

## CHAPTER 1: COMMUNITY VISION

An important part of the Santaquin general planning process is the preparation of a Community Vision Statement and community goals, objectives and policies that indicate what direction the community would like to take for the future and to provide a framework for specific recommendations regarding the General Plan. To aid in the formulation of the Community Vision Statement, goals, objectives and policies, the Santaquin City Council distributed a community survey to all households in the city in the year 2000. The results of the survey and a community visioning session with the Planning Commission were incorporated into this General Plan.

Follow up surveys are regularly conducted since then to ascertain whether community feelings had changed regarding major plan elements and development trends. Surveys show that the majority of people still desire to maintain the community's character and agricultural heritage while encouraging more commercial development and services for residents. Respondents feel that growth should be limited and based on the City's infrastructure and available services. Additionally, new development should be directed away from agricultural areas and the City should strive to preserve the agrarian lifestyle on its perimeter, while providing high quality of life and services for residents.

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### THE COMMUNITY VISION OF SANTAQUIN IS:

To provide a small-town atmosphere with well-planned and organized growth, a family oriented, clean, fun and friendly community that is a great place to live, a crossroads for southern Utah County characterized by its agricultural heritage, good parks and recreation facilities and a strong business tax base.

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The following goals, objectives and policies serve to further establish the City's vision and means by which that vision will be achieved. More specific goals may be found in other elements of this plan.

#### **Goal 1. To provide a small-town atmosphere with well-planned and organized growth.**

- Policy 1: Channel future growth and development into areas that can be efficiently and effectively served by public infrastructure and facilities.
- Policy 2: Encourage managed growth and well-planned developments within the City.
- Policy 3: Encourage new commercial land uses to locate in existing commercial areas.
- Policy 4: Development should be permitted only to the degree that the City has capacity to provide the necessary public services.

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Policy 5: Assure that development is built to proper scale to maintain the small town atmosphere of the City.

### **Goal 2. To be a family oriented, clean, fun and friendly community that is a great place to live.**

Objective 1: Create a family oriented community.

Policy 1: Provide recreational opportunities that would be of interest to the entire family.

Policy 2: Provide and expand educational opportunities such as the city library, CERT training, safety classes, etc.

Policy 3: Initiate planning with the Nebo and Juab School Districts to locate adequate elementary and secondary education schools.

Policy 4: Establish regulations and standards to facilitate the protection and care of children, the elderly, and persons with special needs.

Objective 2: Create a clean community.

Policy 1: Establish and enforce weed abatement and nuisance ordinances.

Policy 2: Establish a community beautification ordinance.

Policy 3: Establish landscaping standards for new development.

Policy 4: Beautify and enhance City gateways and major roads.

Policy 5: Establish an annual city pride day for cleaning up neighborhoods and public areas.

Objective 3: Create a fun and friendly community that is a great place to live.

Policy 1: Provide and support social events focusing on the cultural and tourism opportunities in and around Santaquin.

Policy 2: Continue to organize and hold an annual “Santaquin Orchard Days” festival.

Policy 3: Encourage social and economic opportunities on a year round basis, focusing on the seasonal agricultural operations and recreation opportunities.

Policy 4: Establish a community arts guild or committee.

Policy 5: Work towards having a performing arts venue.

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**Goal 3: To be a cross roads for southern Utah County characterized by its agricultural heritage, good parks and recreation facilities and a strong business tax base.**

Objective 1: To be a cross roads for southern Utah County

Policy 1: Encourage the location of highway service land uses along the I-15 interchanges.

Policy 2: Promote traffic calming within the business district along Main Street to support an active business community.

Policy 3: Coordinate tourism efforts with adjoining communities including the Little Sahara Recreation area, Utah Lake, Nebo Loop Scenic Byway, Mona Reservoir and the historic Tintic mining area.

Policy 4: Connect both I-15 interchanges by a frontage route.

Policy 5: Support all efforts to bring the proposed commuter rail line to Santaquin.

Objective 2: To encourage the preservation of prime agricultural heritage and open space within and around Santaquin.

Policy 1: Work with existing agricultural operations to assure continued opportunities for agribusiness, tourism and farming.

Policy 2: Establish development criteria and regulations which will limit impacts on agricultural operations in and around Santaquin.

Policy 3: Discourage “leap-frog” development through urban growth boundaries and by not approving development applications which over-extend city services to new areas until existing areas are developed with on-site improvements.

Policy 4: Allow the development of cluster subdivisions which provide for open space preservation, reduced long-term infrastructure costs, and appropriate new development densities.

Policy 5: Allow the use of “Transfer of Development Rights” to preserve existing open spaces and prime agricultural lands. Establish “sending” zones that are prime agricultural lands and “receiving” zones that are areas planned for development.

Objective 3: To provide good parks and recreational opportunities.

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- Policy 1: Require development to mitigate its impact on parks through the payment of park and recreation impact fees, dedication of lands and amenities, or provision of private facilities for residents.
- Policy 2: Determine appropriate locations for parks, trails and other recreational facilities and work with developers to get such improved or preserved through development agreements.
- Policy 3: Work with the adjoining communities and appropriate agencies to establish connections to public lands and waterways for motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities.
- Objective 4: To provide a strong business tax base.
- Policy 1: Work with state and federal programs and agencies to bring dollars to Santaquin for economic development (i.e. Business Expansion And Retention (BEAR), Economic Gardening, and Utah’s Rural Fast Track, EDCUtah, GRPB, etc.
- Policy 2: Plan for expansion of businesses without requiring relocation. This includes making opportunities for home based businesses to grow into commercial, industrial or business spaces, or the creation of business incubator spaces.
- Policy 3: Recruit businesses with growth potential to locate in the City.
- Policy 4: Encourage enhancements to business areas through economic development programs.
- Policy 5: Assure adequate utilities and capacities within the utilities for projected business use.
- Policy 6: Assure that proper zoning is currently in place to encourage appropriate businesses and discourage inappropriate businesses.
- Policy 7: Require buffering, transitioning or urban design to mitigate incompatible land uses.
- Policy 8: Allow for easy access to major transportation routes.
- Policy 9: Encourage recruitment of quality businesses to the City through the County and City Economic Development resources.

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- Policy 10: Provide for mixed-use or transit oriented development in designated areas in the Main Street business district and commercial areas near the south interchange.
- Policy 11: Establish a Santaquin Business Expansion and Retention (BEAR) committee to promote and work with area businesses for marketing of the region, attracting customers, new businesses, and working with the Santaquin Chamber of Commerce.
- Policy 12: Utilize redevelopment tools allowed by the state to revitalize or create business areas.
- Policy 13: Encourage and foster all opportunities to create a local, well-educated and trained workforce, able to support new business growth in the area.