

City of Silver Bay Comprehensive Plan

I. Introduction

A Comprehensive Plan is the official long-range policy document for the City, guiding zoning and land use ordinances, investments in public infrastructure, economic development programs, natural resource use and protection, housing policy, and other issues. The comprehensive plan is a policy document that provides the policy foundation for the City's ordinances, programs, and capital investment plans. The plan portrays the community's desired future and guides decision-making by elected and appointed officials on how development, conservation, and public investment take place within the city.

Comprehensive plans identify the community's desired future looking out 25 years, or in this case, to the Silver Bay of 2040. The desired future is illustrated with a future land use map and described with supporting written goals and objectives. Plans typically have three important parts – background information to define “what is,” maps and goals to define the “desired future condition,” and a set of implementation actions to guide the community in “how to get there.”

Silver Bay's 2007 Comprehensive Plan provided the foundation for the current plan. An update of the previous version became necessary, as many policies and recommendations no longer reflected the current desires, concerns, and issues of Silver Bay residents and businesses.

The Comprehensive Plan update process took place beginning in late autumn of 2014 through early summer of 2015. A Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee guided the planning process, serving as advisors to the City Staff and the City Council, which adopts the plan. The public was involved through a community survey and public meetings. Background studies were updated to provide an up-to-date assessment of where the city is. Vision, goals, and objectives were created to guide the choices for future land use, community services, natural resources and open space, transportation considerations, housing opportunities, and economic development policies.

Chapter 2 – Process

Chapter 3 – Existing Conditions

Chapter 4 – Desired Future Conditions; Vision, Goals and Objectives

Chapter 5 – Strategies & Implementation

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 462, Section 355 ADOPT, AMEND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; INTERIM ORDINANCE.

Subdivision 1. Preparation and Review

The planning agency shall prepare the comprehensive municipal plan. In discharging this duty the planning agency shall consult with and coordinate the planning activities of other departments and agencies of the municipality to insure conformity with and to assist in the development of the comprehensive municipal plan. In its planning activities the planning agency shall take due cognizance of the planning activities of adjacent units of government and other affected public agencies. The planning agency shall periodically review the plan and recommend amendments whenever necessary. When preparing or recommending amendments to the comprehensive plan, the planning agency [...] must consider adopting goals and objectives that will protect open space and the environment.

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