



MEMORANDUM

TO: Deschutes County Planning Commission

FROM: Nicole Mardell, Senior Planner – Long Range
Will Groves, Planning Manager

DATE: June 16, 2022

SUBJECT: Deschutes 2040 – Comprehensive Plan Update Briefing

I. PROJECT BACKGROUND

Deschutes County is kicking off the Deschutes 2040 project, a two-year process to update its Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan is Deschutes County’s policy document for guiding growth and development within the county over a 20-year planning period. The plan’s purpose is to provide a policy framework for zoning and land use regulations, demonstrate consistency with statewide goals, rules, and laws, and serve as a cohesive vision for future planning activities.

Over the last ten years, the Comprehensive Plan has been updated in a piecemeal manner with various applicant and staff-initiated legislative amendments. Although many of the goals and policies of the current Plan still hold value, the fundamental data, trends, and land use issues are becoming outdated. The updated Comprehensive Plan needs to incorporate community input to craft new and updated goals and policies regarding agriculture, forestry, housing, recreation, natural resources, natural hazards, economic development, and transportation. An updated community vision will carefully discuss and balance these values.

II. CONSULTANT SELECTION

On May 5, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners approved a professional services agreement with Moore, Iacofanco, Goltsman (MIG, Inc.)¹ to provide consulting services for the Comprehensive Plan, along with a scope of work and project budget. Notable elements of the scope of work include:

- Experienced project management: consultant will drive the project forward, including development of technical reports and materials for community engagement events, facilitation of advisory committee, and assistance in creation of narratives, goals, and policies within the final comprehensive plan document.

¹ MIG recently merged with Angelo Planning Group (APG). APG was the original party on the RFP submittal.

- Extensive community engagement: consultant will develop a comprehensive community engagement strategy to reach all community members, including targeted efforts to hear perspectives of: all parts of the county (geographic coverage), residents not typically involved in planning processes, youth, people of color, low-income residents, persons with disabilities, and veterans.
- Technical expertise: consultant will provide technical expertise to help shape policy surrounding agricultural practices, housing, and economic development, among other issues.
- Design: consultant will use a variety of tools to create vibrant and visually appealing materials to use throughout the document. The consultant will emphasize project branding and design in a “coffee table” style final document that is clear and engaging to all users.

III. PLANNING COMMISSION ROLE

The Planning Commission will serve as the advisory body overseeing the Comprehensive Plan update. Staff and the consultant will return to a future meeting to identify a regular meeting schedule and define the decision-making framework and guidelines for this project.

IV. NEXT STEPS

Staff has included a project visual as an attachment to this memorandum, which outlines the five general phases of the project, notable activities, and desired outcomes. Staff will provide additional information on this graphic and ongoing efforts by the consultant and staff during the meeting.

Staff notes an e-mail mailing list has been created for this project and will be utilized to provide key updates to community members on engagement events and project materials. Parties can sign up for this mailing list on the project webpage: <https://www.deschutes.org/cd/page/deschutes-2040>.

Deschutes 2040 - Project Visual



Activities	Project Initiation	Policy Development	Policy Finalization	Comp Plan Development	Adoption
	Project Kickoff	Start Community Engagement - Vision/Issues	Engagement Deepens - Policy/Detail Outreach	Compilation - Final Comp Plan Document	DLCD notice
	County - Assemble Background Docs	Open House Set 1 - Vision/Issue Focus	Open House Set 2 - Policies/Details	Staff Review/Input	PC Hearing
	MIG - Review Background Docs	PC - Advisory Committee Mtgs Begin	County/MIG Final Policy List Review	Revisions x 2	BOCC Hearings
	Establish PMT Mtg Schedule	County Review of Existing Plan - Keep, Change, Remove, Gaps	MIG Drafts - Background Summaries	PC Input - Document Layout	
	Input on Community Engagement Plan	County/MIG Drafts New Goals/Policies	Begin Update of Maps/Graphics	Action Plan Development	
	Update to BOCC/PC	MIG Review - Policy Best Practice	PC Review of Final Draft - Goals/Policies	County - Findings Package Draft	
	Training for Staff - Engagement			MIG Review - Findings Package	

Outcomes	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5
	Overall/Short-Term Schedules	Compiled Vision/Issue Feedback	Compilation of Policy/Detail Feedback	Receive Final Comp Plan Doc	PC Approval
	Establish standing PMT meeting	Existing Policy Review (keep/change/delete)	Final Draft - Goals/Policies	PC/BOCC OK to Initiate Adoption Process	BOCC Approval
	Project Brand/Website	Draft List of New Policies	Finalized Background summaries (8)	PC Approval - Action Plan	No Appeals/Effective Date Reached
	County Training - Engagement	PC Review - Vision/Key Issues	Begin Project Doc Formation	Completion of Findings Package	
	Final Community Engagement Plan	BOCC - Check In	Community Engagement Audit		
	BOCC/PC ok on Engagement Plan		BOCC/PC OK on Final Goal/Policy Draft		