

2.0 How to use this plan

As population growth and development activity continue in the City of Bowman and the region around it, this plan should be referenced by city staff and leaders, along with elected officials, while making decisions for the future. These decisions should support the goals and visions outlined within this plan. These situations include everything from the zoning change of a single parcel to the construction of a highway truck reliever route. All involved parties should be aware of the content of this plan through the decision making process. This includes citizens, developers, and businesses. Their access to and knowledge of the plan assists in keeping it up to date over time, and provides insight into the city's future decisions.

Providing prospective developers with access to the future land use and transportation plan prior to the purchase of land allows him/her to search for areas which are best suited to the type of development they want to do, and to arrive at a development proposal that best fits into the city's overall plan.

It is important to remember that the plan is a living document, and elements will require updating after careful consideration by the community through a public process. An example of a plan component that may need to be updated from time to time is the future land use plan. A proposed development may consist of a land use that is ultimately determined to be a better fit than the land use designated on the future land use plan. It is then the city's responsibility to assess the impacts of the change to the land use plan, and process a land use plan amendment if warranted. Carefully following the process of updating this comprehensive plan allows the city an opportunity to carefully step back and consider changes in the context of how those changes benefit the immediate area and the community in its entirety.