

The City of Boca Raton Planning Process

The City uses an integrated multi-phased planning process in developing plans to ensure that Boca Raton remains a unique community providing a superior quality of life to all residents. The process includes: a mission statement, a comprehensive plan, Goals **2014**, Action Agenda, administrative policies, budget guidelines, department goals and objectives, and the capital improvement program.

Mission Statement

A mission statement for the Boca Raton City Organization has been developed emphasizing **SERVICE**.

Safety in the Community

Environmentally Conscious

Recreational Opportunities

Valued Employees

Involvement of Citizens

Customer Service

Economic Stability

Comprehensive Plan

The City's Comprehensive Plan provides long-range policy guidance for orderly social, economic and physical growth in Boca Raton. The comprehensive plan contains goals, objectives and policies to guide the City for the next fifteen years.

The plan establishes adopted levels of service standards for roads, sanitary sewers, solid waste, drainage, potable water, parks and recreation facilities, mass transit and roads and public transit. A concurrency management system has been established to ensure that public facilities and services needed to support development are concurrent with the impacts of such development under the comprehensive plan.

Goals 2014

The City Council and staff hold a strategic planning session annually at the beginning of the budget process where the City Council reviews current goals and objectives and identifies goals for the next five years. The Boca Raton Goals for **2014** include:

- Financially Sound City Government
- Top Quality Municipal Services
- Strong Partnership with Community
- Sustainable City

Action Agenda

At the strategic planning session where City Council establishes the Goals for the next five years, they also set objectives for the following fiscal year towards achieving the five-year goals. These objectives are known as "Action Agendas". The City's action agenda contains specific plans and timetables for coordinating and completing the City Council objectives for the fiscal year. A status report is prepared monthly to provide City Council with updates and monitor the progress of specific projects. The Policy Action Agenda for fiscal year **2009-10** include:

- Downtown Library: Direction
- Downtown Spine: City Plan and Working with Property Owners
- Budget Direction: Revenue and Services
- Waterways: Desired Outcome, Direction, Actions
- User Fees for Non Residents: Comprehensive Evaluation, Direction
- "Transparent" City Government: Definition, Evaluation, Strategy, Actions
- Annexation: Evaluation, Direction
- Rental Housing Strategy: Evaluation, Direction, Actions
- City Financial Support for Arts and Culture: Direction
- MMTD: Direction, Actions (including EAR Amendments)
- FAU Strategy and Actions

Policies

The City has established Administrative Policies in operations, revenues, cash management and investments, debt, reserves, capital improvements program, accounting and financial reporting, organization and financial stability to provide a framework in the development of current activities and planning for future programs. These policies determine how the resources of the City are obtained, managed, allocated and controlled. The specific administrative policies are contained in the Introduction section page 34 of this document.

Budget Guidelines

Each year departments are provided budget guidelines by the City Manager based on the City's goals and action agenda. Due to statewide initiative by the Florida Legislature to provide property tax relief to its residents and the uncertainty of its fiscal impact on the City's operations, departments were faced with significant challenges in the preparation of a balanced budget for FY 2009-10. This fiscal year's guidelines required departments to address spending cuts. In addition to the fiscal guidelines, the departments prepared budgets, which continue to evaluate operations to improve service and gain efficiencies, continue to be responsive to the needs of the community, and continue to support the City's mission and value statements. See an expanded explanation starting on *page 38* "The Budget Process".

Departmental Goals & Objectives

Each department has a mission/vision statement that relates to achieving the City's mission. In addition, departments are required to prepare goals and objectives based on the City Council goals and action agenda, which are developed at the annual strategic planning session. The departmental goals and objectives are specific operational actions that coincide with accomplishing the City Council goals and administrative plans.

Capital Improvements Program

The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) is a six-year plan for infrastructure and major equipment acquisition is updated annually to support the City's mission, goals and action plans. The City incorporates the CIP into "The Budget Process" on *page 38* and the "CIP Operational Impact" on *page 249* of this document.
