

NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION AND REVITALIZATION ELEMENT

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

Adopted: August 22, 2011

GOAL ONE: Make the City's neighborhoods livable, safe, healthy, and aesthetically pleasing to all people in the area, by:

- ❑ **Seeking citizen participation in decisions that affect their neighborhood;**
- ❑ **Educating and training neighborhood residents to promote self-sufficiency;**
- ❑ **Ensuring neighborhood safety;**
- ❑ **Maximizing compatibility between residential and non-residential uses.**

Objective 1.1: Neighborhood Unification. Encourage the formation of neighborhood organizations.

Policy 1.1.1: Continue to identify and encourage the formation of neighborhood organizations that involve residents, owners and businesses who desire to focus on creating healthy and livable neighborhoods.

Policy 1.1.2: Continue to identify and encourage existing neighborhood organizations and non-represented neighborhood residents to establish neighborhood boundaries.

When defining neighborhood boundaries, consideration should be given to historic cultural or geographic boundaries, natural or man-made barriers, master-planned developments, and generally agreed upon and locally recognized boundaries.

Policy 1.1.3: Establish a neighborhood council group, to be comprised of individuals from each established neighborhood group. The intent of the Council will be to promote cooperation between groups, foster a sense of community, and to provide a forum where members can address specific concerns, receive reliable information, and gain support for legitimate causes.

Objective 1.2: Neighborhood Information System. Build an effective, comprehensive “neighborhood information system” to foster collaborative relationships between Winter Haven’s citizens and the City.

Policy 1.2.1: Continue to maintain a computerized database to catalog and list all organized neighborhoods and homeowner/condominium associations. The list will be checked and updated as needed. This listing will be utilized to notify neighborhoods of current events and activities.

Policy 1.2.2: Continue to maintain a computerized database phone listing of all residents within the City. The list will be checked and updated periodically. The listing will be utilized to notify neighborhoods of emergency situations.

Policy 1.2.3: Continue to conduct neighborhood opinion surveys as needed to identify, address, and monitor neighborhood issues.

Policy 1.2.4: Continue to distribute the quarterly Citizens newsletter along with other flyers as needed to keep citizens informed on current issues and events.

Policy 1.2.5: Continue to conduct neighborhood meetings as a means of both, disseminating and gathering information on neighborhood matters, and documenting neighborhood concerns to be acted upon.

Objective 1.3: Neighborhood Compatibility. Promote compatibility of new and re-development projects within existing neighborhoods.

Policy 1.3.1: Continue to involve impacted neighborhood organizations in the review of private and public development projects that require review by the Planning Commission.

Policy 1.3.2: Develop and implement measures to enhance neighborhood compatibility in the Land Development Regulations by 2014.

Policy 1.3.3: Consider the impacts to neighborhoods of proposed amendments to the Future Land Use Map, Future Land Use Element, and the Zoning Map. When potential impacts have been identified, work with applicants and neighborhood residents to reduce or eliminate them.

Objective 1.4: Neighborhood Aesthetics and Identity. Enhance the unique aesthetics and identity of individual neighborhoods.

- Policy 1.4.1:** Build a strong, effective “neighborhood planning process” that establishes the type and level of assistance residents and businesses need for their neighborhoods.
- Policy 1.4.2:** Where appropriate and feasible, create open spaces that facilitate neighborhood gatherings and contribute to neighborhood identity.
- Policy 1.4.3:** Utilize public art to enhance other public improvements and to create neighborhood identity. High school and College students will be encouraged to participate in the making and displaying of cultural and art related displays around the City.
- Policy 1.4.4:** Where appropriate and feasible, use urban design to create a cohesive whole among improvements made in transportation, architecture, landscape, open space and public art.
- Policy 1.4.5:** The City will continue to promote a matching grant program to encourage neighborhoods to develop projects that will enhance the beautification, safety and quality of life.
- Policy 1.4.6:** The City, in conjunction with Keep Winter Haven Clean and Beautiful, will continue to assist and/or involve neighborhood residents in such programs as: Adopt-a-Street, The Great American Clean Up, Project Eagle, Earth Day, Community Clean-up, Community Improvement Award and projects with local schools.
- Policy 1.4.7:** The City will make every effort to preserve and enhance unique features, such as natural features, neighborhood institutions and other characteristics that contribute to neighborhood identity.
- Policy 1.4.8:** Encourage the installation of thematic signage for individual neighborhood entryways to represent the character of the neighborhood.

Objective 1.5: Neighborhood Services and Outreach Programs. Continue to provide effective outreach services and develop innovative programs and initiatives associated with neighborhoods.

- Policy 1.5.1:** Neighborhood Safety Education: The City’s Planning Division, in partnership with the Winter Haven Police Department and other public safety agencies, will promote neighborhood safety and cohesiveness by encouraging resident and neighborhood involvement in crime prevention and elimination programs.

Policy 1.5.2: The City shall work with public and private agencies, businesses, utilities, and non-profit groups on providing educational opportunities to residents of neighborhoods on subjects such as home ownership, home maintenance, energy efficiency, code enforcement, property management, and community building.

Policy 1.5.3: The City will continue to host or partner with other groups to bring family fun and entertainment to the citizens and neighborhoods. These events will be multi-culture events to meet the needs of the City's diverse population.