Comprehensive Plan Update Guide
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Rear Cover Photo by A. Shafer Photography
A. **Introduction**

*Horizon 2020* was the first modern comprehensive plan that provided guidance for both the unincorporated portions of Douglas County and the City of Lawrence. It began in 1992 when governing bodies of Douglas County and the City of Lawrence appointed a 15 member steering committee to oversee the creation process. It was a citizen-based plan, drawing on public participation in defining the needs and concerns at that time.

Over the 20+ years that *Horizon 2020* provided guidance for our community, many aspects of our daily lives and the places we visit to live, learn, work, and play have changed. As significant changes occurred in our community, *Horizon 2020* changed with them by incorporating over 50 amendments during its time.

In 2013, Douglas County & Lawrence came together again to begin updating & revising *Horizon 2020*, acknowledging that while it was preforming well, it could be updated and streamlined to continue changing with the times. This Update Guide provides a quick reference to show key changes that have been incorporated, where old sections have been realigned, and to provide a clear linkage from the former format to the new plan’s design.

After undertaking a multi-faceted public input program, and with considerable discussion among the *Horizon 2020* Steering Committee, Staff and the Steering Committee created the [Issue Action Report](#) and it was adopted by [Joint Resolution 7143/15-27](#). *Horizon 2020* provides clear and strong guidance on many of the issues that are priorities to the community today; however, several issues identified through the Steering Committee input process have little to no policy strength, or are in need of review due to the community’s changing needs and desires.
Document Updates

One of the key issues in the Issue Action Report was to create a plan that is accessible and concise, with a wide-range of availability. Creating a plan that is accessible in both content and delivery are paramount priorities of this update process.

Readability

From the beginning, the new Comprehensive Plan has been drafted to be more approachable in both appearance and readability. The plan has been reworked to choose fonts that are readable both in print and electronically.

Purpose & Vision Statement

The Steering Committee identified creating a new mission & vision of the Comprehensive Plan as the key foundation for this new document. Both guide the goals, policies, and actions items throughout the new document, as well as lay out the community’s vision for its future.

Syntax & Diction

Words within the plan have been carefully chosen in an effort to make it clear and readable. In order to make the plan accessible to all, technical terms have been avoided when possible. If a term or description couldn’t be reduced, the term was defined in the side column, like the example for Intelligent Transportation Systems.

Interactive Mapping

One of the most significant changes since 1992 has been the advancement in geographic information systems and mapping abilities. In the past, every aspect of a plan required a separate map. Now we have an ability to combined different map layers into a single map pertaining to a particular section. We have combined different map layers into a single map related to the particular section. We have also linked the maps to our system ensuring they’re always up-to-date in relation to items like city limits, addresses, and other infrastructure as it is developed. While the boundaries and districts in the map may change occasionally, much of the other day-to-day changes will be shown as they become available.
Digitally Enabled Publishing

While the Internet has evolved to become a key outlet for reading and searching for data, this was not the case when *Horizon 2020* was first written. The new Comprehensive Plan is being created primarily for use as a digital document. The plan will contain links to other plans, maps, and websites that it references.

It also contains links within the text to jump immediately to the chapter, map, or section referenced within the text. The plan is also searchable, allowing people to look for keywords throughout the plan.

New Additions

Since 1998, many parts of our community have changed or have been developed. There are also some parts of *Horizon 2020* that continue to be points of emphasis even today. Two new sections to the Comprehensive Plan are in Chapter 7: Community Resources. As part of the public input process, the community placed significant emphasis on the roles that Local Foods and Arts & Culture have in making Douglas County & Lawrence the unique and vibrant place we know today.

Another key new addition was the creation of Ch. 3: Neighborhoods & Housing. While this was present in *Horizon 2020*, the update makes an effort to focus on what makes the places we live unique, and to show the distinct role they play in creating the places we readily identify as being Douglas County & Lawrence.

Renewed Emphasis

The [Issue Action Report](#) also identified portions of the old Comprehensive Plan that required continued attention as the new Comprehensive Plan was constructed. One of the key aspects from the Issue Action Report was the need to continue working to create employment opportunities. This, along with a need to continue studying & developing policies relating to height and density in appropriate locations, is re-emphasized throughout the new Comprehensive Plan.
B. Crosswalk Table

This table provides a “map” from the old arrangement of Horizon 2020 into the new Comprehensive Plan. The following pages summarize each chapter of Horizon 2020, note key revisions to the policies of each chapter, and reflect where in the updated Comprehensive Plan the policies can now be found.

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2. Summary of Background Studies

**Horizon 2020 Chapter Review**

This chapter principally contained population and housing statistics from the 1990 Census. It also contained some information & maps that were disassociated from their chapters, such as Drainage Basins and Economic Development data.

**Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan**

- Demographics section updated to latest available Census figures
- Incorporation of the latest Planning Department Population Projections & Estimates for Lawrence

**Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment**

- **Ch. 2:** Growth & Development
  Planning Area Boundary included into chapter
- **Ch. 6:** Natural Resources
  Drainage Basin Map incorporated
- **Ch. 8:** Appendix
  Demographics relocated
3. General Plan Overview

Horizon 2020 Chapter Review

This chapter provided a general overview of the major goals and aspects for all of Horizon 2020. It also contained Map 3.1: Lawrence Urban Growth Area, Service Areas & Future Land Use map, Map 3.2: Lawrence Future Land Use Map, and Map 3.3: Douglas County Urban Growth Areas.

Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan

- Service Areas revised & updated to Tiers
- Incorporate 3 maps into the condensed Chapter 2: Growth & Development
- GIS modeling to determine the timing and location of growth for Lawrence and other municipalities within the Plan’s time horizon of 2040
- Repackages “Service Areas” and “Urban Growth Area” into the new Tiers to provide a concise and paired future development scope for Douglas County and Lawrence
- Aligned future growth to match existing adopted Sector Plans

Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment

Plan-wide: Plan goals and Overviews relocated to each corresponding chapter

Ch. 2: Growth & Development
4. Growth Management

Horizon 2020 Chapter Review

Chapter 4 defined the policies to direct growth in appropriate areas, and provided guidance on how to annex these areas into the City of Lawrence. This chapter also provided some guidance regarding growth within the rural areas of Douglas County. The overall intent of this chapter was to ensure adequate facilities and services were available or planned in conjunction with development.

Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan

- The major revision to this chapter is the introduction of Geographic Information System (GIS) modeling to predict & refine the potential timing and location of growth through this plan’s time frame of 2040.
- Define the 3 Growth Tiers to fit with the overall vision of the Comprehensive Plan’s goals
- Update Annexation policies and expectations to require demonstrating a need for growth and that a community benefit is provided
- Provides clearer definitions and expectations to define separation between Urban and Rural development patterns within the community
- More inclusive integration of the SmartCode into the Growth & Development chapter and not a standalone chapter
- Strengthens the connection between Capital Improvement Planning and supporting growth

Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment

Ch. 2: Growth & Development
5. Residential Land Use

Horizon 2020 Chapter Review

Although this chapter mainly provided guidance for residential land uses, it also incorporated elements related to neighborhoods.

Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan

- Create a separate neighborhoods chapter addressing their specific concerns and issues
- Restructure the chapter to align with new Growth Tiers
- Density limit has been adjusted to provide more infill opportunities
- Incorporate the findings of the Affordable Housing Advisory Board

Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment

Ch. 2: Growth & Development
Ch. 3: Neighborhoods & Housing
6. Commercial Land Use

Horizon 2020 Chapter Review
One of the most commonly referenced and amended elements within Horizon 2020, this chapter was reconstructed to streamline how information was organized, and to provide clarification and consistency. It also needed updating as a whole.

Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan
- Reconstructed the commercial districts to fit with economic and development realities
- Create the Commercial Criteria Table
- Combine information in Horizon 2020 together based on Commercial Intensity types
- Maintains the nodal development concept for new commercial areas
- Incorporating small/large neighborhood commercial into neighborhood design
- Rewrite intensity-specific site and design guidelines for each commercial district
- Protection of Sensitive Lands expanded to include Commercial uses

Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment
Ch. 2: Growth & Development
CHAPTER SEVEN
INDUSTRIAL AND EMPLOYMENT-RELATED LAND USE

Over time, the City of Lawrence and portions of unincorporated Douglas County have experienced business and industrial development and growth. In recent years, this growth and development has taken the form of new industrial and business development, as well as expansion of existing industries and businesses. As Douglas County continues to grow, and with more residents expected to commute outside of the community for employment, there is a recognized need that more industrial and business development is necessary to provide local job opportunities. Of particular interest to the community is the attraction of industries and employment-related uses that are based in biosciences, agriculture and natural resources, technology, and telecommunications.

Both Douglas County and the City of Lawrence consider a healthy natural environment, a diversified economy, and a fiscally stable government as being interdependent and further recognize that new industrial and employment-related land uses contribute to the local tax base and the creation of a full-service community where residents can live and work. Douglas County and the City of Lawrence are in the unique position of being able to fulfill this vision by tying into the needs and services related to the various University of Kansas research programs and technological developments. It is also recognized that growth in the greater Kansas City metropolitan area indicates the potential for substantial new future job opportunities and industrial development within Douglas County.

The ECO2 Commission presented their report to both the City and County Commissions in 2007 that developed a long-term plan of a public/private partnership for the advancement of industrial/business parks and open space preservation in Douglas County. This Comprehensive Plan, in conjunction with the ECO2 report, provides a methodology to weigh specific criteria to identify and recommend a number of new business and industrial development locations in the City of Lawrence and unincorporated Douglas County.

While industrial land uses and employment-related land uses share some similar characteristics, such as the need for large areas of land and the ability to provide employment opportunities, they also each have distinct characteristics, such as locational requirements within the community in terms of compatibility with other land uses, as well as co-locational criteria with the specific types of services/industries provided. For this reason, the chapter has been divided into two sections. The first section deals with industrial land uses and the second section deals with employment-related land uses.

STRATEGIES: INDUSTRIAL AND EMPLOYMENT-RELATED LAND USE

The principal strategies for the identification, development, and maintenance of industrial and employment-related areas are:

- Increase the number and diversity of jobs available to the citizens of Douglas County to stabilize the current employment base and generate additional wealth in the community.

7. Industrial & Employment Related Land Use

Horizon 2020 Chapter Review

Primarily focused on the land use aspects of Industrial & Employment uses, this chapter worked in conjunction with Horizon 2020’s Chapter 12: Economic Development.

Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan

- Strengthens connections to Economic Development chapter
- Stronger emphasis on creating employment opportunities
- Protection of Sensitive Lands expanded to include Industrial uses

Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment

Ch. 2: Growth & Development
Ch. 5: Economic Development
8. Transportation

Horizon 2020 Chapter Review

Horizon 2020 directly referenced Transportation 2040, our regional transportation plan, as the primary long-range transportation plan for the comprehensive plan.

Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan

- Strengthen focus on land use & transportation relationship
- Continue utilizing Transportation 2040 as the principal plan

Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment

Ch. 3: Neighborhoods & Housing
Ch. 4: Transportation
Ch. 8: Appendix: Incorporated Plans
Horizon 2020 Chapter Review

Primarily based on the previous edition of the Lawrence Parks & Recreation Master Plan adopted in 2000, this chapter encouraged development of a comprehensive network of open spaces that connected neighborhoods, provided increased recreational opportunities, preserved natural ecological functions, and promoted an improved quality of life for the community.

Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan

- Incorporates the updated Parks & Recreation Master Plan
- Expands the scope to include a more county-wide focus
- Includes Agriculture as an Open Space use

Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment

Ch. 7b: Community Facilities: Parks, Recreation, & Open Space

Ch. 8c: Appendix: Incorporated Plans
10. Community Facilities

**Horizon 2020 Chapter Review**

This chapter mainly focused on the civic and utility roles of our local governments, such as schools, Fire/Medical, Police, Public Works, libraries and museums. Most of this section has been replaced by systems master plans such as the Stormwater Management Plan, Utilities master plans, and other various documents by those specific agencies. In essence, this chapter provides very broad & basic "best management" policies that were replicated either by other subject-matter plans or elsewhere within Horizon 2020.

**Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan**

- Incorporates stronger connections to the Capital Improvement Plans

**Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment**

- Ch. 2: Growth & Development
- Ch. 7c: Community Resources: Community Facilities
- Ch. 8c: Appendix: Incorporated Plans

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**CHAPTER TEN - COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The Comprehensive Plan includes a number of recommendations for new and existing public land uses. Public and semi-public land uses include municipal facilities, schools, universities, parks, recreation and open space, and a range of institutions. Specific recommendations are included below.

The need for public and semi-public land uses is difficult to project. One difficulty is that such utilities are often monitored by jurisdictions over which the city and county have limited (or no) control. These entities are encouraged, through the Plan, to work with the city and county in identifying possible sites for their facilities.

The nature of public and semi-public uses and the fact that they are permitted in residential areas makes it difficult to identify all appropriate sites. The Plan therefore regards areas shown in the various residential categories as appropriate for many public and semi-public uses, provided access and buffering are considered in their location.

This section discusses public and semi-public land uses and facilities under three categories: 1) Educational Facilities; 2) Municipal Buildings and Facilities; and 3) Utilities.

**EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES**

Schools, universities and other educational facilities are among the most important facilities in a predominantly residential community such as Lawrence and unincorporated Douglas County. They not only provide educational services, but also play an important cultural, recreational and social role as well.

**STRATEGIES: EDUCATION**

The following strategies express key elements of the Lawrence and unincorporated Douglas County approach to education:

- The Plan seeks cooperation by independent entities, such as local school districts, universities and municipalities, at all levels of decision-making and acknowledgment that actions of all agencies influence the overall character of the community.
- Educational and governmental institutions should meet regularly to discuss current needs and issues as well as pending plans and projects, with the intent to collaborate on joint solutions which meet the widest range of jurisdictional needs.
11. Historic Resources

**Horizon 2020 Chapter Review**

This particular chapter had both an adopted chapter, as well as a draft chapter that was never completed. As part of the update, these 2 chapters were evaluated & incorporated into the new document.

**Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan**

- Incorporate the Draft Historic Resources Chapter
- Includes Douglas County preservation activities, such as the Heritage Conservation Council of Douglas County
- Stronger alignment with neighborhoods & historic preservation’s role in creating a unique community

**Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment**

- **Ch. 3**: Neighborhoods & Housing
- **Ch. 7a**: Community Facilities: Historic Resources
12. Economic Development

Horizon 2020 Chapter Review

Identified as one of the more important sections through the public input process, this section is seen as a key component of the updated Comprehensive Plan. While this chapter was initially added on to Horizon 2020 late in the writing process, it was also identified as having high policy strength in the existing plan.

Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan

- Aligns with the Community’s other economic development plans
- Stronger emphasis on job creation and development

Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment

Ch. 2d: Growth & Development: Industrial

Ch. 5: Economic Development

CHAPTER TWELVE - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

According to the International Economic Development Council, the definition of economic development is creating wealth in a community through job creation, job retention, quality of life improvement and tax base enhancement.

In order to understand the shared vision of the residents of Douglas County with regard to economic development, public hearings were conducted in Baldwin City, Eudora, Lawrence and Lecompton for the purpose of updating the Economic Development Element of the HORIZON 2020 Strategic Plan for Douglas County. The results of the public hearings are encompassed in the body of this document.

Douglas County has engaged in traditional marketing and business attraction as its primary tool for economic development. These efforts have been successful in the past, but differ little from those of competing communities. If the County is to maintain its distinctive and unique identity, a new and innovative approach for marketing and business attraction must be adopted. We must build on opportunities created by economic change and the need for value-added businesses with growing wages and employment.

This element of the Strategic Economic Development Plan has a countywide scope and includes the incorporated cities of Baldwin, Eudora, Lawrence, and Lecompton, along with the unincorporated areas of Douglas County. In order to adhere to the format of HORIZON 2020, the strategies of the Economic Development Plan element are called "policies", and the priorities are called "action priorities".

GOALS: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The following goals express key elements of the overall city and county approach to economic development.

1. Employment Growth
   Jobs will grow at a rate greater than or above that of population and housing in pursuit of enhanced quality of life. Quality jobs with desirable incomes, benefits and career opportunities will be targeted.

2. Tax Base Growth
   Increase tax base at a rate equal to or greater than the rate of population and housing growth in pursuit of an enhanced quality of life. The tax base will increase at a rate equal to or above the rate of tax-funded service demand. To achieve this goal, industrial and non-retail commercial growth must at least keep pace with population growth.
13. Reserved

*Horizon 2020 Chapter Review*

Reserved for future use in 2009 with the creation of Chapter 14: Specific Plans

*Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan*

- Removed from document

*Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment*

None
14. Specific Plans

Horizon 2020 Chapter Review

One of the key evolutions within Horizon 2020 was the more focused planning analysis completed around Lawrence through the Sector Plans. Sector Plans become part of the Comprehensive Plan, and the policies contained within them are then used in the determination of planning applications. The more tailored & smaller-area planning completed in these plans provides a more thorough analysis for these portions of our community.

Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan

• Stronger integration of the Sector Plans into the overall fabric of the Comprehensive Plan
• Utilizes Sector Plans as the foundation for the Future Land Use map & in the Growth Tiers creation and development.
• Incorporates Referenced Plans where they speak to land use policies

Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment

Chapter 8b: Appendix: Land Use / Sector Plans
15. Place Making Elements

Horizon 2020 Chapter Review

This chapter was added to Horizon 2020 with the creation of the Lawrence SmartCode. Principally, this chapter sought to allow for the creation of complete neighborhoods that have a mix of land uses, a mix of housing types and prices while provide a variety of living and working options within walking distance. This created an alternative to the Land Development Code for development options.

Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan

- Integrate into Ch. 3 Neighborhoods & Housing
- Align with the other codes for implementing the Comprehensive Plan

Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment

Ch. 2: Growth & Development

Ch. 3: Neighborhoods & Housing
16. Environment

**Horizon 2020 Chapter Review**

This particular chapter was a later addition to Horizon 2020. Through the update process, segments of this chapter were better integrated throughout the plan instead of isolating them strictly into a single chapter. While the update contains a dedicated chapter, the update was written to thread sustainability and environmental protection throughout.

**Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan**

- Stronger integration of the original chapter’s goals throughout the update.
- Expands definition of “Sensitive Lands”
- Strengthens Floodplain Development protections to prohibit development in regulatory floodplains for newly annexed properties

**Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment**

- **Ch. 2:** Growth & Development
- **Ch. 3:** Neighborhoods & Housing
- **Ch. 6:** Natural Resources

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The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value.”

—Theodore Roosevelt, 1907

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Douglas County has a rich and valuable heritage that is characterized by a variety of environmental and natural conditions. Prairies, rivers, forests, wetlands, agricultural soils, and other natural features provide scenic beauty, recreation, natural habitats, flood protection, and opportunities for interpretation, appreciation, and education.

Protecting and enhancing Douglas County’s environment, including its built environment, is the focus of this chapter. The recommendations are intended to foster a healthy environment that contributes to a growing economy and a livable community. This concept is in line with an overall goal of Horizon 2020 (see Chapter 1) regarding sustainability that states: “We will strive to ensure the sustainability of our physical environment, both natural and built, the health of our economy and the efficient and effective functioning of our community.”

Environmental quality and appropriate use of natural resources are essential elements of an area’s viability and greatly enhance the quality of life for Douglas County residents. Protection of natural resources is an important component in planning for growth and development in Douglas County since all development activities create some level of impact on the air, water, and land resources mentioned in this chapter. While land development is important to economic vitality, natural resources and climate protection are increasingly recognized as essential components for sustainable development and quality of life for future generations. The responsible way to achieve the mutual goals of environmental protection and planned growth is to develop in a sustainable manner, one that is capable of being continued with minimal long-term effects on the environment.

There are already a few programs in place that aim to achieve some of the sustainability goals of this chapter, such as the county-wide ECO2 program which is a tool used to promote the dual goal of open space preservation and economic development. The program uses a concept of net equity that states an amount equal to a portion of the investment of public funds for industrial development be used for open space preservation. In addition, the City of Lawrence adopted a Land Development Code in 2006 which addresses some recommendations of this chapter, including standards for impervious surface coverage, open space requirements, and landscaping. The City and Douglas County also have recently revised the subdivision regulations which include provisions for land parcels which contain environmentally sensitive features. The City of Lawrence also has multiple efforts currently underway with similar goals as presented in this chapter, including work by the Sustainability Advisory Board, the Mayor’s Climate Protection Task Force, and the Peak Oil Task Force. These advisory boards review issues and make recommendations to the Lawrence City Commission. Douglas County has recently established a...
17. Implementation

Horizon 2020 Chapter Review

This chapter provided guidance on next steps after the adoption of Horizon 2020, but it did not indicate progress or provide direct linkages to the text within the chapters. It also did not provide an indication of how and when these measures were completed.

Key Revisions in Updated Comprehensive Plan

- Cross-Referenced with text showing parts requiring implementing.
- Including “Status” indicators tracking progress of the document.

Updated Comprehensive Plan Alignment

Chapter 8d: Appendix: Implementation
“I love how eclectic Lawrence is. There’s a spot for everybody.”

- Lawrence, Inside Out
C. Issue Action Report Alignment

This list provides a “map” from the old arrangement of Horizon 2020 into the new Comprehensive Plan.

**Issue 1: Enhance Readability & Track Performance of the Plan**

The design of the new plan prioritizes readability and interactivity throughout the document. The text has been streamlined and the syntax has been scrutinized to ensure the whole document is clear and concise.

**Issue 2: Maintain a Strong & Stable Downtown**

The role of Downtown Lawrence is emphasized beyond a commercial one, and now includes a greater role in employment development, arts & culture, and other aspects of the plan.

**Issue 3: Address Quality Housing for All Incomes**

With the Affordable Housing Advisory Board taking the lead role on this item, the Comprehensive Plan will incorporate their findings and recommendations from their forthcoming Housing Study.

**Issue 4: Protect Natural Resources**

Policies in this chapter were evaluated and revised to bolster new findings and plans, while ensuring the key findings and actions of the existing Chapter 16 were included.

**Issue 5: Preserve Historic Buildings & Structures**

Combining of the existing and draft chapters for Historic Resources, the new plan continues to encourage cataloging and recording, while setting a foundation to reuse historic places, as possible.

**Issue 6: Create Quality Neighborhoods for All Ages**

To help address this issue, a new chapter was created for Neighborhoods to address the unique issues and provide solutions.

**Issue 7: Create Employment Opportunities**

Policy language for green jobs, high-tech infrastructure, and recommendations to help with small-scale studies was included to fit this needs. Additional policies for recruitment and retention...
were also included to mesh with the efforts under way by all organizations within the community.

**Issue 8: Manage Future Lawrence Growth**
A key concern throughout the public input phase, the Growth & Development chapter was created to combine management with the policies of the key drivers of urban development. This helps ensure less redundant and conflicting language, while also connecting growth in equal measure to population, development, and employment.

**Issue 9: Plan For the Size & Location of Retail Development**
General policies were included and revised to meet this need, including the adjustment of the existing commercial location criteria. This will be further incorporated as Sector Plans are revisited and new plans as they are adopted.

**Issue 10: Provide Opportunities for Small Neighborhood Retail**
Retooling the policies of the Comprehensive Plan helps set the framework to revise and update the Land Development Code. Policies focusing on incorporating commercial/retail opportunities into walkable neighborhoods is a key component of the new document.

**Issue 11: Encourage Infill Development**
The new plan prioritizes infill development opportunities, while allowing for expansion into Growth Areas based on stronger growth management policies focused on the community’s ability to provide infrastructure and community expectations.

**Issue 12: Consider Increasing Height/Density in Appropriate Locations**
While the specifics of this issue will need further public input and analysis, the foundation for this work is incorporated throughout the Comprehensive Plan.

**Issue 13: Enhance Agricultural Uses & Rural Character in Douglas County**
A vital part of our identity and community, the plan works to provide greater protections for the rural areas, while also capitalizing on their role
as a valuable component of our economy and culture. The update seeks to provide protections for working farms and to enhance opportunities throughout our unincorporated areas.

**Issue 14: Encourage/Support Local Food System Development**
The Food Policy Council worked to develop the Food System Plan providing key subject matter expertise to help address this issue.

**Issue 15: Enhance Sidewalks/Trails/Walking Paths**
By continuing to adopt *Transportation 2040* as the Transportation chapter for this plan, this continues to ensure a long-term expert analysis of these components of our community.

**Issue 16: Plan For and Provide Arts & Cultural Amenities**
With the adoption of the Lawrence Cultural Plan, this revised Comprehensive Plan incorporates those findings into the new Community Resources chapter and into the rest of the document where appropriate.

**Issue 17: Enhance Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety**
The updated Comprehensive Plan strengthens the linkage between *Transportation 2040* and other associated transportation plans addressing this aspect of our community.

**Issue 18: Maintain a Strong System of Parks, Recreation, and Open Space**
The new Comprehensive Plan incorporates the newly adopted Parks & Recreation Master Plan by reference into the Appendix.

**Issue 19: Enhance the Transportation Network**
Continuing the linkage established with *Horizon 2020*, the new Comprehensive Plan directly incorporates *Transportation 2040* as the key component of the Transportation chapter.