CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE 2035

THE FUTURE IS NOW

SEPTEMBER 2026



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE 2035

THE FUTURE IS NOW

This report documents the City of Jasper's comprehensive planning process, conducted between June 2025 and July 2026, culminating in the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan in September 2026.

This report and the associated data analysis are available on the project portal:
https://lab2.future-iq.com/jasper-comp-plan/

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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WGI

JS&A





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FOREWORD & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



FOREWORD

Office of the Mayor
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CITY OF JASPER INDIANA

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City of Jasper,

I want to extend great appreciation to all of you for showing up every day to make this community such a vibrant and distinctive place to live, work, and visit. This Comprehensive Plan is for you as much as it is for city government.

As a lifelong resident, community leader, and now Mayor, I am honored to help guide Jasper into the future. I know we are a resilient, caring community. People choose to stay in Jasper, and new families move here, because of its unique charm and welcoming spirit. This document brings together residents' voices, the work our Administration is already doing, and the priorities we have laid out together to help shape the next decade in a way that ensures we build Jasper's legacy.

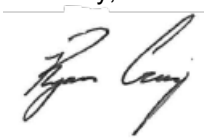
This process has been both rewarding and inspiring. We have had the privilege of working alongside residents and community stakeholders through roundtables, think tanks, task forces, and countless conversations. Hearing your ideas, concerns, and hopes for Jasper's future have been invaluable. Together, we reflected on what we want to preserve and what we want to see evolve.

Because of your dedication and engagement, we now have a strong vision for the future. It has been an honor to help shape this roadmap, and I'm proud to present to you the Jasper, Indiana Comprehensive Plan Update 2035 – The Future Is Now. This plan is a strategic framework that will guide new development, public investment, and policy decisions. It provides clear direction for land use, infrastructure, housing, development, nature/climate, and transportation, all while aligning our city's history with its current priorities.

The adoption of this plan marks an important milestone, but our work is only beginning. Together, we have shaped this plan, and together we will bring it to life to build the future Jasper deserves.

Let's get started!

Sincerely,



Mayor Ryan Craig

JASPER CITY HALL • PO BOX 29 • 610 MAIN STREET • JASPER, IN 47547-0029

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special acknowledgment to the residents, participants, and stakeholders who offered valuable input during the plan's development. Understanding the vision, aspirations, and potential impacts of land use would not be possible without the dedication and support exhibited by its community and organizations.

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INTRODUCTION





1.0 | IMPORTANCE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING PROCESS

According to the American Planning Association, the comprehensive planning process should "engage all members of the community to create a more prosperous, convenient, equitable, healthy, and attractive place for present and future generations."

Throughout the process of developing this plan, a broad swath of citizens and community partners were asked to join with the city to articulate a shared vision for the future and identify priority goals and action steps.

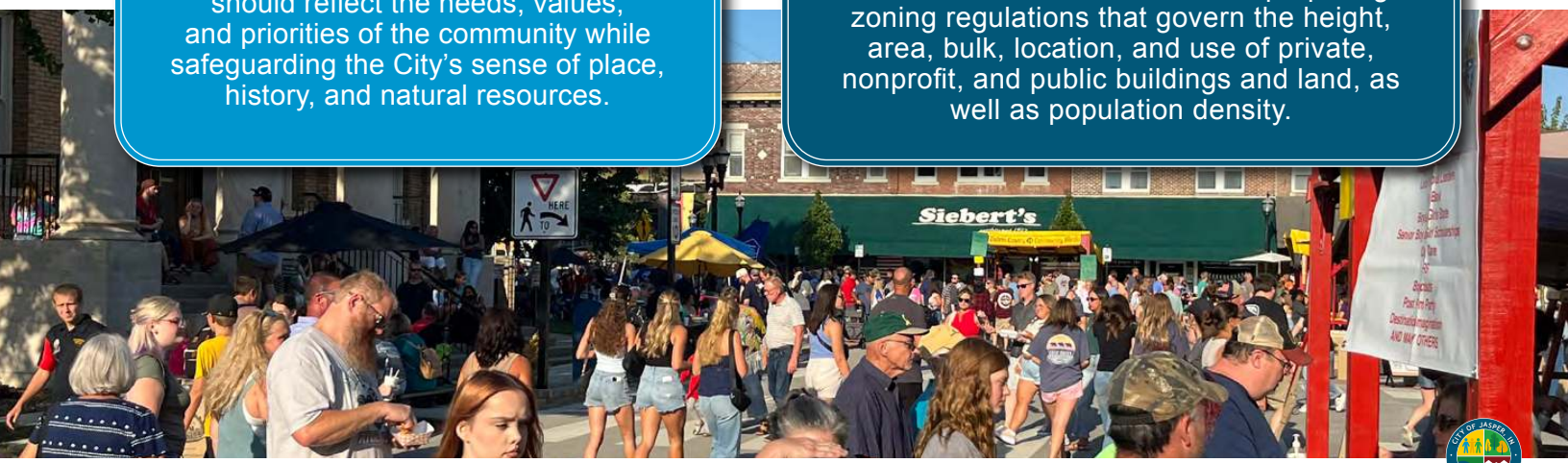
Jasper's Comprehensive Plan (Plan) is a visioning and comprehensive master planning project that updates the City of Jasper's 2019 Comprehensive Plan. The process for the updated Plan project was forward-looking, people-focused, and data-driven. This means that the plan is built on solid research, takes account of rapidly emerging trends, and reflects the aspirations, goals, and priorities of the community it is meant to serve. A fundamental premise is that the world is changing fast, and the City needs collaborative approaches and decisive forward-thinking to help envision how it will thrive over the next 10 years.

WHAT IS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?

A comprehensive plan is a long-range plan for a community that guides city-wide growth and development patterns, investments, and initiatives. It provides the foundation for determining effective public policy, master planning, and land use decisions for the future. In addition, it serves as the guiding policy document for many of the City's most critical decisions, such as redevelopment decisions, zoning changes, and capital investments. A comprehensive plan should reflect the needs, values, and priorities of the community while safeguarding the City's sense of place, history, and natural resources.

WHY IS THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN IMPORTANT?

While the Comprehensive Plan (Plan) is not a legal document, it does provide the legal basis for zoning and other land use regulations. In Indiana, any municipality is authorized to develop, adopt, amend, and implement a city plan - such as a Comprehensive Plan (Plan) - through its planning commission. The Plan outlines the commission's recommendations for the physical development and land use within the municipality, guiding future growth. It serves as a foundational document for preparing zoning regulations that govern the height, area, bulk, location, and use of private, nonprofit, and public buildings and land, as well as population density.





The Jasper Comprehensive Plan project was a robust, inclusive, and forward-looking planning process.

Jasper's planning initiative was a 14-month-long process that began in August 2025 and ended in July 2026. The project's objective was to produce Jasper's updated Comprehensive Plan – a document that provides the building blocks for the City's future by implementing practical planning initiatives to meet shared goals and aspirations. These efforts aim to increase the likelihood that this plan will be implemented, as well as promote economic and community development to create a better, more resilient future for the City. The process also explored the current and future strategic positioning of the City within the region and created an enduring and collaborative roadmap to the future.

"I'm excited about the growth of community, the Square, new pool, future aquatic center. I'm happy to see young and old generations working together to move Jasper into the future."

- Community Survey Respondent

CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE PROCESS

PHASE 1	PHASE 2	PHASE 3	FINAL PLAN & PRESENTATION
Initial Planning Assessments & Project Management Project plan & kickoff Online project portal & branding Engagement & communication plans Community Profile Report Monthly Steering Committee Meetings Weekly City Staff Meetings	**Community Visioning & Engagement** Community Survey Key stakeholder interviews Community Visioning Sessions Data visualization on portal Jasper Think-Tank Think-Tank Report Presentation of Community Vision to Common Council	**Plan Development & Engagement** Roundtable Work Session Future Summit & Report Analysis & Case Studies Task Force Meetings Discussion Boards Prioritization Survey Storymap & Land Use Map Implementation Matrix Public Open House	Review of draft plan; revisions incorporated Final presentations of Jasper Comprehensive Plan
Project Portal, Community Profile Report & Steering Committee	Think-Tank Workshop, Report & Community Visioning	Future Summit, Task Forces, Maps & Open House	Final Plan & Presentations
AUGUST 2025			**SEPTEMBER 2026**



1.1 | INDIANA STATE REQUIREMENTS



Comprehensive planning is permitted in Indiana by the 500 Series of Title 36-7-4 of the Indiana Code. This law empowers cities, towns, and counties to adopt plans. Any plan adopted in Indiana must contain at least the following three elements:

1. **A statement of objectives for the future development of the jurisdiction.**
2. **A statement of policy for the land use development of the jurisdiction.**
3. **A statement of policy for the development of public ways, public spaces, public lands, public structures, and public utilities.**



A series of optional elements may be included, per Sec. 503, Additional Content, of the 500 Series of Title 36-7-4 of the Indiana Code.

Additionally, Indiana municipal plan commissions are authorized under certain conditions to exercise planning and zoning jurisdiction over territory outside the corporate boundaries. The City of Jasper Plan Commission has assumed this jurisdiction as reflected in the Future Land Use map, inclusive of the extra-territorial jurisdictional area.



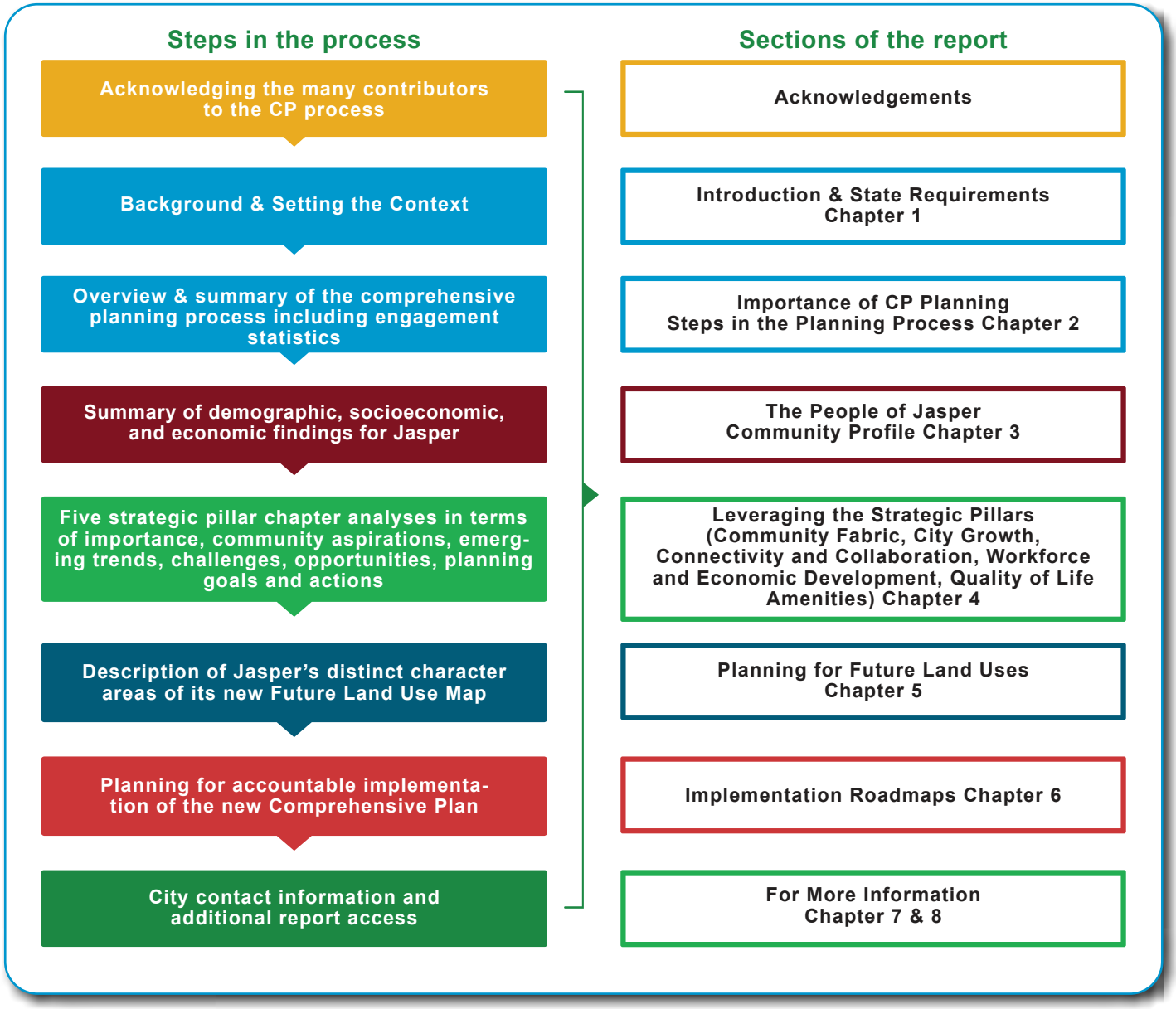


1.2 | HOW TO READ THIS PLAN

From day one, the people of Jasper expressed the desire for an updated Plan that is actionable and accountable. The new Plan, aligned with City priorities, provides implementation roadmaps for each of the strategic pillars in a way that can be measured and followed for the next 10-20 years.

This section lays out the findings from each key step in the Comprehensive Plan planning process. The process moved from background analysis and exploration to identifying key priorities for the future of Jasper. It should be noted that this plan is organized around five Strategic Pillars, rather than 'traditional' sections listed in IN Code § 36-7-4-503 (e.g., transportation, community facilities, economic development, natural resources, etc.). This plan recognizes that the issues facing Jasper are complex, regional, and interrelated. Therefore, the Plan and the recommended goals and actions are structured to encourage innovative and collaborative solutions.

More details about the overall planning process may be viewed on the city's website at Jasper, Indiana Comprehensive Plan.

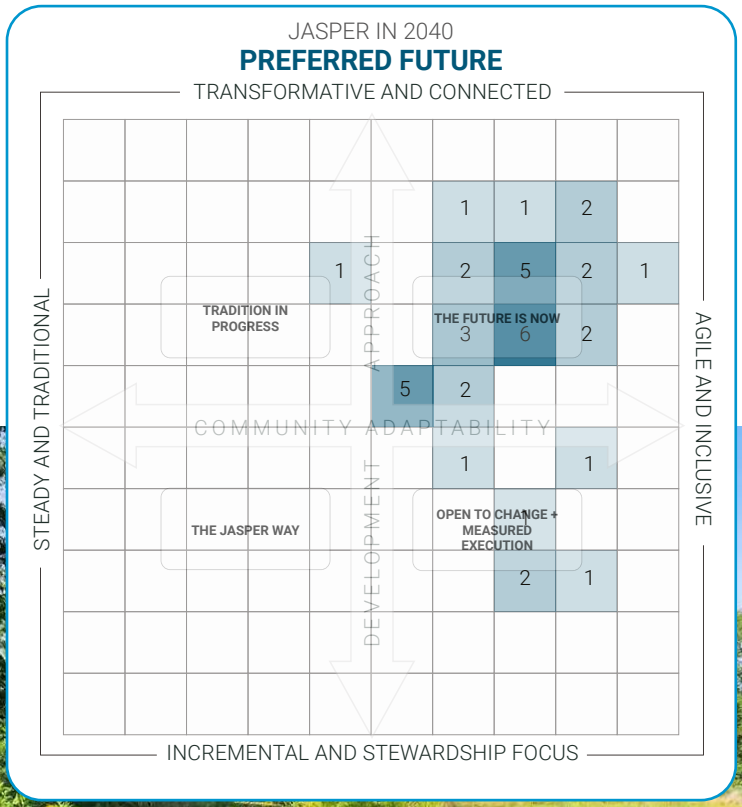


1.3.1 | COMMUNITY VISION

Jasper's Community Vision was developed based on a scenario-planning methodology involving extensive community involvement from August 2025 – December 2025. The process allowed community members to explore the future evolution of the community around the two main themes of 'Development Approach' and 'Community Adaptability'. The resulting vision or 'preferred vision' was developed over the course of the visioning process. (For more information on how the preferred future was selected, please see the Community Vision report on the **project portal**)

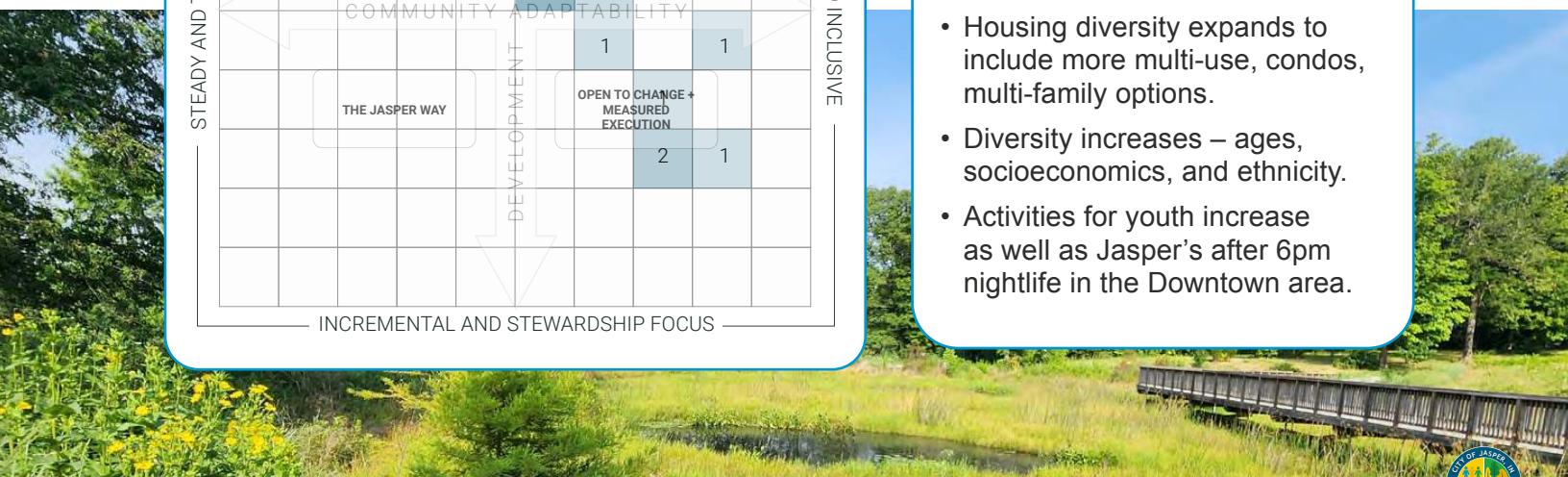
The 'Preferred Future' narrative was generated from the work carried out in the Jasper Comprehensive Plan Think-Tank. The name given to the scenario by participants was 'The Future is Now'.

This scenario forecasts a future where Jasper pushes forward on encouraging growth and planning for the future. Strong regional partnerships develop with strategic investments in emerging technologies, diversified industries, and housing diversity. The community is welcoming of new voices and perspectives. Jasper takes full advantage of migration shifts and influx of population from other areas of the country to grow its workforce to support its local businesses and industries. The City becomes a hub for regional activity, embraces alternative energy adoption, and collaborates with other communities on infrastructure projects. Connectivity is prioritized, both externally and internally, with sidewalks and trails that enable walkability throughout the City. Housing stock is expanded to support new growth, and the community actively engages diverse voices to build support for a variety of needs, including childcare. Youth services, sports, and programming are a focus to retain young families, including health and wellness programs for all ages. Downtown development continues and a burgeoning nightlife succeeds in attracting and retaining the 20-40 year old demographic.



SCENARIO SNAPSHOT - FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

- Strong regional partnerships form and connectivity increases, both internally and externally.
- STEAM education and career pathways for students expand, including life-long learning options.
- Housing diversity expands to include more multi-use, condos, multi-family options.
- Diversity increases – ages, socioeconomics, and ethnicity.
- Activities for youth increase as well as Jasper's after 6pm nightlife in the Downtown area.





1.3.2 | ROADMAP FOR READING THIS PLAN

Jasper's Comprehensive Plan builds upon the community's vision for the future, 'The Future is Now.' The vision celebrates the culture of the City and what makes Jasper distinct while recognizing the key pillars of the City's future.

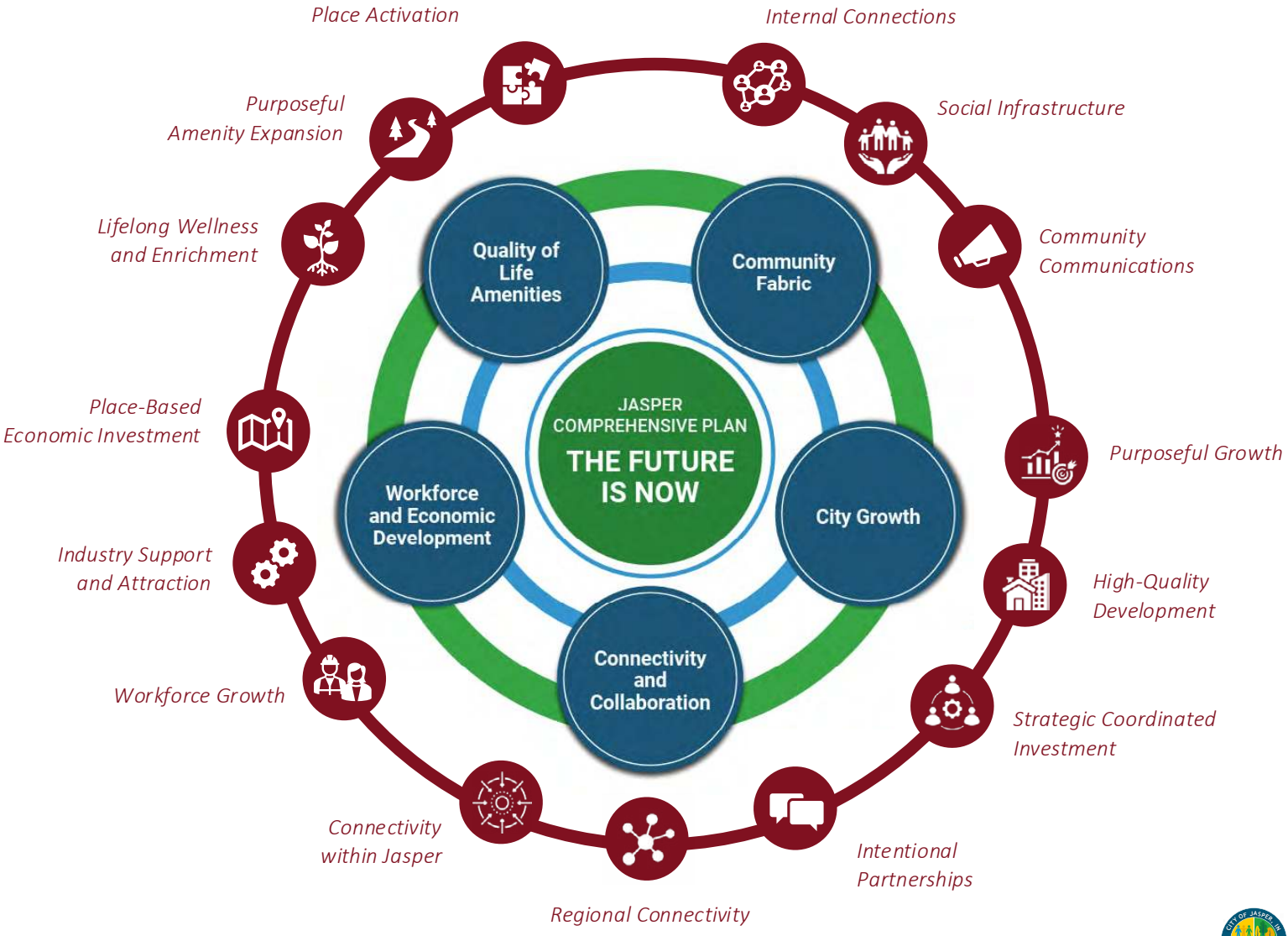
VISION: The long-term, aspirational picture of what the community hopes to achieve or become in the future.

THEMES: Overarching themes and values that are embedded in the City's policies and practices. These themes are woven throughout all five pillars of the plan and are particularly focused in the specified pillar.

PILLARS: Core, foundational elements of principles that underpin the community's vision. These are the key focus areas that are used to group goals and actions.

GOAL: A broad, general statement of what we hope to achieve.

ACTIONS: Specific steps or actions we can take to achieve a specific goal or outcome.



1.3.3 | STRATEGIC PILLARS AND GOALS



Jasper's strategic pillars were developed at the Future Summit in December 2025, and further defined by the Strategic Pillar Task Forces that met in January and February 2026. The pillars provide a framework to apply best practices to key areas of focus and represent the major topic areas that underpin the preferred future for the community. The strategic goals are structured around these five key strategic pillars and are the fundamental building blocks for future actions that support the community vision.

Community Fabric

- Deepen and broaden welcoming initiatives that are inclusive and reach new and existing residents.
- Enhance and activate existing spaces and opportunities, and develop new ones as needed, to foster meaningful community engagement.
- Enhance Jasper's communication infrastucture and messaging to strengthen civic engagement, expand public awareness, and build community identity and pride.



City Growth

- Strengthen long-term population retention and growth by ensuring land-use planning reflects and strengthens core community values.
- Reinforce community identity by maintaining high standards for new growth.
- Invest in coordinated growth to sustain a livable, well-functioning community.

Jasper's Comprehensive Plan is built upon the community's vision for the preferred future and is intended to guide decision making looking out to 2040.

Connectivity and Collaboration

- Increase connectivity throughout Jasper by improving the City's pedestrian and transportation networks.
- Partner to expand transportation, utility, and workforce networks across the region.
- Strengthen regional partnerships to support Jasper and the surrounding communities.



Workforce and Economic Development

- Create high-quality commercial and industrial clusters in targeted areas throughout the City.
- Support Jasper's current industries and targeted growth sectors.
- Grow Jasper's workforce and cultivate skill development.



Quality of Life Amenities

- Enhance the vibrancy of public spaces through expanded cultural amenities, arts integration, programming, and events.
- Optimize and expand amenities in ways that support sustainable, well-managed future growth.
- Expand opportunities for health, recreation, and learning through accessible, well-designed programs and facilities.

1.4 | PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

A key element of the comprehensive planning process was its community engagement. The project included numerous opportunities for community members to help shape the vision, goals, and actions of the plan. This engagement process was intended to create consensus and buy-in for the community vision that serves as the foundational support for the final Jasper Comprehensive Plan.

Steering Committee Meetings
September 2025 – June 2026

Key Stakeholder Interviews
October 2025 - January 2026

Community Survey
September - November 2025

Think-Tank Workshop
October - November 2025

Future Summit Presentation and Mapping Exercise
December 2025

Strategic Pillar Task Force Meetings
January - February 2026

All-Task Force Debrief Meeting
February 2026

Online StoryMap
April - June 2026

Online Future Land Use Map
March 2025

Prioritization Survey
March - April 2026

Future Summit Presentation
April 2026

Jasper Comprehensive Plan
July 2026

Comprehensive Plan Implementation Training
August 2026







Jasper's open and inclusive approach to the comprehensive planning process was built on the time and dedication of the many community members who contributed to this project's success.



1.5 | PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT METRICS

The Jasper comprehensive planning process involved a wide, deep and transparent engagement process. Reports and survey results were published on the Comprehensive Plan project portal, and the project was widely promoted in newsletters and social media posts.

The Jasper comprehensive planning process was built on extensive stakeholder input. The engagement and data-driven methodology progressively focused the discussion on emerging key issues and stakeholder aspirations for the future. The purpose of the process was to arrive at a 'point of consensus' that represented the shared vision for Jasper and the actions needed to get there. The result is a Comprehensive Plan that guides the City on the path to that preferred future, 'The Future is Now'.

A key feature of the engagement and planning process was the mixture of surveys, online meetings, newsletters, and in-person sessions to reach the broadest range of stakeholders possible.











THE PEOPLE OF JASPER



2.1 | CURRENT CONDITIONS

Jasper is home to about 17,000 residents. The community grew significantly between 1990 and 2010, then leveled off, and is now experiencing another uptick in growth. Jasper is home to a range of young families, older families, and senior residents, creating a well-balanced and welcoming community. The greatest share of Jasper's population is middle-aged or slightly older, with the largest group of residents in the 55-64 age group. Jasper's population has aged slightly in the past decade, with a higher share of residents in the 55-64, 65-74, and 75-84 age groups.

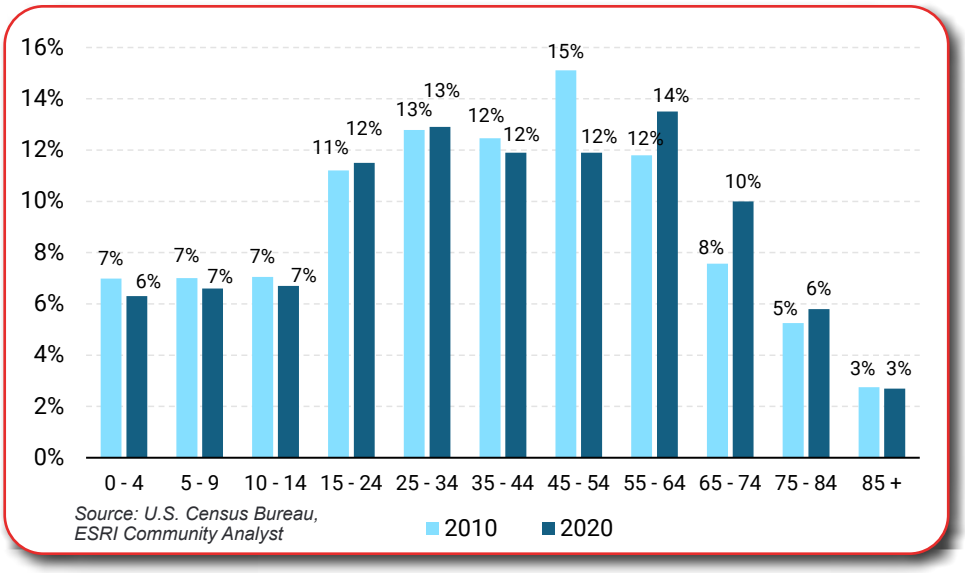








Jasper's Population by Age Group (2010 - 2020)



Jasper's population is more diverse in 2025 than in the past. Residents identifying as White Alone account for 85% of the population in 2025, compared to 94% in 2010. Meanwhile, the groups identifying as Some Other Race Alone have almost doubled from 4% to 7%, and Two or More Races have increased from just under 1% to 5%. Jasper's Hispanic population has also increased notably, from about 8% in 2010 to 12% in 2025.

	Jasper	
2025 Population by Race/Ethnicity	**2010**	**2025**
White Alone	94%	85%
Black Alone	0.4%	0.7%
American Indian Alone	0.2%	0.4%
Asian Alone	0.9%	1.2%
Pacific Islander Alone	0.0%	0.0%
Some Other Race Alone	4%	7%
2 or More Races	0.9%	5%
Hispanic Origin	**7.6%**	**12.2%**
Diversity Index	**24**	**42**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ESRI Community Analyst





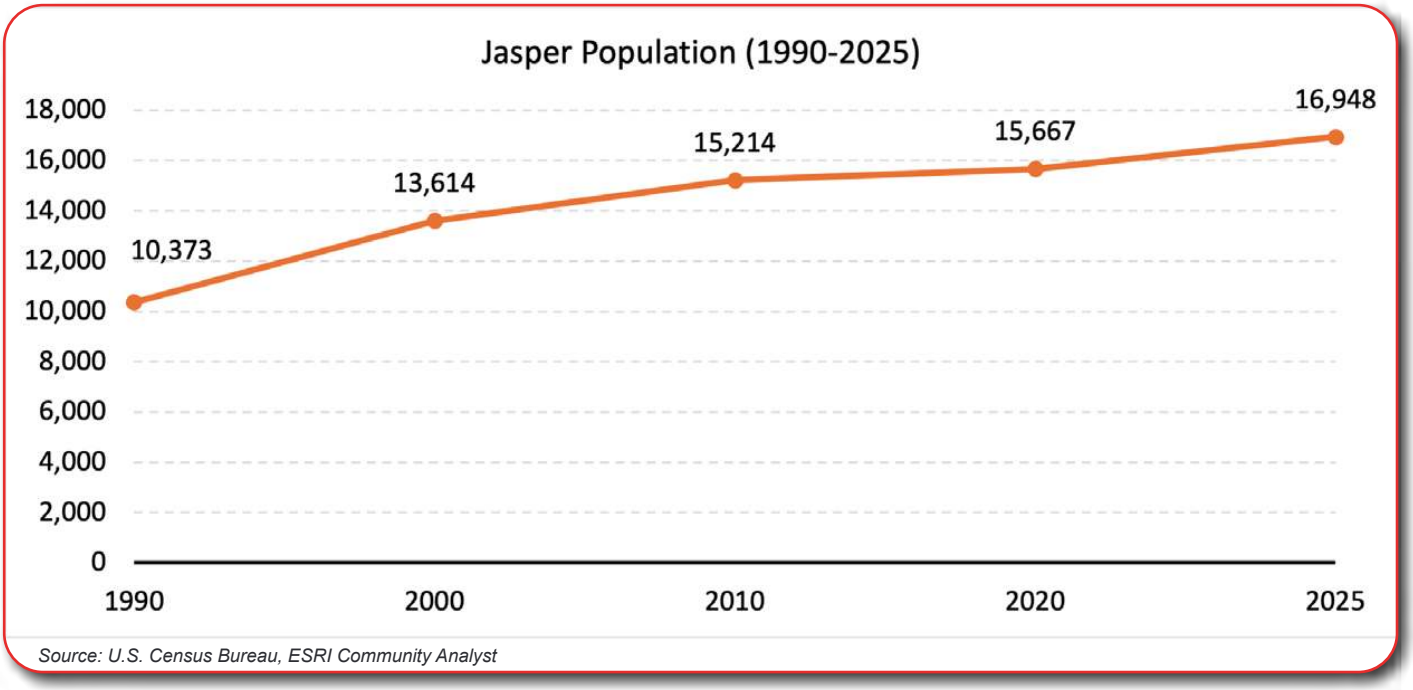
FUTURE INSIGHT

- Although Jasper is also home to many young families, Jasper's population is generally aging. The future composition of Jasper will be impacted by how Jasper seeks to attract new residents, particularly in a younger cohort or through the attraction of remote workers and boomerang residents.

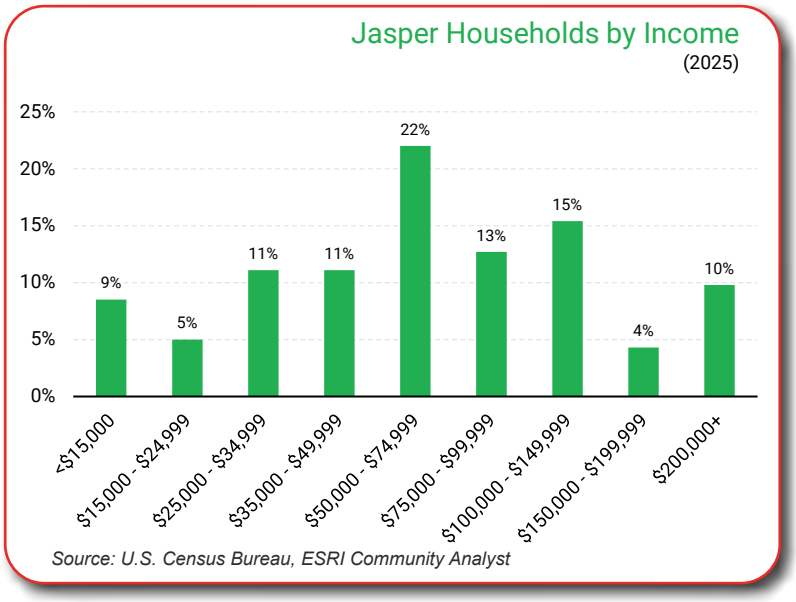


2.2 | POPULATION AND KEY DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS

In the 1990s, Jasper's population grew significantly (by almost 4,000 residents). During the 2000s, Jasper continued to grow, adding about another 1,500 residents. This growth had started to level off in the past decade, but there has been a moderate influx of new residents in the past several years. The result is that Jasper is well-positioned to decide its own fate in terms of population growth. Through the planning process, community members have articulated a vision for continued population growth and both residential and business attraction.



Jasper's median household income is $65,637. About 22% of Jasper's population falls in the $50,000-$75,000 per year household income group and 13% fall within the $75,000-$100,000 range. However, many households fall outside these ranges as well, with about 30% of households making over $100,000 and 25% making under $35,000. This mix of incomes reflects a community where a variety of different industrial and professional sectors exist.

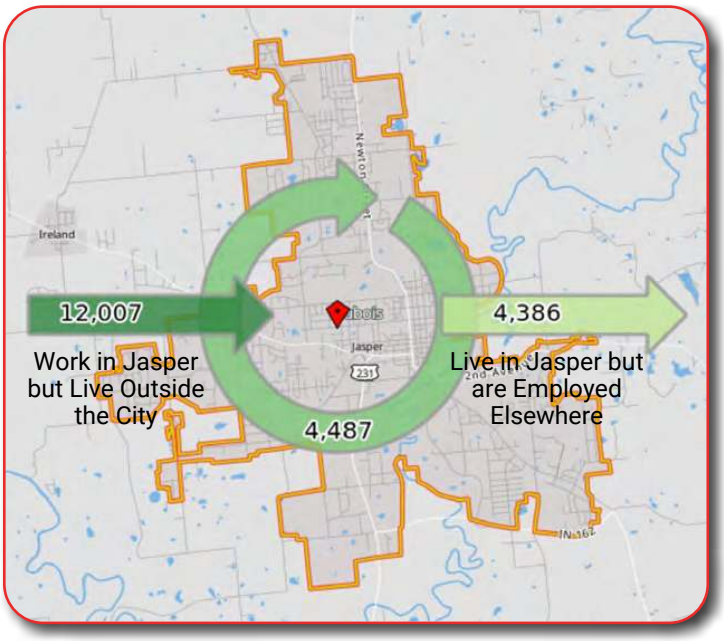


When it comes to educational attainment, 93% of Jasper's population age 25 and above has a high school diploma or GED, while about 30% of the population has a bachelor's degree or higher. Jasper's high school graduation rate and bachelor's degree attainment rate exceeds that of Dubois County. About 9% of Jasper's population has a graduate or professional degree.

2.3 | ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE INDICATORS

Employment in Jasper spans a range of industries, with retail, health care, manufacturing, and wholesale trade accounting for the largest number of jobs. In addition to these employment clusters, many jobs in Jasper are in food service, education, public administration, and professional services. The most common business types in Jasper are retail, health care, food service, professional services, and financial services.

A key aspect of Jasper's economic identity is the large cluster of legacy industries, especially in manufacturing, that have been essential to the community's history. The future of Jasper's economy will involve both supporting the evolution of these legacy businesses, as well as considering new industry attraction strategies and efforts to support local businesses.



Jasper draws a significant number of workers from outside areas into the City for the workday, with about 12,000 residents of the broader area commuting into the City of Jasper for work. Meanwhile, almost 4,500 residents of Jasper work outside of city limits. The share of Jasper residents who also work in within the City of Jasper is relatively low compared to the number of commuters arriving to, or leaving from, Jasper.

FUTURE INSIGHT

- With so many residents of the broader area commuting into Jasper, and so many Jasper residents working outside of Jasper itself, Jasper's connectivity to the broader region and workforce partnerships are essential to workforce development.

Of Jasper's population age 25-54, 88% is in the labor force, suggesting a strong workforce across industries in Jasper. Notably, Jasper has a low unemployment rate (2.2%), both relative to Dubois County and more generally.

	Unemployment Rate		Labor Force Participation Rate	
Age Cohort	Jasper	Dubois County	Jasper	Dubois County
16-24	6.1%	7.3%	69%	74%
25-54	2.4%	2.4%	88%	89%
55-64	0.0%	0.6%	78%	79%
65+	0.0%	0.0%	20%	24%
Overall (16+)	2.2%	2.5%	66%	69%

FUTURE INSIGHT

- Jasper's relatively low unemployment rate factors into the larger picture of business attraction opportunities because potential employers will recognize that most Jasper residents are already employed or out of the labor market. To maintain strong economic growth employment in the future, Jasper will need to continue investing in workforce development and education initiatives, as well as regional partnerships with workforce organizations and education institutions.

2.4 | JASPER'S LIVABILITY INDEX

Jasper is rated as significantly more livable than many other US neighborhoods. Factors like environmental quality, opportunities for socioeconomic advancement, and strong transportation options and health are major contributors. Jasper scores lowest in the Neighborhood category because, although it has strong access to parks and jobs, Jasper has a low level of density and walkability (but still higher than the median US community).

AARP Livability Index Metrics

Livability Metrics	Jasper	Dubois County	Median US Neighborhood
Overall	**64**	**59**	**50**
Housing Metrics and initiatives that promote affordability, availability, and accessibility.	66	62	59
Neighborhood Metrics and initiatives that focus on destinations, safety, and mixed-use development.	51	43	36
Transportation Metrics and initiatives concerning convenience, safety, and options.	58	49	44
Environment Metrics and initiatives regarding air and water quality, energy efficiency, and hazard mitigation planning.	75	75	61
Health Metrics and initiatives that promote healthy behaviors, like exercise and smoking cessation.	57	54	40
Engagement Metrics and initiatives such as cultural engagement, voting rights, and human rights.	57	48	47
Opportunity Metrics and initiatives regarding job availability, government creditworthiness, and graduation rates.	85	82	50

Data Source: AARP Livability Index

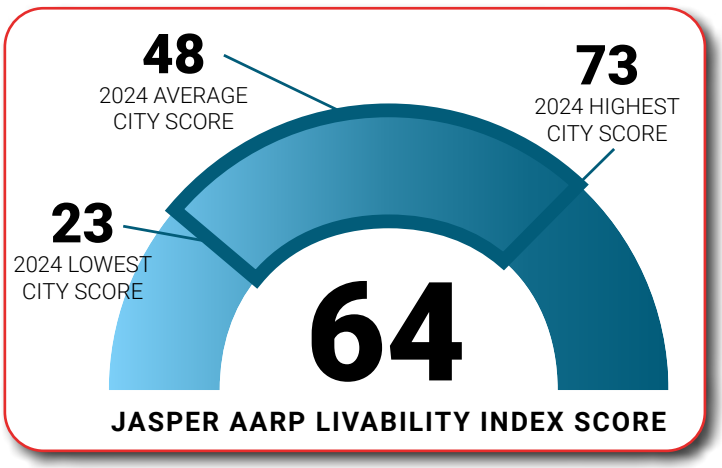




The overall Livability Index score for Jasper is 64. This is in the top half of communities in the U.S. and not far from the livability scores of the highest ranked U.S. cities.

FUTURE INSIGHT

- A high quality of life and livability are key elements of Jasper's identity and a potential driver of future residential and economic growth.





2.5 | KEY INSIGHTS



Jasper's Comprehensive Plan will pave the way for the community to achieve residents' desired future of growth, high quality of life, and a thriving economy. Over the next ten years and beyond, Jasper will have to respond to ongoing population shifts, new technological and industry developments, and an evolving business mix and residential population. The strategies and action steps outlined in this comprehensive plan provide a helpful framework in thinking about Jasper's ability to grow and adapt. Some of the key dynamics at play include:

Additional population growth can be achieved with a thoughtful resident attraction strategy.

Given local population trends, there are a range of different paths for Jasper's future. Jasper is home to people of a range of different ages, backgrounds, and income levels. As the City continues to grow in terms of population, new residential development can meet changing demographic factors. Jasper's strong quality of life is a key characteristic of the community and a foundational selling point for bringing new residents, including remote workers and boomerangs, to Jasper.



Community amenities, connectedness, and charm are a core element of life in Jasper.

The community fabric of Jasper is heavily influenced by the numerous recreational, entertainment, and cultural amenities located in Jasper. Recent investments in the Heart of Jasper Main Street have created a charming downtown area that serves as an important location for community and economic activity. As Jasper considers opportunities for future growth, it will be essential to maintain Jasper's high quality of life as a vital element of the community's future.



Jasper's economy depends on both legacy industries and new business attraction.

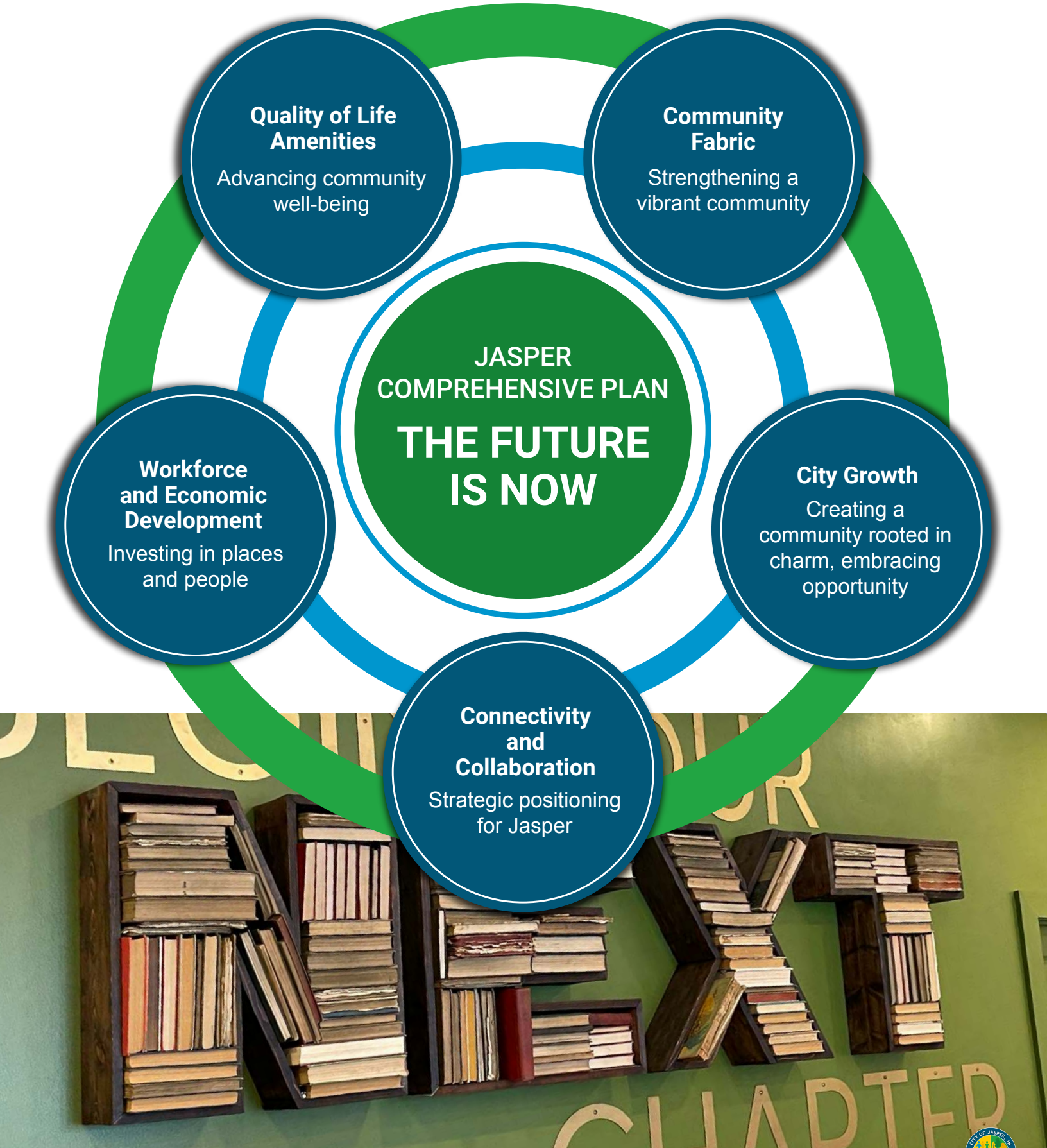
Legacy industries are a major part of Jasper's history and will require new kinds of support and partnership as they adapt to changing technologies and workforce trends. Tier 2 and other small businesses are another essential element of Jasper's economic future. Attracting new businesses from growing industries to locate in Jasper will require a mix of investment, incentives, and marketing efforts. Simultaneously, Jasper can continue to invest in its local workforce through both new and ongoing workforce development programs and partnerships.





STRATEGIC PILLARS




Quality of Life Amenities
Advancing community well-being
Community Fabric
Strengthening a vibrant community
JASPER COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
THE FUTURE IS NOW
Workforce and Economic Development
Investing in places and people
City Growth
Creating a community rooted in charm, embracing opportunity
Connectivity and Collaboration
Strategic positioning for Jasper

Community Fabric

OBJECTIVE: **STRENGTHENING A VIBRANT COMMUNITY.**

3.1.1 | IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY FABRIC

Jasper is a community that has worked hard over many decades to build a unique cultural identity and a tightknit community fabric. There has been a very strong focus on families, and this is reflected in the predominance of single-family homes in the community. However, the community dynamics and makeup are changing. As the population has grown, it has become more ethnically diverse and older. This set of dynamics and trends suggest that the community will change significantly in the coming years, with new people and new voices beginning to more strongly influence local values and the community fabric. The community input to date, has revealed that many people see the community needs to work harder to become more adaptable, inclusive and open to new ideas.

Jasper is proud of its long standing, family focused community identity, but as it grows more diverse and older, residents recognize the need to become more adaptable, inclusive, and open to new ideas.

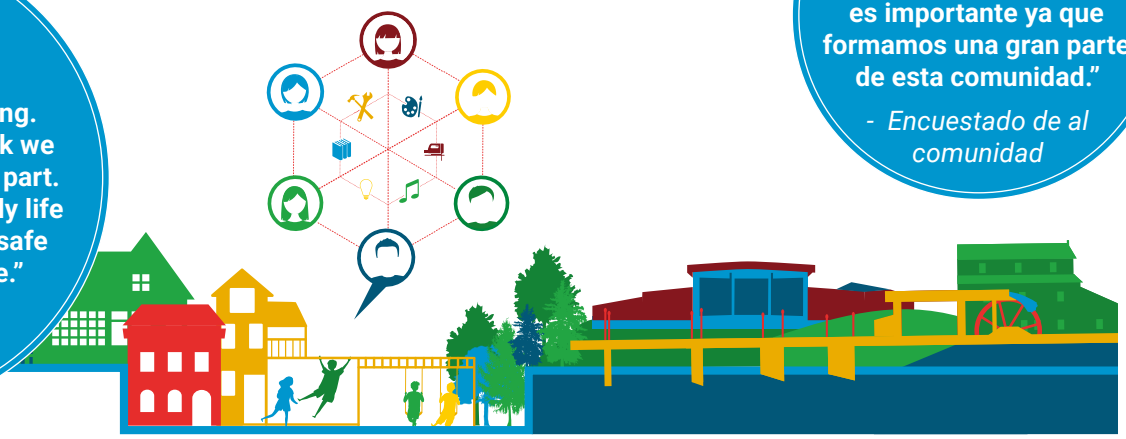
The 'Importance of Community Fabric' pillar focuses on strengthening a vibrant community. This will help maintain the energy to continue to improve and develop the community. Community connection is very important in Jasper, and this pillar will help explore ways to build these internal connections and strengthen the sense of community.

"I want to see Jasper as welcoming to all people. Diverse. Healthy. Kind. Encouraging. Neighborly. Friendly. I think we do a good job for the most part. But we can do better. Family life is the key to promoting a safe and healthy place to live."

- Community Survey Respondent

"Fomentar la integración e involucrar a la comunidad latina es importante ya que formamos una gran parte de esta comunidad."

- Encuestado de al comunidad



FUTURE INSIGHTS

- The population is becoming on-average older, with largest age group now being 60-64 years old (2022 data). By comparison, the largest age group in 1970 was the 10–14-year age group, and in 1990 was the 30–34-year age group.
- One of the key challenges for the future is attracting more younger adults and families to the community to fill a 'missing demographic' of people in their twenties, thirties and forties.
- Jasper's population is more diverse in 2025 than in any point in the recent past. Residents identifying as White Alone account for 85% of the population in 2025, compared to 94% in 2010. Jasper's Hispanic population has increased notably, from about 8% in 2010 to 12% in 2025.
- One of the key opportunities is for Jasper to find ways to include and welcome new voices into decision-making for the future, and use this process to help build the community fabric.



Community Fabric

3.1.2 | COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

"I like the small town, close knit community feeling. It's a good community to raise a family. Good schools. I like living near rural areas with opportunity for property ownership and scenic landscape. I like the parts that don't feel too commercial or like suburbs of a bigger city. The downtown revitalization has been exciting and it's great to see it filling up with local businesses."

- Community Survey Respondent

- **Social infrastructure is critical** to creating a sense of place for community members. Community members have expressed a keen desire to **create and activate these 'third spaces'** where people gather for connection, community, and relaxation, with many acting as community anchors such as libraries, cafes, parks, barbershops, restaurants and gyms.
- Think-Tank participants highlighted the **need to develop Jasper's ability to adapt** to a rapidly changing world. This does not mean a rejection of the significant progress of the past, but rather the need to **build on the current success** by building resiliency, cultural competency, and an openness to inevitable change.
- One of Jasper's key challenges for the future is **attracting and retaining more younger adults and families** to the community to fill a 'missing demographic' of people in their twenties, thirties and forties. This pillar is tied closely to the community aspirations of the Quality of Life Amenities and Workforce and Economic Development Pillars.
- **Improving communications systems** throughout the city was flagged by community members as key to providing improved connection and sense of community for residents and stakeholders. Key potential steps identified were the protection of local journalism and **giving voice to the storytelling** around Jasper's successes and quality of life.

KEY FINDINGS

- With respect to community and social fabric topics, the most important topic to Community Survey respondents was ensuring safety and security, followed by continued support for quality schools, residents being part of key decision making, fostering a sense of belonging to a community, and creating health and wellness opportunities.
- Jasper's population is more diverse in 2025 than in any point in the recent past. One of the key opportunities for Jasper is to find ways to include and welcome new voices into decision-making for the future and use this process to help build the community fabric.





Community Fabric

Three overarching themes emerged from the comprehensive planning process for the Community Fabric Pillar: **internal connections, social infrastructure,** and **community communication**s. Together, these themes provide a strong foundation that anchors the goals and actions of this Strategic Pillar. The goals themselves serve as essential building blocks, guiding the strategic actions that will enable the community to move intentionally toward its preferred future.

GOAL 1: DEEPEN AND BROADEN WELCOMING INITIATIVES THAT ARE INCLUSIVE AND REACH NEW AND EXISTING RESIDENTS.



This goal recognizes the need for the Jasper community to expand services and opportunities that involve introducing people to each other and including them in the community throughout the lifespan. Welcoming newcomers, increasing cultural sensitivity, building neighborhood associations and expanding opportunities for youth to be involved in the community have been identified as being important actions for this

GOAL 2: ENHANCE AND ACTIVATE EXISTING SPACES AND OPPORTUNITIES, AND DEVELOP NEW ONES AS NEEDED, TO FOSTER MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.



The Jasper community already benefits from a strong network of gathering spaces and parks. This goal emphasizes not only the strategic development of new infrastructure where needed, but also the activation and promotion of existing amenities to foster meaningful community engagement. Key priorities include expanding social infrastructure for residents aged 20 to 40 and supporting social enterprises such as community events, clubs, associations, and faith-based initiatives.

GOAL 3: ENHANCE JASPER'S COMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND MESSAGING TO STRENGTHEN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, EXPAND PUBLIC AWARENESS, AND BUILD COMMUNITY IDENTITY AND PRIDE.

This goal emphasizes the importance of strengthening internal relationships while reaching a broader range of demographics through consistent and inclusive communications. Expanding access to community services and programs is a key priority, supported by language translation and the use of diverse communication channels to ensure information is accessible to all. It is also essential to protect and amplify local communication systems and resources, to promote and share Jasper's story that reinforces a strong, cohesive community identity.







3.1.4 | PRIORITIZATION SURVEY SNAPSHOT | PILLAR 1 RESULTS

The following snapshot is based on the Prioritization Survey ratings of each pillar action (1 = Lowest Priority, 10 = Highest Priority)

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Youth and young adult opportunities emerged as the highest priority.
- Residents value investments that create social connections and community belonging.
- Access to programs, services, and effective communication remain important community-building tools.

What This Means

Future efforts should focus on attracting and retaining younger residents, fostering social connections, and ensuring residents can easily access programs and community services.

RANKED ACTIONS (HIGHEST TO LOWEST PRIORITY)

- Expand and promote opportunities for youth and young adults. (8.38)
- Increase social infrastructure for residents ages 20-40. (7.81)
- Expand services and opportunities that introduce people to one another and the community. (6.96)
- Expand access to community services and programs. (6.92)
- Strengthen internal relationships and outreach through consistent communications. (6.80)
- Enhance, activate, and create gathering spaces as the city grows. (6.52)
- Protect and amplify local communication systems and resources. (6.31)
- Support and enhance social enterprises. (5.85)





Taking the Next Step

See page 52 of this report for the framework and steps that support delivery of this Pillar's objectives.

City Growth

OBJECTIVE: CREATING A COMMUNITY ROOTED IN CHARM, EMBRACING OPPORTUNITY.

3.2.1 | IMPORTANCE OF CITY GROWTH

Strategic, well managed growth will allow Jasper to preserve its small town charm while strengthening its resilience, economic vitality, and long term appeal.

City Growth is a cornerstone of Jasper's future vision, ensuring that the community remains vibrant, resilient, and attractive for generations to come. This pillar is not simply about expansion, but rather it is about intentional, managed growth that preserves Jasper's small-town charm while embracing new opportunities for economic and social vitality. Jasper's strengths, such as its strong sense of identity, access to nature, and quality schools, are foundational to its appeal. However, demographic shifts, evolving workforce needs, and changing societal values present both challenges and opportunities. Without a proactive approach to growth, Jasper risks stagnation, loss of young talent, and diminished regional influence. Conversely, strategic growth can position Jasper as a regional hub, attract diverse populations, and sustain economic stability.

The City Growth pillar focuses on balancing tradition with innovation. This means maintaining the qualities residents cherish while investing in a future-ready community that honors its heritage while adapting to change.

"Tengo cerca de 3 años en Jasper y le veo un potencial enorme para su desarrollo y crecimiento. Vengo de una ciudad de más de 3.5 millones de habitantes y puedo ver que si Jasper hace las cosas con planeación estratégica y bien organizada, puede llegar muy lejos cuidando su medio ambiente."

- Encuestado de al comunidad

"As Jasper continues to grow, there is a clear need for additional housing. At the same time, it's important to support local property owners by helping fill existing vacant homes and rentals, ensuring that current resources are utilized while also planning for future development."

- Community Survey Respondent



FUTURE INSIGHTS

- Jasper's population has grown steadily since 2010, with recent years showing an increase in growth. This provides the community with an opportunity to consider its approach to future population trends. Through the planning process, residents will need to decide whether Jasper should continue to attract new residents.
- Most of Jasper's housing was built in the 1980s and 1990s, with limited construction since 2020. Future planning will need to determine the appropriate level of additional residential growth and assess its implications for infrastructure and public services.
- The predominance of single-family housing in Jasper will shape who moves to the community and how easily residents can relocate. Future planning should consider whether a broader range of housing options is necessary to meet changing needs.
- Jasper ranks well above most U.S. neighborhoods on AARP's Livability Index, particularly in the Opportunity category. This strong rating reflects factors such as quality schools, job access, and safe neighborhoods. As Jasper plans for the future, it will be important to preserve these strengths while addressing emerging needs like housing diversity and infrastructure improvements to ensure Jasper remains a highly livable community.



3.2.2 | COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

- Jasper aims to grow in ways that **preserve its small town charm** and natural surroundings while **embracing new opportunities** that strengthen community identity.
- Residents recognize the need to **revitalize existing neighborhoods** and **expand diverse housing options** to meet the needs of families, young professionals, and longtime residents.
- The community wants to maintain key strengths, such as **quality schools, job access, and safe neighborhoods**, while planning for infrastructure improvements and well managed growth.
- Across viewpoints, a shared vision emerges for Jasper to **honor its heritage while supporting strategic, well designed growth** that keeps the city vibrant and resilient for generations.

"If your population isn't growing, everything else will suffer from it. You need to have a reason for people to want to stay here and move here...."

- Community Survey Respondent

KEY FINDINGS

- Jasper's average household size is smaller than that of Dubois County or the state of Indiana.
- Growth will require alignment between land use, utilities, transportation, and public services. Strategic partnerships and coordinated investment are key to managing growth effectively.





City Growth

For the City Growth Pillar, the following goals reflect Jasper's commitment to shaping growth in ways that preserve community character while preparing for a dynamic future. Community input emphasized the importance of guiding development with intention, thus aligning land use decisions with local values, ensuring new growth reinforces Jasper's identity, and investing in infrastructure and partnerships that keep the city resilient and well functioning. These goals connect directly to the Comprehensive Plan's key themes, including **purposeful growth, high-quality development, strategic coordinated investment, place based economic investment, internal connections,** and **intentional partnerships**, all of which position Jasper to thrive as it evolves.

GOAL 1: STRENGTHEN LONG-TERM POPULATION RETENTION AND GROWTH BY ENSURING LAND-USE PLANNING REFLECTS AND STRENGTHENS CORE COMMUNITY VALUES.



This goal supports purposeful growth and place based investment by guiding land use decisions that honor Jasper's character, attract new residents, and retain families through thoughtful, values driven planning.

GOAL 2: REINFORCE COMMUNITY IDENTITY BY MAINTAINING HIGH STANDARDS FOR NEW GROWTH.



Aligned with high-quality development and internal connections, this goal emphasizes design excellence, cohesive land use patterns, and development that enhances the community's sense of place.

GOAL 3: INVEST IN COORDINATED GROWTH TO SUSTAIN A LIVABLE, WELL-FUNCTIONING COMMUNITY.



This goal supports strategic coordinated investment and intentional partnerships by aligning infrastructure, utilities, public facilities, and growth decisions to ensure Jasper remains efficient, connected, and well-positioned for the future.





3.2.4 | PRIORITIZATION SURVEY SNAPSHOT | PILLAR 2 RESULTS

The following snapshot is based on the Prioritization Survey ratings of each pillar action (1 = Lowest Priority, 10 = Highest Priority)

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Utilities and infrastructure readiness are the highest priorities.
- Housing choice is viewed as essential to future growth.
- Residents support proactive planning and funding strategies to guide development.

What This Means

Residents support managed growth that protects community character while ensuring Jasper has the infrastructure, housing, and financial resources needed for future success.

RANKED ACTIONS (HIGHEST TO LOWEST PRIORITY)

- Plan for and invest in resilient, efficient utility systems. (8.64)
- Encourage a variety of housing options. (8.04)
- Secure funding for city-wide growth. (7.81)
- Establish a Comprehensive Plan monitoring and update process. (7.65)
- Promote infill development in the downtown area. (7.54)
- Advance zoning updates and community education efforts. (6.85)





Taking the Next Step

See page 53 of this report for the framework and steps that support delivery of this Pillar's objectives.

Connectivity and Collaboration

OBJECTIVE: **STRATEGIC POSITIONING FOR JASPER.**

3.3.1 | IMPORTANCE OF CONNECTIVITY AND COLLABORATION

The Connectivity and Collaboration pillar describes Jasper's aspirations for connectedness within and between communities and the region. Historically, the City of Jasper has been a collaborative partner in Dubois County and across the region, recognizing the importance of working with neighboring communities to address challenges such as housing, transportation, healthcare, and workforce development. Looking ahead, Jasper can continue to strengthen its role in the broader region through collaborative partnerships and relationships across nearby cities and with Dubois County. As seen in projects like the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center and Regional Wellness Center, creative partnerships are key to making big investments in Jasper and will continue to be an essential element of the community's approach to investing in quality of life for residents. Other collaborations can enhance physical, economic, and social ties in and around Jasper, while also addressing regional issues that are most effectively targeted through Dubois County government.

Jasper's existing role within Dubois County positions it well to function as a regional hub. Jasper can also be a leader by convening cross-sector partnerships, piloting innovative programs, or coordinating administrative capacity across neighboring communities.

Traditionally, connectivity conversations have centered around transportation, walkability, and recreation, but there has been a new emphasis on considering connectivity across social needs like health networks, community relationships, and digital connectivity. Improving Jasper residents' ability to travel between key places in the Jasper community and around the broader region is essential to strengthening community and ensuring Jasper amenities are accessible to all members of the community.

"As Jasper grows, it's essential to maintain the small-town charm and sense of connection that make the community unique, while leveraging the arts to strengthen Jasper's identity as a regional cultural hub."

- Community Survey Respondent



"Jasper lends itself to being a large player in the surrounding intercounty region due to its size and infrastructure. With increased planning and investment into infrastructure and the attraction of a diversified economy, I see the city poised to continue to strengthen its position in the regional area."

- Community Survey Respondent

FUTURE INSIGHTS

- Jasper has particular strengths when it comes to livability, community amenities, a charming and vibrant Main Street, and high-quality facilities with a regional draw; these all inform Jasper's opportunity to grow its role as a regional hub.
- Across the U.S., small and mid-sized cities are increasingly recognizing that regional collaboration is essential. Goals for economic development, workforce attraction, housing supply, and infrastructure funding are pursued at the county or multi-county scale to create alignment across communities and leverage shared resources.
- In many regional economies, an urban center serves as a hub for employment, healthcare, education, and culture. These hubs, like Jasper, are often home to important anchor institutions like higher education, hospitals, and civic organizations.



Connectivity and Collaboration

3.3.2 | COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

- Jasper residents expressed a strong interest in seeing Jasper **build intercity and governmental collaborations** with regional partners.
- Community members were also excited to see **greater connection to the region** through more transportation, potentially including regional tourism and commuting networks.
- Improved **trail access and walkability** were additional priorities emphasized by the Jasper community.

"Consider how Jasper can lead in regional collaboration on transportation, workforce development, and broadband access."

- Community Survey Respondent

KEY FINDINGS

- Almost 60% of community survey respondents rated building intercity and governmental collaborations as a level 7 out of 10 in terms of importance.
- The Think-Tank found that, according to participants, the most impactful drivers for built and natural environment included regional and external connectivity through transportation.







"We are regional, not local. Let's work together, continue digital improvements and roads."

- Community Survey Respondent



Connectivity and Collaboration

3.3.3 | THEMES AND GOALS



Three overarching themes emerged through the comprehensive planning process for the **Connectivity and Collaboration** Pillar: **intentional partnerships, regional connectivity, and connectivity within Jasper.** Together, these themes form the foundation of this Strategic Pillar and provide a framework for advancing the community's long-term vision. The goals outlined in this Pillar translate these themes into clear priorities, while the accompanying strategic actions provide a practical roadmap for fostering collaboration, strengthening relationships, and creating the connections necessary to achieve Jasper's preferred future.

GOAL 1: INCREASE CONNECTIVITY THROUGHOUT JASPER BY IMPROVING THE CITY'S PEDESTRIAN AND TRANSPORTATION NETWORKS.

Jasper residents hope to better connect community members with Jasper's excellent amenities and recreational and entertainment assets. By investing in pedestrian and transportation networks, Jasper can strengthen quality of life and social connectivity.



GOAL 2: PARTNER TO EXPAND TRANSPORTATION, UTILITY, AND WORKFORCE NETWORKS ACROSS THE REGION.

The Jasper community recognizes the importance of regional partnerships to make progress on key issues across Dubois County and beyond. Transportation, utilities, and workforce development are several themes where participation has been identified as being particularly valuable.



GOAL 3: STRENGTHEN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS TO SUPPORT JASPER AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES.

This goal speaks to Jasper residents' goals of becoming a regional leader for the surrounding area and acting as a recreational and community hub within Dubois County. Regional partnerships were identified as a key way to elevate Jasper's identity of regional leadership.



3.3.4 | PRIORITIZATION SURVEY SNAPSHOT | PILLAR 3 RESULTS

The following snapshot is based on the Prioritization Survey ratings of each pillar action (1 = Lowest Priority, 10 = Highest Priority)

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Transportation solutions tied to employment and daily mobility ranked highly.
- Collaboration with regional partners remains important.
- Safe pedestrian connections and community access remain strong priorities.

What This Means

Investments should prioritize transportation access, partnerships, and improvements in connectivity that strengthen both local mobility and regional relationships.

RANKED ACTIONS (HIGHEST TO LOWEST PRIORITY)

- Convene major employers to identify transportation needs. (7.50)
- Maintain active communication with neighboring communities. (7.31)
- Conduct outreach with funding and institutional partners. (7.23)
- Improve sidewalks and crosswalks near amenities. (7.15)
- Connect north- and south-side amenities through future networks. (7.15)
- Improve Jasper's roadway network. (6.85)
- Partner to expand transportation networks. (6.35)
- Implement the county-wide trail system vision. (5.81)
- Support regional tourism initiatives. (5.81)





Taking the Next Step

See page 55 of this report for the framework and steps that support delivery of this Pillar's objectives.

OBJECTIVE: **INVESTING IN PLACES AND PEOPLE.**

3.4.1 | IMPORTANCE OF WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The City of Jasper has a unique economy, balancing its Main Street commercial district of small businesses with its legacy manufacturing and industrial sectors. Continuing the City's economic success will involve not only supporting and growing the City's businesses but also guaranteeing an abundant workforce with aligned skills to meet businesses' needs. By investing in both the community and its workers, Jasper can bring more businesses to the city, help its current industries position for the future, expand the success of Main Street, and provide meaningful employment opportunities for Jasper residents.

AI, machine learning, and global dynamics are rapidly changing the way businesses operate, manufacturing processes, and the economic landscape of the future. Businesses and industries must adapt to new methods, opportunities, and technologies to remain competitive. Investing in both the community and its workers provides an opportunity for Jasper to bring more businesses to the City, help its current industries position for the future, expand the success of Main Street, and provide meaningful employment opportunities for Jasper residents. Workforce development forecasts emphasize the rapid change in workforce skills, driven by new technology, shifts in higher education, and economic pressures like inflation and the housing market.

Jasper's economy benefits from both small and adaptable Tier 2 businesses, as well as larger legacy employers. Investing in the future vibrancy of both elements will involve investing in Jasper's workforce and supporting businesses at a range of scales as they adapt to new developments.



"Seek to bring more entry-level professional jobs to the city - that way recent graduates can easily find jobs back home."

- Community Survey Respondent

"Build for economic evolution, not just preservation. Jasper's manufacturing legacy is a strength, but the future economy will demand agility, innovation, and diversification. The vision should support emerging sectors while modernizing traditional ones."

- Community Survey Respondent

FUTURE INSIGHTS

- Employment in Jasper spans a range of industries, with retail, health care, manufacturing, and wholesale trade accounting for the largest number of jobs. Workforce development efforts in Jasper should aim to equip the local workforce to meet the evolving needs of both legacy and growing industries.
- Jasper has a low unemployment rate, a factor which impacts employers' decision-making around locating new facilities in the Jasper area. Ongoing coordination and partnership with key employers and businesses is essential to attracting target businesses to the area.
- Jasper draws a significant number of workers from outside areas into the city for the workday. Connecting the Jasper population with large employment centers, as well as creating new jobs within Jasper, will factor in Jasper's future employment landscape.
- Jasper's downtown has a strong mix of neighborhood services, merchandise retail, and restaurants, as well as community amenities. Looking ahead, the community can continue to invest in this downtown economic center as an economic driver and center of community connection and events.

Workforce and Economic Development

- The Jasper community expressed a desire to **expand the workforce development pipeline** and host more job fairs and workforce development initiatives.
- Residents voiced their support for finding ways to **retain existing companies** in Jasper while also attracting new ones. Specifically, community members were interested in **attracting small businesses, local restaurants, and expanded retail options**.
- Another goal that emerged throughout the process was to **attract and retain more residents in the 20—40-year-old group**, particularly by promoting the community to external audiences and emphasizing the strong quality of life in Jasper, especially for remote workers.
- Jasper residents expressed support for **investing in multiple educational pathways**, including training programs in trades, life skills in schools, and certifications and degrees from higher education institutions. There was especially strong interest in expanding programs to **help high school students understand local opportunities** after graduation.

"Focus on smart, sustainable companies to bring to Jasper. Focus on emerging vocations."

- Community Survey Respondent

KEY FINDINGS

- With respect to economic and built environment, the most important topic for survey respondents was encouraging and attracting desirable businesses, followed by developing more local employment opportunities, keeping taxes low, providing economic opportunities for all, and ensuring the workforce develops future-ready skills.
- The proximity of the Crane facility and WestGate@Crane Technology Park is an opportunity for future economic and workforce development as an attractor of new businesses, such as engineering and Tier 2 supplier businesses. These businesses have the potential to attract high-skilled engineering and defense-technology jobs and support the regional ecosystem for defense-oriented innovation and technology.



WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS AND INITIATIVES

- Heart of Jasper Main Street
- Southwest Indiana Development Council
- Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission
- Southwest Indiana Workforce Board
- Regional Opportunity Initiatives
- Vincennes University Jasper Campus
- Jasper and Dubois County of Commerce

"Help support current industries to grow and adapt to a changing workplace."

- Community Survey Respondent





Workforce and Economic Development

3.4.3 | THEMES AND GOALS



Three overarching themes emerged through the comprehensive planning process for the **Workforce and Economic Development** Pillar: **workforce growth, industry support and attraction, and place-based economic investment.** Together, these themes establish the foundation of this Strategic Pillar and provide a strategic framework for strengthening Jasper's long-term economic vitality and competitiveness. The goals outlined in this Pillar point to clear priorities, while the accompanying strategic actions provide an actionable roadmap for building a resilient economy, expanding opportunities for residents and businesses, and advancing Jasper's preferred future.

GOAL 1: CREATE HIGH-QUALITY COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL CLUSTERS IN TARGETED AREAS THROUGHOUT THE CITY.



New commercial and industrial clusters will grow the Jasper economy by attracting new businesses and employers to the area. Looking ahead, Jasper can partner with priority industries to develop spaces that meet their needs and most strategically make new investments in these clusters.

GOAL 2: SUPPORT JASPER'S CURRENT INDUSTRIES AND TARGETED GROWTH SECTORS.



The legacy industries at the core of Jasper's historic economy are responding to ongoing changes and new technologies. Investment in and support for these industries is key to empowering long-term adaptability and sustainability for years to come.

GOAL 3: GROW JASPER'S WORKFORCE AND CULTIVATE SKILL DEVELOPMENT.

Given the pace of technological change and the rate at which new skills are required to be successful in various industries, ongoing investment in workforce development programs (particularly in partnership with higher education and industry leaders) will be essential to ensuring Jasper's workforce is equipped with the necessary skills.





3.4.4 | PRIORITIZATION SURVEY SNAPSHOT | PILLAR 4 RESULTS

The following snapshot is based on the Prioritization Survey ratings of each pillar action (1 = Lowest Priority, 10 = Highest Priority)

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Workforce development and skills training are top economic priorities.
- Residents support attracting new employers and workers.
- Infrastructure readiness remains critical to economic competitiveness.

What This Means

Economic development efforts should focus on talent development, business recruitment, workforce attraction, and preparing sites and infrastructure for future investment.

RANKED ACTIONS (HIGHEST TO LOWEST PRIORITY)

- Expand partnerships with employers and educational institutions to upskill residents. (8.46)
- Target Tier 2 businesses and industries for recruitment. (8.19)
- Attract new workers and residents to Jasper. (8.08)
- Support infrastructure and site-readiness improvements. (7.85)
- Continue workforce development efforts. (7.81)
- Address industry attrition and workforce availability challenges. (7.69)
- Identify key industrial and commercial investment nodes. (7.38)
- Identify legacy manufacturing support opportunities. (7.35)
- Improve placemaking in commercial and industrial areas. (7.19)







Taking the Next Step

See page 57 of this report for the framework and steps that support delivery of this Pillar's objectives.

Quality of Life Amenities

OBJECTIVE: **ADVANCING COMMUNITY WELL-BEING.**

3.5.1 | IMPORTANCE OF QUALITY OF LIFE AMENITIES

Quality of life amenities are a vital component of Jasper's community well-being and long-term community spirit. These amenities include parks, recreational facilities, cultural centers, walkable neighborhoods, and accessible public spaces that contribute to residents' physical health, mental wellness, and social connection. Community feedback highlights the importance of these features in maintaining Jasper's small-town character while providing opportunities for engagement, activity, and cultural enrichment. Amenities such as the Parklands, Riverwalk, and arts programming are valued for their role in fostering a sense of belonging and enhancing everyday life.

Jasper's evolving demographic trends, including an aging population and increased diversity, underscore the need for accessible, comprehensive healthcare options. The community recognizes the importance of local healthcare facilities and wellness programs that support all age groups, from youth to seniors. Investments in healthcare infrastructure, including partnerships with regional providers and expansion of services such as elder care and preventive wellness, complement recreational and cultural amenities to create a thriving, multi-generational community. Looking ahead, proposed projects like the YMCA and wellness center, expanded walking and biking trails, and enhanced cultural offerings are seen as key to meeting community needs and preferences.

Jasper aims to strengthen community well being through enhanced parks, cultural spaces, recreation, and accessible healthcare that support a vibrant, multi generational quality of life.

"The small town atmosphere is priceless on many levels. I love that I can get anywhere I need to be in 10-15 minutes. The amenities we have significantly add to the quality of life here --lovely parks, a charming downtown, and amazing arts opportunities with both the Arts Center and The Astra."

- Community Survey Respondent



"En general Jasper necesita más lugares donde la gente pueda estar cómoda, parques de juegos cerrados, ya que solamente está el Jumping Jasper y cada vez más en esta ciudad se está creciendo para mejorar. Siempre es mejor para el pueblo contribuir con el desarrollo y el bienestar de toda su comunidad."

- Encuestado de al comunidad

FUTURE INSIGHTS

- Jasper earns a high livability score thanks to factors like environmental quality, opportunities for socioeconomic advancements, strong transportation options, and health. As the City plans for its future, maintaining this level of livability will be essential to meet the needs of its diverse population.
- Jasper's high-performing schools are a key strength. As the community defines its future vision, it should consider how education supports broader goals for growth and quality of life. Partnerships among schools, local organizations, and training programs can help students develop skills for a changing world. Approaches such as STEAM-focused learning, experiential opportunities, and career pathways can ensure graduates are equipped to contribute to Jasper's evolving needs, reinforcing a shared vision for a resilient and thriving community.
- Strong cultural assets, including the Public Library, Thyen-Clark Cultural Center, and popular festivals that celebrate local heritage, are integral to what makes Jasper unique.
- Well-maintained parks and amenities, like the Riverwalk and Parklands, support active lifestyles and contribute to community livability. Looking ahead, the community should consider expanding bike infrastructure, trail connectivity, sports facilities, and green spaces to meet the needs of a growing population and reinforce its commitment to health and wellness.



Quality of Life Amenities

3.5.2 | COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

- Residents of Jasper want to maintain a high quality of life by **supporting parks, cultural spaces, walkable neighborhoods, and recreational facilities** that keep the community vibrant and connected.
- Community members value **accessible public spaces, arts programming, and natural amenities** like the Parklands and Riverwalk, and they hope future growth expands gathering places and recreation opportunities for all ages.
- Residents recognize the importance of **strong healthcare access** and **seek broader services, partnerships, and wellness facilities** to support Jasper's diverse and growing population.
- Planned **investments in trails, cultural amenities, and wellness facilities** reflect Jasper's commitment to fostering a healthy, inclusive, and multi generational community where quality of life remains a defining strength.

"Prioritize public space that binds a community together... that foster interaction across generations, cultures, and neighborhoods."

- Community Survey Respondent



KEY FINDINGS

- Jasper's population is home to a range of young families, older families, and senior residents. This creates a well-balanced and welcoming community.
- As Jasper envisions its future, this vision should accommodate the significant range of age groups that are represented in Jasper's population.







3.5.3 | THEMES AND GOALS

For the Quality of Life Amenities Pillar, three key goals emerged from community conversations, survey input, and the broader themes guiding Jasper's Comprehensive Plan. These goals reflect the community's desire to strengthen well being, deepen cultural experiences, and ensure that Jasper's amenities grow in a purposeful, coordinated way. Together, they support themes such as **place activation, purposeful amenity expansion, lifelong wellness and enrichment, social infrastructure,** and **strong internal connections** - all of which contribute to a thriving, connected, and future ready Jasper.



GOAL 1: ENHANCE THE VIBRANCY OF PUBLIC SPACES THROUGH EXPANDED CULTURAL AMENITIES, ARTS INTEGRATION, PROGRAMMING, AND EVENTS.

This goal supports place activation by energizing Jasper's parks, downtown, and cultural venues with more events, arts programming, and year round activities, strengthening community communications and deepening social connections.



GOAL 2: OPTIMIZE AND EXPAND AMENITIES IN WAYS THAT SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE, WELL-MANAGED FUTURE GROWTH.

Aligned with purposeful growth and strategic coordinated investment, this goal focuses on maintaining and expanding amenities, such as parks, trails, and recreation facilities, in step with Jasper's evolving needs, improving internal connections, and ensuring high quality, resilient development.

GOAL 3: EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEALTH, RECREATION, AND LEARNING THROUGH ACCESSIBLE, WELL-DESIGNED PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES.

This goal advances lifelong wellness and enrichment by expanding healthcare access, recreation opportunities, and learning programs, strengthening the city's social infrastructure, and supporting a thriving, multi generational community.





3.5.4 | PRIORITIZATION SURVEY SNAPSHOT | PILLAR 4 RESULTS

The following snapshot is based on the Prioritization Survey ratings of each pillar action (1 = Lowest Priority, 10 = Highest Priority)

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Clean, safe, and well-maintained public spaces are the highest priorities.
- Parks, connectivity, and recreation remain essential to a high quality of life.
- Residents value programming, culture, and preserving Jasper's unique character.

What This Means

A commitment to focus first on maintaining the spaces and services residents rely on every day, while investing in parks, programming, and our community's unique identity to create a vibrant, welcoming Jasper for all.

RANKED ACTIONS (HIGHEST TO LOWEST PRIORITY)

- Maintain clean and well kept public spaces. (7.97)
- Maintain public safety and security. (7.46)
- Update Parks and Playgrounds. (7.09)
- Improve citywide connectivity. (6.58)
- Develop recreational, wellness, and cultural facilities. (6.11)
- Expand recreational and lifelong learning programming. (5.80)
- Provide accessible programming and public art. (5.54)
- Improve awareness and navigation of amenities. (4.92)





Taking the Next Step

See page 59 of this report for the framework and steps that support delivery of this Pillar's objectives.



FUTURE LAND USE

4.0 | PLANNING FOR FUTURE LAND USES

How land is used is a foundational element of a comprehensive plan. The five pillars of the plan firmly established the foundation for the development of Jasper's future land use categories.

The City of Jasper's future land use plan illustrates desired land use patterns given the aspirations, goals, and strategies expressed throughout the planning process. Generalized land use categories and character areas are used to identify the desired appeal for existing and future areas of growth and change.

Future land uses are not official maps or zoning maps, and they do not specify what an owner can or cannot legally do with their property. However, they are used as a guide for policymaking and reflect previously adopted plans, current development trends, established land uses and zoning patterns, and capture future desires.

It became clear through the planning process that the community is open to encouraging multifunctional land uses as well.

4.1 | ESTABLISHED LAND USE PATTERNS



Jasper's established land use pattern reflects its roots as a compact, small town community supported by strong neighborhoods, a traditional downtown core, and well connected civic amenities.

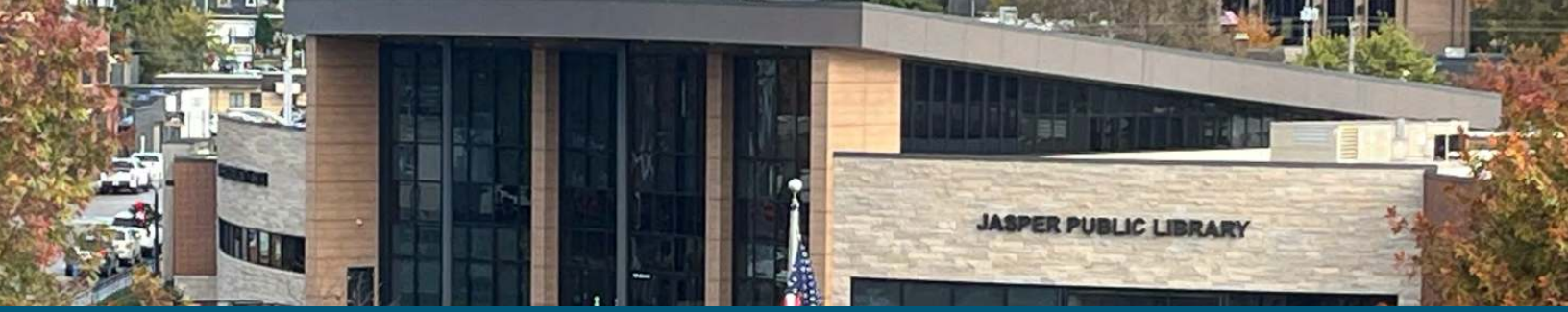
The City's historic development concentrated around the courthouse square and Main Street corridor, creating a walkable center anchored by local businesses, government services, cultural institutions, and community gathering spaces. Surrounding this core, Jasper's residential neighborhoods developed in a series of concentric patterns, with older, grid based blocks near downtown and newer subdivisions forming curvilinear streets and cul de sacs as the community grew outward.



Single family homes make up the predominant residential form, reflecting the community's long standing preference for low density living. Complementing these areas are pockets of multifamily housing, senior living facilities, and mixed institutional uses that support Jasper's evolving demographic needs. Commercial development is concentrated along key corridors, including Newton Street and major east west routes, providing retail, dining, and employment while forming important gateways into the community. Industrial and employment centers are located primarily on the city's edges, where regional access and expansion areas support continued economic activity.



Together, these patterns create a well balanced land use structure that preserves Jasper's small town character while accommodating steady growth and providing opportunities for future infill, redevelopment, and strategic expansion.



4.2 | KEY CONSIDERATIONS AND CHANGES FOR JASPER'S LAND USES

Community feedback highlights the need to preserve Jasper's unique identity while enhancing development. The future land use plan tackles challenges like population growth and environmental sustainability with infrastructure and innovative solutions, positioning Jasper as forward-thinking and collaborative.

Land use planning faces several key challenges, such as population growth, environmental sustainability, land degradation, conflicting uses, housing shortages, infrastructure development, economics, and inconsistent or outdated regulations and policies.

To address the evolving needs and aspirations of Jasper, the community thoughtfully considered a range of factors in shaping the foundational pillars of its future land use vision.

This led to the development of Jasper's Future Land Use Framework, which intentionally integrates traditional land use categories with an emphasis on the experience and character of certain areas.



While some parts of Jasper are well-established and expected to remain largely unchanged, other areas present opportunities for long-term transformation guided by a visionary horizon. Each land use designation in the plan reflects a unique blend of uses, shaped by the area's development pattern, identity, transportation options, and scale. This approach supports a more flexible and responsive planning model that aligns with the community's values and goals.

Guided by projected growth over the next 10 years, current conditions, established development patterns, and a shared vision for Jasper's future, the plan outlines key changes and considerations. It presents a scenario where Jasper embraces the opportunity to invest in forward-looking infrastructure and encourages collaborative, community-driven solutions to local challenges, remaining transformative and connected, and agile and inclusive.







4.3 | CONNECTING THE STRATEGIC PILLARS AND LAND USE

The five strategic pillars of the Comprehensive Plan express the community values, priorities, and opportunities that shape Jasper's long term vision.

While these pillars establish the community's direction, they also correspond to specific places throughout the city where growth, investment, preservation, and enhancement can occur. By linking each pillar to the physical landscape, Jasper can translate its vision into focused land use strategies. These connections form the foundation for implementing the Future Land Use Map and guiding how Jasper will grow, evolve, and strengthen its character over time.

COMMUNITY FABRIC

Jasper's close-knit identity is evolving to embrace greater diversity and an aging population, with priorities focused on inclusion, attracting younger adults and families, expanding "third spaces" such as parks, community centers, libraries, cafés, and public plazas, and strengthening communication and storytelling so all residents feel connected and empowered.

CITY GROWTH

As Jasper grows, maintaining its small-town character remains a priority through sustainable land-use planning and infill development, completing projects like the Northside Electric Substation, expanding housing options, and supporting economic investment to promote long-term growth and retention.

CONNECTIVITY AND COLLABORATION

Jasper is advancing a more connected future by improving walkability, such as strengthening pedestrian links between the Parklands and the Municipal Swimming Pool, while partnering with organizations like Deaconess and county stakeholders to enhance transportation access and regional connectivity.

WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

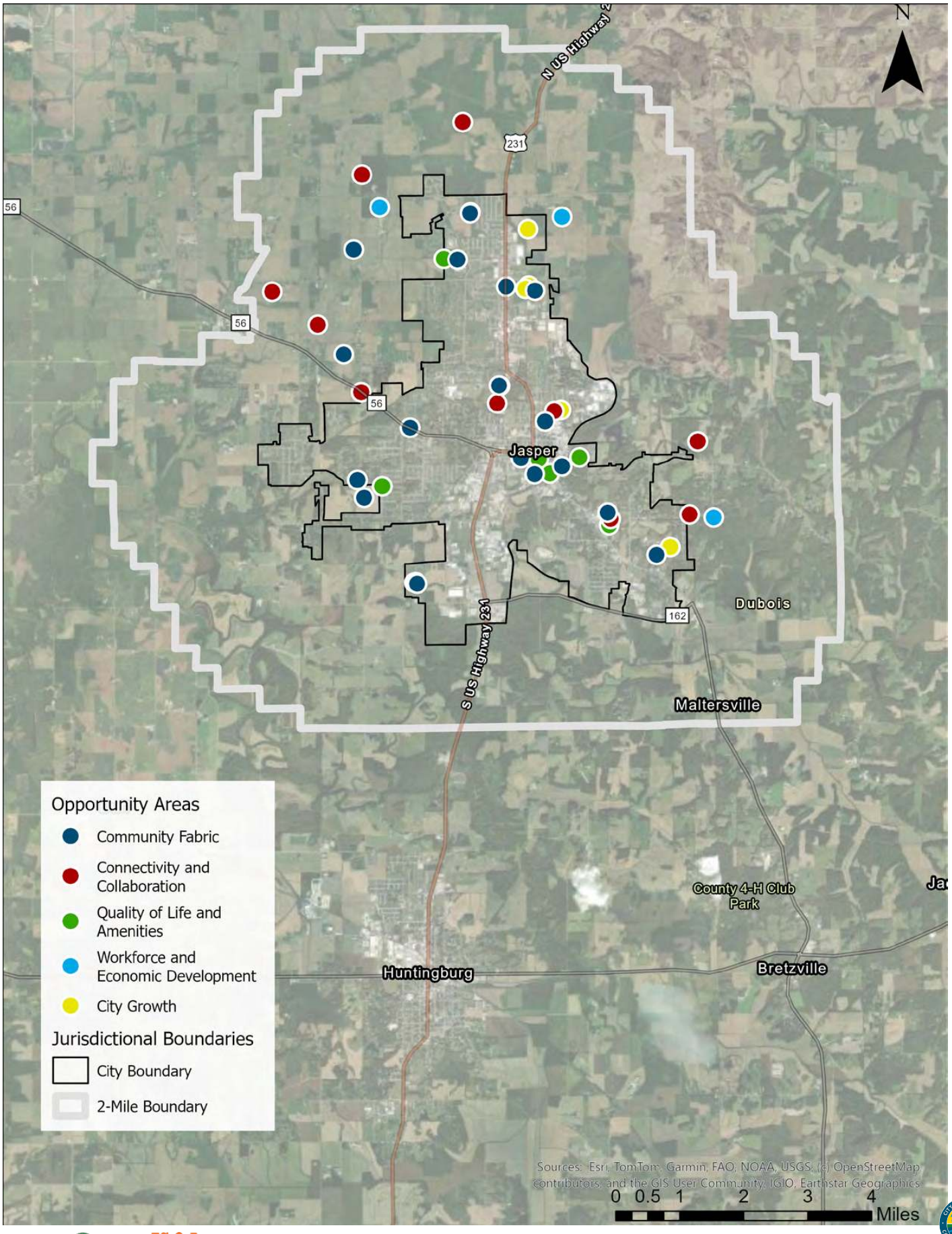
Jasper can expand its economic base through targeted investment in industrial and commercial areas, such as opportunity sites near the proposed Mid-State Corridor, which offer strong potential for logistics, manufacturing, and business growth, and by leveraging assets like the Jasper Youth Sports Complex to support long-term growth.



QUALITY OF LIFE AMENITIES

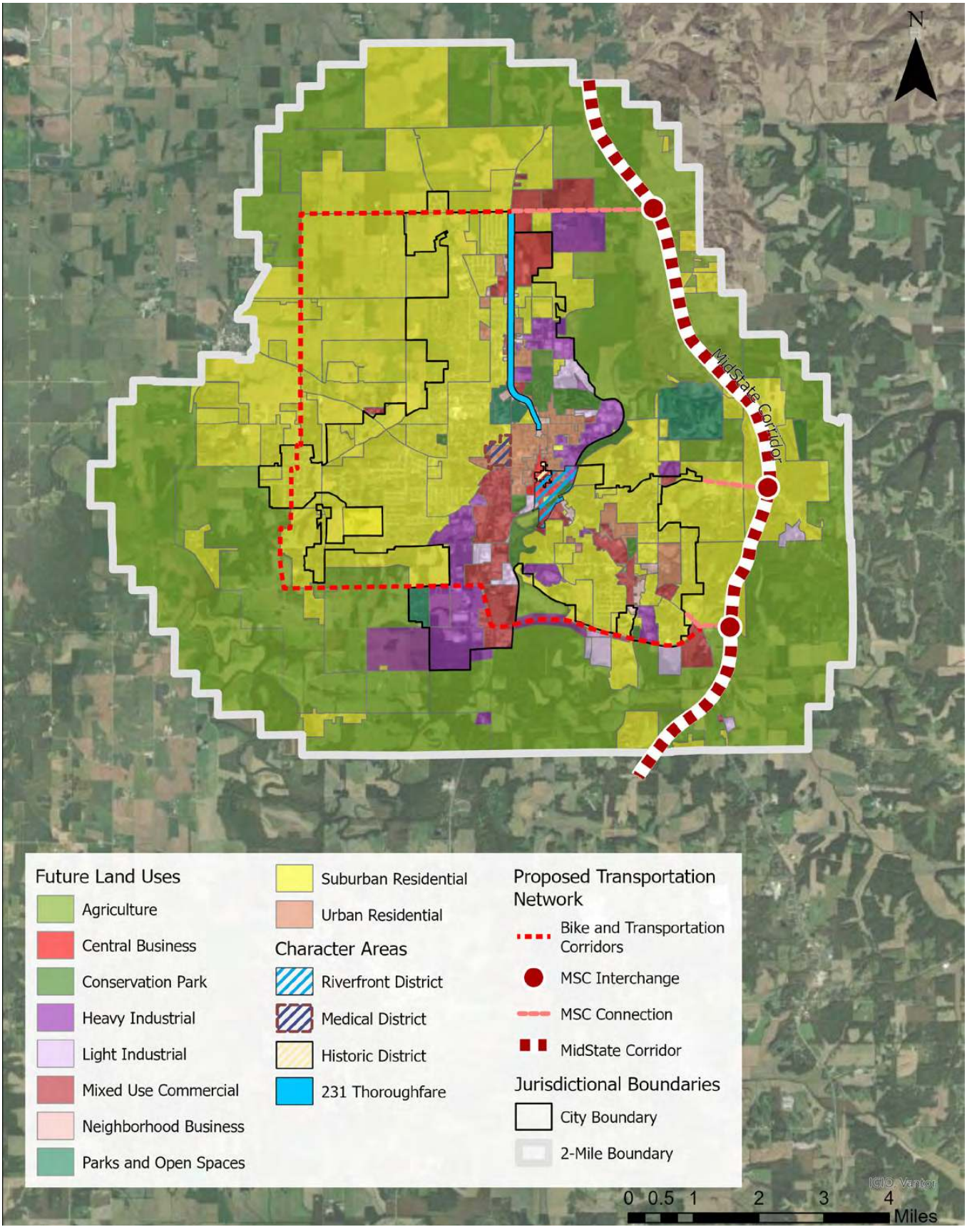
Jasper's strong quality of life provides a foundation for growth, with priorities including completing the Regional Wellness Center, improving walking trail connections, preserving and activating green and agricultural spaces, and using places like the downtown square for programming such as concerts, farmers markets, fitness classes, and community events.




N
N US Highway
231
56
56
56
Jasper
Dubois
162
S US Highway 231
Maltersville
County 4-H Club Park
Huntingburg
Bretzville
Opportunity Areas
Community Fabric
Connectivity and Collaboration
Quality of Life and Amenities
Workforce and Economic Development
City Growth
Jurisdictional Boundaries
City Boundary
2-Mile Boundary
Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, IGIO, Earthstar Geographics
0 0.5 1 2 3 4
Miles

4.4 | FUTURE LAND USE MAP

The future land use map reflects the principles, goals, and ambitions laid out in Jasper's Comprehensive Plan. It establishes guidelines for future zoning adjustments to ensure any alterations in the City Code encourage the type of development that fulfills the vision residents have for their community.



4.4.1 | FUTURE LAND USE DESCRIPTIONS

AGRICULTURE
Rural areas surrounding Jasper that preserve the region's agricultural heritage, maintain open landscapes, and provide a long term growth buffer while supporting farming and agribusiness.

SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL
Established and emerging neighborhoods on Jasper's edges featuring single family homes, larger lots, and subdivision patterns that reflect Jasper's modern housing growth.

URBAN RESIDENTIAL
Traditional walkable neighborhoods closer to downtown, with grid style streets and a mix of single family homes, duplexes, and small multifamily residences that represent Jasper's historic development pattern.

NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS
Small scale commercial nodes integrated into residential areas, places like local shops, services, and neighborhood retail that provide convenient daily amenities.

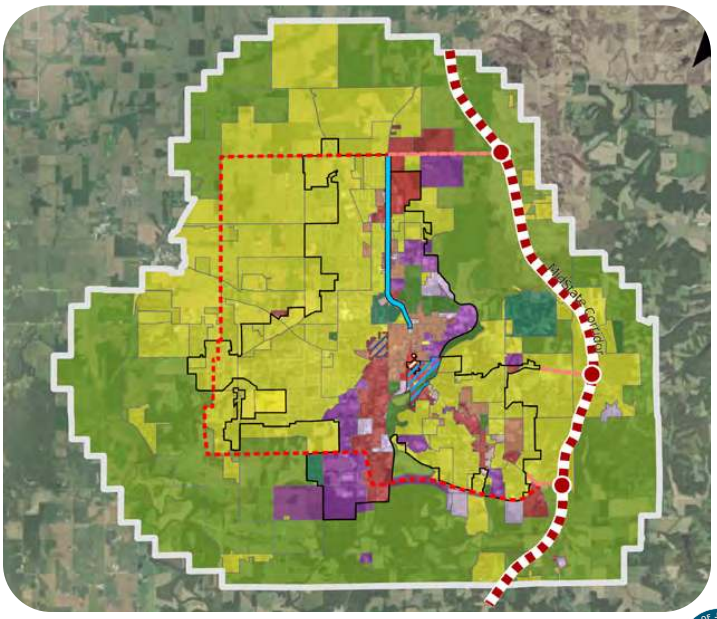
CENTRAL BUSINESS
Downtown Jasper, the cultural and civic heart of the city, supporting mixed commercial uses, dining, retail, civic services, and arts destinations like the Thyen Clark Cultural Center.

LIGHT INDUSTRIAL
Employment areas designed for clean manufacturing, logistics, and production - often located near rail lines or major corridors that serve Jasper's industrial economy.

HEAVY INDUSTRIAL
Large manufacturing and distribution sites, including long standing industrial employers, positioned along Jasper's southern and eastern edges and buffered from residential areas.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES
Community assets like the Parklands, Riverwalk, and neighborhood parks that provide recreation, greenway connections, and natural resource protection.

CONSERVATION PARK
Environmental areas intended for long term preservation, such as floodplain areas along the Patoka River, supporting habitat protection, passive recreation, and greenway expansion.





4.4.2 | CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

RIVERFRONT DISTRICT

A special area along the Patoka River emphasizing scenic access, recreation, mixed-use opportunities, and continued enhancement of destinations like the Riverwalk and adjacent redevelopment sites.

MEDICAL DISTRICT

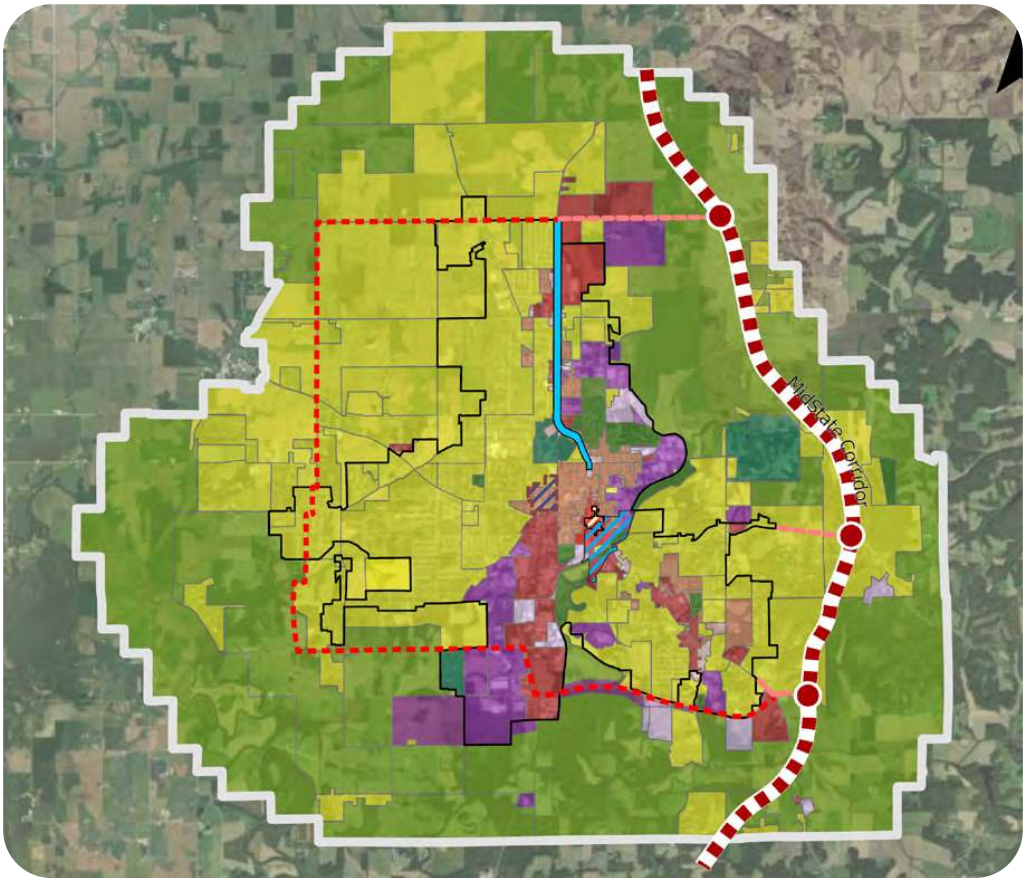
The cluster of healthcare facilities and supporting uses centered around Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center, serving as a major regional medical hub and employment center.

HISTORIC DISTRICT

Areas reflecting Jasper's heritage, including historic neighborhoods and the downtown core, where preservation, context-sensitive infill, and architectural character are priorities.

231 THOROUGHFARE

A major north-south gateway corridor that carries regional traffic and provides commercial access, where future improvements will focus on coordinated development, safety, beautification, and access management.





IMPLEMENTATION

ADVANCING WITH INTENTION



The City of Jasper has had a long history of successful progress, based on thoughtful community planning, fostering a strong community culture, and supporting economic development.

The future in front of the Jasper community holds a lot of promise, but it will be different from the past. The planning work to date has identified that the community has a significant appetite for bold ideas and developing a more future focused economy and community. This does not invalidate past efforts, rather it builds on this good work.

There are several big future shaping drivers emerging, such as the increasing appeal and strength of the Jasper community; the strong regional positioning; and the likelihood of the Mid-State Corridor development. This positions Jasper in a different way, and opens the door to new opportunities that will require different actions and approaches. Jasper is facing a significant inflection point in its history, and the majority of community stakeholders have indicated they have an appetite for solid, bold, and imaginative progress.

The implementation of the Comprehensive Plan will require matching the community's appetite for moving forward. This will see a different kind of change, a faster pace of change, and thinking at a bigger regional scale. The roadmap laid out in the Comprehensive Plan offers a series of objectives, goals, and actions that have been developed in this community-based planning work.

IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX LEGEND

GOAL: Each Strategic Pillar includes a series of planning goals that provide a framework for accomplishing it.

STEPS: All identified goals include a series of implementation strategies to achieve each aspiration. The inclusion of a project in the plan does not constitute funding authorization, project approval, debt authorization, or commitment of City resources. Future projects should continue to be evaluated through the standard budgeting, capital planning, and approval processes.

TIMELINE: Each action step has an anticipated timeframe for appropriate timing in acting on the item. Actual project timing and implementation may ultimately be impacted by available funding, staffing capacity, future operating costs, and overall financial conditions.

Timeline Key:

S: Short-term (1 to 3 years)

M: Mid-term (3 to 6 years)

L: Long-term (6 to 10 years)

0: Ongoing (Continuous)

*: From the City prioritization list

S	M	L	O
Short-Term: 1-3 Years	Mid-Term: 3-6 Years	Long-Term: 6-10 Years	Ongoing



5.1.1 | PILLAR 1: COMMUNITY FABRIC - PILLAR IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

S	M	L	O
Short-Term: 1-3 Years	Mid-Term: 3-6 Years	Long-Term: 6-10 Years	Ongoing

Goal	Step	Timeline			
		S	M	L	O
Goal 1: Deepen and broaden welcoming initiatives that are inclusive and reach new and existing residents.	CF 1.1.1 New resident services, city resources directory, new residents page and City website, and centralized information accessible to all groups.				O
	CF 1.1.2 Host quarterly new resident meetings.				O
	CF 1.1.3 Create a Marketing Position within the City	S			
	CF 1.2.1 Develop neighborhood identities, activities, and resources.		M		
	CF 1.3.1 Develop mentorships, increase activities, and job fairs.	S			
Goal 2: Enhance and activate existing spaces and opportunities, and develop new ones as needed, to foster meaningful community engagement.	CF 2.1.1 More variety of restaurants; develop public greens and places to play and hang out.		M		
	CF 2.1.2 Develop and expand the Downtown Courtyard and Activity Trail.		M		
	CF 2.2.1 Expand support to community events, clubs, community associations, and church functions.	S			
	CF 2.3.1 Increase amenities that serve 20-40 year olds; expand nightlife opportunities. Support HOJ Alive After 5.	S			
	CF 2.3.2 Leverage the Arts to help tell our communities' story, such as public art, festivals, exhibits, and performances.				O
Goal 3: Enhance Jasper's communication infrastructure and messaging to strengthen civic engagement, expand public awareness, and build community identity and pride.	CF 3.1.1 Initiate digital quarterly city updates; convene in-person meetings in English and Spanish in neighborhood locations.	S			
	CF 3.2.1 Provide language translation and more varied modes of communication.	S			
	CF 3.3.1 Support local journalism and storytelling; amplify community voices.			L	
	CF 3.4.1 Conduct an audit of existing branding and marketing assets (e.g., logo usage, website, social media, print materials, signage).	S			
	CF 3.4.2 Develop updated branding guidelines, including logo standards, color palette, typography, imagery, and tone of voice, aligning messaging with key City priorities.	S			
	CF 3.4.3 Launch a coordinated rollout campaign to introduce the updated branding across all channels.	S			

S	M	L	O
Short-Term: 1-3 Years	Mid-Term: 3-6 Years	Long-Term: 6-10 Years	Ongoing

Goal	Step	Timeframe			
		S	M	L	O
Goal 1: Strengthen long-term population retention and growth by ensuring land-use planning reflects and strengthens core community values.	CG 1.1.1 Analyze residential types and resident-serving commercial uses within existing zoning districts to identify needed zoning modifications or new district classifications that support more integrated, mixed-use, walkable neighborhoods.				O
	CG 1.1.2 Educate residents on ADU regulations and possibilities through city-led workshops.	S			
	CG 1.1.3 Coordinate and develop a plan for the potential implementation of county-wide zoning by assessing existing district frameworks, identifying consistency and integration needs, and evaluating options for unified zoning regulations.	S	M		
	CG 1.1.4 Review and recommend where appropriate to adopt the Inc. Codes ordinance recommendations.	S			
	CG 1.2.1 Enhance review processes and incentives for increased predictability in the development process.	S			
	CG 1.2.2 Create an Infill Housing Program based on the South Bend, IN (New Neighborhood Homes Initiative) Model.*	S			
	CG 1.3.1 Develop a Comprehensive Plan Tracking Dashboard to monitor implementation of land use and growth strategies, such as development patterns, housing trends, infrastructure investments, and demographic changes.				O
	CG 1.3.2 Conduct periodic reviews, recommendations, and updates to the Comprehensive Plan - annually, through a formal minor update at the five-year mark, and with a major update at the ten-year mark - to ensure the plan remains current, actionable, and aligned with community goals.				O
Goal 2: Reinforce community identity by maintaining high standards for new growth.	CG 2.1.1 Create subdivision regulations in the Land Development Ordinance (UDO) that encourage different housing types.	S			
	CG 2.1.2 Assess and incentivize the use of form-based standards to improve walkability and neighborhood cohesion.		M		
	CG 2.1.3 Update design guidelines to ensure new development reflects local character.		M		

S	M	L	O
Short-Term: 1-3 Years	Mid-Term: 3-6 Years	Long-Term: 6-10 Years	Ongoing

Goal	Step	Timeline			
		S	M	L	O
Goal 3: Invest in coordinated growth to sustain a livable, well-functioning community.	CG 3.1.1 Conduct a comprehensive utility capacity and CG 3.1.1 Conduct a comprehensive utility capacity and condition assessment to include water, sewer, gas, electric, stormwater, and broadband.	S			
	CG 3.1.2 Coordinate utility upgrades with roadway and development projects and incorporate green infrastructure and stormwater best practices when feasible.				O
	CG 3.1.3 Develop and/or maintain and review every few years the long-term asset management plan for Civil City and Utilities.				O
	3.1.4 Annually budget for regular and systemic maintenance and upgrades.				O
	CG 3.1.5 Plan for Utility Rate Studies to be conducted every 3-5 years in conjunction with assessment of and updates to long-term Utility asset management and capital improvement plans.		M		
	CG 3.1.6 Execute plan regarding the development of the new Northside Wastewater Treatment Plant.	S	M		
	CG 3.1.7 Repave Mill Street from 9th to 15th Street.*	S			
	3.1.8 Work with INDOT- Mid State Connection on the 47th and Newton Stop Light, potential roundabout, and roadway improvements eastward to the proposed Mid-State Corridor (MSC) and westward to Ireland.*		M		
	CG 3.2.1 Invest in Redevelopment Commission funding, such as Abatement fees and Growth fund.*				O
	CG 3.2.2 Leverage future economic grants with bonds for development.*			L	



S	M	L	O
Short-Term: 1-3 Years	Mid-Term: 3-6 Years	Long-Term: 6-10 Years	Ongoing

Goal	Step	Timeline			
		S	M	L	O
Goal 1: Increase connectivity throughout Jasper by improving the city's pedestrian and transportation networks	CC 1.1.1 Update Jasper's Multi-Modal Plan, including establishing mode hierarchy and performance targets, such as pedestrian, bicycle, vehicular, or freight, to guide future transportation investments.	S			
	CC 1.1.2 Expand walking trails in and near the Holy Family neighborhoods, including connecting Holy Family Church to 3rd Avenue and Bohnert Park.*	S			
	CC 1.1.3 Complete the Riverwalk loop around the City-SW Quadrant.	S			
	CC 1.2.1 Replace and/or repair Riverwalk Bridges.*	S			
	CC 1.2.2 Install sidewalks and improve the pedestrian crosswalk to connect the Parklands and Aquatic Center.			L	
	CC 1.3.1 36th Street Road Improvements from Mill Street west to Newton Street.*	S			
	CC 1.3.2 Improve the 44th Street connection to the Horne Development.*		M		
	CC 1.3.3 Adopt SAFE Street Standards and Planning.		M		
	CC 1.3.4 Plan for long-term road maintenance and actively coordinate with utility projects.				O
	CC 1.3.5 Work to implement the state-mandated wheel tax.				O
Goal 2: Partner to expand transportation, utility, and workforce networks across the region.	CC 2.1.1 Continue close communication with County partners to ensure the regional trail plan is implemented.				O
	CC 2.2.1 Partner with the County to conduct a feasibility assessment for the French Lick Railway.		M		
	CC 2.3.1 Work with the County, neighboring Municipalities, and employers to explore and support Countywide transportation needs.			L	
	CC 2.3.2 Establish a working group with major employers, nearby communities, and county and regional partners to discuss workforce transportation needs.	S			
	CC 2.3.3 Work with possible partners, such as Region 15, Radius, ROI, and Dubois Strong, to identify funding sources and grant opportunities to study workforce transportation needs.		M		
	CC 2.4.1 Plan and coordinate connections related to the Mid-State Corridor, as appropriate based on project status.	S	M		
	CC 2.4.2 Coordinate the St. Charles and Hwy 56 intersection roundabout with INDOT.*		M		
	CC 2.4.3 Coordinate the Hwy 56 and CR 350 (Buschkoetters) roundabout with INDOT.*	S			
	CC 2.4.4 Improve 350 West as a main North/South Corridor, coordinating with INDOT and the County.*			L	
	CC 2.4.5 Extend 15th Street to HWY 56.*		M		
	CC 2.4.6 Coordinate remaining areas needed for the resurfacing of US 231 through Huntingburg and Jasper with INDOT.*			L	

S	M	L	O
Short-Term: 1-3 Years	Mid-Term: 3-6 Years	Long-Term: 6-10 Years	Ongoing

Goal	Step	Timeline			
		S	M	L	O
Goal 3: Strengthen regional partnerships to support Jasper and the surrounding communities.	CC 3.1.1 Identify and prioritize key partnerships early by engaging both primary stakeholders and smaller or regional collaborators to fill gaps, strengthen coordination, and advance implementation across all plan pillars.	S			
	CC 3.1.2 Expand partnerships with Deaconess Health System and other key partners to explore opportunities for collaboration and potential support for grants, active events, trail and multimodal expansions, and community resources.				O
	CC 3.2.1 Support a path toward an Advisory Planning Commission for the County.*		M		
	CC 3.2.2 Routinely engage nearby communities by building relationships with local leaders, such as attending meetings, participating in committees, and collaborating on regional initiatives to support implementation.				O



S	M	L	O
Short-Term: 1-3 Years	Mid-Term: 3-6 Years	Long-Term: 6-10 Years	Ongoing

Goal	Step	Timeline			
		S	M	L	O
Goal 1: Create high-quality commercial and industrial clusters in targeted areas throughout the city.	WE 1.1.1 Conduct an Annexation Benefits Assessment to explore and communicate the impacts of potential annexation.*		M		
	WE 1.1.2 Develop and market shovel-ready properties for commercial and industrial development.				O
	WE 1.1.3 Convene major employers, small businesses, developers, and workforce partners to coordinate cluster development.		M		
	WE 1.1.4 Promote and support existing commercial developments in expansion and redevelopment opportunities.			L	
	WE 1.2.1 Capitalize on the economic impact and tourism draw of the Jasper Youth Sports Complex and other sports tourism opportunities like soccer and the Regional Wellness Center.				O
	WE 1.2.2 Maintain investment in Downtown Jasper and the Heart of Jasper to promote activation and increase length of stay and spending.				O
	WE 1.2.3 Conduct a subarea study to position Vine Street as a targeted economic development opportunity area by encouraging an appropriate mix of uses, strengthening connections to downtown, and integrating community input (Vine Street District).	S	M		
	WE 1.2.4 In collaboration with stakeholder engagement, establish a distinct identity and branding framework for the Vine Street District to guide marketing, placemaking, and design.	S			
	WE 1.3.1 Plan and encourage commercial, industrial, and mixed-use development near the proposed Mid-State Corridor connections.	S	M		
	WE 1.3.2 Further develop Jasper's Economic Development Toolkit to ensure adequate and competitive resources.	S			
Goal 2: Support Jasper's current industries and targeted growth sectors.	WE 2.1.1 Become a member and maintain membership in the Crane Regional Development Group.*	S			
	WE 2.1.2 Encourage new and/or redeveloped commercial space for prospective small and midsize businesses.	S	M		
	WE 2.2.1 Maintain active relationships with existing industrial and commercial businesses to monitor evolving needs.				O
	WE 2.3.1 Amplify support for Dubois Strong, Jasper's Chamber of Commerce, and Dubois County Chamber of Commerce.				O
	WE 2.3.2 Increase the relationship and partnership with the Indiana Economic Development Corporation.	S			
	WE 2.3.3 Identify solutions to increase access to childcare.	S			

S	M	L	O
Short-Term: 1-3 Years	Mid-Term: 3-6 Years	Long-Term: 6-10 Years	Ongoing

Goal	Step	Timeline			
		S	M	L	O
Goal 3: Grow Jasper's workforce and cultivate skill development.	WE 3.1.1 Support residential growth by expanding housing options to meet the evolving needs of new residents and meet the projected demand for nearly 1,300 additional housing units by 2035 (Dubois-County-Housing-Study-2023.pdf).				O
	WE 3.1.2 Launch a next-generation talent attraction and retention campaign centered on Jasper's quality of life, career pathways, and community character.		M		
	WE 3.2.1 Strengthen cross-sector collaboration across employers, institutions, and economic development partners to proactively align workforce development and talent retention initiatives.				O
	WE 3.2.2 Collaborate with Dubois County to help raise the education levels of county residents.				O
	WE 3.2.3 Strengthen partnerships across Vincennes University Jasper, K-12 schools, employers, and workforce organizations to build a coordinated, comprehensive network that supports early workforce development and seamless education-to-career pipelines.		M	L	
	WE 3.2.4 Leverage Vincennes University Jasper as a strategic workforce and innovation partner to expand local career pathways and specialized training opportunities aligned with community and employer needs.				O
	WE 3.3.1 Identify opportunities to amplify and support workforce innovation programs through partnerships, promotion, and strategic investment, building on efforts like Hub 19 while encouraging broader, organic growth across the network.				O



S	M	L	O
Short-Term: 1-3 Years	Mid-Term: 3-6 Years	Long-Term: 6-10 Years	Ongoing

Goal	Step	Timeline			
		S	M	L	O
Goal 1: Enhance the vibrancy of public spaces through expanded cultural amenities, arts integration, programming, and events.	QL 1.1.1 6th and 4th St Trail loop from Main Street to the Riverwalk	S			
	QL 1.1.2 Walking Trail and Connector from Northwood to Buehler Park Trail*		M		
	QL 1.1.3 Integrate Art into trails and walking paths throughout the City.		M	L	
	QL 1.2.1 Bohnert, Parker, Schroeder	S			
	QL 1.2.2 Lion's, Jaycee, Buehler		M		
	QL 1.2.3 Gutzweiler, Ruxer			L	
	QL 1.3.1 Review the current policies of the Public Art Program and update accordingly, including the consideration of incorporating funding mechanisms, artist partnerships, and enforcement if the process not be followed.	S			
	QL 1.3.2 Continue utilizing the downtown square as a hub for events and programming by activating it with recurring programming (seasonal events, markets, performances).	S			
	QL 1.3.3 Encourage local organizations, schools, and businesses to co-host events and expand programming capacity and offerings through incentives like mini grants program.	S			
	QL 1.3.4 Support efforts to increase programming and accessibility to the Jasper Arts Center.		M	L	
	QL 1.4.1 Identify and develop a list of historically significant sites and structures throughout the city that is continuously monitored for updates and project opportunities.	S	M	L	
Goal 2: Optimize and expand amenities in ways that support sustainable, well-managed future growth.	QL 2.1.1 Establish context-sensitive development guidelines or standards for growth, preservation, and transition areas.	S	M		
	QL 2.1.2 Align infrastructure and capital planning with the growth framework and prioritize investments (roads, utilities, parks) in growing areas while limiting extensions into preservation areas.				O
	QL 2.1.3 Update the Jasper Comprehensive Plan document to reflect growth and preservation needs.*			L	
	QL 2.2.1 As growth continues, coordinate with police, fire, and emergency services to ensure a visible presence in parks, along trails, recreation centers, and other outdoor public spaces.				O
	QL 2.2.2 Conduct a staffing and resources study to expand staffing and coverage as needed for public safety services and evaluate in coordination with city growth and development.				O
	QL 2.2.3 Leverage the Public Safety Tax to provide financial resources for acquiring new and/or additional public safety equipment.				O
	QL 2.3.1 Partner with the appropriate City departments or agencies responsible for maintenance and operations to increase city-wide services for parks, trails, and public facilities.		M	L	

S	M	L	O
Short-Term: 1-3 Years	Mid-Term: 3-6 Years	Long-Term: 6-10 Years	Ongoing

Goal	Step	Timeline			
		S	M	L	O
Goal 3: Expand opportunities for health, recreation, and learning through accessible, well-designed programs and facilities.	QL 3.1.1 Incorporate educational and cultural programming into parks and facilities to broaden access to informal learning opportunities, including environmental education, arts instruction, and community learning events.				O
	QL 3.1.2 Support the Jasper–Dubois County Public Library in expanding its role as a central hub for cultural enrichment, lifelong learning, and community programming.				O
	QL 3.1.3 Leverage and promote the Arts and quality of life initiatives to support community engagement and for economic attraction and growth.				O
	QL 3.1.4 Develop targeted programming and facilities that support senior health, mobility, and social connection.		M	L	
	QL 3.1.5 Partner with healthcare providers to expand access to mental health services, wellness education, and community-based support programs.		M	L	
	QL 3.2.1 Create a comprehensive Parks and Recreation Guide (digital and print).				O
	QL 3.2.2 Identify signage gaps and create a city-wide wayfinding signage plan and system.		M		
	QL 3.3.1 Complete construction of the Regional Wellness Center Phase 1, and begin the development process for Phase 2.*		M		
	QL 3.3.2 Seek funding and complete the Archery Range.*	S			
	QL 3.3.3 Seek funding and complete the Lookout Tower at the Parklands.*	S			
	QL 3.3.4 Seek funding and add turf fields at the Jasper Youth Sports Complex.*	S			
	QL 3.3.5 Complete updates to the men's softball field.*		M		
	QL 3.3.6 Engage youth leagues to define expansion and relocation needs, evaluate land use opportunities for new facilities, and determine future uses for existing sites.				O
	QL 3.3.7 Add an amphitheater to the Parklands and/or to Ruxer Disc Golf Course Recreation Area.*			L	
	QL 3.3.8 Develop a new golf clubhouse.		M		
	QL 3.3.9 Develop a new soccer complex.	S			
	QL 3.3.10 Advance Art Center Phase 2 building expansion or relocation.			L	

5.2 | IMPLEMENTATION BY TIMEFRAME AND LEAD/PARTNERSHIPS



TURNING VISION INTO ACTION

The Jasper Comprehensive Plan establishes a vision for growth, community connection, and long-term prosperity. Achieving that vision will require coordinated action, shared responsibility, and strong partnerships across the community.

Successful implementation depends on clearly identifying who will lead, support, and champion each recommendation. The Implementation Partnership and Responsibility Matrices that follow identify the departments, organizations, institutions, and community partners responsible for advancing the goals and actions of the Plan. While lead agencies are identified, implementation should be viewed as a shared responsibility requiring collaboration among local government, businesses, educational institutions, nonprofit organizations, regional partners, and residents.

A Partnership-Based Approach

A consistent theme throughout the planning process was the importance of collaboration. Jasper's future success will depend on building on the partnerships that have already advanced community revitalization, cultural investments, recreation facilities, workforce initiatives, and economic development efforts. Key implementation partners may include City departments and elected officials, County and regional agencies, economic development organizations, schools and workforce partners, healthcare providers, community foundations, nonprofit organizations, utility providers, employers, developers, and residents.



Using the Responsibility Matrices

The matrices on the following pages serve as a practical implementation tool that supports accountability, coordination, and progress tracking. Each matrix is organized by:

- **Goal** – The long-term outcome that supports the Strategic Pillar and community vision.
- **Action** – The primary strategy for achieving the goal.
- **Step** – Specific projects, programs, policies, or initiatives that advance the action.
- **Lead/Partnerships** – The organizations responsible for leading, supporting, or coordinating implementation efforts.

Implementation responsibilities are organized around the Plan's five Strategic Pillars: Community Fabric, City Growth, Connectivity and Collaboration, Workforce and Economic Development, and Quality of Life Amenities.

MOVING FORWARD

Implementation should be viewed as an ongoing process rather than a fixed endpoint. As conditions evolve and new opportunities emerge, priorities and partnerships may adapt accordingly.



MONITORING PROGRESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Jasper Comprehensive Plan is intended to be a living document that guides decisions, investments, and partnerships over time. To keep implementation on track, the City should regularly monitor progress, evaluate results, and adjust priorities as needed.



Implementation should be tracked across all five Strategic Pillars and focus on:

- Completed and ongoing actions.
- Progress toward major projects and milestones.
- Housing, economic, infrastructure, and development trends.
- Partnership and funding opportunities.
- Community engagement and participation.
- Emerging opportunities and challenges.

To promote transparency, the City should provide regular public updates through annual reports, City communications, and the City's website. A public-facing Comprehensive Plan Tracking Dashboard is also recommended to monitor implementation status and key community indicators.

RECOMMENDED REVIEW SCHEDULE



Annual Review

- Update implementation status.
- Evaluate completed and ongoing actions.
- Identify priority projects, funding opportunities, and partnership needs.

Five-Year Review

- Assess community, economic, housing, and infrastructure trends.
- Adjust priorities, timelines, and implementation strategies as needed.

Ten-Year Update

- Conduct a comprehensive review of implementation outcomes.
- Update data, community priorities, and growth projections.
- Prepare the next Comprehensive Plan update.

PLAN PERFORMANCE MEASURES

To help track implementation progress and measure success over time, the City should monitor a set of key indicators aligned with the five Strategic Pillars. These measures can be incorporated into the City's Comprehensive Plan Tracking Dashboard and annual implementation reports. Tracking performance will help identify accomplishments, guide future investments, and ensure the Plan remains responsive to community needs.



Key Metrics May Include:

Community Fabric:

Community event participation, public engagement rates, new resident engagement, neighborhood organization activity, and communication reach.



City Growth:

Population growth, housing units constructed, housing diversity, infill development activity, building permits, and infrastructure investments.

Connectivity & Collaboration:

Miles of sidewalks and trails completed, transportation improvements implemented, regional partnership initiatives, and grant funding secured.

Quality of Life Amenities:

Park and trail usage, recreation and arts participation, public space improvements, and investments in wellness and community facilities.

Overall Plan Metrics:

Percentage of actions completed or underway, capital investment leveraged, grant funding secured, active implementation partnerships, and annual progress reporting. Implementation progress should be reported annually through a public dashboard and implementation report, with more comprehensive evaluations conducted at the five-year and ten-year milestones.



Foundational		
Step	**Lead/Partnerships**	**Status**
CF Goal 1: Create a Marketing Position within the City.	City Mayor, Council, Clerk Treasurer, Attorney	
CC Goal 3: Identify and prioritize key partnerships early by engaging stakeholders and regional collaborators.	City Mayor/Council, Community Development and Planning Department, Dubois Strong, Jasper Chamber	
WE Goal 2: Become a member and maintain membership in the Crane Regional Development Group.	City Mayor, Jasper Chamber, Dubois Strong	
WE Goal 2: Increase the relationship and partnership with the Indiana Economic Development Corporation.	Dubois Strong	
CC Goal 2: Establish a working group with major employers, nearby communities, and regional partners to discuss workforce transportation needs.	Dubois Strong	
CG Goal 3: Conduct a comprehensive utility capacity and condition assessment.	Utilities Department	
CC Goal 1: Update Jasper's Multi-Modal Plan.	Community Development and Planning Department, Engineering Department, Street Department	
WE Goal 1: Conduct a subarea study for the Vine Street District.	Plan Commission, Redevelopment Commission, City Mayor/Council/ ClerkTreasurer	
CF Goal 3: Conduct an audit of existing branding and marketing assets.	Marketing Director	
QL Goal 1: Review the current policies of the Public Art Program and update accordingly.	Jasper Arts, Dubois County Community Foundation	
CG Goal 1: Review and recommend where appropriate to adopt the Inc. Codes ordinance recommendations.	City Mayor/Council, Plan Commission, Community Development and Planning Department	

Policy, Programs, and Community Development		
Step	**Lead/Partnerships**	**Status**
CF Goal 3: Develop updated branding guidelines and messaging framework.	Marketing Director, Marketing/Branding Consultant	
WE Goal 1: Establish a distinct identity and branding framework for the Vine Street District.	Urban Design Consultant	
CF Goal 3: Provide language translation and more varied modes of communication.	Marketing Director, Communications Consultant, Citywide translation services	
CF Goal 3: Initiate digital quarterly city updates and neighborhood meetings.	Marketing Director, Citywide translation services	
CG Goal 1: Enhance review processes and incentives for increased predictability in development review.	City Mayor/Council, Plan Commission, BZA, Community Development and Planning Department	
CG Goal 2: Create subdivision regulations in the UDO that encourage different housing types.	City Mayor/Council, Plan Commission, Community Development and Planning Department	
CG Goal 1: Educate residents on ADU regulations and possibilities through city-led workshops.	Community Development and Planning Department, Builders Association, Realtors	
CF Goal 2: Expand support to community events, clubs, associations, and church functions.	Churches, Social Service Organizations, Community Foundations	
CF Goal 1: Develop mentorships, increase activities, and job fairs.	School Corp, VUJ, Nonprofit Social Services	
CF Goal 2: Increase amenities that serve 20-40 year olds and expand nightlife opportunities.	Young Professionals Group, City	
CG Goal 1: Create an Infill Housing Program based on the South Bend model.	City Mayor/Council, Plan Commission, Community Development and Planning Department, Builders Association, Developers	
CF Goal 3: Launch a coordinated rollout campaign introducing the updated branding.	City Mayor, Council, Clerk Treasurer, Marketing Director	

Infrastructure and Capital Projects		
Step	**Lead/Partnerships**	**Status**
CG Goal 3: Repave Mill Street from 9th to 15th Street.	Street Department, City Council/ Clerk Treasurer	
CC Goal 2: Coordinate the Hwy 56 and CR 350 (Buschkoetters) roundabout with INDOT.	City Engineer, County Engineer, City Street Department, County Highway Department	
CC Goal 1: Complete the Riverwalk Loop around the City SW Quadrant.	City Council, Engineering Department, Park Department	
CC Goal 1: Replace and/or repair Riverwalk Bridges.	Engineering Department, Parks and Recreation Department	
CC Goal 1: Expand walking trails in and near the Holy Family neighborhoods.	Developers, Plan Commission, Street Department, Engineering Department	
CC Goal 1: 36th Street Road Improvements from Mill Street west to Newton Street.	City Council, Street Department, Engineering Department, Utilities Department	
QL Goal 1: Complete the 6th and 4th Street Trail Loop from Main Street to the Riverwalk.	Engineering Department, Street Department, Heart of Jasper, Visit Dubois County, Jasper Group	
QL Goal 1: Complete Bohnert, Parker, and Schroeder park improvements.	Parks and Recreation Department	
QL Goal 3: Seek funding and complete the Archery Range.	Parks and Recreation Department	
QL Goal 3: Seek funding and complete the Lookout Tower at the Parklands.	Parks and Recreation Department	
QL Goal 3: Seek funding and add turf fields at the Jasper Youth Sports Complex.	Jasper Youth Sports Board, Donors, Parks and Recreation Department	
QL Goal 3: Develop a new soccer complex.	Local Donors, Parks and Recreation Department	

Foundational		
Step	**Lead/Partnerships**	**Status**
CG Goal 1: Coordinate and develop a plan for the potential implementation of county-wide zoning by assessing existing district frameworks, identifying consistency and integration needs, and evaluating options for unified zoning regulations.	City Mayor/Council, Plan Commission, Community Development and Planning Department, County Government	
CG Goal 2: Assess and incentivize the use of form-based standards to improve walkability and neighborhood cohesion.	City Mayor/Council, Plan Commission, Community Development and Planning Department	
CG Goal 2: Update design guidelines to ensure new development reflects local character.	City Mayor/Council, Plan Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Community Development and Planning Department	
CG Goal 3: Plan for Utility Rate Studies to be conducted every 3-5 years.	Utility Service Board, Municipal Consultant	
CC Goal 3: Support a path toward an Advisory Planning Commission for the County.*	City Council, Plan Commission	
WE Goal 1: Conduct an Annexation Benefits Assessment to explore and communicate the impacts of potential annexation.*	City Clerk Treasurer	
WE Goal 1: Convene major employers, small businesses, developers, and workforce partners to coordinate cluster development.	Dubois Strong, Jasper Chamber	
CC Goal 2: Work with the County, neighboring municipalities, and employers to explore and support countywide transportation needs.	Dubois Strong, Dubois County Commissioners/Council, Key Employers	
CC Goal 2: Identify funding sources and grant opportunities to study workforce transportation needs.	Dubois Strong, County Engineer	
Policy, Programs, and Community Development		
Step	**Lead/Partnerships**	**Status**
CF Goal 1: Develop neighborhood identities, activities, and resources.	Community Development and Planning Department	
CF Goal 2: More variety of restaurants; develop public greens and places to play and hang out.	Community Development and Planning Department, Parks and Recreation Department, Heart of Jasper, Chamber of Commerce, Dubois Strong	
CF Goal 2: Develop and expand the Downtown Courtyard and Activity Trail.	Community Development and Planning Department, Heart of Jasper	

CF Goal 3: Support local journalism and storytelling; amplify community voices.	Marketing Director, Communications Consultant, Local Media	
WE Goal 2: Encourage new and/or redeveloped commercial space for prospective small and mid-size businesses.	Dubois Strong, Heart of Jasper, Jasper Chamber	
WE Goal 3: Launch a next-generation talent attraction and retention campaign.	Dubois Strong, Jasper Chamber, VUJ	
WE Goal 3: Strengthen education-to-career pipelines.	Hub 19, Jasper School District, Vincennes University Jasper, Dubois Strong, Southwest Indiana Workforce Board	
QL Goal 1: Support efforts to increase programming and accessibility to the Jasper Arts Center.	Jasper Arts, City Council, Local Arts Champion	
QL Goal 2: Partner with the appropriate City departments or agencies responsible for maintenance and operations to increase city-wide services for parks, trails, and public facilities.	Parks and Recreation Department	
QL Goal 3: Create a comprehensive Parks and Recreation Guide.	Parks and Recreation Department, Marketing Director	
QL Goal 3: Create a city-wide wayfinding signage plan and system.	Visit Dubois County, Heart of Jasper	
Infrastructure and Capital Projects		
Step	**Lead/Partnerships**	**Status**
CG Goal 3: Execute plan regarding the development of the new Northside Wastewater Treatment Plant.	Utility Service Board, City Council	
CG Goal 3: Work with INDOT-Mid State Connection on the 47th and Newton roadway improvements.*	City Mayor, Engineering Department, Street Department	
CC Goal 1: Install sidewalks and improve the pedestrian crosswalk to connect the Parklands and Jasper Municipal Swimming Pool.	Engineering Department, Parks and Recreation Department	
CC Goal 1: Improve the 44th Street connection to the Horne Development.*	City Council, Street Department, Engineering Department, Utilities Department	
CC Goal 1: Adopt SAFE Street Standards and Planning.	City Council, Street Department	
CC Goal 2: Partner with the County to conduct a feasibility assessment for the French Lick Railway.	Visit Dubois County, Visit French Lick West Baden	
CC Goal 2: Coordinate the St. Charles and Hwy 56 intersection roundabout with INDOT.*	City Engineer, County Engineer, City Street Department, County Highway Department	

CC Goal 2: Improve 350 West as a main north/ south corridor.*	City Engineer, County Engineer, City Street Department, County Highway Department	
CC Goal 2: Extend 15th Street to Hwy 56.*	City Engineer, County Engineer, City Street Department, County Highway Department, Council, INDOT	
CC Goal 2: Coordinate resurfacing of US 231 through Huntingburg and Jasper with INDOT.*	City Engineer, County Engineer, City Street Department	
WE Goal 1: Plan development near proposed Mid-State Corridor connections.	Dubois Strong, City Council, Plan Commission	
QL Goal 1: Walking Trail and Connector from Northwood to Buehler Park Trail.*	Engineering Department, Street Department, Park Department	
QL Goal 1: Lion's, Jaycee, and Buehler Park Improvements.	Parks and Recreation Department, Lion's Club, Jasper Jaycees	
QL Goal 3: Complete construction of the Regional Wellness Center Phase 1 and begin Phase 2.*	Tri County YMCA, Parks and Recreation Department, Local Donors, Radius/ROI Indiana Uplands	
QL Goal 3: Complete updates to the men's softball field.*	Parks and Recreation Department	
QL Goal 3: Develop a new golf clubhouse.	Local Donors, Parks and Recreation Department	



Foundational		
Step	**Lead/Partnerships**	**Status**
CG Goal 3: Leverage future economic grants with bonds for development.*	City Mayor/Attorney/Clerk Treasurer	
QL Goal 2: Update the Jasper Comprehensive Plan document to reflect growth and preservation needs.*	Community Development and Planning Department, Plan Commission	
Policy, Programs, and Community Development		
Step	**Lead/Partnerships**	**Status**
WE Goal 1: Promote and support existing commercial developments in expansion and redevelopment opportunities.	Dubois Strong	
QL Goal 3: Develop targeted programming and facilities that support senior health, mobility, and social connection.	Arnold Habig Center, Tri-CAP, Area Agency on Aging	
QL Goal 3: Partner with healthcare providers to expand access to mental health services, wellness education, and community-based support programs.	Dubois County Health Department, Tri-CAP, Dubois County Community Foundation, Mental Health Partners, Dubois County Substance Abuse Council	
QL Goal 3: Advance Art Center Phase 2 building expansion or relocation.	Jasper Arts, City Council, Community Development and Planning Department	
Infrastructure and Capital Projects		
Step	**Lead/Partnerships**	**Status**
QL Goal 1: Gutzweiler and Ruxer Park Improvements.	Parks and Recreation Department	
QL Goal 3: Add an amphitheater to the Parklands and/or the Ruxer Disc Golf Course Recreation Area.*	Local Donors, Parks and Recreation Department	

Foundational		
Step	**Lead/Partnerships**	**Status**
CG Goal 1: Analyze residential types and resident-serving commercial uses within existing zoning districts to identify needed zoning modifications or new district classifications that support more integrated, mixed-use, walkable neighborhoods.	City Mayor/Council, Plan Commission, Community Development and Planning Department	
CG Goal 1: Develop a Comprehensive Plan Tracking Dashboard.	City website/technology team, Community Development and Planning Department	
CG Goal 1: Conduct periodic reviews and updates to the Comprehensive Plan.	Development and Planning Department, City Mayor/Council/Clerk Treasurer	
CG Goal 3: Develop and/or maintain and review the long-term asset management plan for Civil City and Utilities.	Utility Service Board, Utility Department	
CG Goal 3: Annually budget for regular and systemic maintenance and upgrades.	City Council	
CG Goal 3: Invest in Redevelopment Commission funding, such as Abatement fees and Growth Fund.*	City Mayor/Council, Redevelopment Commission	
CC Goal 3: Expand partnerships with Deaconess Health System and other key partners.	Deaconess Health System	
CC Goal 3: Routinely engage nearby communities and regional partners.	Dubois County, Huntingburg, Ferdinand, Ireland, Dubois	
CC Goal 2: Plan and coordinate connections related to the Mid-State Corridor.	Dubois Strong, City Plan Commission, County Plan Commission	
QL Goal 2: Align infrastructure and capital planning with the growth framework.	City Council, Plan Commission	
QL Goal 2: Conduct a staffing and resources study for public safety services.	Human Resources Department, Board of Public Works and Safety	

Policy, Programs, and Community Development		
Step	**Lead/Partnerships**	**Status**
CF Goal 1: New resident services, city resources directory, new residents page and centralized information.	City, Chambers of Commerce, Utility Business Office	
CF Goal 1: Host quarterly new resident meetings.	Community Development and Planning Department	
CF Goal 2: Support HOJ Alive After 5.	City, Heart of Jasper	
CF Goal 2: Leverage the Arts to help tell the community story.	Jasper Arts	
WE Goal 1: Develop and market shovel-ready properties for commercial and industrial development.	Dubois Strong	
WE Goal 1: Capitalize on sports tourism opportunities.	Visit Dubois County, Parks and Recreation Department	
WE Goal 1: Maintain investment in Downtown Jasper and Heart of Jasper.	Heart of Jasper, Visit Dubois County	
WE Goal 2: Maintain active relationships with existing industrial and commercial businesses.	Dubois Strong, Jasper Chamber	
WE Goal 2: Amplify support for Dubois Strong and Chambers of Commerce.	City Mayor/Council	
WE Goal 3: Support residential growth and housing expansion.	Dubois Strong	
WE Goal 3: Strengthen cross-sector workforce collaboration.	Dubois Strong, VUJ, HUB 19, Local School Corporations, Southwest Indiana Workforce Board	
WE Goal 3: Collaborate to raise education levels of county residents.	Dubois County, Schools, VUJ, Higher Education Institutions	
WE Goal 3: Leverage Vincennes University Jasper as a workforce and innovation partner.	Vincennes University Jasper	

QL Goal 2: Coordinate with police, fire, and emergency services as growth continues.	City Police Department, City Fire Department, Dubois County Emergency Services	
QL Goal 2: Leverage the Public Safety Tax for equipment acquisition.	City Council, City Police Department, City Fire Department	
QL Goal 3: Incorporate additional educational and cultural programming into parks and facilities.	Parks and Recreation Department, Jasper Arts, Community Organizations	
QL Goal 3: Support the Jasper-Dubois County Public Library as a community hub.	Jasper Public Library	
QL Goal 3: Leverage and promote the Arts and quality-of-life initiatives.	Jasper Arts	
Infrastructure and Capital Projects		
Step	**Lead/Partnerships**	**Status**
CG Goal 3: Coordinate utility upgrades with roadway and development projects and incorporate green infrastructure and stormwater best practices.	Utilities Department, Street Department, Engineering Department	
CC Goal 1: Plan for long-term road maintenance and actively coordinate with utility projects.	Street Department, Engineering Department, Utilities Department	
CC Goal 1: Work to implement the state-mandated wheel tax.	City Mayor/Council/Clerk Treasurer	
CC Goal 2: Continue close communication with County partners to implement the regional trail plan.	County Government, County Parks Department, City Engineering Department, Park Department	
QL Goal 3: Engage youth leagues to define expansion and relocation needs and evaluate future facility needs.	Jasper Youth Soccer, Jasper Youth Sports, Parks and Recreation Department	



APPENDIX





6.0 | APPENDIX: PRIORITIZATION SURVEY RESULTS

At the end of the comprehensive planning process, a Prioritization Survey was conducted with City Staff, Steering Committee Members, and Jasper Council Members.

Below are summary results from the survey.

6.1 | GOAL RANKING

Below is the **overall ranking of the 15 Comprehensive Plan Goals (3 goals per pillar)** based on the weighted scores reported in the Prioritization Survey. Lower weighted scores indicate respondents more frequently ranked the goal as having the **highest positive impact,** which is how the survey results were presented.

Overall Rank	Score	Goal	Pillar
1	**1.6**	Invest in coordinated growth to sustain a livable, well-functioning community	Pillar 2: City Growth
2	**1.8**	Increase connectivity throughout Jasper by improving pedestrian and transportation networks	Pillar 3: Connectivity & Collaboration
3	**1.8**	Grow Jasper's workforce and cultivate skill development	Pillar 4: Workforce & Economic Development
4	**1.8**	Expand opportunities for health, recreation, and learning through accessible programs and facilities	Pillar 5: Quality of Life Amenities
5	**1.9**	Enhance Jasper's communication infrastructure and messaging to strengthen civic engagement, awareness, and community identity	Pillar 1: Community Fabric
6	**1.9**	Optimize and expand amenities to support sustainable, well-managed future growth	Pillar 5: Quality of Life Amenities

7	**2.0**	Enhance and activate existing spaces and opportunities, and develop new ones as needed to foster community engagement	Pillar 1: Community Fabric
8	**2.0**	Partner to expand transportation, utility, and workforce networks across the region	Pillar 3: Connectivity & Collaboration
9	**2.0**	Create high-quality commercial and industrial clusters in targeted areas throughout the city	Pillar 4: Workforce & Economic Development
10	**2.1**	Deepen and broaden welcoming initiatives that are inclusive and reach new and existing residents	Pillar 1: Community Fabric
11	**2.1**	Strengthen long-term population retention and growth through land-use planning that reflects community values	Pillar 2: City Growth
12	**2.2**	Strengthen regional partnerships to support Jasper and surrounding communities	Pillar 3: Connectivity & Collaboration
13	**2.2**	Support Jasper's current industries and targeted growth sectors	Pillar 4: Workforce & Economic Development
14	**2.3**	Reinforce community identity by maintaining high standards for new growth	Pillar 2: City Growth
15	**2.3**	Enhance the vibrancy of public spaces through cultural amenities, arts integration, programming, and events	Pillar 5: Quality of Life Amenities





6.2 | ACTION ITEM RATINGS

Below is the combined ranking of all action items from Pillars 1-5, ordered from **highest to lowest average priority rating** based on the Prioritization Survey results.

Rank	Avg. Rating	Action Item	Pillar
1	8.64	Plan for and invest in resilient, efficient utility systems to support future growth	Pillar 2: City Growth
2	8.46	Expand partnerships with major employers and educational institutions to upskill residents and meet industry needs	Pillar 4: Workforce & Economic Development
3	8.38	Expand and promote opportunities for youth and young adults	Pillar 1: Community Fabric
4	8.19	Target Tier 2 businesses and industries to locate in Jasper	Pillar 4: Workforce & Economic Development
5	8.08	Attract new workers and residents, especially boomerang residents and remote workers	Pillar 4: Workforce & Economic Development
6	8.04	Encourage a variety of housing options	Pillar 2: City Growth
7	7.97	Maintain clean and well-kept public spaces	Pillar 5: Quality of Life Amenities
8	7.85	Support necessary infrastructure or site-readiness improvements	Pillar 4: Workforce & Economic Development
9	7.81	Increase social infrastructure for ages 20-40	Pillar 1: Community Fabric
10	7.81	Secure funding for city-wide growth	Pillar 2: City Growth
11	7.81	Continue ongoing workforce development efforts	Pillar 4: Workforce & Economic Development
12	7.69	Address industry attrition challenges and workforce availability	Pillar 4: Workforce & Economic Development
13	7.65	Establish a Comprehensive Plan monitoring and update process	Pillar 2: City Growth
14	7.54	Promote infill development in the downtown area	Pillar 2: City Growth

15	7.50	Convene major employers to identify transportation route needs	Pillar 3: Connectivity & Collaboration
16	7.46	Maintain public safety and security	Pillar 5: Quality of Life Amenities
17	7.38	Identify key industrial and commercial nodes for investment	Pillar 4: Workforce & Economic Development
18	7.35	Identify legacy manufacturing support opportunities	Pillar 4: Workforce & Economic Development
19	7.31	Maintain active communication with neighboring communities	Pillar 3: Connectivity & Collaboration
20	7.23	Conduct outreach with institutional partners for collaborative funding	Pillar 3: Connectivity & Collaboration
21	7.19	Improve placemaking in Jasper's commercial and industrial areas	Pillar 4: Workforce & Economic Development
22	7.15	Prioritize north-south amenity connections in future network plans	Pillar 3: Connectivity & Collaboration
23	7.15	Improve sidewalks and crosswalks near amenities	Pillar 3: Connectivity & Collaboration
24	7.09	Update parks and playgrounds	Pillar 5: Quality of Life Amenities
25	6.96	Expand services and opportunities that introduce people to each other and the community	Pillar 1: Community Fabric
26	6.92	Expand access to community services and programs	Pillar 1: Community Fabric
27	6.85	Advance zoning updates and expand community education efforts	Pillar 2: City Growth
28	6.85	Improve Jasper's roadway network	Pillar 3: Connectivity & Collaboration
29	6.80	Prioritize internal relationships and outreach through communications	Pillar 1: Community Fabric
30	6.58	Improve city-wide connectivity	Pillar 5: Quality of Life Amenities

31	6.52	Enhance, activate, and create gathering spaces as the city grows	Pillar 1: Community Fabric
32	6.35	Partner to expand transportation networks	Pillar 3: Connectivity & Collaboration
33	6.31	Protect and amplify local communication systems and resources	Pillar 1: Community Fabric
34	6.11	Develop recreational, wellness, and cultural facilities	Pillar 5: Quality of Life Amenities
35	5.85	Support and enhance social enterprises	Pillar 1: Community Fabric
36	5.81	Implement the proposed county-wide trail system vision	Pillar 3: Connectivity & Collaboration
37	5.81	Support regional tourism efforts and related transportation strategies	Pillar 3: Connectivity & Collaboration
38	5.80	Expand recreational and lifelong learning programming	Pillar 5: Quality of Life Amenities
39	5.54	Provide accessible programming, events, and public art	Pillar 5: Quality of Life Amenities
40	5.23	Build neighborhood associations and connection opportunities	Pillar 1: Community Fabric
41	5.04	Update City branding and marketing materials	Pillar 1: Community Fabric
42	4.92	Improve awareness, access, and navigation of amenities	Pillar 5: Quality of Life Amenities
43	4.27	Develop preservation and growth guidelines/framework	Pillar 5: Quality of Life Amenities



6.3 I IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN WORKSHEET

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN

_____ PILLAR

Action Step: _____

Goal: _____

SUCCESS: What does successful implementation look like? _____

TRACKING PROGRESS
How will we measure and track implementation?

ACTION ROADMAP

KEY STEP/MILESTONE	WHO LEADS?	WHO HELPS?	TIMING
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

RESOURCES
What will implementation require?
(Consider staff, capacity, funding, budget, tools, etc.)

BARRIERS + ROADBLOCKS
What might block progress? How do we overcome roadblocks?

PARTNERS
Who must be at the table? Who should we collaborate with?
(Consider other city departments, residents, organizations, county and state partners, etc.)

ACTION CHAMPION

Department/Organization

Lead Person

Contact Information

Launch Commitment Date

Date: _____

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE 2035 *Implementation Workplan*

Printable worksheet next page

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN

_____ PILLAR

Action Step: _____

_____

_____

Goal: _____

_____

_____

SUCCESS: What does successful implementation look like? _____

_____

_____

TRACKING PROGRESS
How will we measure and track implementation?

ACTION ROADMAP

KEY STEP/MILESTONE	WHO LEADS?	WHO HELPS?	TIMING
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RESOURCES
What will implementation require?
(Consider staff, capacity, funding, budget, tools, etc.)

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

BARRIERS + ROADBLOCKS
What might block progress? How do we overcome roadblocks?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

PARTNERS
Who must be at the table? Who should we collaborate with?
(Consider other city departments, residents, organizations, county and state partners, etc.)

_____

_____

_____

_____

ACTION CHAMPION

_____
Department/Organization

_____
Lead Person

_____
Contact Information

_____
Launch Commitment Date

Date: _____



MORE INFORMATION





7.0 | FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the Jasper comprehensive planning project, please contact:



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Jasper City Hall
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P.O. Box 29
Jasper, IN 47547-0029

cdpadmin@jasperindiana.gov

Learn more on the project portal:
https://lab2.future-iq.com/jasper-comp-plan/









8.0 | CONSULTING TEAM – ABOUT FUTURE iQ, WGI, AND JS&A



WGI is a national consulting firm specializing in planning, engineering, and community design, helping cities shape resilient, future ready places through innovative land use, mobility, and development strategies. With a broad portfolio of projects across the country, WGI brings interdisciplinary expertise and a commitment to creating sustainable, high quality communities. To learn more about WGI and recent projects, visit www.wginc.com.

For this project, WGI is partnering with Future iQ, a firm known for its forward looking community visioning and strategic planning tools, and Jon Stover & Associates (JS&A), a leading economic development and planning consultancy. To learn more about Future iQ, visit www.future-iq.com, and for more information on JS&A, visit www.stoverandassociates.com.

Workshops, Data Visualization, and Report Prepared by:

future→iQ
Create Future Intelligence



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COURTNEY POWELL



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PAMELA NKWANTABISAH



ARIANNA HILLIARD

JS&A



LESLIE GRAY



JON STOVER



JANE SCINTA









COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE 2035

THE FUTURE IS NOW