

Vision

Overland Park will lead as a forward-thinking, innovative and welcoming community.

The adjacent statement captures the vision for the future of the Overland Park Community and frames the action agenda.

Forward-thinking

where the community continually plans for the future and is looked to as a leader both regionally and nationally.

Innovative

where intentionality and imagination work together to set a high standard for all aspects of community life.

Welcoming

where people of all ages and from diverse backgrounds are engaged in the community.

Goals

A goal is a desired outcome expressed in simple terms. These goal statements were derived from public input gathered at the Imagine Tomorrow workshop and were then refined and edited by the Steering Committee. All goal statements tested well with the public at the Community Conversations.

1. A welcoming place where all people have access to high quality education, affordable healthcare, social services, and a safe environment, and where the community works together for the greater good.

2. An engaged community offering opportunities for people to interact with each other, local leaders and institutions that provide an array of civic services.

3. A high quality, sustainable and attractive built environment offering a variety of choices including neighborhoods that offer the opportunity to live, work, and play and establishes Overland Park as a destination for business development and family fun.

4. A connected city offering choices for mobility including well-maintained road networks, public transit, sidewalks, bike lanes, and trails with an emphasis on embracing new infrastructure technologies and future transportation modes.

5. A strong economy anchored by a diverse job base and positive city image that is attractive to investment and visitors, allowing for a high quality of life for all people.

Actions

An action, simply stated, is a program, policy or project. The actions are organized by initiative area; each initiative area contains multiple actions. All the actions work in support of the goals and overall vision.

Who will implement?

Everyone! This community-wide vision is not the work of just the government. While the City will play a critical role in implementation, the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce, Visit OP, and many community partners will need to work together in order to implement the plan.

Where do we start?

Reflecting community input and the recommendations of the Steering Committee, four implementation areas are highlighted for priority attention:

- Creating spaces where people can gather for both special occasions and daily events, promoting a greater sense of community (e.g. Action 1.1);
- Improving physical connectivity to, from and around the city, innovating in the areas of mobility and transportation (e.g. Action 5.1);
- Caring for all people by promoting health and well-being, specifically focusing on mental wellness (e.g. Action 4.1);
- Providing a wider range of housing options, ensuring that residents of diverse incomes, ages, and abilities are able to thrive (e.g. Action 2.1).

Plan Organization

The Action Agenda contains 39 actions and is organized by eight initiative areas.

Initiative Areas

1. Gathering

physical spaces, programs, and events for people

2. Living

housing affordability and housing choice

3. Learning

continue to be a leading education city

4. Well-being

mental and physical wellness in the broadest sense

5. Connecting

modern approaches to transportation and infrastructure

6. Welcoming

cultivate an open and engaging environment for all

7. Innovating

promote an atmosphere of innovation

8. Placemaking

cultivate a greater sense of place in the built environment

Community Engagement



- 1.1 Create large, signature gathering spaces.
- 1.2 Explore opportunities to integrate smaller-scale gathering and green spaces within existing areas.
- 1.3 Expand and create community-wide events celebrating cultural diversity.
- 1.4 Explore opportunities for dedicated parks and recreation funding and park land dedication requirements.
- 1.5 Build a new city hall in alignment with the city's growth and needs.
- 1.6 Develop attractions and recreation options along the trail system.
- 1.7 Continue to grow the youth sports culture.
- 1.8 Create a public/private partnership to help fund and manage neighborhood events.

- 2.1 Create more diverse housing options.
- 2.2 Create an age-friendly and all-abilities Community Plan.
- 2.3 Strengthen the identity of neighborhoods.
- 2.4 Establish policies that support the creation of "pocket neighborhoods".
- 2.5 Convene conferences on the topic of maintaining vibrant suburbs.

- 3.1 Establish the Education City Initiative.
- 3.2 Enhance joint school and parks summer youth programming.
- 3.3 Expand the current mentorship program between schools and local businesses.

- 4.1 Develop a center for wellness.
- 4.2 Evaluate the creation of a center for social entrepreneurship and innovation.
- 4.3 Explore increased access to social services.
- 4.4 Promote mental health awareness and training programs for the business and nonprofit community.

- 5.1 Develop a state-of-the-art mobility system.
- 5.2 Conduct an audit to define and cultivate walkability.
- 5.3 Implement the Overland Park Bicycle Master Plan.
- 5.4 Explore new transportation funding opportunities.

- 6.1 Develop an international center for cultural understanding.
- 6.2 Create and implement a diversity inclusion plan for future leaders.
- 6.3 Create an "Open OP" event.
- 6.4 Create a welcome kit for new community members.

- 7.1 Create a corporate innovation environment.
- 7.2 Create a citywide "smart" and connected infrastructure plan.
- 7.3 Create a personal mobile experience that provides guidance and improves event and leisure experiences in the city.
- 7.4 Expand support for local businesses and entrepreneurs.
- 7.5 Create an innovation council.
- 7.6 Attract new, emerging event and sporting opportunities.

- 8.1 Develop a culinary arts initiative.
- 8.2 Expand the network of community gardens throughout the city.
- 8.3 Enhance community beautification efforts.
- 8.4 Create an iconic piece of art or attraction.
- 8.5 Create a once a year high profile temporary public art event that would attract visitors from around the state and nation.