

# #IgniteSparks

**City Council Workshop  
September 19, 2016**



## Background

- ❖ Current Master Plan – comprised of individual master plan elements adopted over number years
- ❖ In 2015 – City Council prioritized the updating of the Sparks Master Plan
- ❖ Public outreach included 2,588 surveys, public meetings and neighborhood meetings
- ❖ Prepared Comprehensive Plan



## Draft Comprehensive Plan

- ❖ Updates and replaces existing elements
- ❖ New goals and policies
- ❖ Comprehensive Plan basics and “Big Picture Policy Document”
- ❖ Integrates typical master plan elements into 7 topics
- ❖ Five Chapters



# NRS Statutes

- ❖ Nevada Revised Statutes establish regulations for master plans – Population, Housing, Conservation and Public Facilities for a city our size
  
- ❖ Current Sparks Master Plan includes the following elements:
  - Land Use Plan (December 2002)
  - Housing (October 2008)
  - Population (July 2005)
  - Transit Oriented Corridor Plan (July 2009)
  - West Pyramid Area Plan (May 2008)
  - Northern Sparks Sphere of Influence Plan (November 1991)
  - Conservation Element (November 1991)
  - Circulation Element (November 1991)
  - Public Facilities and Services Section (February 1992)
  - Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan (November 2013)



# Chapter One – Ignite Sparks

- ❖ Summarizes what a comprehensive plan is
- ❖ Discussion on compliance with NRS and Regional Plan
- ❖ Summary of the public outreach process



## Chapter Two – Pathway to the Future

- ❖ Vision Statement – making Sparks the ideal place to live, work and play
- ❖ Five Challenges
  - ❖ 1 – Growing while staying a small town
  - ❖ 2 – Getting around
  - ❖ 3 – Vibrant downtown
  - ❖ 4 – Sustaining the City’s fiscal health while maintaining city services and facilities/amenities
  - ❖ 5 – Meeting needs of the community



## Chapter Three Sparks Today

- ❖ Facts
- ❖ The Start – History
- ❖ Environment and Cultural Resources
- ❖ Population
- ❖ Housing
- ❖ Economic Strength
- ❖ City Services and Facilities
- ❖ Public Services: Not Administered by the City



# Chapter Four Framework for the Future

- ❖ Managing Growth
- ❖ Connectivity
- ❖ Community Facilities and Services
- ❖ Community Character
- ❖ Housing
- ❖ Resiliency and Conservation
- ❖ Economic Vitality





# Managing Growth

**6 Goals**

**16 Policies**

- ❖ Encourage a mix of land uses
- ❖ Facilitating infill
- ❖ Redevelopment and revitalization of older parts of town
- ❖ Policy MG4 establishes review criteria for master plan amendments over 5 acres in size.
- ❖ Policy MG6 addresses annexation requests and establishes application review criteria.
- ❖ For projects in the City's Sphere of Influence, Policy MG8 defines the review criteria.



# Connectivity

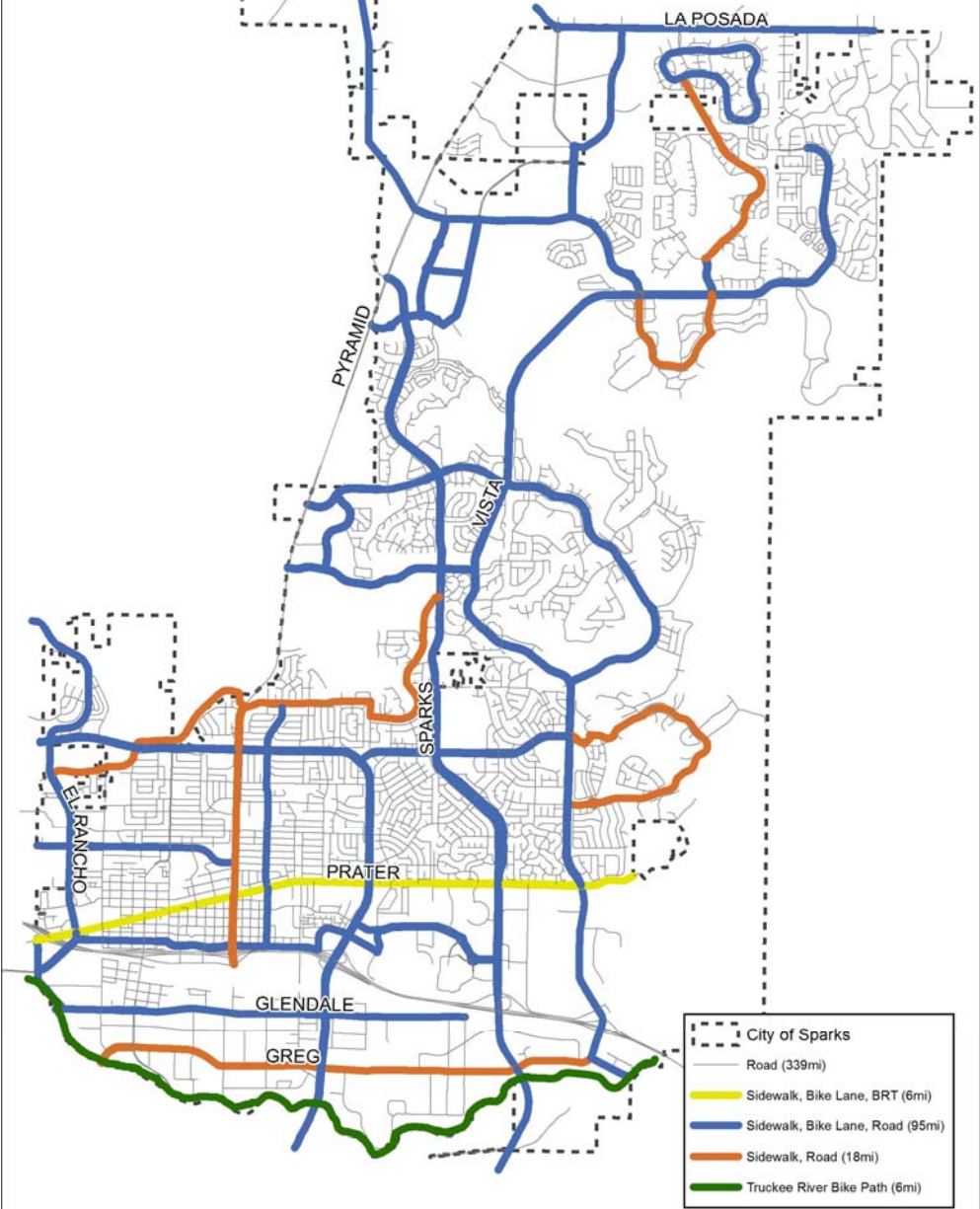
## 3 Goal

## 9 Policies

- ❖ Intended to ensure that streets are improved as multi-modal and will continue as such
- ❖ Policy C4 requires sidewalks on all street networks.
- ❖ Policy C5 addresses converting 4<sup>th</sup> Street into a bike boulevard.
- ❖ Other policies promote a pedestrian-friendly environment to facilitate walkability and transit ridership.
- ❖ Policy C8 calls for the miles of existing trails and pedestrian ways in Sparks are maintained and completed.

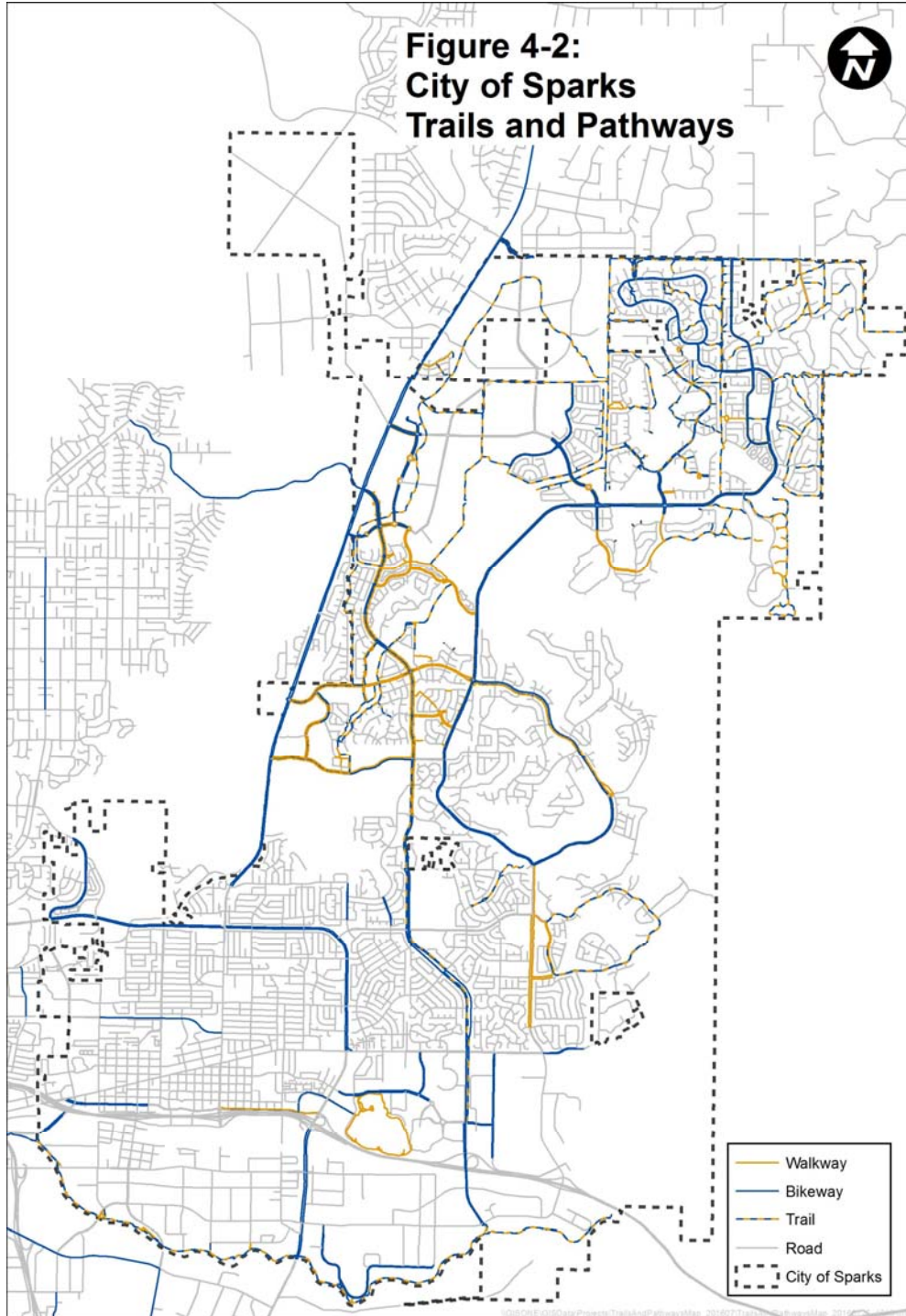


**Figure 4-1:  
City of Sparks  
Complete Street Plan**



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**Figure 4-2:  
City of Sparks  
Trails and Pathways**



# Community Facilities and Services

**2 Goals**

**19 Policies**

- ❖ **Policy CF1 states that a land use entitlement cannot be approved unless acceptable service levels can be provided.**
- ❖ **Policy CF3 requires the City to adopt criteria for allocating excess sewer capacity, if it is available.**
- ❖ **Policy CF5 states that when parks are eliminated due to development, the park facilities must be replaced with equivalent facilities.**
- ❖ **Per Policy CF9, the City will strive to maintain a 6-minute response time for the fire department for 85 percent of the City.**
- ❖ **Policy CF11 calls for the City explore providing a satellite police office manned by civilian staff.**



# Community Character

**1 Goal**

**10 Policies**

- ❖ **Policy CC3 explores evaluating the creation of a historic district.**
- ❖ **Policy CC4 directs the City to increase, as feasible, the number of special events held in Sparks.**
- ❖ **Policy CC6 encourages public art in major private and public projects.**
- ❖ **Policy CC10 requires working with Regional Transportation Commission and Nevada Department of Transportation to plan and design major road capacity expansion to minimize the degree to which widening of roads divides neighborhoods or creates barriers for pedestrians, bicyclists and other non-motorized travel.**



# Housing and Affordability

**3 Goals**

**10 Policies**

- ❖ **Policy H1 is intended to ensure there will be sufficient appropriately zoned areas with the infrastructure, public facilities and services necessary for the production of new housing.**
- ❖ **Other policies promote a variety of housing types (H2) and emphasize the importance of connecting housing with multiple transportation options (H3).**
- ❖ **Policies H6 and H7 address the City's need to comply with State of Nevada requirements while others are included to facilitate the development of multi-generational housing options and provide housing options for seniors (H8 and H9).**
- ❖ **The Housing and Affordability section also acknowledges that a strong and diverse housing market is critical to the community's economic growth and vitality.**



# Resiliency and Sustainability

4 Goals

25 Policies

- ❖ **Resiliency and Conservation.** Multiple policies (RC1 through RC7) target the conservation and protection of water resources.
- ❖ **Policy RC8** calls for the City to plan for and adapt to increased drought, severe weather and other potential impacts of climate variability on the water supply.
- ❖ **Other policies** direct the City to coordinate with regional agencies to improve air quality (RC9)
- ❖ **Work to increase Sparks' urban tree canopy** (RC10)
- ❖ **Work regionally** in an effort to develop and implement a strategy to diversify energy resources (RC13)
- ❖ **Policy RC21** calls for the City to evaluate the feasibility of decentralized wastewater treatment options, including package plants and satellite facilities, to complement the Truckee Meadows Wastewater Reclamation Facility.
- ❖ **Preserve and protect significant natural amenities and unique features** such as rock outcroppings and drainage ways (RC23).
- ❖ **Policy RC24** promotes the protection of cultural resources.





# Economic Vitality

6 Goals

10 Policies

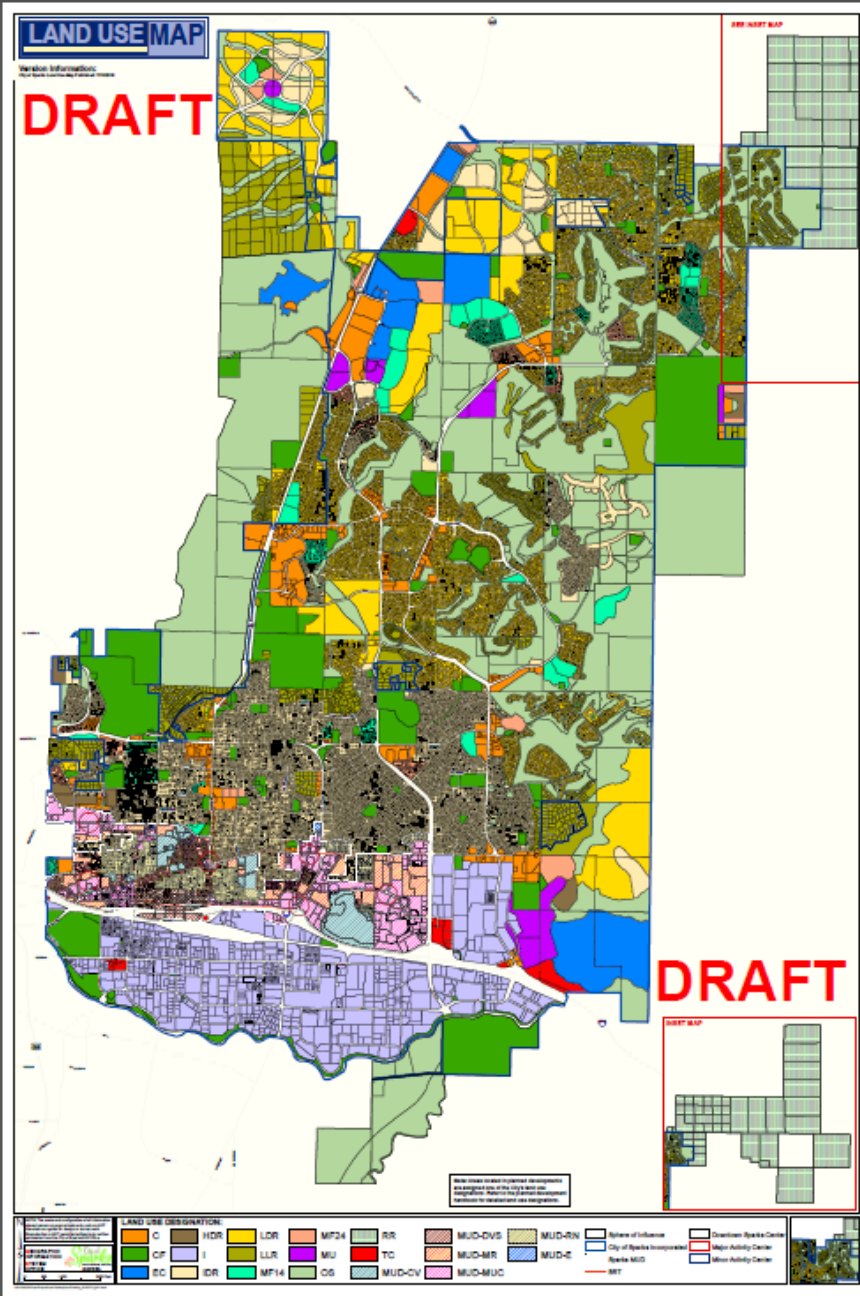
- ❖ Policy EV1 specifies that the City build on Sparks' position as a leader in special events by investing additional resources in event venues and adding new events.
- ❖ Policy EV4 directs the City to develop and implement a strategy for attracting new investment and more employment-dense and higher paying industries to the industrial area between Interstate 80 and the Truckee River.
- ❖ Another policy (EV5) calls for the City to undertake the analysis necessary to determine the feasibility of expanding the city limits to include the area east of the City's corporate boundary and north of Interstate 80 for job-generating land uses.
- ❖ Policy EV10 requires, prior to or with an application for a land-use approval (Tentative Map, Administrative Review or Conditional Use Permit), development projects on greenfield site of 20 or more acres to demonstrate they are fiscally positive to the City for a period of at least 20 years.



# Land Use Map

- Adopted Plan
  - 61 existing land use categories
  - Used designations within PDs
  - Separate map for the TOD Land Uses
- Proposed Plan
  - 20 land use categories
  - Broader categories
  - More flexibility
  - PDs have City designation
  - Changing TOD to MUD
  - Merging MUD map into the Land Use Map
  - Translating existing land uses to new equivalent category





# Chapter Five – Implementation

- 121 goals and policies
- Matrix with all the goals and policies
  - Addresses :
    - Responsible dept. or agency
    - Resources required to implement
- Purpose to evaluate the effectiveness of the Comprehensive Plan
- Highlights which goals/policies need more attention



# Elimination of Three Area Plans

- Northern Sparks Sphere of Influence (NSSOI)
- West Pyramid Area Plan
- Transit Oriented Development (TOD)

