# HOUSING

# GOALS

- 1. Provide a variety of housing types, sizes and densities, especially downtown
- 2. Support development of affordable workforce housing
- 3. Promote development of smaller housing units appropriate for downsizing households

## ECONOMIC VITALITY

#### POLICIES

- Promote expanding housing supply to meet the demand from employment growth and support economic diversification
- 2. Promote housing for seniors, students, and workforce to support retention of spending and tax generation in the community

### STRATEGIES

- Consider inclusionary housing fund rather than requiring a percentage of new housing to be affordable
- 2. Create a dedicated revenue source for mortgage assistance
- 3. Preserve existing rental housing stock through incentives

LAND USE

#### POLICIES

- Encourage the creation and retention of a variety of housing options for all segments of the Los Alamos community, including but not limited housing for residents who are low income, students/postdocs, workforce, high end income and seniors
- 2. Provide workforce and other market rate housing at a variety of price ranges, for both rental and ownership markets
- 3. Preserve historic housing stock
- 4. Support design standards for high quality and good design of new housing
- 5. Promote stabilization of rental areas

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#### POLICIES

1. Provide infrastructure to support new housing creation

- Investigate cost/benefits of County-built structured parking downtown
- Expand housing program to include all user and ownership types; e.g. apt rentals
- 3. Periodically update Affordable Housing Plan including detailed goals and policies
- Consider County support to build fire walls in quads and duplexes

# HOUSING CONTINUED

#### ECONOMIC VITAL ITY

#### STRATEGIES

- 4. Investigate public/private funding options
- 5. Work with owners of vacant houses to assist in identifying opportunities for sale, rent and improving building condition

## **B**) LAND USE

- 1. Provide incentives and flexibility through zoning
- 2. Examine increased density options
- 3. Consider density bonuses for small units in downtown
- 4. Use public vacant or underdeveloped land for housing
- 5. Consider adoption of an inclusionary housing ordinance

# NEIGHBORHOODS

## GOALS

- 1. Protect existing residential neighborhoods
- 2. Promote the maintenance and enhancement of housing stock quality while utilizing available infill opportunities as appropriate.
- 3. Promote the creation of a variety of housing options for all segments of the Los Alamos community.
- 4. Support neighborhood stabilization

# VITALITY

#### POLICIES

 Consider creation of a Short-Term-Rental (STR) ordinance in terms of potential economic benefit to Los Alamos County

ECONOMIC

#### STRATEGIES

- Create a design manual to help property owners upgrade or redevelop existing housing for increased value and improved appearance
- 2. Ensure collection of lodgers tax for short-term rentals
- 3. Re-examine bed & breakfast regulations vis-a-vis STRs

## LAND USE

#### POLICIES

- Support small lot development and neighborhood integration for affordable housing
- 2. Provide outreach and process support to housing developers
- 3. Encourage developers to notify and conduct meetings early in the development review process with the neighborhood and to be responsive to neighborhood concerns
- 4. Strenuously apply property maintenance and code enforcement requirements to vacant or blighted properties.

#### STRATEGIES

 Develop buffer techniques and alternatives for new development or re-development adjacent to single-family housing

# INFRASTRUCTURE

#### POLICIES

- 1. Maximize the utilization of County-owned land
- 2. Make strategic extensions of utilities

- Provide early public notification and engagement with the neighborhood regarding changes to parks, streets, and utilities
- Provide green building and new technology how-to information for rebuilding or upgrades
- 3. Provide incentives for energy efficiency upgrades
- 4. Educate builders and public to use storm-water as a resource
- 5. Underground utilities in existing neighborhoods

# NEIGHBORHOODS CONTINUED

## B) LAND USE

#### STRATEGIES

- 2. Consider code changes to ensure upgrades are not precluded
- 3. Consider refinements to current County property maintenance ordinance
- 4. Prioritize code enforcement efforts
- Study possibility of limiting accessory dwelling units per development Code
- 6. Consider easing parking requirements in areas with limited on-site feasibility

## INFRASTRUCTURE

- 6. Examine existing easements & options for expansion to allow under-grounding
- 7. Enhance internet service

# GROWTH

## GOALS

- 1. Plan for modest growth
- 2. Maximize our opportunity with respect to the development of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park
- 3. Expand focus of tourism to include Valle Grande and Bandelier
- 4. Significantly improve the quantity and quality of retail business
- 5. Attract new tourism related business
- 6. Revitalize and eliminate blight in the downtown areas of Los Alamos and White Rock
- 7. Capitalize Los Alamos County's role as gateway to 3 national parks
- 8. Promote growth in the downtown

## ECONOMIC VITALITY

#### POLICIES

- Create a vibrant, pedestrianfriendly downtown that includes a central gathering place, nighttime entertainment, and more retail stores and restaurants
- 2. Promote eco- and education based tourism
- Promote Los Alamos as venue for athletic events and competitions
- 4. Attract new tourism related business
- Market and brand Los Alamos as a scenic destination featuring recreation, science and history
- 6. Improve County communication with the business community

## ) LAND USE

#### POLICIES

- Encourage the retention of existing businesses and assist in their opportunities for growth
- Support infill development over expansion of current developed areas
- 3. Support spinoff business opportunities from LANL
- 4. Maximize the utilization of County-owned land

#### STRATEGIES

- 1. Showcase Lab-developed technologies
- Collaborate with Los Alamos National Laboratory as the area's #1 employer
- 3. Partner with National Parks, Ski Los Alamos, Sierra Club, and others to promote Los Alamos County as an outdoor recreation destination

# ►) INFRASTRUCTURE

### POLICIES

- 1. Maximize the utilization of County-owned land
- 2. Promote public/private partnerships of utility extensions
- 3. Explore and promote County/ private development strategies to extend utilities

- 1. Promote public-private partnership strategy for the extension of utilities
- Continue to pursue grant funding for infrastructure improvements such as Main Street

# GROWTH CONTINUED



- Develop and implement a Tourism Plan, including Wayfinding
- Provide sufficient land for growth areas, including for industrial and manufacturing uses
- 3. Consider County built business incubator
- Support food trucks, which could turn into brick & mortar restaurants

# DEVELOPMENT

# GOALS

- 1. Significantly improve the quantity and quality of retail business
- 2. Enhance and maintain a vibrant downtown while keeping a small town character and feel
- 3. Continue to maximize open space

## ECONOMIC VITALITY

#### POLICIES

- Balance economic development support for growth and sustainability
- 2. Support existing businesses.
- 3. Actively solicit new development opportunities
- 4. Support spinoff business opportunities from LANL
- 5. Attract new tourism related business
- 6. Support County communication with the business community

#### STRATEGIES

- 1. Consider a County built business incubator
- 2. Support "makerspace" opportunities
- Support land us policies and regulations that support business

## ) LAND USE

#### POLICIES

- 1. Maximize the utilization of County-owned land
- Generally keep development contained within current development boundaries (prevent sprawl)
- 3. Do not develop or allow development in open space
- 4. Increase residential density in the downtown area
- 5. Delay development of areas that require environmental remediation before they are safe and suitable

#### STRATEGIES

- 1. Adopt a new mixed-use zoning district
- Streamline development review process, especially for Site Plans
- 3. Consider lowered threshold for building permit only
- 4. Develop DP Road Sector Plan

## S-) INFRASTRUCTURE

#### POLICIES

- 1. Maximize the utilization of County-owned land
- 2. Provide streetscape improvements
- 3. Support County utilities extensions
- 4. Ensure energy-efficient County buildings

#### STRATEGIES

1. Bring high speed internet to Los Alamos County

# REDEVELOPMENT

# GOALS

1. Redevelop vacant and blighted areas

### ECONOMIC VITALITY

#### POLICIES

- 1. Provide flexibility for uses in redeveloped areas
- 2. Examine potential policies for County resources and authority to put vacant properties back into use

#### STRATEGIES

- Consider tax financing incentives for redevelopment of blighted areas
- 2. Consider Metropolitan Redevelopment Area approach.
- Use Local Economic Development Act (LEDA) funds to stimulate economic development & create private sector jobs
- 4. Consider Tax Increment District or other special financing mechanisms

## C) LAND USE

#### POLICIES

- 1. Establish a vacant house policy
- 2. Approach problems with solutions before penalties (carrot not stick)
- 3. Prioritize health and safety violations for code enforcement

1. Conduct a study to determine

best approach & practice to

2. Develop a manual for property

exteriors and landscapes

3. Incentivize property owners to

to allow mix of uses in more

districts, and/or expand list of

upgrade or redevelop

4. Add new zoning categories

permitted uses

owners for improving/updating

eliminate blight

STRATEGIES

# B LAND USE

## STRATEGIES

- Increase flexibility in Downtown overlay uses to allow added residential use
- 6. Create a community service network to help homeowners remedy violations

INFRASTRUCTURE

### POLICIES

- 1. Develop standards for street sections by street type
- 2. Foster and promote sustainability practices

- 1. Provide incentives for energy efficiency upgrades
- Incorporate transportation system into economic development planning and for increased housing downtown

# DOWNTOWN

# GOALS

- 1. Create a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly downtown that includes a central gathering place, nighttime entertainment, and more retail stores and restaurants
- 2. Focus development priorities downtown
- 3. Focus increased residential densities in the downtown
- 4. Enhance the vibrant, historic, small-town character of Los Alamos by focusing commercial density increases in the downtown area

## ECONOMIC VITALITY

#### POLICIES

- Support a range of retail and service uses that complement one another
- 2. Support small businesses in the downtown
- 3. Provide flexibility for uses to change over time as market conditions change

#### STRATEGIES

- 1. Consider public/private partnerships
- 2. Expand Main Street program improvements

## ) LAND USE

#### POLICIES

- 1. Support more, and different types of housing downtown
- 2. Limit residential density increases to downtown
- 3. Support Historical Society Museum campus

#### STRATEGIES

- 1. Establish a historic district in the downtown
- 2. Revisit parking requirements
- 3. Revisit code restrictions to height

## 

#### POLICIES

 Continue to support infrastructure construction downtown

#### STRATEGIES

1. Bring high speed internet to Los Alamos County

# OPEN SPACE

# GOALS

- 1. Protect all existing County-designated open space
- 2. Enhance environmental quality and sustainability balancing costs and benefits including County services and utilities

### ECONOMIC VITALITY

### POLICIES

- 1. Partner with National Parks, Ski Los Alamos, Sierra Club, others to promote Los Alamos as an outdoor recreation destination
- 2. Implement a comprehensive range of recreational and cultural amenities that enhance the Los Alamos community
- 3. Promote Los Alamos County as an "Outdoor Community"
- 4. Promote increased outdoor recreational tourism as a revenue source for open space maintenance

#### STRATEGIES

- 1. Improve access to public open space and recreational facilities
- 2. Use Lodger's Tax & Dept. of Tourism income to promote recreational activities

## ) LAND USE

#### POLICIES

- 1. Be stewards of the natural environment, including the existing ecosystems
- 2. Do not develop in the canyons or on canyon walls
- Preserve historic, environmental, and cultural landscapes
- 4. Maintain and improve outdoor recreation for a diverse population
- 5. Support Open Space Management Plan recommendations for open space zoning

### STRATEGIES

- Adopt three types of open space on the Future Land Use Map in alignment with recommended changes to zoning
- Rezone areas currently zoned PL to clarify which category they belong in
- 3. Identify gaps to open space connections. Propose strategies for connections
- 4. Build more dog parks

## () INFRASTRUCTURE

### POLICIES

- 1. Support green infrastructure
- 2. Avoid infrastructure conflicts with open space
- 3. Minimize infrastructure impacts to open space
- 4. Require remediation as needed

- Require reclamation or remediation as needed on all projects
- 2. Develop storm-water management standards

# TRAILS

# GOALS

- 1. Improve and expand the trails system
- 2. Comply with Trails and Bike Plan

### ECONOMIC VITALITY

#### POLICIES

- 1. Develop and expand trails connecting downtown to surrounding open space
- 2. Create or improve trails that serve residents of all ages

#### STRATEGIES

- 1. Pursue federal and state transportation grant funding for multi-modal circulation
- 2. Pursue bicycle trail certification

## C) LAND USE

#### POLICIES

- Promote safety for pedestrians and cyclists, on paved trails and streets
- 2. Ensure that private development is required to provide trail connections and may not create impediments to any trail connections

### STRATEGIES

- 1. Map trails and identify gaps in trail connections. Propose strategies for connections
- 2. Develop strategy for prioritization of gap connections
- Consider alternate means of circulation, esp. for ADA, including golf carts in historic area
- Consider signage, or speed controls, to slow bicyclists when on same path as pedestrians

## (2) INFRASTRUCTURE

### POLICIES

- Create designated, safe, convenient, and wellmaintained bike and pedestrian pathways and sidewalks
- 2. Incorporate multi-use trails whenever possible
- 3. Recognize and acknowledge the difference between bicycling for recreation and bicycling for transportation
- 4. Ensure safe trail crossings, especially at arterials; weigh cost/benefits of underpasses and/or overpasses

- Examine potential to expand paved and accessible Rim Trail from DP Road through historic core and Ashley Pond to Aquatic Center and PEEC, and possible loops
- 2. Link Rim Trail to the Mesa Trail
- 3. Consider wider easement requirements for trails

# MOBILITY GOALS

- 1. Support streets designed for the safety and comfort of all users
- 2. Maintain and improve transportation and mobility
- 3. Make improvements to the transportation system that support economic vitality and housing goals

## ECONOMIC VITALITY

#### POLICIES

 Consider giving the same level of prioritization to nonmotorized circulation (bicycle & pedestrian) as to motorized circulation

#### STRATEGIES

 Add transit route from the townsite to Bandelier and Valles Caldera

## ) LAND USE

#### POLICIES

- Create designated, safe, convenient, and wellmaintained bike and pedestrian pathways and sidewalks
- 2. Design for accessibility
- 3. Make Los Alamos County a bicycle friendly community

#### STRATEGIES

- 1. Integrate parking with transit
- 2. Revisit parking requirements
- 3. Consider separation of bikes and pedestrians on paved trails
- Consider expanded opportunities for off-site parking

## (2) INFRASTRUCTURE

#### POLICIES

- Create a user-friendly, efficient, multi-modal system that connects the Laboratory, downtown, and White Rock
- 2. Support a "complete streets" policy for all new and rebuilt roadways
- 3. Develop and adopt a transportation master plan that incorporates the trails and bike plan and is tied to land use
- 4. Periodically update transit plan
- 5. Coordinate transportation on and off the Hill with other systems in the region

- 1. Collect data on transportation modes and patterns.
- 2. Investigate bike-share program associated with Rim Trail.

# MOBILITY CONTINUED

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Investigate alternate transportation and circulation options
- 4. Upgrade infrastructure, including streetscapes, green spaces, entrances to Los Alamos, to reflect civic pride in the community
- Support a downtown circulator 7 days/week and for extended hours, especially on weekends
- Examine best approaches for safe pedestrian crossings on arterials such as Trinity, Diamond and State Road 4, including hawks and pedestrian /bike-activated flashing lights