



Memorandum

Date: July 8, 2016

To: Stephanie Haug, CMC; City of Benton City

From: Ferdouse Oneza, Oneza & Associates

Re: Visioning Summary of Benton City Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update

The visioning meeting for Benton City Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update was held on June 29th, 2016 at the Planning Commission workshop at Benton City Community Center. Vision discussion included big picture topics as well as some detailed ideas as summarized below. The meeting was attended by representatives from Benton City Economic Development Council, Ben-Franklin Transit, local news agency and Benton City residents.

Overall Vision for Benton City

- A place to raise family that provides quality of life for its the citizens
- A place for single individuals as well as aging population
- Reflects positive image of the entire town
- Hallmark of unique components:
 - Rural and small town character
 - Relaxed pace
 - A lively historic downtown
 - Public access to the river
- A safe place with jobs, housing and recreation opportunities for its citizens
- A town that grows/expands with appropriate densities and in the right locations so that its population can support local business

Detailed Objectives

Downtown

- Attract more people in the downtown area with a lively ambience of people sitting in cafes; beautiful storefronts
- Adopt a revitalization plan
- Coordinate local events to attract more people in downtown
- Inspire property owners to improve downtown businesses



- Create a “Third Place” where people interact and recreate outside of home and work

Recreational opportunities

- Promote outdoor activities
- Maintain bike and equestrian trails
- Enhance river accesses, parks
- Improve water activities
- Create a sports complex
- Offer activities and enjoyments for residents of all age groups

Industrial land

- I-82 Interchange area and DNR land for future industrial development

Safety

- Offer a safe environment for residents
- Implement CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) principles, e.g. lighting, fencing, visibility, location of facilities etc.

Housing

- Ensure housing opportunities for all income groups
- Offer services and facilities for aging population

UGA Boundary

- Carefully review if annexation is necessary
- Expand appropriately, expand the City limits to protect what is special for the City
- Work with School district to review their plan for expansion
- Maintain density within the City limits