



Hastings 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update

**Comprehensive Planning
Committee Meeting #5
October 3, 2017**



Meeting Agenda

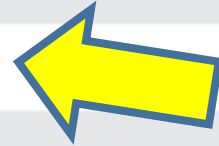
- **Review of Schedule**
- Review of input from Stakeholder Interviews
- Discussion of Priorities from Feedback + Modifications to Goals~Objectives
- Discussion of Process for Authoring and Reviewing Comprehensive Plan Chapter
- Review of Plan Document Progress

Project Schedule – Subject to Change

MONTH	TASK
May 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting - Project Kick-Off Meeting • Begin Existing Plan Review, Metropolitan Council System Statement Review, Demographics and Existing Conditions Analysis • Launch Project Website
June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing - Existing Plan Review, Metropolitan Council System Statement Review, Demographics and Existing Conditions Analysis
July 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting • Ongoing - Existing Plan Review, Metropolitan Council 2015 System Statement Review, Demographics and Existing Conditions Analysis • Open Online Survey • Launch Crowdsourcing Online Mapping Tool • Pop-Up Meeting #1
August 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting • Public Workshop – SWOT Analysis • Joint Council and Planning Commission Workshop – SWOT Analysis

Project Schedule Continued

September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting • Key Stakeholder Interviews
October 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting
November 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting • Prepare Draft of Comprehensive Plan Update
December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting • Pop-Up Meeting #2
January 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting • Public Workshop to Review Draft Plan
February 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting
March 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Zoning Commission Public Hearing and Review for Recommendation to Council
April 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Council Public Hearing and Review for Adoption • Deliver Final Plan Documents and Map Data • Upload Final Documents to Metropolitan Council Website



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Stakeholder/Focus Groups – September 21 & 22

- Two (2) Days of Stakeholder/Focus Group Interviews
- 20~25min sessions for individuals
- 4 hour long focus group sessions
- 9am~4pm & 5~9pm on Thursday, September 21st
- 9am~4pm on Friday, September 22nd
- 25 people participated in sessions
- 4 additional phone interviews/completed worksheets
- Summary of answers will be included in the plan but not direct quotes or association to individuals – anonymous

Stakeholder Answers

Why are you located in Hastings, and what do you like about the area and City?

- **Small town character (4)**
- Family/connections
- River town (2)
- **Downtown and historic character (4)**
- Safe community
- Arts and culture (2)
- Affordable housing options
- **Great schools (3)**
- County seat
- Lots of resources and organizations to partner with for success
- Own business in town (2)
- Close to Rochester and Twin Cities (2)

Stakeholder Answers

If you represent a business in Hastings – what do you need from the community to grow

- **Quality affordable housing for employees (3)**
- **More commerce and employment (3)**
- City buy-in and support for business
- Finding people interested in protecting and teaching the history of Hastings
- Protect the environment of Hastings and a part of the City's character
- Need more diversity in population for future growth
- Need to be a welcoming and open community
- Lose "townie" mentality
- Renovate sports facilities as needed
- Overuse of small neighborhood facilities - need regional athletic complex
- **More people and families (5)**
- More donations/giving through voluntary payroll deductions
- More residential density
- **Transit in and to/from community for students, seniors, disabled persons and workforce (4)**
- Red Rock Corridor
- More communication for new businesses costs for development
- Buy local and local support of local businesses (2)
- Community support for the arts and promote community as arts destination

Stakeholder Answers

What do you see as the strengths of the community and how are they being capitalized upon?

- Connectedness of community
- **Parks and trails (5)**
- Away from the twin cities
- **Small town character (7)**
- Good communication from City (2)
- People are for kids and support youth
- Proximity to the water/river (3)
- **Downtown, History, Character and Architecture (9)**
- **School and community education (11)**
- **County seat (4)**
- **Close to Twin Cities metro (4)**
- Low crime
- Life needs and community support (2)
- Community volunteers
- Athletics (2)
- Art community and programs (2)
- Collaborative religious community
- Business community/Chamber (2)
- **Riverfront as a regional destination (8)**
- Good activities for all age groups (3)
- Good community education programs
- Community highly values arts, academics and athletics
- Loop Bus
- Community pride
- YMCA
- Hospital

Stakeholder Answers

What are Hastings weaknesses? What is being done to address these? What do you think should be done?

- Need to create more spaces for people to connect with each other and the community as a whole
- More access to river and boating downtown (2)
- **Transit around the community and metro (14)**
- Address youth needs and activities (2)
- **Affordable Quality Housing (6)**
- Continued downtown redevelopment (2)
- Location, access and distance from Twin Cities (2)
- Need hotels
- **Stagnate, revolving and decline of businesses (4)**
- Need simplified and clear City requirements for new business development (3)
- **Need community and family activities to grow businesses (4)**
- Attract bigger chain restaurants (2)
- Annexation issues...where to grow and is it possible to annex growth area, where can the City annex?
- Homelessness issues
- **Housing for seniors, young families and workforce (3)**
- Gossip, negativity and misinformation about community efforts, transit & crime and historic district regulations (3)
- Need to capture the “Era of the Arts” and creativity
- **Need more employers and employment (3)**
- Need to reduce number of smaller park ballfields and move larger recreational complex
- Fees for recreational uses may need to go up to meet needs and expansion plans
- **Lower WAC and SAC fees (3)**
- City has a reputation of being hard to work with (2)
- Dome for recreation and athletics
- Hudson building needs to be finished (2)
- Make Hastings a destination (2)
- Lose “townie” mentality (2)
- Vermillion Street/HWY 61
- SAC and WAC fees are very high (2)
- Need more vision
- Event parking downtown

Stakeholder Answers

If you were promoting Hastings to your friends what elements of the community would be important to include as assets/opportunities in this plan?

- **River town/Riverfront (10)**
- **Historic District, Downtown and Architecture (10)**
- Civic organizations
- **Community pride (5)**
- Small town (2)
- LeDuc Mansion
- Culture
- Arts education and programs (2)
- **Parks and trails (8)**
- Arts and cultural assets (3)
- Need to tell the story of Hastings to the community and beyond
- Lots of activities and events (2)
- Great quality of life (3)
- Safe
- Affluent and accessible and close to metro (3)
- County seat (2)
- Natural resources
- Nice people, need a welcome wagon
- Need increases in salaries and employment
- **Schools (4)**
- Beautiful (2)
- Walkable downtown
- Easy to get around town
- Great City to do business in and with
- YMCA

Stakeholder Answers

Where do you see new growth (greenfield) development occurring?

- HWY 316/61
- **Industrial park and SW area with better access (3)**
- **West of along HWY 55 (8)**
- **South along HWY 61 & HWY 316 (5)**
- Self-driving cars will be huge for Hastings and the community should strive to have pilot project involving new transportation technologies
- We need more housing for moving families; both to Hastings and “up” within Hastings
- Retiree and senior housing (2)
- Hotels
- SAC & WAC fees dictate development pace and players
- Need new neighborhood commercial nodes in new neighborhood growth
- New residential neighborhoods (2)
- Need more business and industry growth (2)

Stakeholder Answers

What types of developments are needed or missing from the community?

- **Affordable housing options for all income levels (5)**
- **Transit (2)**
- Hotel
- More restaurant with outdoor seating along river and Downtown
- Homeless shelter
- **Assisted living-transitional senior housing (2)**
- Regional entertainment
- Moderate single-family housing
- Balance of low-income market rate housing
- Higher density housing options
- **Need more local businesses downtown (2)**
- Support for local businesses to build, expand and sustain themselves
- Red Rock Corridor would greatly help downtown housing and business development
- **Need to be a destination (2)**
- **Need to expand arts offerings (2)**
- Need a boutique hotel
- Need to promote and grow bed and breakfasts
- Recreational/athletic indoor dome
- Recreation complex
- Grocery in midtown
- Bowling alley
- Entry level housing
- Construction and property maintenance businesses
- Skilled trade programs
- Hudson building needs to get done
- Boat parking downtown
- New sit-down restaurants
- Year-round farmers market
- Need community center for sports and bigger events

Stakeholder Answers

Do you see Hastings in 2040 as a town or a suburb and what types of future developments support your view?

- **Town in character/suburb in function (12)**
- **Town – due to geography, transportation and surrounding agricultural uses (3)**
- Dependent on business retention and attraction
- **Town** with continued bike trails, parks and riverfront development
- **Town** with continued development in character of existing community
- The community needs to capture the creative class to survive as a **unique town in the metro**
- Dependent on transportation – gas, affordability, condition and capacity of HWY 55 (2)
- **Town** with continued HWY 61 redevelopment

Stakeholder Answers

Are there any particular areas that need reinvestment?

- Industrial park and truck access (2)
- **Downtown (6)**
- **Hudson building (3)**
- Midtown (2)
- **Invest in building and promoting existing local businesses (3)**
- SAC and WAC fees are high and make it hard for small businesses to grow and establish themselves in Hastings (2)
- **Vermillion Street/Highway 61 corridor (10)**
- Business development, retention and attraction (2)
- Entitlement and development process needs to be efficient and forthcoming on total costs and timeline
- Need more employment and employers
- Riverfront and shoreline
- Housing
- Healthcare offerings
- More senior housing
- Westview Mall
- Need hotel downtown
- Improve lower west-side housing
- Reinvest in improving Cow Town

Stakeholder Answers

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- Reinvest in improving Cow Town and Lake Isabel

Stakeholder Answers

What are some of the major projects in the City in the last 5 years? How were they successful? What could have been done differently?

- **Downtown + (5)**
- Hudson building +
- Artspace Lofts + (2)
- Event parking is needed downtown -
- **Riverfront Pavilion/Park development + (12)**
- Industrial park is not meeting the long-term needs of a changing economy -
- Access and land use conflicts on Vermillion -
- Low availability of land for new housing -
- Need more riverfront access -
- HWY 61 needs an overpass or other features to increase pedestrian safety -
- Reduction in WAC and SAC fees needed - (2)
- Need to maximize resources of the community college -
- Waterpark is great +
- **Trail development + (3)**
- Businesses continue to support the City and community + (2)
- Promote downtown as destination + (2)
- **HWY 61 bridge is great (3)**
- Coborn +
- CVS +
- Kwik Trip +
- Small business don't always have the resources to tackle city fees and regulations -
- Need open and honest communication between businesses and city -

Stakeholder Answers

If given \$1 million for the betterment of Hastings, how would you spend it?

- **Support and grant or loan program for small businesses or non-profits to establish and grow (3)**
- Business training for small business and non-profits
- Use money to create spaces/businesses for the community to connect
- Support pilot for self-driving vehicles
- **Invest in docking system for downtown to help riverfront and businesses (2)**
- Redevelopment of downtown and surrounding areas
- Fix historic homes
- Promote becoming a destination for regional tourism
- Help build a recreational youth complex
- Update football field
- Recreational dome
- **Transit (3)**
- Support youth and senior programs
- Donate to school foundation
- Affordable housing
- **Clean up Vermillion Street/HWY 61 (2)**
- HWY 55 improvements
- Attract major employers
- Billboard outside of town for Hastings visitors

Stakeholder Answers

If given \$10,000 for the betterment of Hastings, how would you spend it?

- **Survey and support existing businesses/business retention (3)**
- Promote creative and arts community across the region
- Promote and improve The Loop
- Study commercial land development approval process
- Beautification along HWY 61
- Beautification along HWY 55
- Welcoming signage
- Update park equipment
- **Promote downtown as a regional destination (2)**
- Transit study
- **Donate to local charities (2)**
- Weeding on Vermillion/HWY 61 corridor
- Study connecting corridors

Stakeholder Answers

Is there anything else you would like us to know about – information or ideas for the Hastings 2040 Comprehensive Plan?

- Become a Beyond the Yellow Ribbon community
- **Continued development of small town charm (2)**
- Beautification of HWY 55
- Invest in historic football field and more tennis courts if needed
- **Need a business ambassador for growing and new businesses**
- **Need to study the system and process of development regulations**
- Need to study who is coming to Hastings and why
- More open gym times
- HWY 316 & Tuttle needs a roundabout
- **Promote and grow Hastings as a destination**
- **Reduce tax/fee burdens on businesses**

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Beautification Trends & Priorities

Opportunities/Strengths (+)

- **Parks & Trails**
- **Historic Downtown**
- **Heritage Sites/Preservation**
- **Riverfront**
- **Streetscapes**

Issues/Threats/Weaknesses(-)

- **Vermillion Street**
- **Historic Reuse and Preservation – Costs & Restrictions**
- **Major Corridors and Entryways**
- **Community Character**
- **Lighting**
- **Underutilized Properties**
- **Land Use Conflicts**

Development Trends & Priorities

Opportunities/Strengths (+)

- Accessible to/from Twin Cities
- Hastings will be a Town in 2040 and part of the Metro
- Historic Character is Crucial
- Population, Employment and Commercial Growth is Occurring
- Arts and Entertainment
- Opportunities to use Technology to Market and Capture Additional Growth
- Room for Growth?

Issues/Threats/Weaknesses(-)

- Workforce and Employer Needs
- Uncertain of Future Business Needs
- Affordability for People and Businesses
- Loss of Target Demographics and Dollars
- Needs and Direction of New Growth Areas

Mobility Trends & Priorities

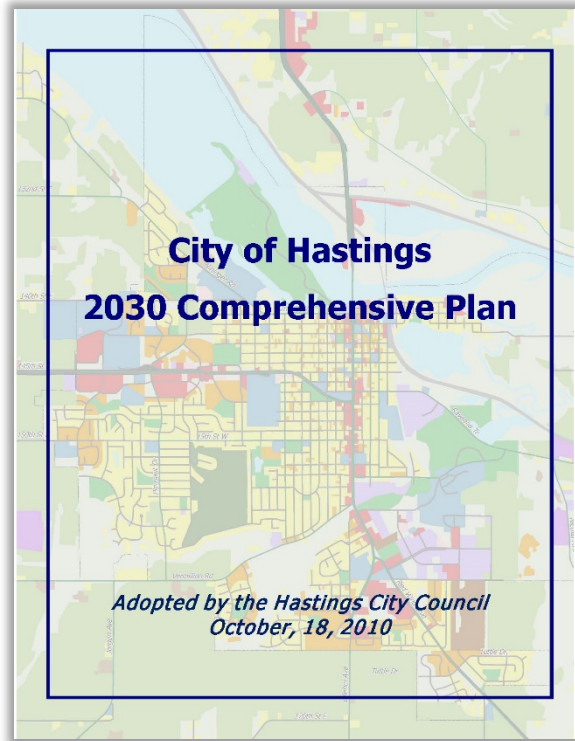
Opportunities/Strengths (+)

- **Great Trail System**
- **Access to Mississippi**
- **Regional Access ~ Increasingly Accessible**
- **Metropolitan Area Resources**

Issues/Threats/Weaknesses(-)

- **Lack of Transit within the Community**
- **Lack of Regional Transit**
- **Maintenance and Expansion of Key Routes**
- **Access Management and Pedestrian Safety Along Commercial Corridors**
- **Uncertain Future of Transportation Demands**

Review of 2030 Comprehensive Plan Goals



Land Use Goals

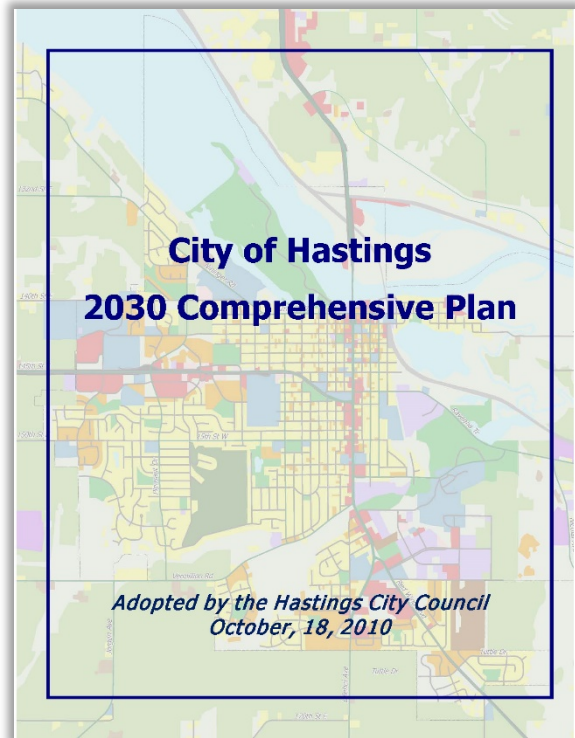
1. *Small Town Character:* Protect the look and feel of older neighborhoods and seek to extend traditional neighborhood design principles into new areas.
2. *Fringe Growth:* Adopt and follow a plan for growth and protect perimeter locations for efficient, compact neighborhood expansion.
3. *Neighborhood Protection and Improvement:* Keep older neighborhoods attractive and vital through improved streets, parks and services, code enforcement, design standards and selective redevelopment.
4. *Natural Environment:* Protect and enhance the major natural features of Hastings such as wooded hillsides, wetlands, floodplains and waterfronts.

Review of 2030 Comprehensive Plan Goals Continued



Transportation Goals

1. *Road System:* Continue to build a road system that safely accommodates local and regional vehicular movement while supporting the land use and urban design aims of the comprehensive plan.
2. *Alternative Modes of Transportation:* Improve options for bicycling, walking and *transit*. ~ *We need more here based on feedback.*
3. *Add ~ Expand Access Between Downtown/Riverfront and Mississippi River to Further Develop Hastings as Regional Destination*



Community Design Goal

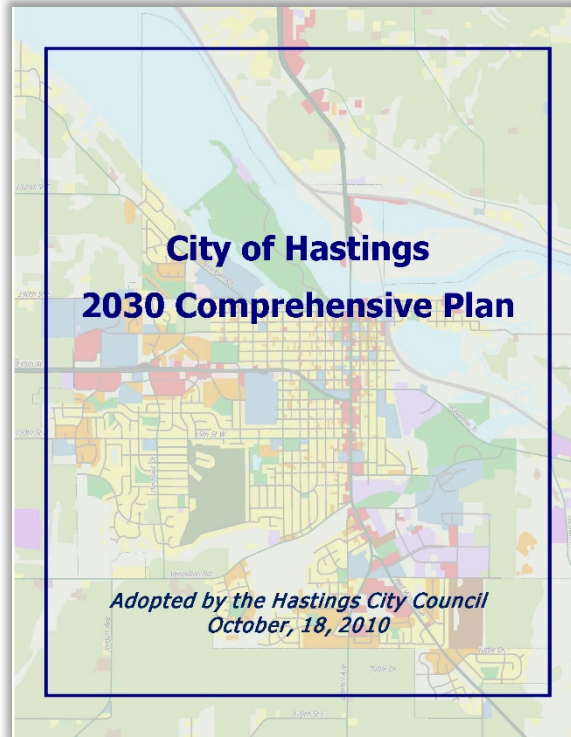
Enhance the identity of the city by building on Hastings traditional urban character, natural amenities and history.

~Expand to include Character/Vision of a Town in the Twin Cities Metro for 2040

Review of 2030 Comprehensive Plan Goals Continued

Economic Development Goals

1. *Business and Industrial Parks:* Maintain a balanced and competitive inventory of business and industrial sites with excellent infrastructure, telecommunications capacity and transportation access.
2. *Vermillion Street Corridor:* Support economic revitalization of the Vermillion Street Corridor.
3. *Transportation and Telecommunications Infrastructure:* Support and facilitate strong telecommunications and transportation infrastructure to all local centers of economic activity ~ business, industrial and office areas.
4. *Economic Development Services:* Maintain accurate community economic information and **support the retention and expansion of local industry.**
5. *Changing Economy and Marketplace:* Periodically review and update economic development strategies, **policies**, investments, and **programs** to respond to changing economic conditions and opportunities. – **Regulations and fees for commercial growth**



Review of 2030 Comprehensive Plan Goals Continued

Housing Goal

Hastings will maintain a balanced supply of housing available for people at all income levels and a full range of housing types that meet varying life-cycle needs of community residents.

– Include educational pieces on housing needs and options to meet needs and vision for 2040

~ Diversity Statement and Welcoming Community

~ What else?



Heritage Preservation Plan Goals

- Preservation Planning
- Identification of Historic Resources
- Evaluations and Designation of Historic Resources
- Design Review
- Outreach, Education and Interpretation

Review of 2030 Comprehensive Plan Goals Continued



Parks, Open Space, and Trail Goals



1. *Parks, Open Space, and Trail System Plan:* To implement a cohesive, effective, and efficient comprehensive system plan.
2. *Parks and Open Space Acquisition and Development:* To provide residents with parks and natural areas for recreational uses, protection of the natural environment, as visual/physical buffering of land development, and as a means to maintain the sense of place, ambiance, appearance, and history of the of the community.
3. *Trail Corridors Acquisition and Development:* To provide residents with a high quality interconnected trail system for recreation and transportation and as a means to tie parks and open spaces together.
4. *Natural Resources Stewardship:* To provide for the preservation and conservation of ecological systems and natural resources within the city.

Review of 2030 Comprehensive Plan Goals Continued



Parks, Open Space, and Trail Goals Continued...



5. *Community Participation:* To establish an effective, ongoing means of communicating and interacting with residents about issues related to parks and recreation facilities, programs, and future development. To provide residents with the opportunity to participate in recreational activities and programs through the City and various civic and volunteer organizations.
6. *Partnerships:* To maximize the park and recreational opportunities available to residents through the development of fair and equitable working partnerships between the City and the local recreational program providers, local school district, adjacent cities and township, county, churches, and civic organizations.
7. *Funding:* To secure the funding necessary to carry out the mission of the Hastings Parks, Open Space, and Trail System Plan.
8. *Recreation Programs:* Working with local recreational program providers, the City will strive to provide residents with the opportunity to participate in recreation activities and programs through well-designed, effective, and interesting recreation programs.

Review of 2030 Comprehensive Plan Goals Continued

Mississippi River Corridor Area Goals



1. The City supports and adopts the goals of the Critical Area/Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (MNRRA) designation
2. Recognition and support of the Critical Area/MNRRA Corridor as an integrated system of natural and human element.
3. The development and redevelopment of a variety of urban land uses compatible with existing development and the historic downtown within the Urban Diversified District of the Hastings Critical.
4. The continuation of rural land uses within the Rural Open Space District at densities that will not need urban levels of services.
5. **Provision for public access to the river, boat launching facilities, temporary docking and scenic overlooks.**

Review of 2030 Comprehensive Plan Goals Continued



Mississippi River Corridor Area Goals Continued

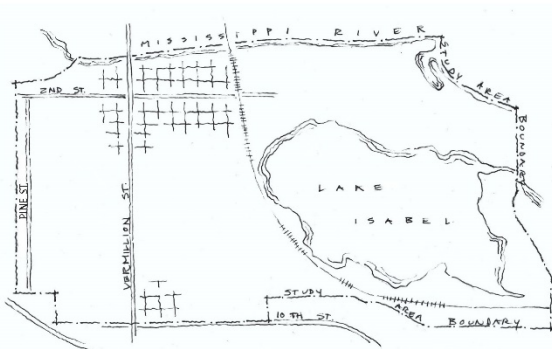
8. Preservation of open spaces, cultural landscapes, archaeological and historical resources, and native areas through public purchase, scenic easements or dedication.
9. Connection of the municipal river front trail to the Mississippi River Regional Trail.
10. Provision of adequate transportation services within the Hastings Critical Area/MNRRRA Corridor while maintaining the aesthetic, environmental, recreational and economic functions of the river.
- 11. Recognition and support the regional economic benefits provided by river transportation.**

Review of Heart of Hastings Guiding Principles

1. Preserve and enhance traditional neighborhood character
2. Embrace public/private redevelopment partnerships
3. Prepare for the time when downtown will be home to a commuter rail transit hub
4. Diversify visitor destinations with a strong focus on the Mississippi riverfront
5. Serve visitors
6. Embrace optional housing types
7. Use new river bridge to strengthen the character and function of Original Hastings
8. Introduce ecological function as an integral component of all infrastructure and development investments



Improving on the Original
A Plan for the Heart of Hastings
June 2003



Prepared for: Hastings Housing and Redevelopment Authority

 Prepared by: Holsington Koenigler Group Inc. with Claybaugh Preservation Architecture Inc. Bonz/REA WSB and Associates, Inc. MMC Associates IBI Group

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Plan Update Process Overview

- Step 1: MSA will pull together community input, review existing data and plans and will draft changes to the existing comprehensive plan
- Step 2: Steering committee reviews input, goals and draft changes – providing comments and direction to MSA for final plan
- Step 3: Draft plan is reviewed by City Commission
- Step 4: Plan is review and considered by City Council

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Updated Plan Document Progress

- Mapping Underway
- Demographics Analysis Underway
- Will Start Drafting Updates to Chapter 1: Introduction and Chapter 2: Public Engagement & Process for November Meeting

Tentative Agenda for Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting #6 –November 2rd, 2017 @ 7PM

- Review of Schedule
- Planning for 2nd Pop-Up Meeting at Holiday Hoopla
- Review of Additional Community Input
- Review MSA's Modifications to Goals and Objectives for Plan
- Discussion of Future Growth, Study and Reinvestment Areas
- Review of Plan Document Progress