquisition of open spaces requiring connectivity, please see attachment"

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

We emphasize the importance of our wildlife habitat and corridors in our general/comprehensive plan but we have not taken any steps to restore or protect them. (2 points)

Prescott

Section 3: Stewardship of Natural Resources

Score: 21/21 (100%)

- 18 Does your community’s general/comprehensive plan have a natural open space element that strives for a regional integrated system that includes protected land critical for preserving wildlife habitat connectivity? (required)

We are considering how to incorporate the importance of wildlife habitat and corridors into our planning process. (1 point)

- 19 How does your community encourage actions that mitigate negative impacts to wildlife habitat from development? (required)

We have an environmental planning element in our general / comprehensive plan that contains policies to mitigate quantifiable habitat loss for new development and redevelopment; development guidelines that require mitigation; and we encourage developers to use techniques, such as mitigation banking. (3 points)

"Element 9 of the General Plan is the Environmental Planning Element which addresses wildlife corridors and implementation strategies and challenges to protection of corridors. Each of the community's Specific Area Plans addresses wildlife corridor protection through a variety of strategies. The City works closely with Arizona Game and Fish representatives in large scale annexations and local planning efforts."

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

Our development guidelines require mitigation for crucial habitats. (2 points)

We are developing policies and guidelines to mitigate negative impacts to wildlife habitat. (1 point)

- 20 Does your community protect open space, manage growth and infrastructure and encourage economic development through programs like cluster development, transfer of development rights (TDR), conservation easements, and partnering with land trusts?

We utilize more than one of these or similar programs. (3 points)

"PAD regulations enable cluster development. Hillside regulations enable transfer of development rights. Conservation easements/open space zoning designation utilized in numerous developments. Partnerships established with the National Trust for Public Lands and Central Arizona Land Trust."

We utilize one of these or similar programs. (2 points)

We are in the process of developing programs to protect open space and focus growth. (1 point)

- 21 Does your general/comprehensive plan include provisions to reduce adverse air quality impacts?

Our plan addresses air quality and proposes ways to reduce adverse air quality conditions. We have (or collaborate with the responsible party) policies, regulations and funding to implement these proposals. (3 points)

"Paving of unpaved streets included within CIP. Increase in road sweeping frequency. Consideration given to air quality impacts when recruiting new industry."

Our plan has air quality policies but we do not have regulations or funding to implement air quality improvements. (2 points)

We are (or collaborating with the responsible party) developing policies, regulations and funding to promote air quality. (1 point)

Prescott

Section 3: Stewardship of Natural Resources

Score: 21/21 (100%)

22 Does your community have an energy efficiency plan?

We have an adopted community-wide energy efficiency plan that identifies policies and incentives to promote greater use of renewable energy such as geothermal, solar, wind and biomass. (3 points)

Alternative energy sources are addressed in the energy element of our general/comprehensive plan. (2 points)

We are considering the adoption of an energy efficiency plan and/or energy element to our general / comprehensive plan that includes alternative sources of energy. (1 point)

"Energy efficiency has been addressed in a broad manner in context of sustainability. The City has worked closely with Arizona Public Service, initially leasing and then selling approx. 75 acres for their solar research facility. All of the 75 subject property has been developed with a variety of solar array/energy producing equipment, which is tied back into the grid for local use."

23 Does your community require and/or provide incentives for green building?

We have incentives for new commercial and residential development, including multifamily, and require new public facilities to build to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards, Energy Star standards, 2006 International Energy Conservation Code standards plus 15% more energy efficient, or another equivalent industry recognized green building standard or our own if it is equivalent to or surpasses industry recognized standards. (3 points)

We offer incentives to new commercial and residential development, including multifamily, and public facilities to build to our community's green building or industry recognized standards. (2 points)

We are considering offering incentives for new green building. (1 point)

Prescott

Section 4: Opportunity

Score: 20/27 (74%)

Future planning and development should assure the availability of a range of choices in housing and affordability, employment, education, transportation and other essential services to create a jobs/housing balance and vibrant community-based workforce.

24 Does your general/comprehensive plan address the following housing issues: elimination of substandard dwelling conditions, the improvement of housing quality, variety and affordability, provision of adequate sites for housing and identification and analysis of existing and forecasted housing needs? (required)

Our general/comprehensive plan has a housing element and/or we have a specific housing plan that addresses all of the housing issues listed above. (3 points)

Our general/comprehensive plan includes policies that address more than one of the housing issues listed above. (2 points)

"See attached excerpt from Prescott General Plan."

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

Our general/comprehensive plan addresses one of the listed housing issues. (1 point)

25 Does your community track the balance of jobs, wages and housing to inform land use decisions? (required)

We regularly analyze the interrelatedness and balance of jobs, wages and housing; and have polices and regulations in place to encourage balance. (3 points)

We link housing and economic development efforts, but have not specifically developed policies, regulations or procedures to encourage or track the jobs/housing balance. (2 points)

We are studying how to link housing, economic development and employment information. (1 point)

26 Which option best describes the mix of housing types approved in your community? (required)

We approve a wide mix of housing types including single-family homes, multi-family housing, and senior housing that reflects the composition of our community and addresses a broad spectrum of needs. (3 points)

We approve a limited mix, including some affordable housing. (2 points)

We have plans to increase diversity in housing and affordable housing. (1 point)

27 Does your community include in its planning process the reservation of school sites in locations that foster safe learning environments for students, such as within walking distance from home and safely away from major transportation corridors? (required)

We require that future school sites be located within neighborhoods, whenever feasible, and ensure safe and direct routes for students to walk or bike to school from their homes. (3 points)

Prescott

Section 4: Opportunity

Score: 20/27 (74%)

- 27 Does your community include in its planning process the reservation of school sites in locations that foster safe learning environments for students, such as within walking distance from home and safely away from major transportation corridors? (required)

We coordinate with the local school board about the feasibility of requiring school sites to be located within direct walking distances from the neighborhoods they serve, preferably away from (or buffered from) major transportation corridors. (2 points)

Our school siting criteria deal only with proximities to certain business types (e.g. bars, etc.). (1 point)

- 28 Does your community have pedestrian mobility options that include an integrated system for bicycling and walking linking residential, commercial, and recreation areas? (required)

We have bike lanes, trails and pedestrian areas that are interconnected with design features, such as landscaping, sidewalks, trees, shade, lighting, and benches. (3 points)

"The General Plan and Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan both address expansion and enhancement of the existing system."

We have trails and bike lanes but not a connected system. (2 points)

We are in the process of creating pedestrian and bicycle connections. (1 point)

- 29 Can community residents meet most daily shopping needs – food, hardware, banking and clothing – locally? (required)

Everyday needs can be met through a diversity of local businesses. (3 points)

Most everyday needs can be met locally but occasionally residents travel outside the area for their needs. (2 points)

Residents have to travel outside the area for most everyday needs, but some staples can be found locally. (1 point)

- 30 Does your community provide incentives to support affordable housing? (required)

We promote a wide range of incentives for more affordable housing production. (3 points)

We offer some incentives but they are not often utilized. (2 points)

"One of the primary incentives is a dedicated water allocation set aside for workforce housing related projects. In the past, the city has also sold available city properties for workforce housing projects, adopted resolutions and support for developers seeking grant or low interest financing."

We are developing affordable housing incentives. (1 point)

- 31 Does your community plan for and track the mix and affordability of housing at the local or regional level? (required)

We conduct (or collaborate at a regional level) housing studies every few years to assess affordable housing in our area, inventory the mix of our housing and consider this data in our plan updates. (3 points)

Prescott

Section 4: Opportunity

Score: 20/27 (74%)

- 31 Does your community plan for and track the mix and affordability of housing at the local or regional level? (required)

We track housing data (or collaborate at a regional level). (2 points)

"Prepared and adopted CDBG Entitlement Consolidated Plan with annual allocation. City is also a member of the Central Yavapai Regional Housing Action Committee, a committee dedicated to identifying short/long term actions to increase the number of workforce/affordable housing units in the city and region."

We have information from previous studies, but limited information on our current housing market. (1 point)

- 32 Does your zoning allow for mixed uses, especially in designated growth areas or corridors? (required)

Our zoning ordinance allows mixed land uses in a number of locations throughout the community and in designated growth areas. (3 points)

"The Land Development Code provides mixed land uses based on zoning at appropriate locations. The use of PAD regulations enables projects greater flexibility in meeting overall code requirements. The city is also contemplating pursuing adoption of a parallel Form Base Code to provide greater density and design flexibility in designated growth areas."

Mixed land uses are allowed, but in limited zones. (2 points)

We are developing provisions in our zoning code that allow mixed uses. (1 point)

Prescott

Section 5: Essential Service Infrastructure

Score: 18/24 (75%)

Meeting each community's long-range needs for public utility, health, communications and transportation infrastructure in a timely and fiscally responsible manner should be an essential objective of local and regional plans and implementation efforts. Communities should strive to offer a wider range of transportation options – from walking and biking to transit and automobiles – to increase people's access to jobs, goods, services and recreation. Communities should also plan for development of its public health and social service infrastructure including hospitals, healthcare clinics, emergency facilities, and wildlife corridors.

33 Does your community encourage new development to locate where infrastructure and services already exist? (required)

We have adopted a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that is linked to our general/comprehensive plan, and have an agreement or master plan with nearby jurisdictions linking existing and future infrastructure. We also require that each new development be responsible for its proportional cost of the impact it has on specific facilities affected by the new development. (3 points)

We have a CIP linked to our general/comprehensive plan and are discussing adopting agreements with nearby jurisdictions to have a long-term plan for coordinated infrastructure. (2 points)

We have an adopted Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that is linked to our general/comprehensive plan. (1 point)

34 How does your community plan for its future social infrastructure and service needs, such as child and dependant care, senior services, disability services, food assistance, shelters, etc.? (required)

Our general/comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance address these needs to accommodate future service infrastructure. (3 points)

We have some policies in our general/comprehensive plan regarding our social infrastructure and service needs. (2 points)

Our community has engaged government and nonprofit social service providers, community organizations and faith-based groups in community planning issues. (1 point)

35 How does your community plan and coordinate the development of public utilities, including power, water, and sewer? (required)

We plan and coordinate with local utilities and the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC), when possible. (3 points)

We plan for public utilities but lack coordination. (2 points)

1 pt. We are developing a process to coordinate and effectively address public utilities. (1 point)

36 Does your community track (or collaborate at the regional level) travel patterns to better understand how and why people travel in your area? (required)

We conduct (or collaborate at a regional level) traffic pattern studies every few years and review the need and efficiency of programs that are impacted by the study (such as ride-share, HOV lanes and regularly scheduled public transit). (3 points)

Section 5: Essential Service Infrastructure

Score: 18/24 (75%)

36 Does your community track (or collaborate at the regional level) travel patterns to better understand how and why people travel in your area? (required)

We conduct (or collaborate at a regional and/or state level) traffic pattern studies but don't link them to multi-modal transportation programs. (2 points)

"Pls see attached Executive Summary Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization."

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

We are developing plans to track travel patterns. (1 point)

37 How does your community or region address airport planning? (required)

Airport planning is part of our regional land use and transportation planning process that includes access, land use compatibility, and noise mitigation. (3 points)

"Pls see attached excerpts from the Prescott General Plan and Airport Master Plan"

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

The airport authority has responsibility for airport planning and we closely coordinate with them. (2 points)

We are developing a process to incorporate airport planning with regional land use decisions. (1 point)

38 Does your community's general/comprehensive plan address access to or construction of hospitals, healthcare clinics, pharmacies, and location of emergency and social service facilities? (required)

Our general/comprehensive plan addresses access and siting of hospitals, healthcare and emergency and social service facilities, such as police and fire, and considers mobility options for residents. (3 points)

We consider access and location when planning for future hospitals, healthcare, pharmacies and emergency and social service facilities. (2 points)

We are developing a process to better plan for hospitals, healthcare clinics, pharmacies and emergency and social service facilities. (1 point)

39 How does your community integrate wildlife movement corridors (connecting larger blocks of wildlife habitat) to ensure motorist safety and provide safe wildlife passage? (required)

We identify important wildlife crossing sites in our environmental planning, open space, and/or transportation elements of our general/comprehensive plan and we incorporate open space and wildlife passage structures along existing and future roadways and infrastructure, when possible. (3 points)

"see attached excerpts from Prescott General Plan. Specific area plans include wildlife corridors and locations for wildlife crossings which are addressed at the time of roadway construction."

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

We have identified important wildlife crossing sites but lack specific general/comprehensive plan policies. (2 points)

We are considering ways to reduce vehicular collisions with wildlife. (1 point)

Prescott

Section 5: Essential Service Infrastructure

Score: 18/24 (75%)

40 Does your community have a transit program? (required)

Our transit program includes ride-share, HOV lanes and regularly scheduled public transit, such as bus and trolley, or similar programs. (3 points)

Our transit program has regularly scheduled public transit. (2 points)

We are developing a transit program. (1 point)

"Limited transit programs for income/age/disability qualifying individuals utilizing regional voucher transportation program. Prescott is one of four jurisdictions participating in the voucher transit system. Fixed route transit is being planned as part of the Central Yavapai Regional Transportation Plan."

41 Does your community have incentives and flexible regulations to promote Transit Oriented Development (TOD)?

Regulations for development near transit facilities allow a wide range of options, including increased density, a mix of land uses, flexible parking requirements, connections to multi-modal transportation; and offer incentives for affordable housing near transit facilities. (3 points)

Our regulations have some variation and flexibility to promote TOD. (2 points)

We are developing incentives to promote TOD. (1 point)

Section 6: Economic Development

Score: 22/27 (81%)

A broad spectrum of business and resources that support existing businesses as well as attracting new ones should be promoted to strengthen diverse economic development. Future planning should balance the availability of national retailers, businesses and employers while encouraging entrepreneurship and locally owned businesses. Communities should consider tools, both financial and regulatory, that are needed to facilitate reserving land designated for future employment sites and corridors.

42 Does your community have an economic development element in your general / comprehensive plan or a specific plan to address economic development? (required)

We have an economic development element or plan that addresses current and projected conditions. (3 points)

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

We have economic development policies in our general / comprehensive plan. (2 points)

We are developing goals for our economic development. (1 point)

43 Does your community designate areas with employment centers and corridors? (required)

We have specific general/comprehensive plan policies and zoning ordinance requirements to designate employment centers and corridor development in conjunction with future housing needs. (3 points)

Future housing and employment centers and corridors have been identified. (2 points)

We are in the process of identifying future housing and employment centers or corridors. (1 point)

44 Has your community created specific training and workforce development programs to meet the needs of current and emerging industries? (required)

Our community works closely with our one-stop career center(s) and/or education providers to create industry tailored training programs that meet the needs of our community and local industries. (3 points)

"Yavapai College contracts for specific training programs. City also utilizes training program opportunities provided by Northern Arizona Council of Governments, SCORE, and the Small Business Development Center"

We work with our one-stop career center(s) and/or education providers but have not created any industry specific training. (2 points)

We are developing plans to work with the one-stop center(s) and/or education providers. (1 point)

45 Does your community support entrepreneurs and start-up businesses? (required)

We have information to direct people to educational organizations which provide one-on-one assistance and workshops on how to start and operate a business. (3 points)

We collaborate with nearby communities where small business services are located to provide information to our community residents. (2 points)

Prescott

Section 6: Economic Development

Score: 22/27 (81%)

45 Does your community support entrepreneurs and start-up businesses? (required)

We assist start-up businesses when contacted. (1 point)

46 How does your community support existing businesses? (required)

We have an active business retention and expansion program that includes an action plan to meet with targeted business owners and conduct annual surveys. (3 points)

We have a business retention and expansion program that identifies and assists high risk businesses. (2 points)

We assist existing business owners when contacted. (1 point)

47 Do you have an active business attraction program? (required)

We have developed a marketing plan with goals and objectives to identify potential businesses that fit the strengths of the community and region; have performed effective targeted marketing strategies to those businesses (such as industry newsletters and fairs, magazines, direct mailings and email); ensure the community website provides information crucial to site selectors; and we have an established process to meet and greet site selectors. (3 points)

"Coordinate and work with Prescott Chamber of Commerce conducting on site visits and business outreach. Have used the results of the outreach efforts to propose amendments to development regulations. See attached from city's web site outlining incentives used to attract (and retain) businesses."

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

We have a website with information to attract new businesses and an established process to meet and greet site selectors. (2 points)

We assist relocating businesses when contacted. (1 point)

48 How does your community attract higher wage jobs while also addressing low and middle-skilled worker advancement? (required)

Our business attraction and expansion efforts recruit jobs that offer employment opportunities for all skill levels, pay wages above the average median income in Arizona and provide employee benefits, including skill development and advancement. (3 points)

We recruit businesses and industries for multiple skill levels that pay wages above the average median income in Arizona. (2 points)

"See attached Economic Development Incentives Policy."

1 supplement has been provided. Please visit the website to download these documents.

We are working to attract jobs that provide opportunities for multiple skill levels. (1 point)

49 Does your community regularly track (or work with an entity that tracks) local and regional economic information and trends? (required)

We have regular reports on local and regional economic information that includes data on sources of income, job creation, wages and housing affordability. (3 points)

Prescott

Section 6: Economic Development

Score: 22/27 (81%)

49 Does your community regularly track (or work with an entity that tracks) local and regional economic information and trends? (required)

We have regular reports on local and regional economic information, but the information is limited. (2 points)

"The "picture" of the local and regional economy is incomplete."

We have a profile of our community but do not regularly track local and regional economic information and trends. (1 point)

50 Does your community have communication/broad band services or plans to acquire them? (required)

We have broad band or a plan in place for how to acquire it that includes diverse community involvement (i.e. local businesses, emergency responders, community colleges, school districts, libraries, etc). (3 points)

We are developing broad band access or have identified steps to provide these services. (2 points)

We are thinking about developing a plan for broad band access and have discussed it with our elected officials. (1 point)

"Efforts are being made through the Mayor's Economic Development Advisory Cmte"