

Vision2025

FORESIGHT 4 GREATER TULSA

**The Overarching Regional Vision and Strategies
culminating in voter approval of a regional funding
initiative by Tulsa County voters September 9, 2003**

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Dialog/Visioning 2025

Overarching Vision Statement

In the year 2025, the Tulsa Region will be the Nation's best place to live, work and play. The Tulsa Region will be vibrant, prosperous and economically and culturally diverse. In partnership with all communities in the region, we will present multiple economic activity centers anchored by a strong downtown Tulsa. Our Region will exhibit a spirit of cooperation and collaboration among governmental entities and with the private sector that is the envy of the Nation.

- We have a healthy business environment that encourages the development of quality jobs.
- We place a premium on education excellence and life-long learning for our residents.
- We encourage healthy lifestyles, provide access to excellent health care for our people and serve as a major center for clinical research.
- We have convenient access and multiple transportation choices for our people, linking our activity centers and communities, and connecting our region with other markets.
- We treasure and protect our environmental resources.
- We recognize the Arkansas River as our greatest natural asset; it is protected and enhanced with compatible development, and serves as a major attraction.
- We nurture the arts, cultural, and entertainment opportunities to enrich our lives and contribute to our prosperity.
- We have a full range of housing choices throughout our region to address the various needs of our people.
- We make urban design excellence, community beautification, and environmental quality major priorities for all planning and development.
- We are safe, secure, and recognize ourselves as a just and fair community.
- We are an inclusive region that embraces the strength and uniqueness of our diversity, respects all cultures and people, and honors all of our faiths and traditions.
- We are a friendly, civil, thoughtful, reflective, and caring community.

Economic Development

Vision Statement: *We have a healthy business environment that encourages the development of quality jobs.*

Strategies

➤ **Improve Our Performance**

- New investment growth
 - Across all economic sectors (balance/diversity of industry base)
 - Create and foster public/private partnerships
 - Foster a culture of entrepreneurial spirit in both the public and private sector
 - Grow the Tulsa regional economy at a greater rate than the growth of the US economy
- New jobs growth
 - Target high value added industries and promote the attributes of Greater Tulsa and the State of Oklahoma to business leaders and young professionals
 - Support/encourage higher education research initiatives of all regional institutions and link growth strategies to these initiatives
 - Foster/create new industry clusters based on existing university programs, i.e., biotech, clinical research, healthcare services, agriculture/genomes, government/defense, etc.
 - Build upon established industry cluster growth and development
 - Aerospace
 - Production Technology
 - Oil and Gas
 - Fabricated Metal
 - Healthcare
 - Information Technology, Computing and Telecommunications
 - Central & regional office operations/business services
 - Tourism
 - Create/nurture a technology business council
 - Form a regional economic development planning group
 - Support and foster community leadership development and action

➤ **Key Resource Improvements**

- Education
 - World-class programs and initiatives designed to increase the talent pool of skilled workers in the area
 - Increased state and local investment in public education /educators
 - Local flexibility and control

- Quality job opportunities and workforce development/growth
 - World-class skills training
 - Jobs with wages and benefits equal to, or better than, the national average
 - Jobs and work environments that help people realize their greatest human potential
 - Diversity of career opportunities
 - Retain university graduates through creating quality job opportunities and through creating exciting, fun and diverse lifestyle choices
 - Strategic infrastructure and land development/investment
 - Suitable property development and support for business, industry and tourism
 - Proactive initiatives that create choices of ready properties/land banking
 - Identify and target infill and redevelopment opportunities
 - Public infrastructure investment to stimulate private investment
 - Incentives
 - Business and industry that builds on research, knowledge and innovation will be identified/targeted and encouraged with local incentives
 - Identify strategies, projects, programs and initiatives that are drivers of the local economy providing the best return on investment
 - Create local funds for strategic community and economic development projects including risk capital for qualifying start up companies
 - Create better access to venture capital funds
 - Natural attributes
 - Business and industry capitalizing on natural attributes of our region will have incentive priority
- **Dynamic business environment and quality lifestyle**
- Small business initiatives
 - Support creation and development of small business through targeted programs and incentives
 - Minority and Women Owned Business Development
 - Support creation and development of minority owned and women owned business through targeted programs and incentives
 - International Business Development
 - Support expanding export opportunities for local business and industry through targeted programs
 - Seek foreign investment opportunities through education, relationship building and networking
- Streamlined regulatory and approval process

- Establish business friendly environment that is balanced with the demands for an exceptional quality of life for individuals, families and communities
- A plan for suburbs and neighborhoods
 - Foster and support a vibrant and prosperous downtown Tulsa
 - Maintain unique community qualities through thoughtful growth of dynamic economic activity centers
 - Expand regional planning processes to a 50 mile radius
 - Increase number of regional economic development professionals
- Quality of life issues
 - A community philosophy of providing exceptional quality of life for our regional residents knowing that if we care well for our citizens and their neighborhoods/communities, we will have an abundance of others wanting to become part of Metro Tulsa

Education

Vision Statement: *We place a premium on education excellence and life-long learning for our residents*

Strategies

➤ **PRE-K THROUGH 12 EDUCATION:**

Tulsa enjoys a long tradition of high quality public and private K-12 education. The region continues to offer outstanding education opportunities with dedicated teachers and centers of excellence abounding within the educational systems in the metro area. Societal, demographic, and economic changes in recent years, however, have sometimes challenged the maintenance of the standards to which we have aspired.

By 2025, the Tulsa Region will be recognized nationally as an example of a successful, metropolitan area that provides quality options within all parts of the region, while also maintaining the distinctiveness of the individual schools, school districts, and communities that make up the region. The Tulsa Region will be known as a place where teachers are valued and respected.

To support the Tulsa Region's priority for education, the region will push for more adequate state funding for all levels of education and will also seek additional options under Oklahoma law to increase local support for education.

The educational success of K-12 students depends upon adequate preparation for learning before formal enrollment in school. The Tulsa region recognizes the critical importance of preschool preparation and is committed to providing quality preschool education. Tulsa will become nationally recognized for the effectiveness and comprehensiveness of preschool education programs that prepare each child for academic success.

Actions to Support the Strategies:

- Ensure legislative actions that fund education as a top priority and avoid mandates that cannot be properly funded.
- Increase revenue stream for education funding at the local, state, and federal levels.
- Increase local control by:
 - o Eliminating the 60% super majority requirement
 - o Allowing for a local decision to increase millage taxes
 - o Minimizing the state oversight and compliance requirements
 - o Allowing local districts to charge fees and tuition
- Align budgeting with state funding cycles and hiring statutes

- Develop partnerships with business and industry, private and non-profit organizations and other community entities to implement quality, comprehensive, early childhood and parenting programs that are broad-based and non-exclusive

➤ **HIGHER EDUCATION**

Although Tulsa has greatly benefited from high quality private higher education services, the availability of public higher education in Tulsa has historically lagged behind other similar cities in the nation. In recent years, legislative initiatives in the region have laid the foundation for building a strong and comprehensive array of higher education opportunities for residents of the Tulsan region.

While continuing to support and value the private institutions in the region, funding for public higher education in the region will increase. By 2025, the Tulsa region will become a recognized national example of metropolitan public and private higher education success with programs and services that meet the full array of needs of a sophisticated and diverse population.

Higher education will become a central engine of economic growth for the region, and will contribute to the region through research activities and spin-off activities, as well as through traditional academic programs, career development programs, and continuing education programs for businesses and individuals.

➤ **CAREER TRAINING**

Education for the future will require many kinds of skills and professional preparation. Building upon Oklahoma's success in technological education, Tulsa will continue to develop technical training programs that are integrated into programs of secondary and post-secondary institutions. Tulsa will lead the nation in building seamless educational services that go beyond traditional definitions.

Tulsa will become known in the nation as a place where education is designed to fit the needs of students.

Transportation

Vision Statement: *We have convenient access and multiple transportation choices for our people, linking our activity centers and communities and connecting our region with other markets.*

Strategies

- The street and highway system will continue to be improved and maintained to allow quick and convenient movement of people and goods between economic activity centers, regional communities and within each community in the region. Local, state and federal funding will be sought for system preservation, congestion relief and to improve access within and around the metropolitan area to meet anticipated needs. Quality design will encourage multi-modalism and compatibility with adjacent land uses.
- A light rail rapid transit system (possibly incorporating monorail, maglev, or other new technologies) will be constructed in the region, and will be begun as soon as studies indicate economic viability and sufficient potential usage. Federal and other funding sources will be sought to support the construction and operation of the system, and periodic studies to monitor need and usage potential will be conducted by appropriate agencies. The light rail system will be an integrated component of the overall public transportation system for the region
- Public transportation options in the region will continue to be improved and regionalized. A user-friendly system will be created to link activity centers, communities within the region with a dedicated nonfederal funding source established to ensure adequate operation of the system. The system will provide reliable public transportation and seek to capture choice riders and those with limited transportation options throughout the region.
- Important links to other markets by air, rail, water, and truck will be protected and improved. Aviation links that provide non-stop passenger service to other markets including major East and West Coast cities are critical for economic development, and necessary steps to secure these links will be identified and supported. Water transportation using the Tulsa Port of Catoosa will be supported. Inter-modal transportation systems will be a priority. Advanced technology will be incorporated in the transportation system to improve the timely movement and transfer of passengers and freight, as well as maintain the security of the system.

Deleted:

- Bicycle, pedestrian and trail facilities will continue to be developed to create a more walkable, bicycle friendly community. The system of sidewalks, trails and bikeways will link neighborhoods, activity centers and communities, and provide a safe transportation alternative which encourages exercise and fitness thus enhancing the overall quality of life.

Environment, Infrastructure and Flooding

Vision Statements: *We treasure and protect our environmental resources.*

We make urban design excellence, community beautification, and environmental quality major priorities for all planning and development.

Strategies

- The Tulsa area will actively participate in regional and statewide air quality modeling and management programs that will become the defensible guide for local attainment of air quality standards using reasonable and cost effective control measures. Residents will become aware and motivated to take personal actions that reduce air emissions; local business and industry will willingly implement new technologies or operating practices that result in more efficient use of energy and reduced levels of air emissions; government will work cooperatively with business, industry, and the public to be open and receptive to new technology and concepts, to share information fairly and quickly, and to aggressively promote and facilitate public awareness.
- We will provide to all residents drinking water that is safe and tastes good, meets all quality standards, is affordable, and is made available in quantities adequate to satisfy the needs of the region. We will construct, operate and maintain our environmental infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water treatment, conveyance, and collection systems to amply serve all development areas, and to comply with all regulations of today and the future. Public education and awareness will be aggressively promoted so our residents practice the wise use of our water resources, thereby reducing wasteful practices, and minimizing cost and environmental impacts.
- Our regional communities will participate collectively in studying, planning, and implementing stormwater management programs that protect all residents and commerce from flood and erosion impacts under current and future development conditions. Stormwater management programs will address quantity, quality, and community-sensitive design issues, which in turn will protect our environmental quality, achieve compliance with regulations, reflect and enhance the character of the community, and will be adequately funded to sustain effectiveness.
- Natural hazard mitigation and response planning for the region will be completed and maintained to address a variety of potential threats to the area. Flood control programs will continue to be a high priority throughout the region, and businesses, residents, and all levels of government will cooperatively support implementation of mitigation measures.

- Incentives and public education will be provided to residents and businesses to improve participation in local solid waste recycling programs. The end result of these programs will be to reduce the burden of solid waste disposal, conserve the use of natural resources, and reduce potential impacts on the local environment.
- Public and private land and infrastructure development plans and practices that enhance community development will routinely incorporate the conservation of the region's valuable environmental amenities and resources, and where possible, will minimize soil erosion and tree loss, conserve our prime agricultural lands and natural resources, and enhance these resources in all projects.

The Tulsa region will proactively pursue the sharing of planning, engineering information, common database, and design standards that will foster coordination among governmental entities to support regional solutions, maximize resources, and improve the quality

Agriculture and Rural Development

Strategies

- New marketing opportunities will be deployed to encourage the consumption of locally grown agriculture products.
- Encourage a regional planning process that preserves prime agricultural land in the area.
- Develop ordinances and zoning regulations that allow for residential, commercial, and agricultural entities to coexist in various areas of the region.
- Create educational and/or marketing programs that inform and promote the need for policies and financial incentives that:
 - Encourage watershed protection methods
 - Preserve unique ecosystems
 - Preserve the Keystone Cross Timbers Old Growth Forrest
 - Remove green waste from landfills
 - Encourage small farm activity
 - Promote the use of the Blue Thumb program
 - Inform and educate about gardening
 - Develop community garden plots, and
 - Educate farmers on emerging trends of high profit export products.
- Develop and secure funding to improve rural roads.
- Develop and secure new sources of drinking water for the Region.
- Partner with OSU to promote opportunities in emerging bio-medical agricultural industries.

The River

Vision Statement: *We recognize the Arkansas River as our greatest natural asset; it is protected and enhanced with compatible development and serves as a major attraction.*

Strategies

- Develop an overall Arkansas River Corridor Master Plan for the development and promotion of the river from the Keystone Dam to Wagoner County, and ensure all plans are coordinated and complimentary with regard to public or private development along the river.
- Through the River Corridor Planning process, encourage development and redevelopment while protecting and enhancing open spaces, parks, green areas, urban forests, environmentally sensitive areas, riparian habitat and prime agricultural areas in the development corridor.
- Link the River with the communities by establishing significant connections and gateways between the River and downtowns, neighborhoods, and adjacent venues.
- Incorporate recreational activities, commercial development, cultural and arts activities and other festival events as part of the Arkansas River development plan.
- Work with the state and federal regulatory agencies to expand water rights and flow flexibility to provide for River related activities and events.
- Consider environmental resources and liabilities in planning for the Arkansas River corridor including water quality issues, brownfields, floodplains, wetlands, sensitive habitats, endangered species, and other environmental issues.
- Further enhance the partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to provide resources and expertise in the continued planning and implementation of projects along with the Arkansas River and its tributaries.
- Secure funding for the implementation of the Arkansas River Corridor Master Plan including federal, state and local resources and private resources and utilizing innovative or creative public and private partnerships.

Arts, Cultural and Historical

Vision Statement: *We nurture the arts, cultural, and entertainment opportunities to enrich our lives and contribute to our prosperity*

Strategies

- Incorporate the arts in everything we do: education, business, service industries, and day-to-day living.
- Establish interactive displays throughout Regional Tulsa to assist citizens in learning about regional history. Citizens benefit from an active connection to the historic cultural life of their community. A collaborative development of arts and cultural centers will foster this process.
- Recognize the need for a true public/private partnership that supports arts and cultural organizations and provides funding on a matching grant basis through an Endowment Trust or a public trust authority with a designated source of funding.
- Develop a unified approach to market arts/cultural/historic organizations and events that identify synergies and highlight collaborative structures.
- Encourage each member of the “arts” community to be committed to the success of all arts community members, realizing that a unified commitment to success will create synergy for individual success.
- Promote “Continuing Curiosity” and therefore appreciation of diverse art forms by incorporating arts education in all K-12 programs, thereby stimulating the learning process.
- Keep the “arts” accessible to the public, stimulate discussion among audiences, heighten awareness of the “arts” various forms, and present the “arts” in an environment free from political pressure.
- Incorporate community members with far ranging backgrounds to generate wide-ranging ideas and concepts, generating an environment for new art forms that would be attractive to future generations.
- Generate a passion for the “arts” such that the community that we create for ourselves is appealing to those visiting our community.

- Nurture an ongoing conversation that generates a spontaneous epiphany for a new concept of “arts” in Regional Tulsa; a concept that has not yet been conceived anywhere else.
- Create arts focused communities that are nationally recognized, whereby every citizen will have an outlet for the expression and appreciation of “art” in Regional Tulsa.

Entertainment, Sports, and Leisure

Broader Vision

Everyone has access to quality entertainment, sports and leisure opportunities.

Vision Statement: *We nurture the arts, cultural, and entertainment opportunities to enrich our lives and contribute to our prosperity.*

Strategies:

- Entertainment – performing arts, concerts, festivals, restaurants, and clubs
 - Identify and develop additional entertainment opportunities.
 - Create an Events Center and permanent festival space of appropriate size with associated transportation and parking efficiencies.
 - Facilitate the development of distinctive Entertainment Districts.

- Sports – youth, high school, college, professional, and adult recreation
 - Identify and develop additional sports opportunities.
Create facilities of appropriate size with associated transportation and parking efficiencies.
 - Facilitate the development of support facilities and services in proximity.

- Leisure – trails (biking, walking, hiking), boating, open space, and parks
 - Identify and develop additional leisure opportunities.
 - Emphasize multi-use trail systems connecting our metro area communities, neighborhoods, attractions, destinations, parks and open spaces.
 - Enhance and improve our parks and preserve open space.
 - Facilitate the development of support facilities and services in proximity.

Downtowns and Neighborhoods

Broader Vision

To create the magic of living in vibrant, caring, well- conceived neighborhoods whether they are downtown, near downtown, older or newer, closer or not so close to centers of activity and density.

To create by design a Greater Tulsa Region with a diversity of downtown and neighborhood lifestyles, from big city density, vibrancy and diversity to small town quiet and friendliness, all of which invite people to live, transact, interact, and feel included yet able to achieve privacy when desired without isolation.

Vision Statements:

We will create inviting places, both public and private, and will encourage the design of pedestrian friendly downtowns, neighborhoods, and activity centers in our towns and cities by paying attention to urban design issues and the orientation of structures to their surroundings and environment, both natural and built.

We will foster development of an array of housing options in and around our neighborhoods, downtowns and other activity centers in the region.

We will constantly seek stability, reinvestment and renewal of our neighborhoods, towns and cities and the region as a whole.

We will create dense, busy, exciting, pedestrian oriented, mixed-use downtowns.

Strategies

- The success of our “shared” downtown, Tulsa, is viewed as vital to the success of the region overall and of the surrounding cities’ and towns’ downtowns. The focus of our first efforts and public expenditures will be on planning and executing projects that create inviting public places and spaces in our city and town centers.
- Cities and towns, working with Chambers of Commerce and neighborhood groups, will identify neighborhoods that are underserved by retail, grocery and service businesses and will use appropriate planning tools and incentives to encourage development of appropriate and compatible mixed use retail and service business centers. Improving quality of life, economic vitality and opportunity in underserved neighborhoods is a high priority.

- In order to create the critical mass of people and economic activity necessary for success of large projects, downtown locations will be given every consideration when public assembly, recreational, educational, arts, sports and similar public facilities are being proposed. Such facilities will create the round-the-clock activity, which enhances other downtown living, working, shopping and leisure opportunities.
- A high priority is placed on creating and maintaining links between neighborhoods, downtowns and activity centers that are designed to invite pedestrians into and through “transitional” areas by reducing and eliminating physical, visual and environmental barriers and by creating visual interest and feelings of safety and welcome through design of the streetscape/trails and lighting. In this way, existing and new or renewed neighborhoods can be incorporated into their surrounding urban and suburban fabric.
- Policies will be adopted that favor and encourage development of mixed use buildings in our downtowns and chosen activity centers throughout the region. The scale of projects and buildings may be the only difference from one city or activity center to another; the concepts and vision are shared.
- Streetscapes that invite pedestrians and improve both appearance and safety will be planned and implemented in identified priority areas where the impact on quality of life and environment can be demonstrated best.
- Creating and preserving pocket parks in city and town centers is a priority. Similarly, small neighborhood parks in activity centers and less dense neighborhoods are valued and will be part of the new comprehensive plans for all cities and towns in the region.
- Our architectural history gives our downtowns and neighborhoods character. Neighborhood homeowners and business owners will take the lead in identifying significant landmarks, historic buildings, and other features which define the character of the neighborhood and are worthy of preservation. Public and private resources will be aimed at encouraging adaptive reuse of these significant structures, with demolition as a last resort.
- Neighborhood associations will be supported and encouraged. Neighborhood identities will also be supported and encouraged through the design of and elements used in the streetscape, lighting and signage.
- The process of change will respect the investments made by homeowners and business owners in their homes, businesses, and neighborhoods. Neighborhood stakeholders, working with city planners and engaged developers, will be

empowered to define a vision and set priorities for their neighborhoods, which will guide the implementation of city-wide and region-wide plans.

- Housing variety is valued and will be encouraged by policy, plan, incentive, and financing. Variety includes size, style, density, cost/price, ownership and location. We will foster denser housing options in and immediately adjacent to our city and town centers while endeavoring to enhance and preserve the unique character of each downtown and neighborhood. We value single-family homes as well and will encourage preservation as part of the variety of options offered to those who wish to live in our region.
- Traffic calming techniques will be implemented in existing neighborhoods when backed by neighborhood requests and justified by traffic studies or when traffic calming is part of the comprehensive neighborhood plan for a given city or town. Incorporation of traffic calming techniques will be standard practice in new developments and redevelopment areas.
- Public policy will be developed to maintain, as well as enhance for the future, our urban tree canopy in all downtowns, activity centers and neighborhoods. Tree planting and preservation are important. Trees, especially, are “signature” features in the Tulsa Region landscape. Homeowners and developers will be educated on tree varieties that are preferred and most resistant to heat, drought, wind, disease and insects. Publicly planted trees will meet the standards established.
- Older abandoned or low occupancy commercial centers and enclosed malls will be evaluated for redevelopment. First consideration will be given to development as mixed-use retail and residential centers or as mixed density residential villages.
- Creation of a pedestrian-friendly, human scale, walkable environment in our downtowns is vital to their success. Intra- and inter- city mass transit systems as well as structured and underground parking facilities are key components to achieving the goal of a pedestrian friendly environment and are vital to the growth and development of our downtowns. Walkability is important to the success of neighborhoods. Sidewalks or trails will be required in new developments and redevelopments. Similarly a plan and priority list for burial of overhead utilities will be developed and implemented.

We will establish guidelines that define our expectations concerning quality of design and execution of projects as well as our need to achieve a balance between various economic, environmental and social interests.

Public Safety, Justice and Homeland Security

Vision Statement: *We are safe, secure and recognize ourselves as a just and fair community.*

Strategies

- Public safety agencies will better communicate with each other using the best technology available, and will increase information sharing across jurisdictional lines in order to coordinate crime prevention, detection and response while keeping within the bounds of confidentiality.
- Public safety agencies will develop and implement protocols for regional response to multi-jurisdictional events and acts of terrorism.
- Disaster resistant building standards will be implemented to encourage new construction and retrofitting existing buildings that will withstand natural and man-made disasters.
- Large and small public safety agencies will develop opportunities and procedures to share resources across jurisdictional lines in order to reduce costs and leverage the effectiveness of each department.
- All jurisdictions that dispatch police, fire or emergency medical will secure funding for and implement advanced 911 technology to enable the location of a wireless telephone emergency caller.
- The criminal justice system will address the needs of the growing ethnic populations by providing more services and information in the appropriate foreign language.
- Public safety agencies will cooperate in making regional training opportunities available across jurisdictions and specialties.
- Law enforcement agencies will continue and expand programs that bring officers together with members of the minority communities in neighborhoods, housing complexes and schools in order to facilitate cooperation in the communities and encourage cultural sensitivity in the officers.
- While addressing criminal behavior and holding public safety in the forefront, programs and initiatives must be developed to address the root causes of juvenile and adult crime with the goal of early intervention and prevention. Collaborative and integrated systems must be developed that operate with the

- understanding that complex human issues such as mental illness, substance abuse, or domestic violence are often at the root of criminality. We challenge ourselves to adopt a therapeutic jurisprudence treatment program model that utilizes best practices while holding offenders accountable for their actions.

Social Fabric: Diversity, Faith and Family

Broader Vision

We are a friendly, civil, thoughtful, reflective, and caring community.

Vision Statements: *We are an inclusive region that embraces the strength and uniqueness of our diversity, respects all cultures and people, and honors all of our faiths and traditions.*

Strategies

- We are an inclusive region that embraces the strength and uniqueness of our diversity. We recognize that the strength of our community is the recognition of diversity inclusive of faith, ethnicity, gender, orientation & disabilities. These values establish the foundation for a friendly, civil, thoughtful, reflective and caring community.
- An emphasis will be placed on strengthening and leveraging our diversity by providing a forum to openly discuss issues and opportunities. Through this forum people will work together to discover common values, understand the current and future dynamics of our region and their impact on our community. This forum will generate ideas and build relationships, through which collaborative projects, programs and initiatives will be created.
- Regional leaders and residents will place a high value on the strengths and uniqueness of our social fabric.
- Our Community embraces our diversity, values family and children and encourages understanding of all faiths.
- The diversities, faith, ethnicity, gender & orientation will be recognized and valued as resources for our common lives and mutual goals.
- We will anticipate and plan for the needs of the most vulnerable in our community, including the elderly, the disabled, and the marginalized.
- We will protect and defend our religious freedom as stated in the 1st amendment.
- We will be respectful of faith communities and will value the role of faith communities to serve the needs of the communities.

- We strive at all times to be welcoming and affirming of all of the many types of family groups in our community.
- We will see our children as one of our most precious assets and seek to protect them and provide them with the most comprehensive and effective environment possible to grow and learn.
- We will support programs that provide citizens including our youth the opportunity to meet and learn about the diversities within our community.
- We will guide and direct our institutions, projects and programs to be an integral part of the high quality of life that we expect for all of our residents. We expect them to sponsor initiatives and growth that will nurture a cohesive community spirit, as well as provide leadership that enriches people at every level.
- Examples of these projects, programs and initiatives might be museums and monuments built to celebrate our diversity and enhance our natural heritage, programs that will nurture and grow leadership in diverse cultures, strengthen and support our families and sponsored initiatives that explore issues and promote educational opportunities.