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Public Services & Facilities

INTRODUCTION

Downtown public services and facilities includes the public infrastructure services, facilities, and programs that support the social, physical, and economic aspects of the high quality of life that the Scottsdale community expects. Infrastructure, as it relates to Downtown Scottsdale, includes a diversity of programs, services, and physical facilities such as police and fire protection; water and wastewater systems; solid waste collection, recycling and disposal programs; mobility programs; drainage and flood control; power and telecommunication systems; open space and public realm amenities; as well as the provision of civic services through schools, libraries, and other governmental or public institutions.

Maintaining and investing in these public services, facilities, and infrastructure programs are essential to Downtown's ongoing stability and vitality. Infrastructure's physical form and condition communicate a great deal about a community's goals, values, and identity. Well-maintained, inviting, aesthetically pleasing infrastructure elements make a strong quality statement about Downtown. Providing consistent attention to Downtown's infrastructure ensures that facilities and programs will continue to serve the functional needs of residents, visitors, businesses, government agencies, and others over time.

The goals and policies, in this chapter, outline strategies to fortify and increase Downtown infrastructure programs. Key elements include incorporating sustainability into the attentive maintenance of existing infrastructure, as well as, the timely investment in new improvements that serve the changing needs and extend infrastructure life cycles for an evolving Downtown.

"Growth can be good for a community if all elements are considered."

~ Deciding the Future Workshop Participant, 2008

GOAL PSF 1:

ANTICIPATE AND PLAN FOR THE EXPANSION AND MAINTENANCE OF EFFICIENT PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS, WHICH INCLUDE ALL PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES TO ACCOMMODATE CURRENT AND FUTURE GROWTH.



The Fire Station on Indian School Road is an example of environmentally friendly architecture that is encouraged for all city buildings.

Policy PSF 1.1.

The city's primary investment in the Downtown should be targeted at maintaining, upgrading, and expanding infrastructure systems and public realm improvements.

Policy PSF 1.2.

Coordinate and update city and public infrastructure master plans to accommodate existing and future growth and to assure that the Downtown Plan's goals and policies can be achieved.

Policy PSF 1.3.

Analyze the long-term infrastructure maintenance, replacement and expansion needs, and align them with the city's five-year capital improvement program and the Downtown Plan implementation program, to assure that the Downtown Plan's goals and policies are accomplished over the next twenty years.

Policy PSF 1.4.

Proactively coordinate with public and private utility companies and future service providers for the provision, installation, and maintenance of utilities that service the Downtown to accommodate current and future development.

Policy PSF 1.5.

Coordinate infrastructure planning, capital improvement programs, and public utility improvements to minimize disruption to Downtown property owners, businesses, patrons, and visitors.

Policy PSF 1.6.

Encourage the acquisition of public realm land in strategic locations as part of the city's Downtown infrastructure system expansion and improvements.

Policy PSF 1.7.

New and infill development should contribute to Downtown's infrastructure system.



The Marshall Way Bridge is public infrastructure that also aesthetically enhances the public realm.

Policy PSF 1.8.

The public parking supply should be considered as a public asset that is shared by all property owners, businesses, patrons and visitors. The city's capital improvement program should include provisions to construct, and/or partner with property owners to provide additional public parking as necessary.

GOAL PSF 2:

INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS SHOULD PROVIDE AN IDENTITY UNIQUE TO DOWNTOWN AND CONVEY THE COMMUNITY'S DESIGN EXPECTATIONS.

Policy PSF 2.1.

Infrastructure improvement should be designed to unify and complement the identity of the overall Downtown, which may include improvements that provide a specific identity to the various urban neighborhoods.

Policy PSF 2.2.

Infrastructure improvements should positively impact the aesthetic qualities of the pedestrian environment.

"I like the fact that Downtown does not look homogenous."

~ Focus Group Participant, 2007

Policy PSF 2.3.

Downtown civic buildings and public spaces should demonstrate the city's leadership in design excellence.

Policy PSF 2.4.

City infrastructure, public utilities, and private development projects should include provisions to place overhead utilities underground when physically and economically feasible to reduce the visual impact on the Downtown.

Policy PSF 2.5.

Manage the visual impact in rights-of-way of power and communication system hardware such as transformers, switching cabinets, service section entrances, antennas, and towers.

GOAL PSF 3:

MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE CITY SERVICES TO PROVIDE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT WITH MINIMAL PHYSICAL RISK SPECIFIC TO THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE OF THE PUBLIC WITHIN THE DOWNTOWN.

Policy PSF 3.1.

Coordinate the planning of revitalization, as well as new and infill development, with emergency, medical, fire and law enforcement services to maintain the response times goals. As necessary, provide additional services and facilities to ensure that the response times goals are achievable.

Policy PSF 3.2.

Maintain and expand special public safety and educational programs, such as the mounted police unit, to provide unique outreach and direct services to Downtown property owners, residents, businesses, patrons, and visitors.

Policy PSF 3.3.

Facilitate a comprehensive stormwater master plan and infrastructure improvements to protect property so onsite detention may not be necessary.

Policy PSF 3.4.

Manage existing, and design future Downtown transportation and related systems with a focus on pedestrian mobility and safety.



*Scottsdale City Hall
Civic facilities and city governance.*

GOAL PSF 4:

MAINTAIN EXISTING, AND PROVIDE NEW CIVIC FACILITIES TO MEET THE COMMUNITY'S GOVERNMENTAL, ADMINISTRATIVE, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL NEEDS.

Policy PSF 4.1.

Maintain the primary city governance and administrative services within the Civic Center campus.

Policy PSF 4.2.

Maintain and establish satellite city facilities, as appropriate, to enhance the delivery of services to Downtown property owners, businesses, patrons, and visitors.

GOAL PSF 5:

INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS, NEW AND EXISTING CIVIC FACILITIES, AND PRIVATE DEVELOPMENTS SHOULD INCORPORATE THE DESIGN OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY METHODS.

Policy PSF 5.1.

The city should lead by example and incorporate sustainable conservation measures in the design of new and existing city facilities Downtown.

Policy PSF 5.2.

Encourage new and existing developments to include sustainable methods within building design, and utilize existing urban resources, such as infrastructure systems, underutilized sites, buildings, and transportation networks.

Policy PSF 5.3.

Promote methods of water conservation, including the reuse of water, and the use of stormwater harvesting for passive irrigation of landscape improvements.

Policy PSF 5.4.

Manage rainwater as a resource and provide environmentally beneficial treatment of runoff prior to allowing water flows into the stormwater management system.

Policy PSF 5.5.

Encourage the use of shared waste containers among similar uses (e.g., office and retail) for Downtown businesses to minimize inefficient land use in compact areas, visual impacts, and impacts on the related public infrastructure systems.

Policy PSF 5.6.

Establish and maintain an innovative, sustainable solid waste collection, recycling, and disposal delivery system.

Policy PSF 5.7.

Expand recycling programs to include commercial and multifamily developments.



Incorporate sustainable methodologies such as “green roofs” into Downtown building design.

