CITY OF BLOOMFIELD

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
2007 – 2017

Final Draft
Approved by City Council
April 9, 2007

SCOTT ECKSTEIN, Mayor
KEVIN MAUZY, Mayor Pro Tem
LYNNE RANER, Councilor
SAM HINSON, Councilor
LAMAR MORIN, Councilor

KEITH JOHNSON, CITY MANAGER

Prepared
In consultation with the staff and citizens of the City of Bloomfield
by

NORTHWEST NEW MEXICO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
SHERRI GRONA, Associate Planner
JEFFREY KIELY, Deputy Director
PATRICIA LUNDSTROM, Executive Director
DR. WILLIAM HALL, Chairman of the Board

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Courtesy Darrel Workman

Executive Summary

In this updated Comprehensive Plan, the citizens, elected leaders and staff of the City of Bloomfield have adopted a vision and strategy to guide the community into the future. The primary focus of the Comprehensive Plan is the physical development of the community – done in a way that expresses and supports the community's needs, values and goals. Bloomfield's Comprehensive Plan builds on the City's existing patterns – both natural and developed – while outlining development strategies that make sense for the future.

These strategies seek to protect those values, lands, properties and conditions that are prized by the community's citizens. At the same time, this Plan identifies where certain kinds of development can best take place. This includes establishing strategies for developing, enhancing and maintaining improvements relevant to each department. Additionally, the Plan illustrates how the community can attract new business, industry and residents in a manner compatible with the City's vision.

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

Plan Principles

Bloomfield Comprehensive Plan 2007-2017 is constructed upon five (5) general principles. The Comprehensive Plan is intended to be:

Visionary – To make sure the long-term view is taken and creative ways are utilized to ensure a secure and positive future for residents
Comprehensive – To ensure all aspects of City government, infrastructure, facilities and services as well as the complex interrelationships between land use, transportation, water, the economy, environment and other issues are understood and addressed
Internally and Externally Consistent – To ensure goals and policies are aligned and compliant with local, state and federal law, and to make sure goals and policies complement and correlate well with standards in other discipline areas
Implementable – To formulate approaches and a set of actions that can be followed for the benefit of the residents
Fiscally Responsible – To demonstrate efficiencies and cost savings in all areas so there are adequate public revenues to provide services

Framework of the Plan

The goals and policies for Bloomfield Comprehensive Plan 2007 - 2017 were derived from public and City personnel input. The City in partnership with NWNM COG conducted public input hearings and department head interviews in 2006 using previous documentation as a reference point. The identified priorities have been incorporated into each element of the plan. Planning staff also researched prior Bloomfield comprehensive plans as well as those adopted in other municipalities.

Courtesy George Duncan

Goals are defined as a result toward which the City's planning efforts are dedicated; they are general in form and express ideals. Policies are standards to which the City shall adhere in order to reach the stated goals. In this way, the City may establish benchmarks by which to gauge progress towards achievement of the Plan's goals.

The Comprehensive Plan is intended to be a dynamic document that serves as a continuous reference guide for policy and action. Additionally, the Plan should be revised as experience, new ideas, and new internal and external factors impact the community. Various components of the Plan will be eligible for update and revision as detailed below.

The 10-Year Plan is the core document, representing general guidance for the period spanning fiscal Years 2007 through 2017. This part of the overall Plan outlines "baseline" status of the various facilities and services of the City, the City's vision for growth and quality of life, and broadly stated goals and policies to guide future implementation. The 10-year Plan is reviewed and revised every five (5) years, involving technical and administrative review and extensive public input prior to formal action (resolution and/or ordinance) by the Mayor and Council to revise the core document.

Purpose of the Comprehensive Plan Update

This Comprehensive Plan is a blueprint to guide of the City of Bloomfield for the next 10 years. Drawn from the City's citizens and from the staff and leadership of the City government, the Plan provides a vision and direction for the City's growth. The Plan also outlines strategies for accomplishing that vision. The purpose of the Bloomfield Comprehensive Plan update is to delineate the goals and policies of the City of Bloomfield. It was necessary to update goals and policies through public meetings, describe changes in the City (Section III, Current Status), gather community surveys to verify information, and collect information about facility needs. The implementation strategy, designed to set specific steps for achieving the goals, will be developed with the assistance of City staff and City Council members at a later time.

Public Input and Community Survey Analysis

The 2006 *Community Survey Data* (Appendix C) served as an additional information resource to enhance input gathered during public hearings held in 2006. The public meetings assisted in outlining community goals and policies by soliciting a wide-range of ideas from citizens. Plan developers accomplished this by utilizing a series of multiple-choice questions as well as open-ended, thought-provoking questions. All information was compiled in the *2006 Community Survey Results*.

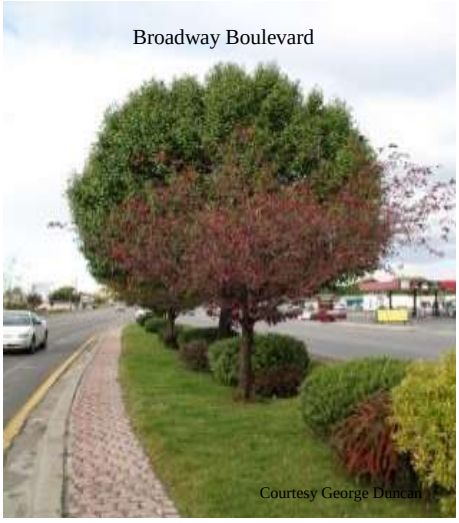
COMMUNITY VISION

Community Vision

The vision shared by the citizens of Bloomfield and their municipal government includes elements from past plans that continue to resonate and have relevance today as well as new thoughts and ideas gathered from diverse input. Additionally, the vision modifies, updates and adds concepts and priorities identified by community surveys and through interviews with City officials.

The vision statement is intended to provide the Comprehensive Plan with:

- an overall sense of **community identity**,
  - reflecting the values to be sustained throughout the future evolution of the City
  - defining desired future conditions
  - providing a "baseline" for what "growth" means for the residents of Bloomfield
- an overall sense of **direction**,
  - reflecting the kinds of growth and development considered to be most supportive of the community's values
  - establishing a basis for anticipating and managing change
  - providing for continuity and preservation of community assets and values
  - providing guidance for the improvement, enhancement and further development of the community



The Vision of the Bloomfield City Council is in three parts:

Working philosophy: The principles that guide the work of the City government on behalf of the citizens of Bloomfield**;**

Statement of Mission: The Council's sense of purpose and direction**;**

Statement of Vision: The ideal community conditions for the City and its citizens.

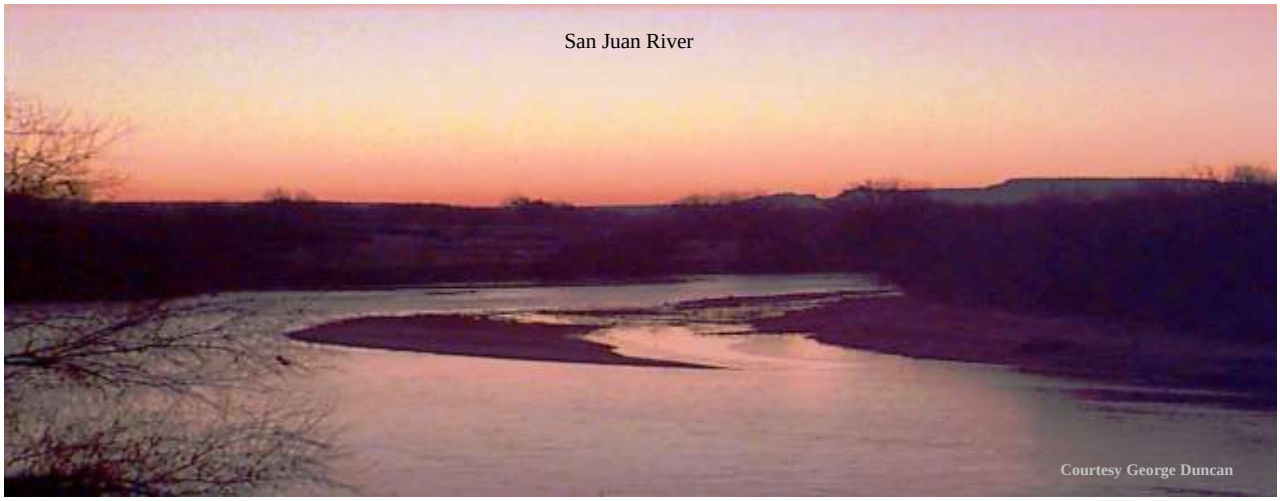
WORKING PHILOSOPHY **Through acting on these values, attitudes and commitments:**
AFFIRMING that our commitments and relationships extend beyond our municipal boundaries; **DEMONSTRATING** our commitment to excellence and positive leadership in all areas within our purview – management, services, Council meetings, financial viability, and inclusion of all sectors of the community in the problem-solving and decision-making process; **RECOGNIZING** citizens as a valuable resource, and fostering positive relationships with the volunteers who arise to help the community; **COMMITTING** ourselves to foster communication patterns reflecting a spirit of inclusion, mutual interdependence and participation; **ENSURING** responsive and processional service to the community by our City staff; **ENCOURAGING** responsible risk-taking and creativity by staff and by community members; **FOSTERING** confidence in staff and community members as valued participants in finding and implementing solutions to the community's problems and challenges; and **CREATING** an atmosphere of mutual respect and appreciation between and among the City Council, the staff and the community.

STATEMENT OF MISSION
The Mission of the City of Bloomfield in the 21st Century is to foster and promote the development of the Bloomfield community in a manner that is balanced, well planned and in accord with the quality-of-life factors that include beauty, sound environmental approaches and an overall tradition of mutual respect and cultural appreciation among the citizens of the community.

STATEMENT OF VISION
The Bloomfield City Council envisions Bloomfield as a community that: • is characterized by positive attitudes, community pride, open communication and the spirit of opportunity • has a stable, diversified and viable economy • is valued for its quality of life – a community that is a good place to live, work and retire • is known to be a safe and secure environment in which to live and raise a family • appreciates and builds upon its true assets – its human, natural and technological resources – toward ensuring a positive environment for future generations

CURRENT STATUS

CURRENT STATUS



OVERVIEW

Bloomfield, with an elevation of 5,500 feet, is located in the high desert of Northwest New Mexico. Nestled in the beautiful San Juan River Valley, Bloomfield is flanked by the San Juan Mountains to the north and the beautiful and haunting desert-scope of the Southwest to the east, south and west.

The City is situated in a rural setting with a current population of 7,680 people. Larger cities such as Farmington, NM (10 miles), Durango, CO (50 miles), and Albuquerque, NM (180 miles) in the area provide easy access to quality medical services, shopping and entertainment. Bloomfield is an industry-rich area due to vast reserves and processing capacity of oil and natural gas in the San Juan Basin. Gas and oil exploration and production play a significant role in Bloomfield's prosperity, while at the same time Bloomfield works to diversify its economy to better serve the needs of the community.

The wealth of energy resources and a dynamic economy as well as the climate and other positive factors are increasingly attracting new residents and businesses to Bloomfield and the surrounding area. This is evidenced by 2007 Census Bureau statistics. According to the Census Bureau, the population was 5,214 people in 1990 and increased to 6,417 in 2000. The average growth rate is 3.2 percent per year, above the national average of .95-percent. Using this figure as well as other Census Bureau methodology, the population in 2030 would be in excess of 13,400.

This rate of growth directly impacts the City's ability to provide adequate infrastructure, facilities and services to residents and businesses. Therefore, is it imperative the City of Bloomfield take a holistic approach to planning for the benefit of current and future residents as well as to ensure a continued quality of life.

To meet these needs, the community has created Bloomfield Comprehensive Plan 2007-2017. This document details goals and objectives designed to guide the growth and development of the City for at least the next 10 years. By identifying issues and establishing policies, City officials can implement strategies to enhance community conditions for residents. The Plan builds upon, modifies and updates the comprehensive plan prepared in 1990 and the strategic plan outlined in 1992 with the technical assistance of the Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments (NWNM COG).

FACILITY AND DEPARTMENT ANALYSIS

In partnership with the NWNM COG, City personnel interviewed facility managers and department heads to obtain current information regarding services and needs. The results are compiled in the Executive Summary of Department Head Interview (Appendix D). The interviews were subjective in many respects, with the intent being to draw out ideas about the current adequacy of and future needs for facilities and services. The following is a point-in-time description of the facilities and services provided by those facilities. Staff compiled a summary of the current status of the following facilities and services.

- Municipal Complex
- Police Department/Municipal Court
- Fire Department
- Fitness Center
- Library
- Family Aquatic Center
- Senior Citizens Center
- Parks and Recreation Department
- Water Treatment Plant
- Wastewater Plant
- Public Works

I. Municipal Complex

The Bloomfield Municipal Complex is located at 915 N. First St. The City Administration, Fire Department, Department of Motor Vehicles, Finance Department and Utilities Department are located at the Municipal Complex. It was constructed in 1982 through issuance of municipal bonds.

During interviews, department heads and other staff indicated there is insufficient public space and the building is out dated and inadequate to properly serve the needs of the community. The current building lacks adequate storage space for records and equipment. It has been suggested that the entire building be remodeled or new facilities constructed to accommodate the changing needs of the City. Nevertheless, it is important to retain the hometown atmosphere.

II. Fire Department

The Bloomfield Fire Department is located within the Municipal Complex, 915 N. First St. The mission of the Fire Department is to prevent/limit the loss of lives and property through the utilization of all resources available in a fiscally responsible and professional manner.

The Department was first organized in 1950 and during the first year of operation, firefighters responded to fifteen (15) alarms. The department's first piece of equipment was a 1928 American LaFrance chemical fire apparatus. Today the department responds to more than 1,200 calls per year. The Bloomfield Fire Department currently has a Class 4 ISO rating. The ISO is an independent organization that evaluates fire departments and the level of services provided based on a Fire Class System from 1 to 10 with 1 being the best obtainable class.

In addition to emergency responses within City limits, the Fire Department also routinely responds to mutual aid and automatic aid calls in areas of the county. The Department responds to a variety of emergency incidents including: fire, emergency medical service calls and hazardous materials incidents as well as swift water, high-angle, confined space and trench rescues. The department also is responsible for fire code enforcement, new commercial construction plan review, training of personnel and inspection /testing of equipment and apparatus.

Bloomfield Firefighters

a. Stations and Facilities

Administrative offices are housed at Station 1 (main station) within the Municipal Complex. Media storage, training materials, data processing, a training/day room, locker rooms and restrooms also are contained within this facility. A six-bay area provides room for one engine/pumper and various other firefighting and emergency service related equipment. The issue is Station 1 is in need of expansion, improvement and rehabilitation. A General Obligation Bond was passed in September 2004 to fund expansion for both this station as well as the police/municipal court facilities; however, the required revenue fell short. Currently, City officials are pursuing other avenues of funding to complete this project. For instance, the City is seeking funding through the Infrastructure Capital Outlay Plan (ICIP) process and the New Mexico State Legislature. This project would include the expansion of Station 1, which is necessary to continue providing appropriate levels of service to the community.

Additionally, there is a need to establish additional substations throughout the City in order to comply with the ISO and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards. Station 2 is located at the intersection of Calle Del Rio and South Church Street. The City also is pursuing construction of Station 3 on North First Street. According to NFPA, the Department must be able to respond with an engine company to any location within the City in four minutes or less. ISO standards dictate the travel distance from any fire station housing an engine company to any location/structure should not exceed 1-½ miles. For stations housing ladder companies the travel distance should not exceed 3 miles. It is possible that construction of a fourth substation accompanied by adequate personnel and equipment would need to be considered to accommodate future growth on the south side of the City. A potential site for a fourth station is West Broadway Boulevard near the city limits.

b. Apparatus and Equipment

Fire protection takes a toll on apparatus and equipment. There is a replacement schedule established by the Fire Department and the Department is attempting to adhere to it as closely as possible based on available funding. The current schedule calls for the replacement of pumpers, tankers and ladder trucks every 20 to 25 years, rescue vehicles each 10 to 15 years and brush trucks every 10 years. Additionally, the replacement plan calls for purchasing new administrative vehicles every five (5) years.

Courtesy George Duncan

However, vehicles are not the only equipment necessary for the Department to provide service. Other mandatory equipment includes hoses, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), communication radios and pagers. The City is requesting funding for several new vehicles for the departments as well as other items, including Hazmat equipment, through the ICIP process.

c. Services and Programs

In addition to emergency responses, the department also attends to a variety of other calls for service. These consist of but are not limited to: smoke checks, automatic smoke and fire alarms, burn permits, flooded buildings, downed power lines and carbon monoxide alarms. The Fire Department also participates in mock drills for the various gas plants, other industries and schools.

d. Staffing

The Bloomfield Fire Department employs five (5) paid personnel, which includes the Chief, three (3) fulltime firefighters and an office manager. There is enough equipment on hand to accommodate up to 40 firefighters. Volunteers make up the majority of the Department's staff, and currently 32 men and women serve in this capacity. Contingent on the availability of the volunteer force and other factors, response to any area of the City within four (4) minutes is inconsistent.

Bloomfield depends on volunteer firefighters to be the first line of defense for many types of emergencies. Unfortunately, according to the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) the number of volunteers has decreased 10 percent since 1983. Time demands for training and emergency responses as well as the broad range of other services provided to the public contribute to the decrease in volunteers, the NVFC information stated. The hesitancy of business owners and other organization directors to allow their employees time off to fulfill their volunteer duties, no doubt also impacts the Department's ability to recruit personnel.

Recruitment of the volunteers is accomplished through a variety of resources. These include public newsletters, newspaper articles, and announcements to businesses and civic organizations. Each year the Department also distributes promotional calendars through out Bloomfield. Retention and motivational programs include service recognition awards, banquets, stipend payments for alarms and training, plaques and badges.

NFPA Standard 1710 states there must be at least four (4) paid, fulltime firefighters to appropriately staff an engine or ladder company. Due to the fact that volunteer experience is not evaluated in the same way, the standard mandates 12 volunteer firefighters are needed for adequate staffing. NFPA also recommends four (4) members of the Department be assembled at a scene before initiating an interior fire attack.

e. Training/Personnel Development

Staff training is done primarily "in house." The onsite training addresses each discipline required of the firefighters. Outside training is offered, but this training resource is not utilized consistently due to the time limitations of the volunteer firefighters. Adequate instruction can require as many as 1,000 hours in order to train personnel to be proficient in all of the skills, tasks and missions required of the department. This does not take into account annual continuing education and recertification.

According to the Fire Chief, it takes approximately eight (8) years to train a volunteer firefighter in all required areas. Scheduling conflicts are cited as the leading obstacle to timely completion of training. If the volunteer misses a scheduled class, the class is either repeated or the individual must wait until the next time it is offered. It is not uncommon to offer a class three or four times in order to reach all of the volunteers.

III. Police Department/ Municipal Court

The Bloomfield Police Department, established in 1953, serves the citizens of Bloomfield. The mission of the Police Department is to render the highest level of police service in a professional and ethical manner, working in cooperation with the community to solve problems related to crime and social disorder; thereby ensuring safety and improving the quality of life.

The essence of the Police Department's values is captured in the following statement.

> "…We are dedicated to providing the highest quality of service to protect the citizens of Bloomfield. We value honesty, integrity and truthfulness. We recognize that honesty, integrity and truthfulness are the foundation of our profession. We will constantly strive to maintain the highest standards, recognizing their importance in upholding our credibility within the law enforcement profession and the community we serve. We value professionalism, cultural diversity and the rights of all individuals … We will build from the strength provided by cultural diversity within the department and the community to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of all. We value community involvement on all issues relating to a safe and secure City …We value employees, the Department's most valuable resources. We are dedicated to building the foundation of the Police Department through fairness, respect and equal opportunity provided to all employees…"

The department serves the City of Bloomfield with an area of approximately 10 square miles and protects a population of 7,680 residents. The department also provides responses to people residing in unincorporated areas of San Juan County within five (5) miles of the city limits. This is done in mutual aide with and at the request of the San Juan County Sheriff's Office. The department's funding is allocated through the City's budget process.

The Department and the Municipal Court are temporarily located at 1100 Rio Vista, which formerly served as an elementary school within the Bloomfield School District. The City of Bloomfield has an agreement with the school district that allows the Police Department and Municipal Court to operate from the facility for three (3) years. This agreement expires in July 2008. Although this temporary location meets the immediate needs of the Police Department and Municipal Court, City officials understand the necessity of constructing a new facility or renovating an existing building to adequately address increasing service demands.

The Police Department maintains a community policing office located at 508 West Sycamore as part of the community outreach program. The Department also identified the need for a similar office at the City's Multicultural Complex on South First Street. Community policing offices provide officers with additional locations at which to complete paperwork and meet with Bloomfield residents. The satellite offices also could accommodate public meetings and be used to support training opportunities.

The Bloomfield Police Department is close to achieving the goal of law enforcement accreditation. Only six (6) of 136 law enforcement agencies in New Mexico have the distinction of accreditation through the New Mexico Municipal League. Department personnel are committed to being the seventh department in the state to have this honor.

a. Staffing

Staffing for the department includes: (Certified Officers) the police chief, one (1) lieutenant, four (4) sergeants, two (2) detectives, two (2) school resource officers and 11 Police Officers. (Non-Certified Officers) two (2) community service officers, an office manager, a receptionist/evidence manager, a records custodian, and 12 Reserve Officers. The Reserve force is comprised of volunteers. The number of reserve officers varies.

Sgt. George Keys
Courtesy Police Department

Department officials also oversee a Police Explorer Program, which currently boasts 14 members. While the Explorers are also volunteers, they are not permitted to carry firearms.

During the next 20 years, the population of Bloomfield is expected to increase significantly. Today, with current staffing levels the department struggles to meet the needs of the community. Without proactive measures to recruit and retain the number of sworn officers and support staff, it will be difficult for the Department to provide adequate levels of service.

City officials utilize a variety of resources to recruit new officers. These resources include, but are not limited to, advertisements in print publications throughout the United States and information disseminated via the Internet in an effort to attract a diverse pool of candidates. The Department accepts applications on an ongoing basis. Many of the Department's fulltime officers transitioned from positions as reserve officers or Explorer Scouts into a career in law enforcement. Police Department officials recognize these programs as an excellent recruitment resource. In addition to salary and benefits, the department purchases all equipment and uniforms for the officers.

b. Equipment

Equipment assigned to Department officers includes all relevant safety equipment required to perform the functions of a police officer. Additionally, there is an increasing need to acquire and maintain modern equipment and technology in order to help officer better protect the community. The Department utilizes a replacement/depreciation schedule in order to ensure that equipment and technology is as current as possible. As part of this strategy, the Department developed a replacement schedule. This schedule calls for the City to replace patrol units every five (5) years or 100,000 miles. This ensures that the fleet is reliable and safe for officers and the community. Some members have succeeded in obtaining grants and donation in support equipment upgrades. These include in-car video cameras, laptop computers, Tasers and body armor.

Bloomfield Police Unit

Courtesy Police Department

c. Services and Programs

Department personnel provide a diverse range of services, both emergency and non-emergency, to Bloomfield residents. Provided emergency services include, but are not limited to, building alarms, burglaries, medical calls, domestic violence situation, assault and battery, vehicle accidents, sexual assaults, area flooding, armed subjects and missing children.

In addition to emergency response officers respond to a variety of incidents that may not be considered emergencies, but require police intervention. These include, private property incidents, larcenies, shoplifting, gas skips, inebriated individuals, public disturbances, issues on school grounds, speeding complaints, and vandalism. The Department also provides security inspections for commercial buildings and residences.

In partnership with other San Juan County law enforcement agencies, the Department also participates with or provides funding assistance for the Gang, DWI and Region II Narcotics taskforces. The work performed with these groups helps to mitigate the negative impact drugs and gangs have on the Bloomfield community.

In order to further enhance services provided to residents, the Department strives to adhere to community policing methods. Recently, the Chief and his staff reinitiated the Neighborhood Watch program in several areas of the City. Public training also is available through the Department. As part of this program, an officer is tasked to serve as a program coordinator to each area of the City. Personnel also convene quarterly community meetings to address public concerns and receive suggestions.

The Department also oversees the Police Athletic League program. Department personnel volunteer their time to coordinate events such as a 5K and 10K walk/run during community festivities. The program also sponsors a Bicycle/Scooter Safety Rodeo, Halloween carnival and a junior police academy.

d. Training

To maintain Law Enforcement Certification, Bloomfield police officers are required to complete a minimum of 40 hours of continuing education every two (2) years. The training takes place "in house" as well as in structured classroom environments with curriculum provided by a certified instructor recognized by the New Mexico Department of Public Safety. The Bloomfield Police department serves as a strategic partner in the San Juan Regional Training Authority, which allows local law enforcement agencies to leverage training resources.

Of the 40 hours, 12 are dedicated to maintenance training. This training reinforces and updates critical knowledge, skills and abilities in order to maintain appropriate levels of proficiency. This training may include firearms, first aid, defensive tactics, driving and field sobriety testing. Officers also are required to complete 20 hours of training in advanced and specialized education. The remaining eight (8) hours can be a combination of the following subjects: community policing, cultural awareness, stress/anger management, communications, officer integrity or domestic violence.

Training reserve officers is a significant challenge for the Department. The reserve officers receive similar training as that of regular officers. This included firearms training. According to Department regulations, reserve officers must demonstrate proficiency with their weapons and are subject to testing and re-testing to verify this. Two (2) nights per month are set aside for "in-house" training for the reserve officers. Reserve officers also are provided opportunities to attend advanced training.

A major obstacle in the training of reserve officers is the training element and the time required. Officers may not be available to attend each training session offered. Consequently, training sessions must be repeated in order to accommodate the volunteers.

Training of the police explorers is accomplished through the dedication of full-time officers committed to youth programs in the community. Two officers volunteer as program advisor and conduct weekly meetings to promote training through course work and exercises.

IV. Bloomfield Multicultural Complex

The Multicultural Complex is located at 333 South First St. and also houses the Bloomfield Public Library. The complex serves the City of Bloomfield and surrounding area residents. Amenities include a gymnasium, meeting rooms for social and special events, and the fitness center. City officials commissioned the construction of the

Complex in order to improve the quality of life for the community. People wanted a facility that would provide meeting space and an indoor health /fitness center. Additionally, patrons expressed a desire for more youth activities, such as recreational basketball and dances.

The issue is that the current demand for meeting/activity space has exceeded capacity. Multiple improvements should be planned and completed in order to bring the meetings spaces and banquet rooms up to date. These include the purchase of round tables, linens and new flooring. The goal is to increase the number of activities and events hosted at the Complex in order to provide additional revenue for operations. As with any program or facility, as services increase so must staff in order to provide effective and appropriate management.

V. Bloomfield Fitness Center

Fitness Center Workout

The Bloomfield Fitness Center also has exceeded capacity and needs to be expanded. Co-located with the Bloomfield Public Library in the Multicultural Complex, the Fitness Center provides numerous physical activities for local residents. These include aerobics classes and weight training. Recommendations include relocating the Fitness Center in order to increase the size and accessibility for Bloomfield citizens utilizing other City services. Additional space also is needed to accommodate weight training and cardio vascular exercises. Regarding weight training, it is recommended there be two separate rooms – one for free weights and one for circuit training. Currently, the City of Bloomfield partners with San Juan College to offer a variety of exercise opportunities for local residents. San Juan College faculty teaches several classes, including aerobics. The City could develop positions and criteria for instructors who would be employed by Bloomfield.

VI. Bloomfield Public Library

The Library, located at 333 South First Street serves the community of Bloomfield and surrounding areas. "The mission of the Library is to provide access to knowledge and information and works of the imagination to the public regardless of race, age, gender, religion, language, income or disability." Currently, people utilize the services of the Library about 6,000 times each month. These services include borrowing one of the 18,000 volumes/books in the Library's collection as well as accessing computers, utilizing resource materials and hosting meetings/programs among other things.

The City of Bloomfield constructed the Library in the early 1990s as part a larger project to establish the Multicultural Center. Final construction was completed in 1994 with funding provided by a $1.5-million HUD grant. The Library is centrally located for the benefit of those residing in the community, which also includes people living outside of the City limits. The need for a quality Library is a part of every community, especially those like the City of Bloomfield, according to Library Officials. Bloomfield is growing, and newcomers consider parks, public schools and Library facilities when making relocating decisions. The Plan will address the overall mission as well as long-term goals in the areas of collection, technology, staff, programming and facilities.

The responsibilities of the public Library can be "fleshed out" with a number of specific objectives. Services provided by the Bloomfield Public Library are determined by the community needs assessments. The New Mexico State Library (NMSL) recommends that such assessments be completed every five (5) years to keep up with changing needs, demographic shifts, employment patterns and other relevant issues.

Funding of a public library is a long-term commitment on the part of the City. Currently, the facility relies on grants in order to maintain landscaping as well as provide services. As the demands for Library services increase the costs of books, subscriptions, computers and other operating expenditures will be consistent with this growth; thus, necessitating the need for additional space and funding. For this reason, it is important to share resources with libraries in Farmington, Aztec and Shiprock; local museums; the Bloomfield School District, area businesses and cultural institutions. Strategic community partnerships enhance the information base of the Library and improve services to the community. Cooperation is a trend fully supported by NMSL and City officials as a means of efficiently utilizing funding.

a. Library Facilities

Currently, there is not enough room to accommodate either the available materials or other community activities within the Library. In order to continue to provide adequate services, the Library must grow and expand. The library has limited space for additional titles as well as a significant shortage of public space. The library must consider the comfort factor for all patrons. The "quiet" space has been turned into the computer area in order to accommodate service needs.

Patron using computer services

The chairs for adult seating, as recommended by the NMSL, should be seven (7) seats per 1,000 patrons for libraries serving populations less than 8,000. At the present time, the Bloomfield Public Library has adult seating, aside from chairs assigned to computer workstations, for 25 patrons in public areas and study rooms. The area available for tables and chairs as well as staff workspace needs to be increased significantly. This would not only accommodate current needs, but also address future growth.

The Library's collection space totals 2,318 square feet. The ideal condition for the current population numbers would be at least 3,218 square feet today and, to accommodate future growth, 4,275 square feet by 2025. The adequate expansion of the space would provide ample room for books, periodicals, back files, non-print items and computer terminals. The need for additional collection and public space leads to a recommendation for significant expansion within the next 10 years.

Providing adequate meeting space also is a concern for Library officials. Currently, the Library staff and patrons have access to the Multicultural Center's banquet and meeting rooms. However, these rooms do not offer adequate space to accommodate all of the Library's needs. There is an area set aside for story time, which can seat up to 30 children and one reader in 300 square feet. The desirable amount of space for this activity is 350 square feet and Library staff estimated that the story time area would need to be 1,300 square feet by the year 2025 in order to address the anticipated 18-percent increase in population. Ideally, there also would be a 600-square-foot meeting room with enough room for 50 seats and a speaker in order to offer additional activities. Another area needed is a 250-square-foot conference room for staff meetings and training.

Bloomfield Public Library will need to provide space for the following:

- Collection space
- Quiet reading and study areas
- Staff work and office space
- Children's reading and craft activities areas
- Community meeting space
- Mini Theater
- Outdoor Amphitheater
- Technology (public access computer, typewriters, photocopiers, network servers, online catalog and circulation computers)
- Display areas
- Vertical file space
- Storage and display of non-print media area
- Storage for miscellaneous Library use

b. Library Collection

The Bloomfield Public Library established a collection policy in order to define the purpose, scope and content of the collection. The policy reflects the following factors:

- Community analysis
- Core collection and reference collection requirements
- Special collection requirements, e.g. local history, community information, government information, collections aimed at specific demographic groups
- Principles of selection and discard
- Donations policy
- Complaints procedure
- Books in non-print form

This collection policy follows specific guidelines. These guidelines include: new, current materials should be good physical condition: For a City the size of Bloomfield the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) recommends that collection size be 3.6 books per capita. The average of peer libraries in New Mexico is 2.73 per capita and Bloomfield Public Library has approximately 2.4 titles per capita. The collection should be evenly divided among adult fiction, adult non-fiction and children's materials and should include periodical materials in relation to the population. As a library grows a greater proportion of its budget should be expended for non-fiction materials. Expansion of the collection should proceed at the rate of 250 new titles per year for each 1,000 population. At the present time 10 percent of the annual library budget is for collection expenditures. This percentage should be increased to 15 percent in order to meet the average in New Mexico.

c. Library Technology and Computers

Technology and computers in the library will also need a plan for development. This plan must undergo continuous review to adapt to changes in technology and population. Computer technology is never a one-time capital expense; it is ongoing due to rapid developments in technology and the need to replace outdated software and hardware. Technology expenses are funded through an agreement with the City of Farmington and grants. The technology plan and objectives must meet the following needs:

- Free public access computers with online access in sufficient quantity to meet public demand.
- Acquisition of databases, whether web based or on CD ROM.
- Fiber optic ties to local schools and cultural resources.

- Need for a staff person at the library or at the City who is a computer specialist. There is now and will be a constant need for someone who can install and maintain local area networks and provide technical support for public and staff computers.
- Time and print management software for public access computers (these would pay for themselves in terms of saving staff time within the first year).

When addressing staff needs, computers also must be taken into consideration. As staff increases, the number of terminals for their use also increases. Additionally, public access computers are now a large part of library services. The IFLA recommends public access computers be provided at the rate of .7 computers per 1,000 population served.

d. Library Staff

Kelly Taranto, Library Staff

Staff is essential to support Library programming and provide sufficient hours of operation. In terms of numbers, IFLA recommends one full-time-equivalent employee per 2,500 population served. Among peer libraries in New Mexico the average is four (4) full-time equivalents. In order to meet the needs of the public, various staff positions need to be increased or restructured. Specifically, the Library needs additional summer staff to provide services when area children are out of school and visiting more frequently.

All staff and volunteers for the Library need to understand policies of service and have well defined duties. All must possess strong communication skills, understand circulation functions and be familiar with computer technology to assist the public. Staff training is ongoing, and funding in this area should be at least 1 percent of total budget expenditures. Training for staff in the next 10 years needs to reflect the various duties of individual staff members.

- **Library Administrator**
  1. Management and leadership
  2. Marketing
  3. Collection development
  4. Promotion of literacy
  5. Law and government relations

- **Certified Library Assistant(s)**
  1. Youth services and storytelling
  2. Cataloging
  3. Computer skills
  4. Reference and information retrieval

- **Library Page**
  1. Data entry
  2. Database operation
  3. Reference and information retrieval
  4. AACR rules of filing

e. Library Programs

Story Time ~ Library/Senior Center
Courtesy Jessica Polatty

Development and success of library programs is contingent on staff time, marketing and available facilities. The types of programs developed should be determined through the use of community needs assessments. Current suggestions for development are:

- Book discussion groups
- Literacy programs
- Activities and facilities for latch key kids

In addition to the development of programs themselves, the library should create a marketing and promotion policy manual. This manual should describe library policies for all written communications, marketing, promotions, public displays, signs, websites and Friends of the Library.

VII. Bloomfield Family Aquatic Center

Bloomfield Family Aquatic Center
Courtesy City of Bloomfield

The new Bloomfield Family Aquatic Center will open in 2007. While the facility has no current issues regarding space or other accommodations, there are other concerns that should be addressed, including staffing, facility maintenance and funding.

The swimming pool will experience the same issues as the other facilities in regard to staffing. There are not enough qualified and motivated people looking for employment to accommodate facility needs. Additionally, safety must be a primary concern for the City of Bloomfield as well as appropriate and timely upkeep of the buildings and pools. With regard to funding, it is expensive to operate a pool facility and other funding resource must be identified. This could be accomplished by strategically partnering with San Juan College, Bloomfield School District and local companies.

Courtesy City of Bloomfield

VIII. Senior Citizens Center

The Senior Citizens Center is located at 124 W. Ash Avenue. The current facility has been utilized since 1993. The Senior Center is too small to accommodate adequate activities and holistically serve patrons. Located near the Multicultural Complex, the Senior Center needs more space for meals, classes, computers and recreation. The Center serves over 600 people throughout San Juan County and provides physical/educational classes, arts and crafts, and a place for informational assistance in addition to the other above-mentioned tasks.

Senior Center Patrons

Courtesy Jessica Polatty

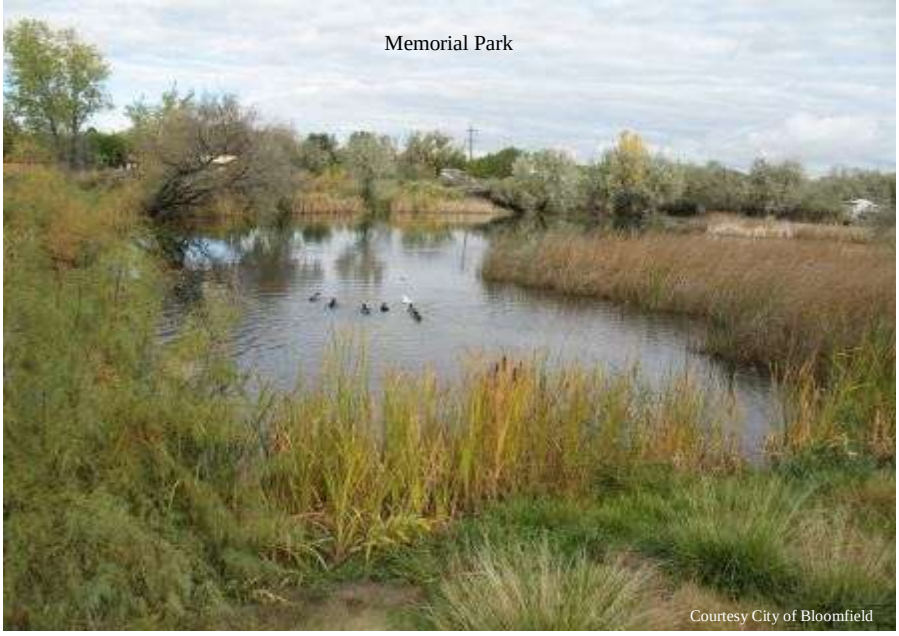
The center also provides home-delivered meals (regular and diabetic) to nearly 80 people per day. The majority of these meals are delivered outside of the Bloomfield City limits to unincorporated portions of San Juan County. Today's senior citizens are more active and have a stronger desire to participate in activities. In order to address these changes, the Senior Center's focus should be altered to fit clientele demands.

IX. Parks and Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Department serves Bloomfield residents as well as those from neighboring communities. The Parks and Recreation Department strives to provide clean and secure parks, a wide range of programs and safe, well-maintained facilities and playground equipment meeting the recreational needs of the community.

The purpose of the recreational facilities is to promote mental and physical health and exercise. Some of the many recreational activities people enjoy include baseball, soccer, tennis, outdoor basketball, hiking, biking and picnicking. Currently, the Parks and Recreation department is working to ensure that each quadrant of the City has at least one park for residents to access and use.

Bloomfield's parks are one of the most highly valued community assets, but also one of the areas most in need of improvement according to community surveys. Parks were given the highest ranking of scenic areas that respondents want to protect, preserve and improve. In order to accomplish this, Department staff developed and implemented a Bloomfield Parks/Recreation Department Master Plan covering the period from 2006 to 2011. (Please see appendix for complete plan.)



a. **City parks**

- **Keffalos Memorial Park** was established in the late 1970s and is the most developed park space serving recreational purposes. The City of Bloomfield, local schools and groups utilize this park when hosting baseball tournaments. The Park has six (6) ball fields, four (4) of which are lighted, a concession stand and bathrooms, a storage building, playground equipment and picnic tables. The lighting of the ball fields is considered to be in poor shape. A funding request to upgrade and install new lighting is included in the City's ICIP. (Appendix B) Area legislators, at the request of City officials, have also requested funding for these lights through the state's capital outlay request process.

- **Salmon Park** was established in the late 1980s. Salmon accommodates activities such as tennis, volleyball and picnicking. This park also serves as a location for many community events including Bloomfield Days. Staff recently erected a pavilion and restroom in order to enhance the park and better serve patrons.

- **Wilderness Park** is situated on approximately 110 acres north of Blanco Boulevard at Bergin Lane. The park – which accommodated two (2) miles of hiking trails and an overlook – is virtually undeveloped and is impacted by illegal dumping, vandalism and off-road vehicle use. To retain the natural characteristics of the park an overall plan was developed and implemented to regulate use and activities. Staff recently constructed a picnic shelter complete with amenities including a barbeque and fireplace.

- **Chamblee Sports Complex** is one of the major successes of the previous decade. The majority of the land and development was privately funded. This park features soccer fields, which are heavily used by Bloomfield residents, the Boys and Girls Club of Bloomfield and sport organizations. There is still a need to complete the project that would include a concession stand, restrooms and equipment storage.

- **Vereda Del Rio San Juan** trails in this area eventually will be linked to others traversing the City. In order for this system to be constructed additional property and rights of way needs to be acquired. The overall goal for the emerging trail system is to tie trails together throughout the City to promote alternative transportation and walkability. The Trails Master Plan, adopted by Council resolution, provides additional details. (Appendix D) Residents have frequented and utilized Riverside Park and the adjoining trail system along the San Juan as a fishing and picnicking

spot for many years. According to community surveys, the public has a strong desire to see this park and area further developed for recreation use. City's Fire Chief George Duncan is working in partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department to establish more trails and amenities in this area. To date, the City has secured a $400,000 grant to establish a complex river trail system near the San Juan River and enhance this park, which is now called Vereda Del Rio San Juan. Although, a portion of funding has been secured for this project additional funding is needed for completion. It is estimated that this project, which is listed on the City's ICIP, will require at least another $710,000 for completion. ICIP requests include $270,000 in capital appropriations/other funds in 2010 and then $220,000 in 2011 and 2012. The initial grant is earmarked for planning and design elements.

- **Other neighborhood parks** include Bishop Square, Qwest and EMS.

b. **Proposed Parks**

Parks and Recreation personnel are working to develop various parks throughout the City. These include Memorial Park near East Blanco Boulevard, and Twin Pillars Open Space Park located on Nevada Avenue on the north side of Bloomfield. As the population continues to grow, by an estimated 18 percent by 2025, the City should consider establishing other parks throughout the City.

c. Staffing

Staff is currently developing a plan to enhance intersection landscaping. This highlights the need for additional employees to administer and oversee as well as seasonal/summer recreation areas (see Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2006-2011.) There are currently seven (7) full-time employees and three (3) seasonal employees. In addition to managing all of the City's parks and open space assets, this Department also must oversee weed control, graffiti cleanup and building maintenance. Additionally, the department needs at least three (3) more fulltime employees.

X. Water Department

a. Water Treatment Plant

The Water Treatment Plant, established in 1954, is located on East Blanco Boulevard situated on 1.25 acres of land. The treatment facility was replaced in 1958 and has undergone several subsequent renovations. The City currently is overseeing improvements to the Water Treatment Plant – a project that began in 2006 and is scheduled for completion in June of 2007. The new water treatment system is a conventional surface water treatment plant as required by federal law capable of producing 3 million gallons per day (mgd). Demands on the current water plant, including improvements, will exceed capacity with in 20 years. To maintain an acceptable level of disinfection and disinfection byproducts, along with very clear water of less than 0.3 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU), an enhanced filtration system has been installed. The City also is upgrading the high-service pumps that supply water to customers as well as storage tanks. Improvements to the drinking water system are a high priority to the City. City officials understand the importance of providing high quality and adequate quantity of water to customers.

b. The Raw Water Reservoir

The existing reservoir has a capacity of 84 acre-feet. Surface water from the City-owned reservoir is obtained from the Bloomfield Irrigation Ditch (BID) and piped to the treatment plant where it is filtered and treated. Approximately 1,300 acre-feet of water flows to the water treatment facility. BID must maintain a steady flow of water in the irrigation canal in order to adequately supply the reservoir. The ability to provide a reliable supply of potable water can be jeopardized by the failure of the irrigation canal. Other mitigating operational factors include light mud that is washed into the reservoir. The reservoir should be enlarged to include a settling pond in the canyon to the north. This would provide increased storage and a location where silt can settle and allow clear water to flow to the main reservoir.

Additionally, the City needs to obtain additional water rights and establish a second source of water. The ICIP addresses the second source issue by listing this as priority as well as detailing how much funding will be required. This project calls for the construction of a second diversion point and pump station on the San Juan River to provide water into a new reservoir. This is crucial for the future reliability of the City's water supply. A minimum pumping capacity of 3,200 gallons per minutes (gpm) is recommended to ensure a constant supply of water to the system. This pump station will relieve the demand on the Bloomfield Irrigation Ditch and provide water should the ditch fail. Additionally, a second pump station will facilitate regular maintenance and repairs of the canal. This project is slated to begin in 2007. The City has secured water rights and required permits necessary for completion.

Construction of additional water storage tanks also is imperative to ensure the water supply for Bloomfield residents and users south of the City. The City's ICIP currently calls for the addition of two (2) one-million-gallon storage tanks. The City stores both treated and raw water. Currently, potable water is stored in seven storage tanks at different pressure zones clustered in three locations. Storage capacity of current tanks is 2.4 million gallons. In an effort to address various water-related issues, the City initiated a hydraulics study in 2001. This study and modeling software will assist Bloomfield personnel in determining the best placement of the new storage tanks and prioritize water and wastewater line upgrades and new construction.

c. **Wastewater Treatment Plant**

The Wastewater Treatment Plant serves the City of Bloomfield only. It is an "activated sludge" plant constructed in 1978 and improved most recently in 2004. It is located near the San Juan River so treated water can be discharged. Approximately 800,000 gallons of treated effluent water are pumped back into the river daily. The City has taken action to correct the problems with the treatment plant and related infrastructure. The treatment plant is operating at 80-percent

capacity and cannot adequately treat the sludge. To address this issue, improvements are underway at the plant. Phase 1 of Wastewater Treatment Plan is complete. Phase 2 of this project should be started and finished as soon as possible. When completed, the new facility will double in capacity and provide sufficient service to Bloomfield residents for many years.

XI. Public Works

The Distribution and Maintenance Department is located at the Municipal Operations Center at 1152 S. Church Street. There are a variety of services in what generally can be called "City Maintenance," including water and sewer line maintenance. The purpose of the department is to serve the citizens of Bloomfield and maintain their health and welfare. Most of the maintenance is of services within the City limits, although there is some water maintenance outside the City limits. Water maintenance was started in the mid-1950s and early 1960s through the mandates of state law and City ordinances.

Public Works Employee

Current evaluations of the water distribution system strongly indicate new water lines are needed throughout the City in order to support current demands as well as accommodate future growth. Additionally, there is a strong need for more looping, or linking water lines together, in order to improve water pressure and volume. Research completed by the Bloomfield Fire Department under the direction of Fire Chief George Duncan indicates nearly 75 percent of the City's water system is deficient in this area, raising safety concerns. Further impacting Bloomfield's ability to provide sufficient fire protection is the number of deficient hydrants or lack of hydrants throughout the City. The hydraulics study mention above will address the flow capacity of current fire hydrants and help determine the best placement for new hydrants. Another item for consideration is the necessity of replacing older lines to provide sufficient water flow. City personnel are mapping all existing lines to update previous records, which are outdated.

In addition to maintaining the water and wastewater lines in the City, the Public Works Department also is responsible for approximately 180 miles of single and double-lane streets/roads within City limits. The department operates two (2) crews with three (3) employees per crew. In order to properly address needs, several priorities must be identified including the addition of more staff.

GOALS AND POLICIES

This section elaborates the Community Vision into a coherent set of goals and policies that define and clarify the means by which the Vision will be achieved; and focus the Vision into achievable targets for the next eight (8) to 10 years; and break the "work in progress" down into useful categories of activity, i.e.:

- Departments and Facilities
- Land use
- Infrastructure
- Parks and trails
- Economic development
- Housing
- The Environment

This chapter is divided into subsections, each addressing one of the above categories of activity. Within each subsection, a summary "issue statement" is provided, reflecting in broad strokes the central problems, challenges and opportunities faced by the City, thus setting the stage for goals and policies that will address and resolve those issues, while moving the City forward toward achieving a portion of the overall Vision.

Departments and Facilities

ISSUE: As the community grows, the City of Bloomfield and its leaders must provide additional services such as fire/police protection, water, sewer and recreation. As the demand for services increases, additional staff is required to meet those needs. Currently, many of the City's facilities require rehabilitation or expansion. The department heads also require more personnel in order to fulfill the City's commitment to the community.

Municipal Complex (MC)

MC1 **GOAL:** Enhance the Municipal Complex either through rehabilitation or new construction in order to provide Bloomfield residents with necessary services and access to City officials in a space large enough to adequately accommodate the public.

POLICIES: The City shall:

MC1-1 Identify a location on which to construct a new Municipal Complex in order to provide additional room for offices and related services, secure central file vault, additional filing, and public space.

MC1-2 Identify suitable location for new construction if so directed by the City Council.

MC1-3 Design, plan, construct and equip a new Municipal Complex facility utilizing funding collected through a ¼ percent tax passed in March 2007 and other resources as appropriate.

MC1-4 Identify additional, outside resources to fund improvements.

MC2 **GOAL:** Enhance City's strategic planning initiatives in order to be more proactive in the areas of staffing, project development and funding. The strategic plan will be used to enhance and improve the quality of life for all Bloomfield residents and business owners.

POLICIES: The City shall:

MC2-1 Require that all department heads develop and implement a five-year master plan for the respective areas and functions of these divisions. These plans should include information about current and future needs, possible projects, funding necessities and staffing level requirements to meets each departments mission while complying with City leaders and management's vision

MC3 **GOAL:** Enhance City's computer technology through the purchase of new equipment and appropriate maintenance and upkeep of current systems.

POLICIES: The City shall:

MC3-1 Hire additional IT staff to provide support for and maintain City computer systems.

MC3-2 Identify funding with which to purchase new computers, printers and other technology as needed.

Fire Department (FD)

FD1 **GOAL:** Increase staffing levels while enhancing training in order to meet current and future service demands for service in a professional and proficient manner.

POLICIES: The City shall:

FD1-1 Hire and train four (4) additional full-time positions per shift to provide appropriate staffing levels for engine companies. Provide career personnel to staff additional engine, ladder and rescue companies as the demands of the community increase.

FD1-2 Recruit and retain full-time fire code enforcement and fire prevention officers.

FD1-3 Continue to monitor, evaluate and revise the recruitment, retention and motivation programs for volunteer firefighters.

FD1-4 Create a fulltime position to train volunteers as well as oversee training initiatives Department wide.

FD2 **GOAL:** Construct, renovate and enhance facilities in order to meet current demands for services as well as future community needs.

POLICIES: The City shall:

FD2-1 Expand, improve and rehabilitate Station 1 to allow for a dormitory, additional office space, additional storage space, washer/dryer area and accommodations for the proper removal of blood borne and other contaminants, additional training and recreation space.

FD2-2 Complete construction of Station 2.

FD2-3 Acquire land and construct a new substation on the West Broadway Boulevard in compliance with requirements of the ISO.

FD 3 **GOAL:** Upgrade and purchase new/additional equipment in order to provide adequate services to the community and achieve the Department's mission to prevent/limit the loss of lives and property.

POLICIES: The City shall:

FD3-1 Provide automatic defibrillators, CPR and First Aid programs throughout the community.

FD3-2 Establish an emergency alerting system throughout the City.

FD3-3 Identify and seek funding to maintain and replace Fire Department computers to ensure technology remains as current as possible.

FD3-4 Adhere to a scheduled replacement program of apparatus selected equipment as indicated below:

- Pumpers, Tankers, Ladder trucks – 20 to 25 years
- Rescue vehicles – 10 to 15 years
- Brush trucks – 10 years
- Administrative vehicles – 5 years
- Pagers – 5 years
- Walkie Talkies – 7 years
- SCBAs – 10 years
- Large Diameter Hose – 10 years

Police Department (PD)

PD1 **GOAL:** Increase staffing levels and identify training resources in order to meet current and future service demands.

POLICIES: The City shall:

PD1-1 Develop strategies to recruit and retain certified officers and support staff as is deemed appropriate for anticipated growth of the City both in area and population.

PD1-2 Enhance Reserve Officer Program through recruiting efforts, training and incentives designed to retain these volunteers.

PD1-3 Identify training opportunities for certified officers in order to comply with the minimum requirement of 40 hours of continuing education every two (2) years.

PD1-4 Work with certified and reserve officers to ensure training is accomplished without interfering with the Department's overall mission to provide the highest level of service possible.

PD2 **GOAL:** Construct new Police Department and Municipal Court facility or rehabilitate existing building to accommodate department needs.

POLICIES: The City shall:

PD2-1 Identify a location or acquire property if necessary on which to house the Police Department and Municipal Court.

PD2-2 Utilizing funding from a 1/8 percent tax passed in March 2007, design, plan and rehabilitated the Municipal Complex so that it may be used to house the Police Department and Municipal Court. Seek and obtain funding with which to complete construction and equip Department.

PD2-3 Design, plan, construct and equip a facility in which to locate the Police Department and Municipal Court.

PD3 **GOAL:** Improve overall services, Department operations and purchase/upgrade equipment in order to enhance and maintain quality law enforcement in Bloomfield.

POLICIES: The City shall:

PD3-1 Receive State Certification as an accredited law enforcement agency from the New Mexico Law Enforcement Accreditation Committee and the New Mexico Municipal League.

PD3-2 Identify and seek funding to maintain and replace Police Department computers and other necessary equipment to ensure technology remains as current as possible.

PD3-3 Support efforts to establish community-wide programs, such as Neighborhood Watch.

Public Assembly and Convention Facilities (CV)

CV1 **GOAL:** Provide adequate and well-maintained public assembly and convention facilities of high quality to meet the community's needs.

POLICIES: The City shall:

CV1-1 Investigate the need for public assembly and convention facilities beyond that of the Municipal Building, Cultural Complex and Senior Center.

CV1-2 Monitor the types of events that require public assembly or convention facilities.

CV1-3 Provide public assembly and convention space for the benefit of the City.

CV2 **GOAL:** Provide quality accommodations in which people can pursue fitness and recreational outlets, thereby improving their overall quality of life.

POLICIES: The City shall:

CV2-1 Increase the number of cardiovascular machines in the fitness center in order to simultaneously accommodate more people.

CV2-2 Enhance spectator space by constructing bleachers in the gym.

CV2-3 Increase staffing to oversee additional recreational activities.

Library (L)

L1 **GOAL:** Enhance the Bloomfield Public Library services through the acquisition of additional resources, materials and policies so patrons have better access to books, periodicals and related programs.

POLICIES: The City shall:

L1-1 Establish policies by which to manage and monitor donations and complaints.

L1-2 Obtain database resources and time management software to better coordinate activities and resource within the Library. Additionally, expand the number of subscriptions to online databases.

L1-3 Maintain existing youth and adult programs to include summer reading, preschool, after school, computer education and monthly adult special interest education programs. Develop fiber optic connections to local schools.

L2 **GOAL:** Improve Library facilities as well as purchase/upgrade equipment to accommodate materials and programs that better serve the community.

POLICIES: The City shall:

L2-1 Design and plan expansion of the current Library facilities to increase space for collection, reading/study areas, office/work space, children's areas and community meeting rooms. This may include a mini theater, outdoor amphitheater, display area, space for additional computers and storage.

L2-2 Plan for a future stand-alone facility for the Library.

L2-3 Perform annual evaluations to determine required space and seating for the library in order to conform to NMSL recommendations.

L2-4 Identify funds with which to purchase additional computers and other technology in order to increase public online access to meet current and future demands. Maintain the number of public access computers to keep abreast of the NMSL's recommended rate of .7 computers per thousand served.

L3 **GOAL:** Increase Library staffing levels and training to better anticipate the needs of the community and to provide services to meet current and future demands.

L3-1 Work to establish training policies to ensure each Library employee understands service policies and well define duties. A commitment of one percent of the Library's expenditures should be allocated to provide training.

L3-2 Maintain level of staffing at the recommended rate of at least one full-time-equivalent employee for each 2,500 people served.

L2-3 Create additional staff positions then recruit and train for those positions in order to increase and enhance Library programs such as book discussion groups, literacy programs and after-school activities specially designed for school-age children.

Bloomfield Family Aquatic Center (AC)

AC1 **GOAL:** Operate and maintain Aquatic Center in such a way as to improve and enhance recreational and fitness opportunities for Bloomfield Citizens.

POLICIES: The City shall:

AC1-1 Continue to work in partnership with the Bloomfield School District regarding overall operations of the Aquatic Center.

AC1-2 Recruit, hire, train and retain employees to facilitate aquatic center operations.

AC1-3 Establish policies and procedures for operation and management of the aquatic center, including developing a fee schedule for community utilization. Additionally, continually monitor and enhance safety protocol while ensuring timely upkeep of the buildings and pools.

AC1-4 Identify funding resources for operations and strategically partner with the Bloomfield School District, San Juan College and local companies as needed and necessary.

Senior Citizens Center (SC)

SC1 **GOAL:** Improve Senior Citizens Center facilities to accommodate increasing demands for programs and services specifically designed for this age group within the community.

SC1-1 Enhance and expand the Senior Citizens Center facility in order to accommodate additional clients as well as provide additional services, such as a computer lab and other recreational programs.

SC1-3 Maintain the high quality of facilities by making necessary improvements and repairs.

SC1-6 Increase the Centers capacity to serve meals both on location as off site in the way of meals delivered to housebound clients.

SC2 **GOAL:** Increase services in order to better care for the elderly members of the community and improve their overall quality of life.

POLICIES: The City shall:

SC2-1 Assess the needs of the community and special groups, including senior citizens and youth, to ensure that services adequately meet the needs of the citizens of Bloomfield.

SC2-2 Offer continued support of the Senior Home Delivery Meals program.

SC2-3 Provide advocacy services for seniors to help ensure they are being properly cared for and their needs are being met.

SC2-4 Develop and coordinate programs to provide additional services to seniors including identifying someone to do light house cleaning, run errands and take care of other minor needs for clients.

SC2-5 Establish inter-generational activities between youth and seniors in order to facilitate better, stronger relationship between the youngest and oldest members of the community

SC2-6 Create/oversee a volunteer programs which would pair high school students and senior citizens.

SC2-7 Partner with the Bloomfield Fitness Center to enhance fitness activities offered to seniors.

Parks and Recreation Department (PR)

PR1 **GOAL:** Design and provide ample, diverse, safe, affordable and accessible parks, open spaces and recreation facilities to meet the current and future needs of Bloomfield's various age and interest groups and to promote a sense of community, pride, family and multi-generational interaction.

POLICIES: The City shall:

PR1-1 Continue to design parks, greenbelts and recreation facilities to eliminate hidden and difficult-access areas where security problems would be likely to occur.

PR1-2 Purchase additional green space. Continue to acquire property north, south, east and west for future parks as the City expands.

PR1-3 Design and locate new parks to minimize noise and activity conflicts with residential areas.

PR1-4 Locate each new neighborhood park, as feasible, near the center of the neighborhood that it will serve.

PR1-5 Include multi-functional spaces and facilities to facilitate cultural events in parks.

PR1-5a Include art features designed by local artists in parks where possible.

PR1-6 Construct a skate park in order to increase recreational opportunities for community youth.

PR1-7 Develop a public campground to provide a rustic alternative to hotels and motels for short-term overnight accommodations.

PR1-8 Ensure that children's play areas and other appropriate park areas have adequate shade and wind protection provided through landscaping and constructed elements.

PR1-9 Include appropriate lighting to maximize safety and use in parks and recreation facilities.

PR1-10 Maintain park and recreation infrastructure, so that it is pleasing, useable and safe for the public.

PR1-9a Replace temporary bathrooms in parks with permanent structures.

PR1-11 Construct and improve picnic and public facilities in the parks.

PR1-12 Make improvements to outdoor basketball, tennis, and volleyball facilities

PR2 **GOAL:** Develop and continue strategic partnerships with organizations outside of the City in order leverage resources and enhance park planning.

POLICIES: The City shall:

PR2-1 Emphasize joint planning and cooperation with all public agencies as the preferred approach to meeting the parks, open space and program needs of Bloomfield residents.

PR2-2 Cooperate with the Bloomfield School District and other recreational organizations to establish parks and recreation programs that provide services to all age groups.

PR2-3 Cooperate with local groups in the planning and construction of recreation facilities.

PR2-3a Encourage local groups to identify recreation facility needs.

PR2-4 Seek resources, including private funding, to establish large complexes for multi-sport use and smaller, geographically dispersed single or multi-sport sites.

PR2-4a Seek funding for specific programs and facilities from all appropriate outside sources.

PR3 **GOAL:** Increase citizen involvement in park planning, construction maintenance and care.

POLICIES: The City Shall

PR3-1 Conduct a survey to solicit community input on existing and planned recreation programs at least once every two years.

PR3-2 Develop methods to include children in planning for local parks.

PR3-3 Involve citizens, especially youth, in maintaining park areas through participation in park watches, citizen based graffiti watch and cleanup and repair.

PR3-4 Involve individuals and citizen groups reflecting a cross section of Bloomfield citizens (including youth and adults) in the planning, design and maintenance of parks, recreation facilities and recreation programs.

PR3-5 Encourage local organizations, school districts, and the private sector to provide, develop and maintain needed parks, recreation facilities, programs, activities and special events to the greatest extent possible.

PR3-6 Give local organizations, school districts, and the private sector opportunities and support for devising and implementing creative solutions for meeting recreation program and facility needs.

PR4 **GOAL:** Develop and offer programs that enhance outdoor recreation throughout the community for each of the City's demographic groups.

POLICIES: The City shall:

PR4-1 Develop and maintain joint use recreation facilities with school districts.

PR4-2 Coordinate open space, recreation and childcare programs and facilities with other City or school district programs.

PR4-3 Encourage and support the development and maintenance of recreation and park facilities by the private sector.

PR4-4 Offer and provide, as reasonable, facilities to assist private, non-profit organizations that provide appropriate and needed recreation programs and services to Bloomfield residents.

PR4-5 Assist Bloomfield Area Recreation Consortium, a non-profit corporation in seeking and receiving funds for the support of Parks and Recreation programs and facilities.

PR4-6 Develop community park facilities for nighttime recreation as needed. Establish standards for nighttime activities and facility uses in parks and recreation areas.

PR4-7 Hold recreation programs at multiple sites, which should be dispersed in geographically balanced locations whenever possible.

PR4-8 Locate recreation programs offered at only one site so the programs are accessible by mass transit and bike as well as private vehicle.

PR4-9 Attempt to provide all City residents with convenient access to parks and recreation programs and facilities.

PR5 **GOAL:** Develop an efficient, functional, and attractive network of open space, parks and trails, closely linked to natural amenities and schools.

POLICIES: The City shall:

PR5-1 Use all available mechanisms for preservation of open space.

PR2-1a Support regional and statewide efforts that encourage open space preservation.

PR5-2 Monitor the use of open space areas periodically and adjust management strategies appropriately.

PR2-2a Preserve current ratios of open space to developed space within the City.

PR5-3 Identify additional funding sources for implementation of identified open space preservation projects.

PR5-4 Acquire and develop open space areas in large blocks as a means to maximize management advantages relative to small noncontiguous parcels or linear corridors.

PR5-5 Proceed with park and open space planning in a balanced fashion, pursuing all the varying and sometimes competing uses of open space as opportunities are identified.

PR5-6 Require the review of all projects constructed as part of the Bloomfield open space system by appropriate City departments to ensure that public safety concerns are met.

PR5-7 Locate parks, recreation facilities and open space areas (where feasible) so as to be easily accessible by various transportation modes including car, bus, and bicycle.

PR5-8 Seek coordination of open space goals in the Bloomfield Comprehensive Plan with neighboring cities including Aztec and Farmington.

PR5-9 Support activities of non-profit land trusts and conservation organizations in acquiring development rights to open-space lands by gift or purchase of easements or fee simple.

PR5-10 Provide informal areas for people of all ages to interact with natural landscapes, and preserve open space between urban and agricultural uses to provide a visual edge to the City.

PR5-11 Improve and interconnect the City's trail system. Develop the citywide connecting trail system, to include the trails north of town on BLM property.

PR5-12 Implement and maintain an interconnected bike and trail system, to include all schools and parks, with minimum interaction with vehicular traffic.

PR5-13 Identify and develop linkages, corridors and other connectors to provide an aesthetically pleasing and functional network of parks, open space areas, greenbelts and bike paths throughout the City.

PR6 **GOAL:** Establish a network of greenbelts, incorporating native or neo-native plants, that provides natural areas and open space throughout the City.

POLICIES: The City shall:

PR6-1 Locate and design greenbelts to provide a buffer between disparate land uses.

PR6-2 Ensure that greenbelts serve as a visually unifying landscape element.

PR6-3 Site greenbelts where feasible and appropriate to incorporate existing riparian or other wildlife or botanical habitat areas.

PR6-4 Design and locate greenbelts to accommodate the management of storm water drainage.

PR6-5 Locate some greenbelts in close proximity to the highest density residential development in an area, when possible.

PR6-6 Provide convenient greenbelt access points in all new development.

PR6-7 Require greenbelts to be calculated separately from park acreage dedication or in-lieu fee payment requirements.

PR6-8 Allow flexibility in design of greenbelt/park/open space areas within new development as long as non-auto, internal circulation corridors for school children, bicycles, and pedestrians are provided and the overall dedication requirement for greenbelt and park facilities is met.

PR6-9 The location of school sites, greenbelts, bike paths and open spaces shall be considered in prioritizing construction of new parks.

PR6-10 Develop a system of greenbelts and access ways in new non-residential development areas.

PR7 **GOAL:** Participate in parks and trails planning that is conscious of the natural environment and wildlife habitat.

POLICIES: The City shall:

PR7-1 Respect natural areas in planning and maintaining the City's park system.

PR7-1a When planning new park development consider conflicting land usage. These competing uses include resource conservation (farm land and groundwater recharge), wildlife and habitat needs, buffering of the agricultural and urban interface, alternative transportation corridors and active and passive recreation uses.

PR7-2 Protect and retain wildlife habitat, agricultural land and open space when planning and maintaining City parklands.

PR7-3 Study potential development of new parks focusing on underutilized land or existing City-owned land with attention given to the potential impacts on wildlife and other resources.

PR7-4 Develop some form of public access within all natural areas under the City's maintenance responsibility except for natural habitat areas and conservation easement lands.

PR7-5 Incorporate existing habitat areas into the open space network, while maintaining the emphasis on wildlife and habitat preservation in these areas.

PR7-6 Within urban open space areas, provide habitat elements (e.g. roosting trees, nesting trees, etc.) for birds, such as songbirds, hawks, owls, and for other wildlife as appropriate.

PR7-7 Support tax and economic incentives that enhance the economic competitiveness of agriculture and foster wildlife habitat restoration.

PR7-8 Coordinate activities with outside agencies (BLM and State Land Office) to preserve natural areas and provide public access.

PR8 **GOAL:** Continue to rehabilitate, improve and enhance existing parks and sport fields to meet local demands.

POLICIES: The City shall:

PR8-K **Keffalos Park**

PR8-K1 Replace ball field lights in order to provide more lighting for nighttime events as well as enhance security and safety.

PR8-K2 Plan and establish additional landscaping to improve the overall appearance of the park.

PR8-K3 Repair or replace fencing at the park.

PR8-K4 Identify funding for and construct a new concession stand.

PR8-S **Salmon Park**

PR8-S1 Renovate the existing watering system to include areas of the park not currently irrigated.

PR8-S2 Finish developing park through the construction of picnic sites, a courtyard area and landscaping

PR8-W **Wilderness Park**

PR8-W1 Increase police and park personnel patrols to reduce illegal dumping, vandalism and off-road vehicle use.

PR8-W2 Continue to develop trails and picnic areas in order to better utilize open space area.

PR8-V Vereda Del Rio San Juan

PR8-V1 Acquire the land and rights of way to connect the City's trail system.

PR8-V2 Obtain funds to construct paved trails, lighting, restrooms and signage.

PR8-M Memorial Park

PR8-M1 Plan, design and develop park including amenities to enhance park experience for the community. These amenities would include nature trails, playground, restrooms, picnic areas, parking and a memorial area. Rehabilitation of the two-acre pond also needs to be completed prior to opening the park to the public.

PR8-C Chamblee Sports Complex

PR8-C1 Construct a concession stand, equipment storage and restrooms after funding is secured.

PR9 GOAL: Increase staffing levels and offer various training opportunities for Department staff to compliment services.

POLICIES: The City shall:

PR9-1 Develop programs that educate, train and professionalize all staff.

Water Department (WD)

WD1 **GOAL:** Operate the Department in an efficient way so as to continue providing quality drinking water for City of Bloomfield residents as well as water for additional uses while complying with state and federal regulations. *(For additional information please see Infrastructure, I2-I4, below.)*

POLICIES: The City shall:

WD1-1 Adopt a vehicle replacement schedule to ensure service and maintenance reliability.

Public Works (PW)

PW1 **GOAL:** Enhance overall operations of this department in order to provide the best possible service to meet the needs of Bloomfield citizens.

POLICIES: The City shall:

PW1-1 Hire and train three (3) additional employees to make up a third maintenance crew to serve the City's growing needs.

PW1-2 Construct a 5,000-square-foot warehouse for proper storage of chemicals, water and sewer supplies and the City's general office supplies.

PW1-3 Construct a 1,400-square-foot pole barn for storage of a dump truck and snow removal equipment.

PW1-4 Construct a 3,000-square-foot addition to the Public Works Department facility.

PW1-5 Establish a vehicle replacement schedule.

Land Use (LU)

Please see Land Use Map in Appendix for reference

ISSUE: Bloomfield is experiencing tremendous growth both in its population and local economy. Growth, coupled with greater demands on the available land, challenge the City to direct the growth and maintain an efficient use of its land resources.

Land Use Patterns

LU1 **GOAL:** Implement and comply with an efficient land use pattern that provides for a pleasant and functional small town environment while encouraging business growth.

POLICIES: The City shall:

LU1-1 Annex additional portions of land outside of the City's limits to the east, west and south in order to accommodate future growth and development. Well-planned annexation will allow City officials to provide infrastructure and other services in a defined manner.

LU1-2 Cooperate with the private sector to encourage development of under-utilized and vacant parcels and structures within the developed area.

LU1-3 Encourage new single-family residential housing to develop in areas adjacent to existing development with good access to local services, rather than in scattered locations that will displace agricultural uses and require more costly public services.

LU1-4 Support a moderate rate of population growth for which the community is able to provide adequate public facilities and services.

LU1-5 Remove from agricultural and residential zone districts those intensive uses that will adversely impact the quality of life in neighborhoods in terms of extensive vehicular traffic and noise, such as airports or hospitals.

LU1-6 Support the divesting of BLM land within the City's three (3) mile platting and planning zoning land use.

Commercial Concentration

LU2 GOAL: Centralize concentration of commercial usage along primary traffic corridors.

POLICIES: The City shall:

LU2-1 Concentrate commercial usage along the major highway corridors, including Highways 550 and 64.

LU2-2 Prohibit additional commercial zoning elsewhere in the community, except where identified for additional "nodal" development.

Commercial Core Streetscape

LU3 GOAL: Improve streetscape in the commercial core area.

POLICIES: The City shall:

LU3-1 Create a clear separation between the highway-driving surface, parking areas, and pedestrian circulation areas.

LU3-2 Barrier curbs with limited curb cuts and a landscape strip between the highway and sidewalk are also desirable to define the different uses and improve safety.

LU3-3 Create and clearly mark pedestrian crossings to improve the safety of crossing highways. Traffic signaling and more restricted speed limits may also be needed for pedestrian safety.

LU3-4 Improve parking schemes, including consolidation of parking areas where possible to save space for vegetation or building expansions, screening of parking with low fences or vegetation, and more attractive surfaces. Parking takes up more space than necessary where stalls and aisles are not defined.

LU3-5 Plant trees along streets, especially in the commercial core area, to provide shade, decrease heat reflection from paved surfaces, provide a buffer for pedestrians, and screen parking. Native and adapted plants should be incorporated into the landscape scheme.

LU3-6 Construct medians to achieve some visual break and a traffic calming effect.

LU3-7 Designate pedestrian access from the commercial core to the San Juan River and Salmon Park.

Community Aesthetics

LU4 **GOAL:** Improve appearance and cleanliness of the landscape within the community environment.

POLICIES: The City shall:

LU4-1 Rehabilitate and redevelop the commercial core area. Construct a multi-use facility to serve as an anchor for downtown development.

Infrastructure (I)

BACKGROUND: The City of Bloomfield's goals for improving the existing infrastructure are outlined in accordance with categories established in the "Local Capital Programs and Obligations" as presented in the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) Guidelines, published by the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration, Local Government Division.

ISSUE: Current trends suggest that the City will experience significant economic development in the coming decade. Current infrastructure is inadequate to accommodate such growth.

Roads, Streets, and Bridges

I1 **GOAL:** Plan, establish and maintain adequate, efficient, high-quality, and well-maintained municipal network of roads, streets and bridges that provide for and encourage expanded use of an array of transportation alternatives.

POLICIES: The City shall:

I1-1 Pave established roads within City limits as prioritized by City personnel and planning documents.

I1-2 Routinely improve and refurbish streets/roads as prioritized by City officials and planning documents.

I1-3 Complete and interconnect roads and streets in a manner that improves the safety and efficiency of traffic flow in Bloomfield.

I1-4 Construct new roads, streets and bridges in locations where such construction will be beneficial to public safety and helpful to traffic flow and convenience.

I1-5 Build new intersections and redesign existing intersections to maximize pedestrian and bike convenience and safety relative to automobile needs.

I1-6 Establish and adopt cost-effective development plans to improve the appearance of each major arterial street in the City.

I1-7 Provide pedestrian and bicycle amenities, including benches and bike racks at strategic locations throughout the community, including the commercial core area, parks, schools, and employment centers.

Storm and Surface Water Control

I2 **GOAL:** Provide adequate storm and surface water control for the safety of the community.

POLICIES: The City shall:

I2-1 Improve and enhance storm drainage system in Bloomfield so that the City can comply with federal, state and local regulations.

I2-2 Install curb, gutter, and storm drains in areas of the City that lack storm and surface water control measures.

I2-3 Take a proactive stand on storm and surface water issues in order to maintain compliance with local, state and federal regulations and standards.

I2-4 Maintain existing storm and surface water control devices to protect against the danger of flooding.

Sanitary Wastewater Collection and Treatment

I3 **GOAL:** Construct and maintain a sanitary wastewater collection and treatment network that meets the demands of current and future use.

POLICIES: The City shall:

I3-1 Initiate and complete Phase 2 of improvements to the existing wastewater treatment plant, including renovation of on-site laboratory, to meet local, state and federal requirements and standards for health and safety.

I3-2 Plan, design, finance and implement wastewater system expansions and improvements in light of maintenance needs and development priorities and opportunities. Incorporate the newest feasible technology for maximum cost-effectiveness and efficiency.

I3-3 Identify and acquire minimum of 10 acres of land for composting of sludge to meet federal, state and local standards.

I3-4 Conduct periodic assessments of the sewer system to identify areas that are weak, of inadequate capacity, stressed, unsafe, or unhealthy, and to establish infrastructure improvement priorities.

I3-5 Install new sewer lines in accordance with identified system needs to allow for future development and to serve areas of the community that lack sewer service.

I3-6 Upgrade and maintain existing sewer mainlines and other auxiliary lines to provide continuing high levels of service to those areas in the City that are already linked to the City's sewer system.

I3-7 Installation of water and wastewater taps as needed.

I3-8 Purchase of a "Super Sucker Vacuum" to properly maintain the City's sewer lines.

Water Supply, Treatment, and Distribution

I4 **GOAL:** Construct and maintain a safe and sufficient capacity water supply, treatment, and distribution system that meets current needs and projected demands of future development.

POLICIES: The City shall:

I4-1 Identify future water needs for the City and implement a plan to proactively address issues, such as construction of a new, larger or an additional treatment plant within the next 20 years.

I4-2 Complete construction and upgrades to current water treatment plant. Increase treatment capacity to 4.5 mgd to accommodate current and future demands.

I4-3 Expand water lines in areas where increasing demand warrants higher flow.

I4-4 Locate storage tanks in optimal locations for pressure, accessibility, and uniform service citywide.

I4-5 Expand the reservoir to 800 acre-feet or about sixty days of storage capacity.

I4-6 Establish and construct a second diversion point along with a new high service pump building and pump station situated on the San Juan River in order to continue to provide water to the community.

I4-7 Establish additional fire hydrants through out the City and repair or replace current hydrants so that they meet NFPA standards.

I4-8 Installation of water and wastewater taps as needed.

I4-9 Replace old asbestos water lines with PVC.

Transportation (T)

T1 **GOAL:** Develop a useful and reliable transit system.

POLICIES: The City shall:

T1-1 Strive to meet the transportation needs of the community by continuing strategic partnering in order to provide safe and reliable public transit service.

T1-2 Support local transportation planning efforts including those overseen by the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT), Farmington Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Regional Planning Organization (RPO) and the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Board.

T1-3 In partnership with NMDOT and the MPO, conduct traffic studies to determine appropriate and necessary projects for future construction of roads, streets, intersections, traffic signals and bridges throughout the community.

T1-4 Develop "corridor plans" for selected streets, which warrant special treatment because of existing impact problems, or problems related to future projected conditions.

- Corridor plans shall take into consideration adjacent land uses and result in streets that are both functional and aesthetic.
- The plans shall utilize innovative means of slowing traffic, where appropriate, and providing safe access for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- The corridor plans may deviate from the standards established in the Comprehensive Plan, if deviations improve the livability of the area.

T1-5 Work closely with the NM DOT on the U.S. 64 (Broadway) rehabilitation and expansion project in order to ensure that the results of this project are in the best interest of Bloomfield Citizens and others.

T1-6 Utilize and develop further in-depth quantitative and qualitative information on the travel behavior of Bloomfield residents to provide a

reliable empirical foundation to plan solutions to transportation-related problems, and to monitor the effectiveness of transportation programs and policies and their effects on residents' mobility.

T1-7 Establish and maintain a network of vehicle circulation routes consisting of major arterials, minor arterials, collectors, local streets and cul-de-sacs.

T1-8 Develop a continuous, safe, and convenient trail and bikeway network within the City limits to allow pedestrians and bicyclist to utilize alternative transportation and access recreation.

- When planning, consider the needs of the commercial core, neighborhoods, employment centers, schools and other institutions.

- Additionally, these trails should minimize conflicts between pedestrians, bicyclists, equestrians, and automobiles as well as minimize impact on wildlife.

Solid Waste (SW)

SW1 **GOAL:** Maintain a reliable, safe, and environmentally conscious solid waste disposal system of sufficient capacity to meet the City's needs.

POLICIES: The City shall:

SW1-1 Maintain frequent and regular collection of trash and rubbish so as to offer dependable service to the community for the purpose of cleanliness and order.

SW1-2 Cooperate with the regional solid waste authority and other like entities to assure the most efficient collection and disposal of solid waste.

SW1-3 Promote reduced consumption of non-renewable resources.

Cultural Facilities (CF)

CF1 **GOAL:** Develop and maintain Cultural facilities of high quality and utility that accurately meet the needs of the residents of Bloomfield.

POLICIES: The City shall:

CF1-1 Encourage and promote regional, citywide and neighborhood arts and cultural events, activities and educational endeavors.

CF1-2 Identify and obtain additional funds to be used to promote art and culture in Bloomfield. This could include funds normally used for economic development if appropriate.

CF1-3 Support diverse art and culture activities that promote cultural pluralism.

CF1-4 Provide fee waivers or other appropriate financial support to exemplary arts and cultural activities held for the community's benefit.

CF1-5 Develop and implement a marketing plan that promotes the arts and art-related businesses and promotes opportunities for local artists to market their creative efforts in the Bloomfield community.

CF1-6 Integrate publicly accessible art and creative thinking of artists into the planning, design and physical development of the City.

CF1-7 Maintain, update and disseminate information on public and/or private grant opportunities for cultural and arts programs.

CF1-8 Expand the City of Bloomfield's collection of art in public places, revising parameters as needed to incorporate new concepts of public art.

CF1-9 Expand the use of artists in the City's facilities and infrastructure planning process to develop art plans for City capital improvement projects, including, but not limited to, new City buildings, parks, and plazas.

CF1-10 Develop and distribute a directory of Bloomfield artists to help organizations program art educational opportunities.

CF1-11 Provide funds for exemplary arts education programs in school and community settings, to be matched by schools and/or the private sector.

Economic Development (ED)

ISSUE: The community needs large industries and large-scale businesses for well-balanced and sustainable economic growth.

Anchor Industries

ED1 **GOAL:** Attract major anchor industries to the community.

POLICIES: The City shall:

ED1-1 Prevent residential encroachment into areas used or needed for future industrial development purposes.

ED1-2 Continue the development of an industrial/business park for the location of existing and new industrial enterprises.

ED1-3 Coordinate with countywide and regional economic development organizations to identify, promote and encourage new businesses to locate in Bloomfield targeting those in the emerging technology and knowledge-based industries.

ED1-4 Develop a shared responsibility relationship with civic and community groups, such as the local chamber of commerce, to promote economic development.

Tourism, Retail and Service

ED2 **GOAL:** Develop tourism, retail and service businesses needed to provide a balanced, stable and competitive consumer economy.

POLICIES: The City shall:

ED2-1 Encourage the development of tourism, retail and service businesses within the commercial core area and surrounding areas.

ED2-2 Enhance the core area image as an attractive place for shoppers to spend time and businesses to locate in Bloomfield.

ED2-3 Discourage strip development.

ED2-4 Retain existing businesses and encourage new start-ups as means to increase higher paying jobs, create greater employment diversification while maintaining the City's fiscal and environmental integrity.

ED2-5 Promote Bloomfield as a destination for visitors with interests in eco-tourism, culture and arts, and downtown shopping. Promote Bloomfield's cultural heritage as a means of increasing tourism.

ED2-6 Support workforce-training opportunities in fields needed by the Bloomfield business community in partnership with the New Mexico Department of Labor, San Juan Economic Development Service (SJEDS) and San Juan College.

ED2-7 Utilize state and federal programs for technical and financial assistance to promote economic development.

ED2-8 In partnership with the Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce maintain and enhance the commercial core area as a vibrant, healthy downtown that serves as the City's social and cultural center and primary, but not exclusive, retail and business district.

ED2-9 Increase attractions and amenities that bring people to the commercial core, including local shopping, services, modest tourism, specialty retail, restaurants, festivals/special events, farmers' market and entertainment.

ED2-10 Use media, publications and technology to encourage retailers and entrepreneurs to locate and build in downtown in partnership with SJEDS.

ED2-11 Promote special events in the downtown sponsored by the City, Chamber of Commerce, and other community groups.

ED2-12 Accommodate and encourage special festivals and events (music, art, etc.), in the commercial core.

Existing Businesses

ED3 **GOAL:** Preserve of existing businesses and encouragement of new investment as means to increase higher paying jobs, create greater job diversification, and create a more balanced economy for all economic segments of the community, while also maintaining the City's fiscal and environmental integrity.

POLICIES: The City shall:

ED3-1 Identify impediments that make it difficult to conduct business in Bloomfield.

ED3-2 Develop a marketing program in cooperation with the local Chamber of Commerce that promotes existing City businesses.

Regional Projects

ED4 **GOAL:** Continue status as a supportive player in regional planning.

POLICIES: The City shall:

ED4-1 Support community and County economic development initiatives and organizations, such as San Juan Economic Development Service and San Juan College's Business and Industry Training, Quality Center for Business and the Enterprise Center business incubator.

ED4-2 Increase coordination of existing services to ensure broader access for all Bloomfield residents.

ED4-3 Foster collaboration and partnership among City departments and between the City and other agencies and jurisdictions in service delivery.

Housing (H)

ISSUE: There is not an even mix of low, middle, and high-income housing. The City's housing stock should be aesthetically pleasing, compatible with a rural atmosphere, and affordable.

Affordable Housing

H2 **GOAL:** Encourage housing that is affordable to households with low to moderate income, consistent with the City's housing needs and demographics.

POLICIES: The City shall:

H2-1 Encourage preservation and provision of permanently affordable housing units.

H2-1a Support local and regional affordable housing initiatives such as the Affordable Housing Alliance and ECHO's HOPE (Home Ownership Problems Eliminated) program.

H2-2 Encourage use of Federal Tax Credits and other federal and state subsidy programs for production of low-income housing.

H2-3 Create incentives for the development of affordable housing through measures such as flexible development standards.

H2-4 Encourage the identification of affordable housing sites in newly annexed areas.

H2-5 Encourage a balanced of low, middle, and high-income housing.

H2-6 Work to maintain continued affordability of housing with federal, state or local subsidy programs.

H2-7 Support a referral services that assist low-income households in identifying affordable housing in Bloomfield and surrounding areas.

H2-8 Compile and maintain a list of vacant sites in Bloomfield, which are suitable for affordable housing development.

H2-9 Encourage funding for shared housing for residents with low-paying jobs, fixed incomes and pensions.

H2-10 Periodically conduct demographic studies to predict the need for housing and care of senior citizens and other special needs populations.

H2-11 Encourage the formation of a non-profit corporation to develop facilities consisting of independent living, assisted living, and skilled care accommodations for seniors seeking a variety of services and housing options, affordable to a range of incomes.

H2-12 Encourage for-sale affordable units; the dedication of land suitable for the purpose of developing affordable units; and the provision of lots to allow for the construction of self-help housing.

H2-13 Promote adequate housing opportunities for people of all ages, income, lifestyles and types of households. Including the:

- Physically and mentally disabled
- Elderly

The Environment (E)

ISSUE: Development pressures and aridity are constant challenges for the City of Bloomfield.

Protection

E1 **GOAL:** Protect the high quality natural resources of the community.

POLICIES: The City shall:

E1-1 Discourage urban encroachment onto flood plain areas.

E1-2 Permit urban development of agricultural lands only if it is compatible with surrounding land uses and structures.

E1-3 Stipulate that development occurring near or within wetlands meet appropriate federal, state and local standards and regulation to minimize the impact on wetlands.

E1-4 Protect and enhance undisturbed natural areas along arroyos and within upland areas.

E1-5 Protect the natural "rims" and "ridges" which surround the City, from development.

Aesthetics

E2 **GOAL:** Maintain a beautiful and peaceful community environment that reflects Bloomfield's rural atmosphere.

POLICIES: The City shall:

E2-1 Encourage the qualities of calm and quiet while striving to maintain the rustic feeling of residential neighborhoods.

E2-2 Improve the appearance and environmental cleanliness of the community, including the clean up of litter and upkeep of residences and public properties.

E2-3 Partner with NWNM COG, in relation to environmental initiatives, to clean up and redevelop brownfields – Unused, contaminated industrial sites.

E2-4 Encourage the conservation of energy resources and the reduction of air pollution by providing pedestrian and bicycle alternatives to motorized vehicle use.

Regional Initiatives

E3 **GOAL:** Support and encourage regional environmental initiatives that work to mitigate environmental hazards and improve the overall quality of life.

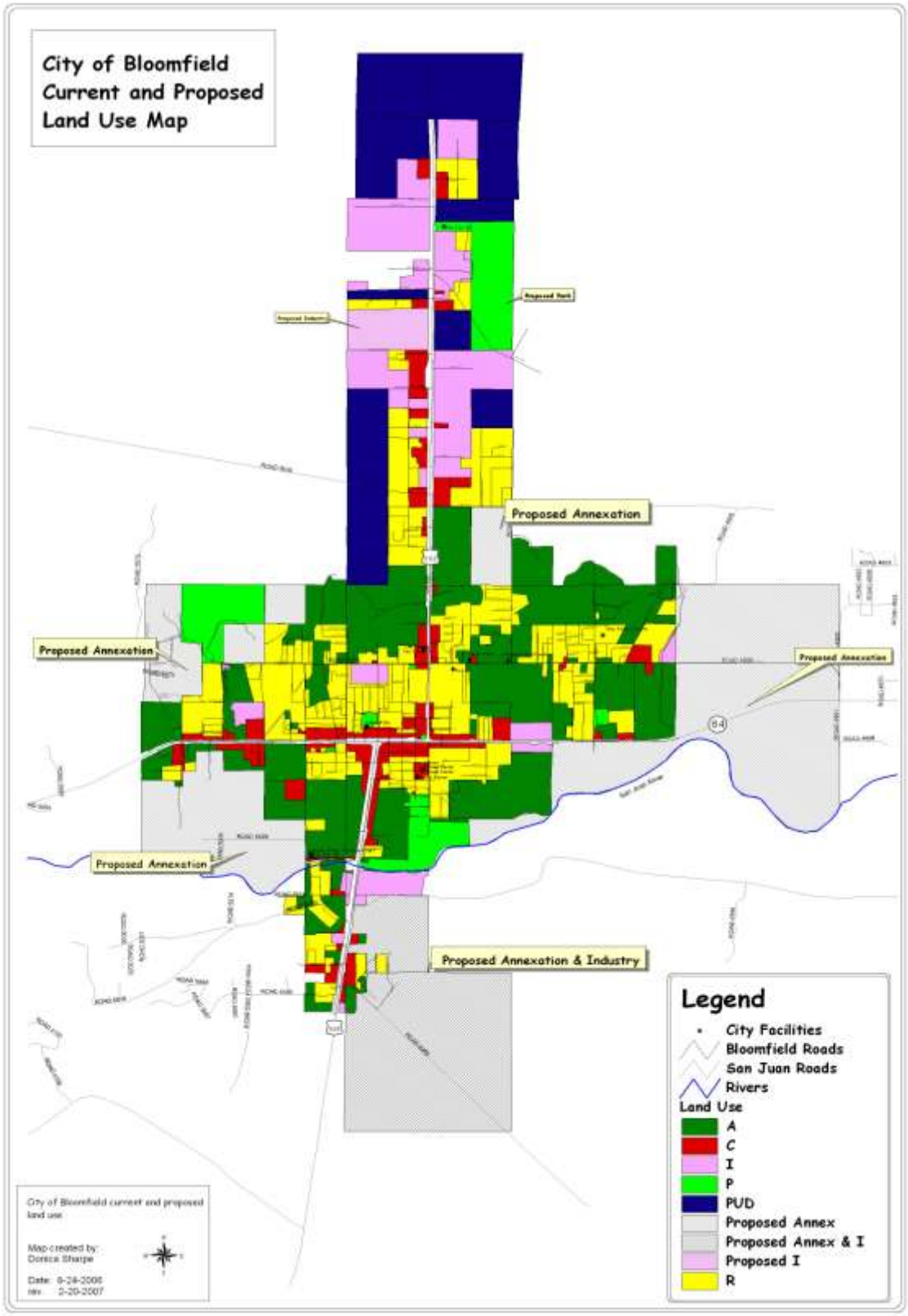
POLICIES: The City shall:

E3-1 Support and participate in NWNM COG's CARE (Community Action for a Renewed Environment) Program as a means of addressing toxins in the air, water and soil through community forums and governmental dialogue.

E3-2 Encourage and work with, as feasible, the Four Corners Air Quality Taskforce and other regional initiatives to develop mitigation strategies and action plan that address environmental pollutants.

APPENDIX

LAND USE MAP


City of Bloomfield
Current and Proposed
Land Use Map
Proposed Annexation
Proposed Annexation
Proposed Annexation
Proposed Annexation
Proposed Annexation & Industry
Legend
City Facilities
Bloomfield Roads
San Juan Roads
Rivers
Land Use
A
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PUD
Proposed Annex
Proposed Annex & I
Proposed I
R
City of Bloomfield current and proposed land use
Map created by:
Donica Sharpe
Date: 9-24-2006
rev 2-20-2007

INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Please Refer to Reference Copy for Current Year

City of Bloomfield 40-year Water Plan

Please Refer to Reference Copy

San Juan Basin Regional Water Plan

Please go to http://sjwc.org/sjbrwp/SJBRWP.htm for complete plan.

Bureau of Land Management—Land Use Planning

Bureau of Land Management – Land Use Planning

(For Additional Information, Please Refer to the Reference Copy)

In concert with the Bureau of Land Management, Farmington Field Office, the City of Bloomfield wishes to identify BLM lands for public purposes and to contribute to the decision as to how best to use remaining BLM lands near municipalities. The City of Bloomfield recognizes the difficult decision before the Bureau of Land Management on how best to divest public lands to private use and more specific and limited public uses. We applaud and support the BLM in their efforts to release these lands in and around municipalities for the well being of a great number of people and communities.

In this regard the City of Bloomfield offers the following suggestions on future land use of BLM lands primarily within our three (3) mile plotting and planning jurisdiction. We have coordinated with the Bloomfield School District to utilize, whenever possible, public land for multiple uses. We have met and discussed land use issues and growth with our local elected officials. And have had significant in put from respective department directors for the City of Bloomfield.

Through this four (4) month study the City of Bloomfield has reviewed our Comprehensive Plan and made revisions to complement our suggestions for future BLM land use. We have tried to identify land use in respect to our planning and zoning ordinances. Included in our suggestions are open spaces that we believe will enhance the quality of life for our community. We believe the following land use suggestions will be of benefit not only to the City of Bloomfield but also for the greater San Juan County. It is our desire that the Bureau of Land management adopt the land use identified on the attached map and accompanying appendix.

As explanation and introduction to the attached map the City of Bloomfield has identified 22 areas for which we have specific suggestions for future land use. In regards to general land use, areas northwest and southwest of the current Bloomfield City limits would best be suited for residential zoning area. Areas northeast and southeast the City would like to see opened for industrial and commercial use within our three (3) mile extra-territorial zoning area of the City. The following is a list of recommended land uses for the BLM sites the City has selected. These items correspond to the sites noted on the attached map:

- Residential development and commercial development
- Industrial park development, light to heavy industries and manufacturing
- Park & nature preserve, trail system
- Future school site for Bloomfield School District
- Trail system, protection of mesa and scenic view

Facilities Report

Executive Summary
Department Head Input
Goals and Objectives

Planning and Zoning Director Ray Barnes and Sherri Grona of Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments met with City of Bloomfield department heads/administrators for the purpose of gathering input for the Bloomfield Comprehensive Plan. The following is a recap of these meetings and the information collected regarding goals and objectives.

I. Police Department. Police Chief Drew Standley said the over goal of the Department is to "Have the best Police Department possible." During a recent meeting, we discussed the following items and identified needs, priorities and goals for the Bloomfield Police Department.

A. New Police Department/Municipal Court Facility. The Chief said the first priority is to obtain funding to plan, design, construct and equip a new facility in which to house the Police Department and municipal court. Additional priorities are listed below.

B. **Recruitment and Retention.** During the next 20 years, the population of Bloomfield is expected to increase 20 percent. Today, with current staffing levels the department struggles to meet the needs of the community. Without proactive measures to increase and retain the number of sworn officers and support staff, the department will not be able to service the City appropriately, according to Chief Standley.

a. Currently, the department has twenty-one (21) sworn officers, two community service officers and three support staff. The breakdown for sworn officers is one (1) chief, one (1) lieutenant, two (2) investigators, four (4) patrol sergeants and eleven (11) patrol officers. The desire is to double the department in the next 20 years. This could be accomplished by developing a comprehensive plan goal to increase the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) slots available and begin recruiting to fill those slots.

b. Additionally, retention efforts and incentives need to be reviewed and enhanced. Other things for consideration, including wage increases and possible signing bonuses. The chief said on average the City invests between $35,000 and $40,000 to recruit and train each new officer. Based on the current level of turnover, the City is seeing a considerable amount of seepage to other municipalities and departments. Further discussions must be held on this topic in order to find the most effective solution.

c. A secondary issue relating to recruitment and retention is the need to increase localized training for officers. This would allow the officers to obtain the necessary annual training without leaving the County. One of the benefits of such an effort would be a decrease in travel and per diem expenses.

C. **Improved/Up-to-date Technology**. Having current technology continues to be an issue for the Police Department. As technology improves in the field of law enforcement, the department struggles to keep up, according to Chief Standley. On average, computers both within the facility and the police vehicles (Mobile Data Terminals) have a lifetime for hardware and software of between three (3) and five (5) years before replacement is required. The Chief indicated some funding might be available through the San Juan County Communication Authority. I would suggest that we conduct more research into outside funding sources, including the communication authority and other grants, for the replacement and updating of computers, software and other necessary technology. A goal for the comprehensive plan could be to ensure local law enforcement representatives have the most current and advance technology possible.

D. **Police Vehicles**. There is an objective within the comprehensive plan that calls for the replacement of Bloomfield Police Department vehicles every 100,000 miles or five (5) years. The issue at hand in this area is the continual need for funding. Although, the City includes the replacement of vehicles in the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan, legislative appropriations are not enough to fully meet the needs. As part of the comprehensive plan, I would suggest a goal to obtain additional funding from other resources.

E. **Other Initiatives for Consideration**. Throughout San Juan County, law enforcements agencies are considering several possibilities for consolidating efforts to combat crime. These include developing a regional, combined law enforcement center for the purposes of criminal (including drugs and gangs) investigation and evidence managements. This subject will need to be discussed and considered at a later date. Now, the idea has not been fully developed to require any action on the part of the City.

II. Fire Department. On July 24, 2006, Mr. Barnes and I met with Fire Chief George Duncan. Chief Duncan said the Fire Department has many needs and goals that must be addressed to ensure the City of Bloomfield and its residents receive a "high quality" of fire protection in the years to come.

The Bloomfield Fire Department currently has a Class 4 ISO rating. The ISO is an independent organization that evaluates fire departments and the level of services provided based on a Fire Class System from 1 to 10 with 1 being the best obtainable Class. The ISO Class is the yardstick by which all fire departments measure their organization. Currently there are no Class 1 departments in the State of New Mexico and only 17 with an ISO rating of 4, placing the Bloomfield Fire Department in the top 5 percent statewide. Additionally, the Department ranks in the top 13 percent of fire organizations nationwide, Duncan said.

The department responds to a variety of emergency incidents, including fire, emergency medical service calls, hazardous materials incidents, swift water rescues, high-angle rescues, confined space rescues and trench rescues. The department also is responsible for fire code enforcement, new construction plan review, training of personnel and inspection and testing of equipment and apparatus. In addition to emergency responses within City limits. The department also routinely responds to mutual aid and automatic aid calls in areas of the county.

A. Staffing.

a. **Paid Staff.** Currently, the Bloomfield Fire Department employs five paid personnel including the Chief and an office manager. Volunteers, 32 men and women, make up the majority of the Department's staff. Although the Department boasts one of the largest volunteer forces in San Juan County, more people are always needed. This is especially the case during the summer months and holiday season when Volunteer firefighters are vacationing, traveling with family or otherwise committed, the Chief said. He suggested the addition of four full-time positions per shift to provide appropriate staffing levels for engine companies. My recommendation would be to further research the need for additional personnel and include a strategy within the Comprehensive Plan to full fill this necessity.

b. **Volunteers.** The department utilizes recruitment calendars/posters, newsletters and the electronic bulletin board in front of the Municipal Complex to aid in the recruitment of volunteers. Chief Duncan said the department continues to asses their recruitment program and amend it if need be to adequately staff the Bloomfield Fire Department. There currently are 32 men and women volunteers who serve the City's Fire Department. The Chief stated that the ISO credits each Volunteer Firefighter 1/3 of the point credited for a Career Firefighter. In other words, 4 Career firefighters are needed to staff an engine or ladder company and 12 Volunteer Firefighters are needed for that same staffing.

c. **Training of Staff.** Chief Duncan stated training of personnel is a challenge, primarily because volunteer schedules must be accommodated. Chief Duncan stated training in any particular subject or discipline must be offered at least three (3) times due to the schedules of the Volunteers. In order to accommodate the training needs for both paid and volunteer members of the Department, the Chief suggested the City hire a full-time training director to oversee all levels of development.

B. Additional Facilities. The main fire station, located in the Municipal Complex at 915 N. First Street, is in need of expansion, improvements and rehabilitation. The City is currently seeking funding through the Infrastructure Capital Outlay Plan (ICIP) process in order to construct and equip the primary station. Chief Duncan said it was imperative that this project be detailed in the Comprehensive Plan. Chief Duncan went on to state that in order to comply with National Fire Protection Association standards, the Department must be able to respond with an engine company to any location within the City in four minutes or less. In order to comply with this requirement in a City with constantly expanding boundaries, substations will need to be established at various locations throughout Bloomfield. To comply with ISO standards travel distance from any fire station housing an engine company to any location/structure should not exceed 1-½ miles and for stations housing ladder companies the travel distance should not exceed 3 miles. The potential sites include: one on HWY 550, north of City Hall near the Sundial convenience store; one on U.S. 64 on the west side of Bloomfield near the City limits; and one located within the proposed industrial park on HWY 550 South. Chief Duncan said two more substations would be sufficient, but three accompanied by adequate personnel and equipment would be ideal.

C. **Infrastructure.** A key element in providing fire protection is adequate infrastructure. In light of the expansion of industrial companies in Bloomfield, this element takes on great importance, especially for the ISO rating. Chief Duncan stated that a study conducted by the fire department indicated up to 75 percent of the City's water system is deficient in providing proper fire protection. Chief Duncan recommended an outside agency should be hired to study the system and to determine the best placement of new lines, fire hydrants and water storage tanks. Additionally, older lines may need to be replaced in order to provide sufficient water flow to fight fires.

D. **Equipment.** Fire protection takes a toll on apparatus and equipment, Chief Duncan said. There is a replacement schedule established by the Fire Department and the Department is attempting to adhere to it as closely as possible based on available funding. The current schedule calls for the replacement of pumpers, tankers and ladder trucks every 20 to 25 years, rescue vehicles each 10 to 15 years and brush trucks every 10 years. Additionally, the replacement plan calls for purchasing new administrative vehicles every 5 years. However, vehicles are not the only equipment necessary for the Department to provide service. Other mandatory equipment includes hoses, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), communication radios and pagers. The City is requesting funding for several new vehicles for the departments as well as other items, including Hazmat equipment, through the ICIP process.

E. **Improved/Up-to-date Technology**. Having current technology also is an issue for the Fire Department. This Department struggles to keep up with technology improvements, according to Chief Duncan. Computers utilized by the Fire Department have an average lifetime of between three (3) and five (5) years before replacement is required. The suggestions for the Fire Department are the same as for the Police Department: 1. Seek outside funding for technology upgrades and purchases. 2. Include maintenance and replacement strategies in the Comprehensive Plan with a holistic approach to ensuring technology remains as current as possible.

III. Trails, Bike Lanes, Walkability. On July 24, 2006, Mr. Barnes and I met with George Duncan to discuss objective and priorities for trails and bike lanes within the City. Mr. Duncan, who also serves as the City's Fire Chief, is spearheading the effort to establish more trails. He said there is a great need for trails and bike lanes throughout the City in order to address alternative transportation and recreational issues. To date, Mr. Duncan and the City have secured a $400,000 appropriation to establish a river trail system near the San Juan River. The goal is to eventually tie these trails into others that will be established around arroyos and irrigation ditches. Mr. Duncan also developed a Trails Master Plan, which the Council adopted through resolution

A. River Trail. Currently, City personnel are working to develop a trail system and park near the San Juan River. Although, $400,000 has been secured for this project additional funding is needed for completion. Mr. Duncan estimated that this project, which is listed on the City's ICIP, will need at least another $710,000 for completion. The plan is to request $270,000 in capital appropriations/other funds in 2010 and then $220,000 in 2011 and 2012. The initial appropriation is earmarked for planning and design elements.

B. Trails General. Mr. Duncan said the goals for trails and bike lanes within Bloomfield is to make the City more pedestrian friendly. His vision is very "Norman Rockwell," he said. This means that trails and bike lanes should be planned and developed in commercial and residential areas to encourage pedestrian traffic. For instance, a trail/bike path should be developed from Broadway Boulevard to the San Juan River, eventually connecting with the proposed river trail system. It is my suggestion that the internal Trails Master Plan as well as external plans such at the Metropolitan Transportation Plan developed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization be incorporated into the City's Comprehensive Plan.

IV. Community Services. Mr. Barnes and I met with Norm Tucker, Community Services Director, on July 28, 2006 to discuss various services provided by the City of Bloomfield, including the Library and Senior Center. During this discussion, we reviewed various goals and priorities for this department. The overall goal is to continue to provide quality civic and cultural services to the residents while working to expand and secure additional resources and amenities. During this meeting, we discussed the following items and identified needs and priorities for the Community Services Department.

A. **Library/Cultural Center.** One of the main objectives of the Community Services Department is to obtain funding to expand the Bloomfield Library structure as well as the services offered to the more than 13,000 people residing in the Bloomfield zip code area. It is anticipated that this number will increase approximately 18 percent to 15,458 by 2025. Currently, people utilize the services of the Library about 6,000 times each month, Mr. Tucker said. These services include borrowing one of the 18,000 volumes/books in the Library's collection as well as using the computer, utilizing resource materials, and hosting meetings/programs among other things. As it stands, there is not enough room to accommodate either the available materials or other community activities. In order to continue to provide adequate services, the Library must grow and expand, Mr. Tucker said.

a. **Library Space.** The Bloomfield Public Library, 333 S. First St., is co-located in the Multicultural Center Complex with the Bloomfield Fitness Center. The Library's collection space totals 2,318 square feet. The ideal condition for the current population numbers would be at least 3,218 square feet today and, to accommodate future growth, 4,275 square feet by 2025. The adequate expansion of the space would provide ample room for books, periodicals, back files, non-print items and computer terminals. Seating also is an issue for the Library. Mr. Tucker said the area available for tables and chairs as well as staff work space need to be increased significantly. This would not only accommodate current needs, but also address future growth. Other goals include future construction of a mini theater and outdoor amphitheater.

b. **Meeting Space.** Currently, the Library staff and patrons have access to the Multicultural Center's banquet and meeting rooms. However, these rooms do not offer adequate space to accommodate all of the Library's needs. There is an area set aside for Story Time, which can seat up to 30 children and one reader in 300 square feet. The desirable amount of space for this activity is 350 square feet and Mr. Tucker as well as Library staff estimated that the Story Time area would

need to be 1,300 square feet by the year 2025 in order to address the 18-percent increase in population anticipated by 2025. Ideally, there would also be a 600-square-foot meeting room with enough room for 50 seats and a speaker in order to provide additional activities. Another area needed is a 250-square-foot conference room for staff meetings and training.

c. **Staffing.** In order to meet the needs of the public, various staff positions need to be increased or restructured. Specifically, the Library needs additional summer staff to provide services when children are out of school and visiting more frequently. Another issue is wage and salary compensation. Mr. Tucker suggested increasing compensation and benefits to staff in order to recruit and retain qualified employees.

d. **Funding.** Funding also is an issue for the Library, according to Mr. Tucker. Currently, the Library relies on grants in order to maintain/landscape the facility as well as provide services.

B. **Multicultural Center.** Mr. Tucker said multiple improvements should be completed with in the Center in order to bring the meetings spaces and banquet rooms up to date. These include the purchase of round tables, linens and new flooring. He said something akin to the facilities offered by the Farmington Convention and Visitors Bureau and San Juan College's Quality Center for Business would be ideal. The goal is to increase the number of activities and events hosted at the Center in order to provide additional revenue for operations.

C. **Fitness Center.**

a. **Relocation.** Co-located with the Bloomfield Public Library, the fitness center provides numerous physical activities for local residents. These include aerobics classes and weight training. Mr. Tucker recommended that the Fitness Center be relocated and increased in size in order to be more accessible to Bloomfield citizens utilizing the new pool. This would help facilitate physically fitness and offer a variety of additional services and class with ease and convenience. Although City officials have not identified a specific location for the fitness center, Mr. Tucker said moving the Fitness Center would free up much needed space into which the Library could expand.

b. **Workout Space.** Mr. Tucker suggested the Fitness Center be expanded to provide additional space for weight training and cardio vascular exercises. Regarding weight training, it was recommended there be two separate rooms – one for free weights and one for circuit training. Additionally, a computerized system should be installed in order to track Center participants and other critical information.

c. **Staffing/Department Coordination.** Currently, the City of Bloomfield partners with San Juan College to offer a variety of exercise opportunities for local residents. San Juan College faculty teaches several of the classes, such as aerobics. Mr. Tucker recommended the City develop positions and criteria for

instructors that would be direct Bloomfield employees. Mr. Tucker also suggested one director oversee parks, recreation and facilities. There are currently separate directors for facility managements and parks/recreation maintenance and development.

D. **Senior Center.**

a. **Services.** The number of people who utilize the Senior Center has decreased in recently years, primarily because senior citizens are more active today. Mr. Tucker said the Senior Center's focus needs to change in order to cater to the evolving clientele.

b. **Space/Size.** Despite the fact that many seniors are seeking different activities and services, the Senior Center is too small of accommodate many of the activities provided today. Located near the Multicultural Complex, the Senior Center needs more space for meals, classes, computers and recreation.

E. **Pool.** The new Bloomfield Family Aquatic Center is scheduled to open in 2007. While the facility has no current issues regarding space or other accommodations, there are other concerns that should be addressed in the City's Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Tucker said there are four goals for the pool to consider.

a. **Staffing.** Mr. Tucker said he believe the swimming pool will experience the same issues as the other facilities in regard to staffing. There are not enough qualified and motivated people looking for employment to accommodate the facility's needs. Anyone hired must have adequate customer service training in order to care for clients.

b. **Facility.** Additionally, maintaining safety must be a primary concern for the City of Bloomfield as well as appropriate and timely upkeep. Mr. Tucker said it will be expensive to operate the Pool and is working with other City Officials to identify possible alternative funding sources for the Pool.

V. Parks and Recreation. Mr. Barnes and I met with Parks and Recreation Director Darrell Workman to discuss parks and opens space management and needs. During this discussion, we reviewed various issues impacting this department. The mission of the department is to strive to provide parks, open spaces, programs and facilities that meet the recreational needs of the community and enhance the quality of life. During this meeting, we discussed the following items and identified needs and priorities for the Parks and Recreation Department. (For a detailed description, please refer to the Parks and Recreation Department's Master Plan 2006-2011.)

A. **Trail System.** During our discussion, Mr. Workman said his department is currently working to establish an inter-city trail system that would link several parks throughout Bloomfield. Mr. Workman's department is working in partnership with Fire Chief George Duncan to construct a trail system for the proposed river park. (See III. A and B.) This trail would then be linked to others traversing the City and include Salmon and Memorial parks. In order for this system to be constructed, Mr. Workman suggested officials may need to approve the purchase of additional property and rights of way.

B. **Sports Fields.** Mr. Workman and his staff continue to improve and enhance the City's sports fields including the baseball/softball fields located on South First Street. Currently, the purchase of new lights for these field is included on the City's ICIP. Area legislators, at the request of City officials, have also requested funding for these lights through the state's capital outlay request process.

C. **Proposed Parks.** Mr. Workman and his staff are working to develop various parks throughout the City. These include Wilderness Park on West Blanco Blvd., Memorial Park near East Blanco Blvd., and a new park on North 550. As the population continues to grow, by an estimated 18 percent by 2025, the City must consider establishing other parks and industrial parks throughout the City.

D. **Staffing and Other Issues.** Mr. Workman said his staff is currently developing a plan to enhance intersection landscaping. This highlights the need for additional employees in general department activities as well as seasonal/summer recreation areas (see Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2006-2011.) There are currently four full-time employees and three seasonal employees. In addition to managing all of the City's park and open space assets, this Department also must oversee weed control and graffiti cleanup. Mr. Workman said the department needs at least 3 people moved to vector control in order to address these needs as well as spray for mosquitoes.

VI. Water/Wastewater. Mr. Barnes and I met with Water/Wastewater Director John Eckley to discuss the needs of this department. During this discussion, we reviewed various issues impacting water/wastewater service to Bloomfield residents. The mission of the department is to strive to provide quality water and other services to the community. During this meeting, we discussed the following items and identified needs and priorities for the Community Services Department.

A. **Water.** The City currently is overseeing improvements to the Water Treatment Plant. This project began several months ago and will continue for many more to come. However, ensuring that the treatment plant provides the best water possible in compliance with Environmental Protection regulations and American Water Works Association standards continues to be an issue. Mr. Eckley said this could be more easily addressed through the addition of a second treatment plant. Not only will this help to improve the over all water quality, but it also would increase the amount of water available to residents and help the City better accommodate growth. The current water plant, including the improvements, will be at capacity within 15 years, he added.

Additionally, the City needs to obtain additional water rights and establish a second source of water. The ICIP addresses the second source issue by listing this as priority as well as detailing how much funding will be required. This project calls for the construction of an additional retention pond. The City has secured water rights and required permits necessary to complete this project. At issue here is potential problems with the Bloomfield Irrigation District (BID) ditches, which provide the majority of Bloomfield's Water. Recent history highlights this need.

A few years ago a large bolder fell into one of the BID ditches effectively cutting off the City's water supply. Bloomfield officials partnered with the City of Aztec in order to provide for the communities needs. Mr. Eckley also suggested the construction of water

storage tanks on the north and south sides of town. The City's ICIP currently calls for the addition of two (2) one-million-gallon storage tanks. Another item for consideration is the issue of conservation vs. revenue.

B. **Wastewater.** The Bloomfield wastewater treatment plant also needs to be renovated and brought up to date. Phase 1 of this project is completed; however, Phase 2 needs to begin as soon as possible. This plant, as well as many of the associated sewer lines, is near or at capacity. Additionally, many of the lines are too small to accommodate the daily load. Mr. Eckley also recommended identifying a location for a new wastewater treatment plant. He added that a hydraulic study would help to identify the best location for a new plant as well as possible locations for new water and sewer lines. Another issue is the amount of water returned to the ecosystem. On average, 7,000 gallons of effluent water is returned to the San Juan River following treatment. Mr. Eckley suggested the City research ways to reuse this water.

C. **Staffing.** As with other City departments, the water/wastewater department needs additional staffing to accommodate demands. Currently there are four (4) full-time employees attached to plant operation and five (5) with maintenance. Staff must secure continuing education in order keep certifications up to date. Additionally, training also is required as regulations change and improve. I would suggest City officials research the need of additional staff members for this department and develop a strategy by which to increase personnel.

VII. Public Works. Mr. Barnes and I met with Bill Faverino on February 12th, 2007. Current evaluations of the water distribution system strongly indicate new water lines are needed throughout the City in order to support current demands as well as accommodate future growth. Additionally, there is a strong need for more looping, or linking water lines together, in order to improve water pressure and volume. Further impacting Bloomfield's ability to provide sufficient fire protection is the number of deficient hydrants or lack of hydrants throughout the City. Another item for consideration is the necessity of replacing older lines to provide sufficient water flow. City personnel are mapping all existing lines to update previous records, which are outdated.

In addition to maintaining the water and wastewater lines in the City, the Public Works Department also is responsible for approximately 180 miles of single and double-lane streets/roads within City limits. The department operates two (2) crews with three (3) employees per crew. In order to properly address needs, several priorities must be identified including the addition of more staff.

VII. Summary of Findings. The above information will be integrated into the City's Comprehensive Plan update upon approval from Planning/Zoning Director Barnes and City Manager Keith Johnson. This report captures the essence of needs from the departments; however, it does not explicitly detail those needs or how resolution may be accomplished. I would suggest that each of the above listed issues be I researched and feasible solution be identified. Additionally, I believe it is important for each director to develop a master plan for their department in order to provide guidance and direction toward the achievement of goals and improvements.

PUBLIC INPUT

Executive Summary

Public Input Hearing

City of Bloomfield Planning and Zoning Director Ray Barnes and Sherri Grona of Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments convened public hearings for the purpose of gathering input for the Bloomfield Comprehensive Plan. The following is a recap of that meeting and the information collected.

Attendance

Name	Address
Ramona Markham	325 N. 5th Street, Bloomfield
Shirley Curtis	Curtis Lane, Bloomfield
Shawna Martinez	Frontier/Rio Rd., Bloomfield
Karen Ransom	Hare St., Bloomfield
Sheila Keeling	500 Honeylocust, Bloomfield
Ken Larsen	660 E. Broadway, Bloomfield
Linda Bougeant	Bloomfield
Mark Herrera	2324 W. Broadway, Bloomfield
David Wagoner	522 N. Jordan
Lynne Raner	1001 Cypress, Bloomfield
Facilitators:	
Ray Barnes, Planning and Zoning Director	City of Bloomfield
Sherri Grona, Associate Planner	Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments

I. Public Input

During the hearings, the following subjects were discussed. They included: Housing; Economic Development; Roads; Waters and Wastewater; Miscellaneous items. For the most part the information is listed without explanation. However, for the items on which the input elaborated, brief explanations are included.

1. **Housing:** This items details discussion in relation to elements of affordable and adequate housing in Bloomfield.

    a. Lack of Medium Income Housing

    b. Lack of Senior Income Housing

    c. Lack of Affordable, Decent Housing: Specifically, Councilor Lynne Raner asked that we investigate what role, if any, the City's Governing Body would have in addressing this issue.

    d. Lack of "Pride of Ownership": Renter and homeowners seems to lack the desire to maintain their property and homes. This results in a general rundown appearance of neighborhoods.

e. Housing Seepage: The lack of decent, affordable house results in Bloomfield losing residents because of better, greater housing opportunities outside of Bloomfield.

f. Accurate Population Projections for Housing and Educational Needs

2. **Economic Development:** This line of discussion focused on the need to encourage, enhance and diversify economic development within the City of Bloomfield.

   a. Defined Downtown and Main Street: Designate a specific area within the City to establish a "Downtown" and encourage appropriate businesses to locate there.

   b. Too Many Dollar Stores: Group said the City should be more selective about which types of businesses are allowed to operate within Bloomfield. The thought is that this would help diversify the economic base.

   c. Need More "High Scale" Retail Stores: The group expressed a strong desire to have retail stores that focused on clothing, electronics, furniture and other goods that aren't currently available in Bloomfield.

   d. More Grocery Stores: Members of the group said they would like to have another choice for shopping other than Farmers Market. The belief was that the lack of competition resulted in higher prices for food goods.

   e. Encourage Manufacturing Industry: This would, in the group's opinion, increase the Gross Receipts Tax base for the City.

   f. Chamber Needs to be More Active in Promoting and Marketing Local Business: The group felt that the Chamber of Commerce did not promote local businesses in a positive way. They also believed that the Chamber did not actively recruit or encourage new economic development.

   g. City Needs to be More Attractive to Businesses: The group said that incentive for "setting up shop" would attract more businesses to Bloomfield and help diversify the economic base.

   h. More "High Scale" Restaurants i.e. Olive Garden: Group believed that there wasn't enough of a variety of dining experiences and too many "diner" in Bloomfield.

   i. Business Need to Adhere to Landscaping Ordinances/ Ordinances Need to be Enforced: Lack of landscaping makes Bloomfield unattractive.

   j. Need "Downtown" Dry Goods Store

   k. Employment Needs
      i. What Type of Employees are Needed
      ii. What Type of Businesses are Hiring
      iii. Where are Businesses Located

l. Gas Stations: The group stated companies that own gas stations within the City need to create an overall plan to addresses the gasoline and convenience store needs for Bloomfield residents.

   i. Need to Create Master Plan for Stations
   ii. Improve Current Stations

m. Find Alternative Uses for Empty/Abandoned Businesses: Empty businesses with boarded up windows and doors are "eyesores" for the community.

n. Expand Refinery

o. Roads/Streets: This item focused on how the group perceived the conditions of street and roads throughout the City. It also details what the community believes should be done to resolve many of the issues.

p. Street Intersections Need to be Cleaned: The group mentioned that at some intersections within the City, there are excessive weeds and debris. This situation inhibits drivers' abilities to navigate Bloomfield's streets.

q. Road Deterioration: Paving is crumbling and there are many pot holes on streets throughout the city. This creates a dangerous situation for drivers, according to the group.

3. **Industrial Traffic:** Industrial traffic on residential streets damages the road surface, causes too much noise and creates a dangerous situation for children in the area.

   a. Need Ordinance Prohibiting Traffic on Residential Streets

   b. Too Much Noise (Noise should be limited to specific hours during the day.)

   c. Drainage Improvements

4. **Road Improvements:** This included surface improvements as well as the addition of sidewalks, curb/gutter and bike lanes.

   a. W. Maple
   b. Honeylocust
   c. Fifth Street
   d. Third Street
   e. Saiz Lane
   f. Seventh Street
   g. Larch which also needs a sidewalk at the intersection with Fifth Street
   h. Blanco
   i. U.S. 550 Starting at Naaba Ani
   j. Bike Lanes and Walking Trails from Mesa Alta Junior High to St. Mary Catholic Church
   k. Widen Bergin Lane and Complete General Improvements
   l. Create Master Plan for Subdivision Through Streets

m. Don't Defer Maintenance: Group believed that maintenance had been put off for too long, while crews worked on other projects.
n. Roadway/Traffic Signage
o. How to get to Durango on U.S. 550
p. Miles Per Hour on U.S. 550
q. First Street
r. Turning Signal for Fifth Street at Intersection with Broadway
s. Lights on U.S. 64/Broadway
t. River Trail: City staff is currently working on this project.
u. Water/Wastewater: This was a very generalized discussion on water and wastewater needs.
v. Rates Too High
w. Repair/Prevent Breaks in Lines Throughout City
x. Septic Tanks: Too many of Bloomfield Residents use septic tanks. The group believed the City should work to improve this situation.
y. Providing Water to Unincorporated Areas: The City should continue to provide water to unincorporated areas like Blanco, but not at the detriment of residents within the City limit.
z. Need to Establish Second Water Source: City staff is currently working on this project.
aa. Research Fluoride in Water: A way needs to be found to increase the amount of fluoride in the City's water supply.
bb. Additional Water Tanks: City staff is currently working on this project.
cc. Update/Improve Water and Sewer Lines
dd. Link Water/Waste Water Projects with Road Projects

5. Miscellaneous

a. Library Parking Lot Repairs

b. Clean up Industrial Sites for Redevelopment

c. Education Needs
d. Enrollment Numbers/Projections
e. Impact of Illegal Immigrants
f. Enhance Recreation
g. Build a Lake for Bloomfield
h. Governmental Issues
i. More Personal Attention: Group said City Officials and Staff should address ordinance violations and other issues on a personal level first before issuing citations. Some of them believed that this would increase and enhance the positive response to dealing with problems.

II. Word Association

At the conclusion of the Public Input Hearings, Mr. Barnes and I asked the attendees to participate in a word association exercise. We asked them to say the first positive thing that came to mind when we said "Bloomfield." Their responses, listed below, indicate

attributes and values associated with the City that should be protected and enhanced as part of the Comprehensive Plan.

Bloomfield

- Rural
- "Small Town" Feeling
- Quality of Life
- Good Schools
- History
- Roots
- Culture
- Neighbors: They elaborated that Farmers Market served as a venue to an official "Social Club"
- Youth Activities
- Pride

PARKS (AND RECREATION) DEPARTMENT MASTER PLAN 2006-2011

Please Refer to Reference Copy

Twin Pillars Open Space Recreation Plan

Please Refer to Reference Copy

Community Survey and Survey Results

Housing Affordability Report

BUSINESS PLAN FOR FARMINGTON FULL-SERVICE ONE STOP