

Attachment

Initial List of Comprehensive Plan Policy Issues for Planning Commission Discussion, Oct. 13 Work Session

Agriculture and Forestry

- Prevalence of small “hobby farms” with low farm income
- Increased desire/need for agri-tourism activities to supplement farm activity income
- Preservation and support of high quality farm land
- Declining timber production, particularly on public land
- Prevalence of non-farm dwellings in resource zones in comparison to other counties; due in part to less productive soils and irrigation constraints
- Challenges with irrigation piping projects
- Changes in water supply and growing season likely to impact future agricultural production
- Interest in opportunities to improve on-farm water efficiencies

Housing and Growth

- Continued strong overall population growth, coupled with significant rural residential development is creating rural residential growth pressures and concerns about impacts on County character and resources
- Increased growth and development in cities likely will continue to lead to urban/rural conflicts and pressures on rural facilities
- Relationship to wildfire risk and impacts (see natural hazards)

Economy and Tourism

- Continued strong economic growth, including in trade and transportation, education and health care, tourism, and agriculture/forestry (at a somewhat declining rate)
- EDCO is the County's economic development agency; continued strong coordination with them is essential
- Increased pressure to rezone to or expand property already in Rural Commercial and Rural Industrial zoned properties due to limitations in other zones
- Increased economic activity in unincorporated communities (Tumalo, Terrebonne, Sunriver).
- Economic opportunities and challenges from destination resort development

Water Supply

- Continued increases in temperature likely to lead to decreasing snowpack
- Availability and access of well water for residential uses

- Although non-agricultural uses represent 2% of overall basin supply, continued concern surrounding landscape watering (golf courses, watering gardens, lawns, sports fields, etc.)

Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation

- Access to recreation a defining characteristic and economic driver in County
- Most recreational opportunities and resources managed by other agencies and operators
- County not a significant parks provider but does own parks properties, primarily designated for natural resource protection
- Recreation in the future is expected to be impacted by increased wildfire and smoke, water quality issues, drought, and increased human activity; managing these conditions in coordination with the County's partners will be a key challenge for the future

Natural Hazards

- Most significant hazards: winter storms, wildfires, windstorms, drought
- Significant attention on wildfire prevention and mitigation strategies, given increasing prevalence and impacts; exacerbated by rising temperatures and water supply impacts
- Strong relationship between water supply, water infrastructure, and wildfire-related impacts
- Increasing growth in rural development and housing leading to increasing risk and proximity to wildfires (wildfire urban interface)
- Winter storms are most significant hazard identified in county; policies needed to address

Transportation

- Topics surrounding transportation are being reviewed and addressed through current Transportation System Plan (TSP) Update. The TSP will be adopted as the Transportation component of the Comprehensive Plan.