

2021-2022 City Council Priorities Adopted by Resolution 2021-6

Priorities, Goals and Strategies

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For the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2020

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1. Mitigate the Impact of COVID-19 on the Community and City Operations



- Reopen City functions using a phased approach to ensure a safe, deliberate return to normal operations; prepare a reopening plan that supports long-term financial resiliency and employee well-being, and incorporates lessons learned from the health crisis response.
- Ensure residents have access to the emergency assistance they need to recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Support our small businesses in weathering the economic downturn due to the pandemic so that they recover and thrive in the future.

2. A Livable Community for All

- Ensure that a range of safe, high quality, affordable, and stable housing options are equitably available in neighborhoods throughout the community.
- Identify the need for and explore the development of programs to address food insecurity in the community.
- Identify programming needs in the community and develop approaches to meet those needs, emphasizing youth, families, seniors, and residents who tend to face barriers to opportunities such as Black, Indigenous, and people of color, those with unsustainable lower-paying jobs, immigrants, and people with developmental disabilities.
- Defend our status as a Sanctuary City and maintain our commitment to being a welcoming and inclusive community for all residents.
- Improve transportation planning and outreach to create a safer and more racially equitable community for all residents, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicle occupants.
- Further the City's racial equity work.

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3. Fiscally Sustainable Government

- Explore and advocate at county and state levels for expanded funding flexibility for municipalities beyond property taxes and continue to advocate for long-term solutions to tax duplication.
- Explore ways to provide property tax adjustments to residents in need, advocate at county and state levels for changes in property taxes to assist residents in need, and work for a more equitable property tax assessment system.
- Continue to build on improvements in the budget process, presentation of budget information, and communication to residents.



- Adopt sustainable investment and banking policy and practices.
- Maintain adequate reserves in the various City reserve funds for long-term fiscal sustainability.

4. Environmentally Sustainable Community



- Climate Change Mitigation: Work towards net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2035.
- Climate Change Resilience: Improve our ability to adapt and be resilient to climate change.
- Manage Our Community's Natural Resources Sustainably: Protect, maintain, and improve the health of our urban forest, natural resources, and water quality, with an emphasis on equity.

5. Engaged, Responsive, Service-Oriented Government



- Hire and onboard a new City Manager.
- Improve City communications with residents and adopt innovative, culturally appropriate initiatives to improve public engagement and collaboration with residents, particularly with residents who may face barriers to participating in municipal government activities and community affairs.
- Improve policies and processes to enhance resident interaction with the City government, including requests for government services, complaint systems, and code enforcement.
- Put in place improvements and review the overall structure and purpose of existing Council-appointed committees.
- Review and reform the City's approach to public safety to ensure racial justice and work toward a safer, more livable community for all residents.
- Improve service delivery and reduce administrative burden by updating internal policies, IT infrastructure, and software.

6. Community Development for an Improved & Equitable Quality of Life

- Plan and prepare for development in the City and region while maintaining the special character and economic and racial diversity of Takoma Park.
- Redevelop of the Takoma Park Recreation Center.



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