

POLICY GOALS

1 Manage **Community Form**

The purpose of managing form is to shape the built environment in a sustainable way that fosters a sense of identity and allows improved quality of life. This focus on “form” refers to the building architecture, the public and private space between buildings, and how clearly public and private spaces are organized. The design and maintenance of the public realm, including sidewalks and streets, are often what leaves a lasting impression of Carmel. As Carmel continues to grow up, and not out, the form of the community will need to evolve to meet the needs and to match the challenges of a growing city. Pedestrian scale will become more important in denser areas, particularly to eventually support transit access. Preservation and enhancement of public green spaces will also take on greater importance.

TELL US YOUR PREFERENCE!

Use a **green dot** to indicate which goals should be prioritized. Use a **red dot** to indicate a goal is less of a priority.

2 Enhance Economic **Vitality**

Carmel's economic vitality is a function of its success in attracting residents and investment. Quality of life investments have created a desirable place for people and firms to invest. This in turn provides more efficient land uses that support high quality municipal services. No longer the northern frontier of the metropolitan area, Carmel has become the center of northern suburban growth, and must continue to reinvest and adapt as it has for over 20 years.

3 Foster a **City of Neighborhoods**

Neighborhoods are an essential component of community which helps build and reinforce the fabric of a city. Traditionally, neighborhoods were not recognized by each individual development's name as they are now. Rather, neighborhoods were determined by major physical boundaries; included a mix of housing styles; and were within walking distance to neighborhood service centers, schools, and parks which gave neighborhoods identity. This document encourages planning for neighborhoods, in the traditional sense: with many daily needs less than 20-minutes away, fending off stagnancy.

4 Reinforce **Adaptability**

Given the role of climate change and the Covid-19 pandemic, it is clear that communities need to adapt to cope. These sorts of national and global threats are bigger than municipalities' ability to cope. But within regional, state, and national frameworks, nimble cities will be better able to keep a healthy environment and high quality of life for current and future citizens.

5 Cultivate **Community Character**

Community character is the quality(ies) and feature(s) of a neighborhood, district, or the entire community that distinguish it from other areas. Community character is desired and often helps build local pride, encourages investment, and improves quality of life.

6 Lighten Carmel's **Environmental Footprint**

Carmel is a signatory of the Paris Climate Agreement, and has stated it has a role in limiting warming to within 2 degrees Celsius of preindustrial levels. This agreement also includes increasing adaptability to adverse impacts of climate change and working towards making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development. Transparent reporting of progress towards community wide goals will be important for focusing on improvement.

7 Support **Healthful Living**

Cities play an important role in community health outcomes. Many of the social determinants of health are strongly influenced by city policies and a community's built form. These social determinants are conditions in the places where people live, learn, work, and play that affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes. They are generally organized around five key areas: 1) Healthcare Access and Quality, 2) Education Access and Quality, 3) Social and Community Context, 4) Economic Stability, and 5) Neighborhood and Built Environment.

8 Improve **Mobility Options & Functionality**

Carmel has made driving to a destination as frictionless as possible for decades. Roundabouts have successfully kept cars moving safely and efficiently and free parking on valuable land at destinations have kept this mode of transportation dominant. Additional modes will inevitably be required to avoid automobile congestion. Other modes have a lighter impact on the street surfaces, air quality, and general congestion. Two to five percent of all commuting traffic should be made by foot or bicycle by 2030. To support future transit, identify transit corridors and make crucial “last mile” connectivity improvements for walking, biking, and ride sharing.

» **WHAT'S MISSING?**

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