

3.0 Vision + Goals





3.1 | Vision

The planning process evaluated the 2013 Comprehensive Plan Vision and Goals. Working in conjunction with community members and the Planning & Zoning Commission, the previous Vision Statement - "Vision for a Sustainable Future" was recognized as an important overarching theme that should be retained in the 2022 Plan.

In addition, the following Vision Statement was further expressed and is derived from the Comprehensive Plan process and represents a collective long-term vision for the Town of Carbondale.

"The Town of Carbondale is a creative and connected community that actively celebrates its small-town character, diversity, and shared identity. The people of Carbondale reflect the values of the past with an eye toward welcoming future generations in an inclusive, respectful and equitable manner."





3.2 | Community Framework Plan

Community Framework

The Vision Statement is further expressed through the Comprehensive Plan Community Framework that emphasizes **Community Character**, **Resiliency**, and **Inclusivity and Equity**. This organizing structure serves as an essential framework in support of the Town of Carbondale's long-term Vision for a Sustainable Future. The Vision for a Sustainable Future* ensures that future generations will be able to enjoy the same quality of life and benefits that the current community enjoys today.

*Source: refer to the 2013 Town of Carbondale Comprehensive Plan.

Definitions

- **Community Character** is described as having a distinctive trait, quality or attribute that is inclusive of natural, visual, and cultural characteristics, as well as, the people, institutions, and their interrelationships.
- **Resilience** is defined as the capacity to adapt to changing conditions and to maintain or regain functionality and vitality in the face of stress or disturbance. It is the capacity to bounce back after a disturbance or interruption. Resilient design is the intentional design of buildings, landscapes, communities, and regions in response to vulnerabilities.
- **Inclusivity / Equity** describes a state when all people have achieved full and equal access to opportunities that enable them to attain their full potential. The determinants of Inclusivity and Equity include the social, economic, cultural, geographic, political, and built environment conditions that include all ages and abilities which allow people to live and work that lead to the creation of a fair and just society.

Community Character

Intent: The residents of Carbondale define the character of this unique place. The built environment is viewed and understood at multiple scales, including neighborhoods, community, region, and global perspectives.

Resiliency

Intent: Community resiliency includes social, environmental, and economic sustainability and the health and well-being of all community members.

Inclusivity + Equity

Intent: The community values, aspirations, lifestyles, preferences, and social/civic capacity shall be representative of ALL residents and shall serve as a guiding principle.

3.3 | Goals + Guiding Principles

Goal Topics

Each Goal is followed by an Intent Statement and a series of Guiding Principles to further articulate the purpose and meaning of each Goal. The Goals are further developed into Strategies and Actions in the [Implementation Matrix](#).

#1: COMMUNITY CHARACTER



Intent: Actively preserve and protect Carbondale's small-town character.

Guiding Principles:

- Protect the physical and natural environment.
- Support the existence of an ethnically and culturally diverse community.
- Nurture an inclusive and vibrant economy + community through the arts.
- Preserve and enhance access to the local decision-making process.

#2: ECONOMIC GROWTH



Intent: Embrace economic diversification and self-sufficiency.

Guiding Principles:

- Promote a balanced economic growth strategy for the community.
- Support locally owned businesses in the community.

#3: HOUSING



Intent: Solve the housing affordability challenge in Carbondale.

Guiding Principles:

- Prioritize housing affordability and housing diversity.

#4: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Intent: Meet or exceed long-term sustainability objectives and celebrate the natural resources and ecological values of the region.

Guiding Principles:

- Promote Carbondale as a leader in sustainable development.
- Plan for highly effective sustainable infrastructure systems to meet community needs.

- Protect the region's natural resources, agricultural lands, rivers and open spaces.
- Promote an ethic that encourages a balance between community growth and protection of natural resources.

#5: UNIVERSAL ACCESS



Intent: Deliver universal access and multi-modal improvements throughout the community.

Guiding Principles:

- Promote universal access, active mobility, and multi-modal options in the community.
- Provide for safe and enjoyable access for people of all ages.

#6: INCLUSIVITY + EQUITY



Intent: Prioritize social equity, health, and well-being.

Guiding Principles:

- Inclusivity and equity are core values that influence all decisions for the Town of Carbondale.
- Leave no person behind.

#7: FINANCIAL SOLVENCY



Intent: Ensure the long-term fiscal health of the community.

Guiding Principles:

- Growth should not burden the community's capacity to provide infrastructure, health, or other public services.
- Town investments should advance impactful projects that implement housing, climate and mobility and other strategies.

#8: GOOD GOVERNANCE



Intent: Guarantee responsive and inclusive governance.

Guiding Principles:

- Allocation of any Town resources is rooted in transparency and inclusivity.
- Communicate with all members of the community
- Encourage citizen participation from all members of the community.