RAPID CITY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
STRATEGIC GOALS AND DEFINITIONS

A BALANCED PATTERN OF GROWTH
• Stimulate a compact and efficient pattern of growth that uses available land, resources, and public infrastructure effectively, while targeting infill and redevelopment in key areas
• Facilitate coordinated growth by fostering a cooperative and regional approach to planning and growth-related issues
• Promote a balanced and diverse mix of land uses throughout the City that ensures flexibility and balance capacity with demand

A SAFE, HEALTHY, INCLUSIVE AND SKILLED COMMUNITY
• Ensure safe and secure public spaces, neighborhoods and business districts by offering high quality services for policing and law enforcement, fire protection, and life safety
• Minimize hazard risk and enhance community resiliency by being prepared for emergencies, raising safety awareness and ensuring active community involvement in providing for its own safety and security
• Provide for the health and well-being of the community by increasing accessibility to services, expanding opportunities for active living, encouraging personal wellness and improved availability and access to healthy foods
• Foster a caring and inclusive community that eliminates discrimination and supports opportunities for all abilities, ethnicities and income levels
• Support a network of strong, successful schools and place a strong focus on opportunities for life-long learning and workforce skills training and enhancement

A VIBRANT, ACTIVE, WELCING AND LIVABLE COMMUNITY
• Encourage variety, visual interest and durability in the design of new development and strengthen the community’s image at major gateways to the community
• Establish and support development of new neighborhoods that are diverse, offer a variety of housing types, promote community pride and character and are connected to the larger community
• Maintain the character and livability of existing neighborhoods, retaining their unique qualities and supporting continued investment in the upkeep and preservation of their infrastructure and amenities
• Sustain a vibrant Downtown Center through continued revitalization efforts, infill and redevelopment within and adjacent to the downtown core
• Develop vibrant activity centers and corridors, investing in their ongoing revitalization and ensuring activities and employment are equitably distributed
• Conserve and protect City’s unique cultural and historic assets

EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS
• Plan for the efficient provision of public utility and transportation infrastructure facilities and services and improve the linkage between infrastructure planning and land use planning
• Provide a comprehensive, connected, accessible and safe network of public transit routes, roadways, pathways, and sidewalks for motorists, transit riders, pedestrians, and bicyclists of all ages and abilities
• Support an integrated intermodal network (truck, air and rail) that preserves, enhances and regionally connects a freight network that is efficient, cost-effective and compatible

ECONOMIC STABILITY AND GROWTH
• Foster a strong and diverse economy through targeted economic development activities that make the City an attractive place for both employers and jobseekers by maintaining a high quality of life
• Strengthen Rapid City’s role as a regional economic hub by focusing on the economic health of the tourism, agriculture, commercial services, education, medical services, and energy sectors
• Coordinate land use planning, infrastructure investments, and economic development efforts to stimulate economic growth and stability

OUTSTANDING RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES
• Provide a safe, accessible and interconnected network of well-maintained parks and trails that are aligned with current and future needs and that promotes an active and healthy lifestyle
• Provide a broad range of recreational facilities and programming for all ages, abilities, and varying interests
• Support and sustain the presence of visual and performing arts as important elements that connect residents and cultures, and add vitality to public spaces, schools, neighborhoods, and the economy

RESPONSIVE, ACCESSIBLE AND EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE
• Maintain fiscal stability and accountability by balancing desired service levels against changing costs and revenues providing clear and transparent information about the municipal budgeting process
• Ensure opportunities for citizen involvement in all aspects of governance and forge partnerships with public, private, and non-profit organizations to maximize efficiency and promote innovation
• Provide leadership in the planning and governance of the community and ensure that local government business is open, accessible, and transparent to all