

Local Area Plans (LAPs) set out objectives and policies that guide the growth and development of Saskatoon neighbourhoods. Local Area Planning provides residents, business owners and other stakeholders an active role in determining the future of their community. During the development of a LAP, participants work with each other to identify issues, develop goals and outline strategies to ensure the long-term success of their neighbourhood.

Local Area Plans, as determined by the City of Saskatoon, are applied to specific areas that require extra attention to:

- maintain the quality, safety and viability of the area;
- guide and prioritize the expenditure of public funds on community improvements and infrastructure;
- encourage the renewal, rehabilitation or redevelopment of private and public properties;
- resolve situations where City policies do not accurately reflect the individual needs of an area; and
- provide the basis for changes to the Development Plan and Zoning Bylaw.



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Local Area Planning

Working Together for Our Community



The Steps to Creating a LAP

1. Neighbourhood Meeting

All residents, property owners, private developers, business owners and community groups will receive an invitation to a meeting to discuss the upcoming LAP process. At that time, meeting participants will be asked to serve, as representatives of the community, on a LAP committee for 12-16 months.



2. Forming a LAP Committee

It is not necessary that committee members have special skills or knowledge, only that they are committed and have a keen interest in making a positive difference in their community. The LAP committee, with assistance from City staff, identifies issues affecting the community and develops strategies to address these issues.



3. The Condition of the Community

Initially, the LAP committee discusses the present condition of the community such as population numbers, land use, housing, economic development, traffic patterns, parks, recreation, crime, roads and tidiness. These discussions paint a picture of the community and provide the foundation for the development of the LAP.

4. Creating a Vision

The LAP committee envisions a positive future for their community. The creation of a neighbourhood vision creates a common base from which the community can work together to create realistic goals and strategies for successful long-term planning.

5. Identifying Issues and Setting Goals

Information is gathered through surveys, research, guest speakers, presentations and participant observations about their neighbourhood. Based on these findings, the LAP committee acquires an understanding of neighbourhood issues, the value placed on them by the community, the practicality of addressing them in the



LAP, and the goals which need to be set to move issues forward. This information forms the basis of the LAP.

6. Adopting the Local Area Plan

After the LAP committee has reviewed and approved the report, a public meeting is held for all stakeholders. At that time, the community is invited to voice their opinion about the LAP. Once a general consensus is reached in support of the LAP, the report is presented to the Municipal Planning Commission, and finally to City Council for adoption.



7. Implementing the Strategies

In order to successfully achieve neighbourhood goals, it is essential that all stakeholders participate in implementing the plan. The Community Association, Business Improvement District, residents, property owners, business owners, private developers, community groups and the City will be called upon to be part of this process. The timeline for implementing the LAP depends on the nature of the

neighbourhood, however, recommendations are generally acted upon within five to seven years.

8. Monitoring, Evaluating and Updating the Plan

All stakeholders have an opportunity to monitor the improvements in their neighbourhood. City staff will deliver a progress report to City Council and the Community Association on an annual basis or as required until all recommendations have been fulfilled.



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