

DRAFT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
Town of Edgewood Comprehensive Plan
1/14/19

Goals are broad, visionary statements describing a desirable and sometimes idealized future condition of the community. Each goal can be further defined by one or more objectives for achieving that goal. The combination of goals and objectives has been used in this document to establish a common understanding of the community's expectations regarding growth and development in Edgewood.

Public Participation Process

Public involvement was crucial to the development of the goals and objectives in this comprehensive plan. To make certain there were opportunities for public input and participation in drafting the goals and objectives, a steering committee was activated, a public opinion questionnaire was prepared and made available online to the community, and subsequently three public workshops (November 13, 20, and December 4, 2018) were held to further delve into the topics addressed in the questionnaire. The results and findings of the questionnaire were documented in a report titled *Questionnaire Report: Public Opinion About Future Development* (MRCOG, 2019).

Overview of Goals and Objectives

Through the public participation process, Edgewood residents painted a picture of what they envision for development in the Town over the next 20 years. While residents express a desire for enhancements to public facilities, a greater variety of housing types to suit different needs, and higher paying jobs in the Town, residents want the Town to preserve the small town, rural feel that they associate with Edgewood. Write-in comments from the Questionnaire cite the strong sense of community, country/small town feel, access to the outdoors, views of the mountains, and dark night skies as things they would like to maintain in Edgewood for the future.

Workshop participants identified "sustainability" as the principle that unifies and should underly the Town's various goals, and the objectives for those goals. This means providing for the needs of a diverse population, protecting natural resources, creating new jobs, and maintaining an educated work force. Striving to preserve and enhance Edgewood's small town and rural character, while making the Town more sustainable is the framework of the following goals and objectives.

The goals and objectives have been grouped below under the following topics:

- Public Facilities and Services
 - Natural resources
 - Health
 - Utilities
 - Recreation
 - Transportation
 - Police and fire
- Economic Development
- Housing

The objectives are numbered for organizational purposes, and do not indicate priority.

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Public services and facilities

Since the previous Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2008, the Town has done a great deal to improve and expand its facilities and services. The goals and objectives in this section aim to strengthen what is already there and add several amenities that the community has identified. Questionnaire respondents cited many amenities they would like to see in Edgewood in the future. While many amenities such as restaurants will not be provided by the Town, laying the groundwork by making long range utilities plans, for example, will help enable more growth in certain appropriate areas while protecting Edgewood's small town, rural character. The need to develop a physical center for the Town on Section 16 was identified at the public meetings. Revising the Section 16 Master Plan as needed and tying it into long range utilities planning will support the Master Plan's development goals and enhance the strong sense of community already present in Edgewood.

Natural Resources

Goal A: Balance community development with protecting the natural resources and aesthetics of the Edgewood area.

- Objective 1:** Reduce the potential for air, light, or noise pollution caused by development or land use activities.
- Objective 2:** Collaborate regionally on a water conservation program and a drought contingency plan.
- Objective 3:** Encourage rainwater harvesting and use of grey water systems in the community.
- Objective 4:** Town will continue the collection and treatment of wastewater in appropriate areas of the community to protect groundwater from contamination.
- Objective 5:** Town will continue to remedy drainage issues on public property as they occur.
- Objective 6:** Town will seek to preserve significant ridgelines, topographic, and scenic features.

Health

Goal B: Support health and social services in the community.

- Objective 1:** Support the availability of health and medical services and facilities in the Edgewood community.
- Objective 2:** Continue to support medical transportation services available in Edgewood and study the feasibility of expansion.

Utilities

Goal C: Plan for the long-range water needs of the community.

Objective 1: Town will study the development of additional water resources.

Objective 2: Town will identify the future water needs of commercial areas.

Goal D: Plan for its future wastewater treatment needs.

Objective 1: Town will study how best to address wastewater management.

Objective 2: Town will identify the future wastewater treatment needs of commercial areas.

Goal E: Maintain a public utility infrastructure that will preserve and enhance the natural and visual setting of Edgewood.

Objective 1: Encourage utilities to be installed underground.

Objective 2: Regulate the height and location of utility structures such as power lines and telecommunication towers.

Recreation

Goal F: Develop a community-wide system of recreation and park facilities.

Objective 1: Identify, protect, and if necessary, acquire open space areas, easements, and parks to preserve natural and scenic assets for the community.

Objective 2: Improve and expand existing recreational facilities such as parks, sports fields, multi-purpose play areas, and recreational trails.

Objective 3: Implement a trails plan to improve connectivity in the Town, to be referenced in proposed developments and recreational facility development.

Objective 4: Offer diverse recreational programs that include the arts, health, and environment for all populations and age groups by partnering with other recreationally focused groups and businesses.

Objective 5: Determine the feasibility of various water recreation options for the community.

Goal G: Develop a physical town center, with a town square and activities.

Objective 1: Revisit the conceptual design of Section 16.

Transportation

Goal H: Maintain a street network to meet the current and future transportation needs for the Edgewood community.

- Objective 1:** Adopt a long-range roads and trails system plan for the Town and surrounding region.
- Objective 2:** Refine the rating system used to evaluate roads and trails to prioritize them for improvement.
- Objective 3:** Develop road and trail design standards for the Town that implement “Complete Streets” guidelines, enhancing transportation for all users.

Goal I: Provide a variety of transportation services and facilities.

- Objective 1:** Continue to develop partnerships with local, state, and federal agencies as well as seek alternative sources of funding in order to expand and maintain a system of bikeways, pedestrian, and equestrian trails in the Town with connections to regional systems where possible and with minimal impact to property owners.
- Objective 2:** Town will work to keep the roadways clear for safe travel.
- Objective 3:** Support Regional Transit Districts that serve the Edgewood community.

Police and Fire

Goal J: Improve police, fire, and rescue services in the Town.

- Objective 1:** Provide for coordinated emergency rescue services in Edgewood.
- Objective 2:** Develop an emergency plan for Edgewood, including communications with citizens in cases of emergencies.
- Objective 3:** Retain and attract qualified police and emergency responders.

Economic Development

While many Edgewood residents either work elsewhere, such as Albuquerque, or are retired, diversifying the types of jobs in Edgewood will help maintain a stable tax base and increase employment opportunities for residents. Workshop participants expressed the desire for higher paying jobs in Edgewood, as well as to enhance the educational opportunities available in Town for all ages. In addition to increasing job and educational access, three quarters of Questionnaire respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the Town should strive to present an inviting community image in commercial areas.

Goal K: Ensure land use compatibility for new development.

- Objective 1:** Identify appropriate areas for cluster development of commercial, business, governmental, institutional, or mixed-use development with direct access to major arterials.

Goal L: Present an inviting aesthetic in commercial areas.

Objective 1: Develop design guidelines to improve the appearance of buildings and structures and to maintain rural characteristics in the Town of Edgewood.

Goal M: Ensure a strong and diverse local economy.

Objective 1: Review and revise local ordinances to aid the retention and expansion of local businesses.

Objective 2: Establish or support a local organization and process for targeting and recruiting new businesses and industries to locate in the Edgewood community, particularly those that serve local needs and provide higher-wage jobs.

Objective 3: Research and develop programs that use current and future recreational and environmental assets of the Edgewood area to attract visitors and tourists.

Objective 4: Identify appropriate areas for light industrial activities, minimize off-site impacts on surrounding lands, and ensure that adequate water, access, and other infrastructure needs can be met.

Objective 5: Improve Internet access in Edgewood.

Goal N: Support the development of a diverse and qualified workforce residing in Edgewood.

Objective 1: Support local programs to improve workforce skills and abilities of residents through adult education programs.

Objective 2: Promote job training programs through partnerships with educational institutions and local businesses.

Objective 3: Research and support programs that could facilitate training and employment opportunities for youth in the community.

Objective 4: Partner with educational institutions and community members to coordinate and collaborate on educational services and facilities.

Housing

A recurring theme at the public workshops both in discussions of housing and economic development was creating conditions (largely through modifications to the zoning code) that would allow for more diverse housing options in order to accommodate a variety of preferences and needs. Questionnaire respondents did not show support for large apartment complexes or affordable housing, however limited multiple housing units and homes on smaller lots in appropriate areas could help diversify housing options in the Town without drastically altering its small town and rural character.

Goal O: Support a variety of housing and residential opportunities for Edgewood residents.

- Objective 1:** Allow limited multiple housing units designed in a manner that would integrate with surrounding neighborhoods.
- Objective 2:** Support special housing opportunities for the elderly and other special needs populations.
- Objective 3:** Plan for a full spectrum of residential of sizes.