

Clean Copy of Proposed Edits to Core Goals and Guiding Principles

Core Goals

Community Character: Preserve and enhance the Town's historic resources and charm while guiding the community into the future; invigorate the economic vitality of Los Gatos business locations; foster appropriate investments to maintain and enhance diverse neighborhoods; promote ethnic, cultural, and socio-economic equity; and conserve the Town's natural beauty and environment for present and future generations.

Good Governance: Ensure responsive, accountable, transparent, accessible, inclusive, and collaborative government conducted in an open manner that encourages community involvement.

Fiscal Stability: Maintain ongoing financial stability to provide high quality and cost-effective municipal services that meet the needs of the community and sustain the Town's long-term fiscal well-being.

Quality Public Infrastructure: Provide and maintain exceptional public facilities, infrastructure, and a well-connected transportation system that enables safe access for all transportation modes, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit riders of all ages and abilities.

Civic Engagement: Foster opportunities for meaningful community involvement in government processes; encourage cultural, recreational, and individual enrichment; and strive to make Los Gatos a more inclusive place for all.

Public Safety: Maintain and enhance the safety of Los Gatos through proactive community policing and preparation and planning, education, and community design that is responsive to the full range of potential natural and urban hazards and safety issues.

Guiding Principles

Small-Town Service is our commitment to providing services in a courteous, timely, responsive, equitable, and accessible manner. We strive to ensure all community members feel safe, respected, and comfortable to be themselves and express all aspects of their identities. The Town promotes equal treatment, equitable distribution of and access to resources, and engagement in issues affecting the lives of residents, workers, and visitors. Our small-town character is important to all who call Los Gatos home. We strive to make our customer service reflect these qualities. Small-Town Service is also about programs that celebrate the Town's small-town charm, such as our Library children's story times and arts workshops, the annual Spring Into Green environmental and sustainability event, the 4th of July musical celebration, Screen on the Green family-friendly movie night, annual tree lighting, Music in the Park, Forbes Mill Footbridge children's murals, and many more.

Community Stewardship means that we recognize the responsibility entrusted to Town leaders and staff to care about the well-being of the entire community and to carry out our obligations accordingly. We take our role seriously, as we work to maintain fiscal stability, diverse neighborhoods with housing and infrastructure to meet the needs of current and future residents, outdoor recreation opportunities that promote active healthy lifestyles, environmental sustainability, art and cultural amenities, natural and historical resources, a well-connected mobility system, reliable and equitable municipal services, government transparency, vibrant shopping and economic vitality, a safe environment, and other quality of life elements. We encourage a high degree of public participation and community partnerships to carry out our stewardship role.

Future Focus reminds us to always have an eye on the future as we care for the community of today. We want to conserve Los Gatos' beautiful natural environment, reduce waste, and ensure a high quality of life for present and future generations. We aim to preserve and enhance the Town's historic resources and character while guiding the community into the future. Our General Plan is subject to change as ideas develop and priorities evolve. We also keep the future in focus by looking for more efficient ways of doing business – whether it's streamlining processes or utilizing effective technologies.