# Great Scott! The 2016 Comprehensive Plan for Scott County, Kentucky

# Draft Goals & Objectives

Updated: 10/4/16

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#### Introduction

Kentucky Revised Statues (KRS 100) specify that the planning commission of each unit shall prepare a comprehensive plan, which shall serve as a guide for public and private actions and decisions to assure the development of public and private property in the most appropriate relationships. A required element of the comprehensive plan, per KRS 100, is a statement of goals and objectives. The goals and objectives serve as the foundation for the Comprehensive Plan and provide policy guidance in the preparation of other elements of the plan including potential strategies for implementation.

The goals and objectives are a guide to assist decision makers as specified by KRS and should not be viewed as a regulatory document. These goals have been developed over several months of public committee work, and public meetings. They reflect the overall desire of the community; each particular goal and objective may or may not be applicable or appropriate in every instance; and decision makers should consider them as appropriate.

# Community Form

#### CF 1. Design for an efficient network of streets and land uses.

- CF 1.1. Manage the location of the Urban Service Boundary (USB) and City Annexation to maximize efficiency of city networks and services.
- CF 1.2. Plan for higher-intensity uses in areas with multiple transportation options.
- CF 1.3. Focus revitalization efforts in existing centers of activity.
- CF 1.4. Preserve prime farmland for agricultural uses.
- CF 1.5. Provide access between and among rural areas, connections to regional transportation systems, and safe, economical mobility and accessibility for citizens and goods.
- CF 1.6. Maintain or improve the capacity of the transportation road network for collector and arterials at Level of Service (LOS) "C" or higher. (Level of Service "LOS" is a qualitative measure that describes the efficiency of traffic flows and the minimum level of acceptable service for a given intersection or roadway segment. LOS "C" indicates a stable flow zone, but most drivers are restricted in the freedom to select their own speeds.)

## CF 2. Create places that enrich our built environment's form and character.

- CF 2.1. Allow for flexibility in land use and design pattern within zone districts.
- CF 2.2. Promote multi-use and flex spaces, especially in downtown areas and public spaces.
- CF 2.3. Invest in downtown Georgetown, Sadieville, and Stamping Ground as the heart of each city.
- CF 2.4. Preserve and strengthen the fabric of existing neighborhoods by investing in maintenance and improvements to infrastructure.
- CF 2.5. Provide civic and government facilities in centralized and accessible locations as highly visible focal points and symbols of community identity.
- CF 2.6. Become more walkable and bikeable.
- CF 2.7. Provide an interconnected system of local and regional public open space and recreational opportunities.
- CF 2.8. Require infill and redevelopment projects to be designed for pedestrian use and compatible with the existing character and long term goals for the surrounding area.

## CF 3. Encourage sustainable development practices at site and community-wide levels.

- CF 3.1. Incentivize development that utilizes green building and sustainable development best practices.
- CF 3.2. Explore standards to retain adequate, usable open space, create green linkages, and increase stream corridor/floodplain protection in new urban and suburban development.
- CF 3.3. Protect the quality and integrity of existing structures and support preservation efforts.

## Infrastructure and Public Facilities

# IF 1. Ensure adequate public facilities and services are available to meet the needs of businesses and residents.

- IF 1.1. Maintain access to adequately staffed and equipped police, fire, emergency services, libraries, schools, and community centers. The Planning Commission should consider access to public facilities and service levels when reviewing new development.
- IF 1.2. Develop parks and recreational opportunities to meet the needs of our growing population.
- IF 1.3. Strive for the availability of high-speed affordable internet access for all citizens.

#### IF 2. Build, maintain, and improve public infrastructure.

- IF 2.1. Keep clean drinking water available for all residents.
- IF 2.2. Encourage cluster development when new major rural residential subdivisions are proposed.
- IF 2.3. Increase construction standards for new county roads to reduce future maintenance costs for roads dedicated for public maintenance.
- IF 2.4. Design stormwater infrastructure to be environmentally friendly and multifunctional.
- IF 2.5. No new private package sewer treatment plants should be approved in the county.
- IF 2.6. Anticipate future needs and plan for public transportation nodes.
- IF 2.7. Provide safe, convenient, and environmentally friendly passenger and freight air transportation services in Scott County.
- IF 2.8. Maintain rail facilities to serve Scott County's future needs.
- IF 2.9. Prioritize siting of wireless communication facilities and other utilities to protect cultural, historic, environmental, and residential resources.

#### IF 3. Develop and implement county-wide Capital Improvement Plans.

IF 3.1. Ensure that capital improvements plans are effective, cost efficient, cooperative, and complementary.

# Heritage

#### HE 1. Preserve our built history.

- HE 1.1. Highlight and enhance the historic quality of downtown Georgetown, Sadieville, and Stamping Ground and their surrounding neighborhoods to attract businesses and support economically viable commercial districts.
- HE 1.2. Implement policy measures to protect historic resources, incentivize preservation, and enhance the form of surrounding areas, such as downtowns, historic sites, districts and landmarks.
- HE 1.3. Monitor local property of historic importance for possible designation in the National Trust for Historic Preservation.
- HE 1.4. Conduct educational efforts to increase awareness of the importance of preservation efforts, processes, and available financial, design, and additional educational resources.

# HE 2. Protect and enhance the natural, historic, and cultural landscapes that give Scott County its unique identity and image.

- HE 2.1. Highlight the special environmental qualities of Scott County in developed and undeveloped areas.
- HE 2.2. Promote enhanced use of the Elkhorn Creek as a resource for recreation and tourism, and a unique attraction for environmentally sensitive development within the Urban Service Boundary (USB).
- HE 2.3. Protect the natural environmental qualities of the creeks as special habitats for plants and animals, and make them accessible for educational purposes.
- HE 2.4. Encourage the "greening" of Scott County by preserving trees, increasing tree canopy coverage, and installing new landscaping at community gateways.

#### HE 3. Promote, support, and encourage public art.

- HE 3.1. Include public art programs and installations throughout the community, especially at locations of high activity, and assure access for all Scott County residents and visitors.
- HE 3.2. Capitalize on our historic character and cultural heritage in public art and enrichment activities.

# Housing

## HO 1. Provide a full-spectrum of quality housing options for all residents.

- HO 1.1. Encourage the expansion of affordable and middle-income housing opportunities, and distribute new units throughout the community.
- HO 1.2. Increase availability and flexibility of housing options for elderly residents.
- HO 1.3. Increase availability of assisted living facilities and shelters.
- HO 1.4. Provide greater flexibility in land use regulations to adapt to shifting housing demands.

#### HO 2. Preserve and maintain housing stock in established neighborhoods.

- HO 2.1. Eliminate sub-standard housing.
- HO 2.2. Conduct regular inspection of rental housing.
- HO 2.3. Explore opportunities to combine development efforts and infill with historic preservation and natural habitats, and place priority on preserving existing residential structures of historic value and retaining neighborhood character.

#### HO 3. Decrease financial barriers to affordable housing.

- HO 3.1. Municipalities should collect, maintain, and disseminate information and vital statistics on housing affordability such as cost, demand, and supply of housing stock.
- HO 3.2. Establish an information clearinghouse for financial and technical assistance for stabilization and renovation of urban and rural housing.
- HO 3.3. Consider incentives to encourage creation of affordable- and middle-income housing.

#### **Human Services**

# HS 1. Offer superior educational and training opportunities for all Scott Countians throughout their lifetime.

- HS 1.1. Increase access to physical and online locations of learning.
- HS 1.2. Increase collaboration between the Planning Office and local school systems to teach planning policies and skills.
- HS 1.3. Encourage local, regional, and global perspectives in educational programming.

#### HS 2. Build our social capital and increase civic involvement.

- HS 2.1. Nurture a culture of wanting to get involved and give back.
- HS 2.2. Foster partnerships and collaboration between human service organizations and a broad range of stakeholders.
- HS 2.3. Increase citizen engagement and regional coordination in the planning process.

#### HS 3. Improve access to health and wellness services.

- HS 3.1. Provide responsive and dependable health and human services delivery systems throughout Scott County.
- HS 3.2. Increase access to local healthy foods and nutritional educational programs.
- HS 3.3. Increase availability of second shift child care.
- HS 3.4. Make public amenities, work places, and residential areas accessible by multiple transportation types.

#### **Environment**

#### **EN 1. Protect water quality.**

- EN 1.1. Protect creek conservation corridors.
- EN 1.2. Ensure the pristine water quality of the reservoir once it is constructed.
- EN 1.3. Protect the aquifer recharge area and county karst topography areas.
- EN 1.4. Minimize the amount of impervious coverage in rural areas.

#### **EN 2.** Minimize the impact of waste produced in Scott County.

- EN 2.1. Reduce amount of waste disposed in the landfill and illegal dumping.
- EN 2.2. Encourage recycling and composting and reduce barriers to these activities.
- EN 2.3. Require the proper use, location, and disposal of hazardous materials to protect human health, water quality, air quality, and environmentally sensitive resources.

#### **EN 3. Promote clean air practices.**

- EN 3.1. Encourage educational opportunities to learn about and implement clean air practices.
- EN 3.2. Create a diverse transportation network to reduce reliance on automobile use (and therefore to reduce traffic, fossil fuel use, and air pollution).
- EN 3.3. Increase the tree canopy coverage for Scott County to reduce the heat island effect and to capture and sequester carbon.

#### **EN 4.** Protect environmentally sensitive areas.

- EN 4.1. Discourage development of areas with a concentration of sensitive resources or areas prone to health and safety hazards.
- EN 4.2. Require rezoning to conservation for any creek conservation corridors in any area proposed for development
- EN 4.3. Monitor the Environmentally Sensitive Areas ordinance for potential updates to sensitive areas and best management practices.

## EN 5. Support green spaces, parks & walkways.

- EN 5.1. Encourage walkways, ribbon parks, and green spaces along creeks.
- EN 5.2. Require open space planning for large scale developments.
- EN 5.3. Support non-motorized trail projects for the protection of, and to provide exposure to, the natural environment.

# **Economic Growth**

#### EG 1. Create a community that attracts a diverse array of people and businesses.

- EG 1.1. Encourage a variety of cultures and income levels, resulting in a vibrant and diverse community.
- EG 1.2. Improve access to employment opportunities for all Scott County residents.
- EG 1.3. Invest in quality of life measures that residents and business owners seek, including parks, open space, historic resources, and public services.

#### EG 2. Create more local business and job opportunities.

- EG 2.1. Encourage long-term incremental local business development to benefit the community.
- EG 2.2. Encourage small-scale commercial and temporary businesses to increase entrepreneurship and provide access to a wider range of local goods and services.
- EG 2.3. Support downtowns to be economically viable and protect investments in cultural and historic resources.
- EG 2.4. Diversify the economic base of Scott County.

#### EG 3. Encourage agricultural economic growth in Scott County.

- EG 3.1. Work with agricultural advocacy groups to maintain and enhance the agricultural base.
- EG 3.2. Multiply markets for local agricultural products, and create market-driven agricultural diversification strategies.

#### EG 4. Promote Scott County's image as a good location for industrial development.

- EG 4.1. Support and assist local educational efforts to produce an available and skilled labor pool.
- EG 4.2. Retain adequate acreage and locations for industrial development.