# IVINS CITY

# GENERAL PLAN

Revised August_____, 2015

This amendment supersedes any prior
versions of the General Plan.

# CHAPTER 1
# INTRODUCTION

Ivins City is located in southwestern Utah not far from Zion National Park. Situated beneath its iconic Big Red Mountain and adjacent to Snow Canyon State Park it is home to the Tuacahn Center for the Arts, Red Mountain Resort and Spa, Movara Fitness Resort, Coyote Gulch Art Village, the Crescent Moon Inn and most recently the Southern Utah Veterans Home. Although it is gaining popularity as a center for tourism Ivins City is first and foremost a peaceful family and retirement friendly bedroom community with just over 7,500 residents in 2014. ~~Situated beneath its iconic Big Red Mountain and adjacent to Snow Canyon State Park it is home to the Tuacahn Center for the Arts, Red Mountain Resort and Spa, Movara Fitness Resort and Kayenta's Crescent Moon Inn and Coyote Gulch Art Village with other resort properties underway including Encanto and the luxury resort complex Sentierre. Emerging as a resort destination Ivins City is first and foremost a peaceful family and retirement friendly bedroom community with just over 7,500 residents in 2014.~~ It is estimated that it will attain a build out population of approximately 20,000.

The purpose of the Ivins City General Plan is to steer development toward a well-conceived future preserving the city's magnificent natural assets and desirable lifestyle by avoiding the pitfalls of reckless growth. With nearly two thirds of its area as yet undeveloped Ivins City has the enviable opportunity of becoming precisely what it foresees by taking charge of its own destiny through this General Plan and accompanying Land Use, Zoning and Development Maps and Ordinances.

## Definition of a General Plan

A General Plan is sometimes referred to as a "Master Plan". It is a guide for making land use decisions regarding growth, the locations of lands, uses and community appearance. The General Plan is a reflection of the community's goals and values. The Ivins City General Plan governs the area within its City limits.

The General Plan is intended for use by the City Council, Planning Commission, other boards and committees, City Staff, developers and residents. The purpose of the General Plan is to provide a comprehensive guide for the physical development of the City. It is a key tool to guide zoning, budgeting, capital improvements, decisions and policy making.

A General Plan is not a regulatory document. It must be implemented through other ordinances and actions. When a community has adopted a General Plan, Utah Code 10-9a-406 requires that all streets, parks, public buildings and utilities (public or private) be constructed in conformity with the General Plan. It is the intent of the Planning Commission and the City Council to create consistency between the General Plan and ordinances and policies.

## How the General Plan is Organized

- Chapter One of the General Plan introduces the requirements for the General Plan, how it was developed, and how it is maintained and organized.

- Chapter Two examines briefly the history of Ivins City, projected growth and build-out analysis.
- Chapter Three details the vision for the future, and the goals, objectives, policies and actions associated with the achievement of the City's vision.
- Chapter Four includes the natural and cultural resources the City wishes to protect.
- Chapter Five covers land use policies.
- Chapter Six discusses implementation of the plan
- Maps throughout support the text by showing storm watercourses, habitat, land-use, streets and roadways, and bikeways and trails.

Each section of the Plan concludes with policies that are derived from the information presented in that subsection. These policies are intended to provide direction to guide future decisions that will in turn lead to accomplishing the Goals and objectives of the General Plan. For example, the following policies address the need to keep the General Plan consistent and current.

**General Plan Policies**

All land use decisions including the development of streets, parks and utilities, and the provision of public services shall be consistent with the General Plan.

The Planning Commission will periodically review the General Plan. Recommendations for action will be made to and approved by the City Council.

# CHAPTER TWO
# GROWTH

## Projected Growth for Ivins City and Washington County

Washington County and Ivins City have experienced steady growth for more than 20 years and it is anticipated that growth will continue. Some of the trends and attributes that attract growth to Washington County and Ivins City include:

- Local and national trends toward increasing leisure time and tourism.
- Transportation and communications advances which will continue to reduce the importance of location relative to business.
- Migration created by a desire to leave large urban areas.
- Innovative and well-planned development in Ivins City.
- Wide range and access to cultural and recreational opportunities.
- Location in majestic scenery.
- Superior quality of life.
- Migration to the warmer climates of the desert southwest.
- The desirability of Washington County as a place to retire or have a second home.

## The Economic Future for Ivins City

Ivins City was settled by thirteen hardy ~~farmers and their~~ farming families who moved to the arid Santa Clara bench between 1922 and 1926. Each had helped to carve ~~after manually carving~~ an irrigation canal originating ~~that originated~~ three miles upstream on the Santa Clara River in exchange for an acre of ground in the new town site. They built their ~~own~~ homes, ~~scratched the parched earth to plant~~ planted gardens, dug ditches, built roads and eked out a meager existence raising a variety of crops many of which did not grow well here. The original Ivins town site now known as the historic township remained a small farming community for decades. It was granted a post office in 1924 located in an abandoned one room home that for a time also ~~that was located in a room attached to Ed & Lula Tobler's home and~~ doubled as the school. The residents built a one room church in 1926 and brought electricity to the town in 1930 providing the poles and labor. ~~In 1930 electricity was brought to the town with the residents providing the poles and labor.~~ In 1933 the Civilian Conservation Corps completed the Windsor Diversion Dam at the head of the Ivins irrigation canal to control flooding and ice damage. In 1935 Ivins was incorporated and the Town of Ivins named after Anthony W. Ivins, a prominent early civic and ecclesiastical leader in the area, was created. By 1950 the residents had together constructed a pipeline across the lava beds from the Johnson's Arch spring bringing culinary water to Ivins ~~the town~~ and had oiled the gravel road connecting the town to Highway 91. The completion of Snow Canyon Parkway in 1998 provided a critical second convenient access to Ivins ~~City, Snow Canyon State Park, Red Mountain Resort and Tuacahn.~~ leading to significant new development on its east side. ~~in east Ivins has followed~~. Ivins achieved "city" status in 1998, became a Class 5 City (from 1,000 to 10,000 residents) in 2003 and ~~as defined by the new State statute. It~~ is now the fourth largest city in Washington County.

Ivins ~~City~~ grew very slowly until the early 1980s when ~~the~~ Kayenta ~~subdivision~~, a unique desert community focused on preserving the natural landscape with large lots and low profile southwestern style homes was created bringing a new image and interest to Ivins ~~City~~. Soon thereafter retirement communities began to be developed ~~locate~~ here ~~a few years later~~ establishing a ~~yet another~~ trend that continues ~~remains to this day~~. ~~The National Institute of Fitness later renamed Red Mountain Resort and Spa was built near the entrance to Snow Canyon in 1978 followed by the Tuacahn Center for the Arts located in Padre Canyon in 1995 and the development of Coyote Gulch Art Village in Kayenta. These attractions along with Fitness Ridge now Movara Fitness Resort and the Crescent Moon Inn in Kayenta that came later have over time brought national and international recognition to our city~~ Today Ivins is a scenic, safe and serene city offering a diverse mix of residential developments that make it a destination for people of varied backgrounds in all life situations to locate here.

Most Ivins children attend Red Mountain Elementary, an award winning science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM) school from grades K-5 and move on to nearby Lava Ridge Intermediate School and Snow Canyon High School. Tuacahn High School for the Performing Arts and Vista school focused on the arts and technology are both acclaimed State charter schools that bring students into Ivins City from across the County.

The National Institute of Fitness later renamed Red Mountain Resort and Spa was built near the mouth of Snow Canyon in 1978 followed by the Tuacahn Center for the Arts located in Padre Canyon in 1995 and Coyote Gulch Art Village in Kayenta. These attractions along with Fitness Ridge now Movara Fitness Resort and the Crescent Moon Inn in Kayenta that came later have over time brought national and international recognition to our city. ~~Steady growth and our developing image as a resort destination and arts community has lured additional businesses, restaurants, galleries and shops to locate here along with Tuacahn High School for the Performing Arts, Vista Charter School focused on the arts and technology and the Southern Utah Veterans Home. The~~ Currently under construction are the Encanto resort complex in east Ivins ~~is now under construction as is~~ and the Kayenta Center for the Arts due to be completed in 2016. Sentierre, a world class luxury resort located next to Tuacahn, is in the final planning stages with construction scheduled to begin in the spring of 2016. Steady residential growth, expanded recreational, cultural and educational opportunities and a growing number of resort developments have attracted and will likely continue to lure additional businesses, professional centers, restaurants, galleries and shops to locate here. ~~It is likely that these enterprises will attract additional resort related businesses with other more conventional ones expected to come as our population continues to grow.~~

The vision and work ethic of our early settlers combined with the careful planning of new generations of residents has established a beautiful and thriving city with a wonderful heritage and a bright future.

**Population Projections for Existing and Future Land Uses**

This section reviews historical population, existing land use, future land use and estimate of buildout population, and a population projection to determine the approximate year of buildout.

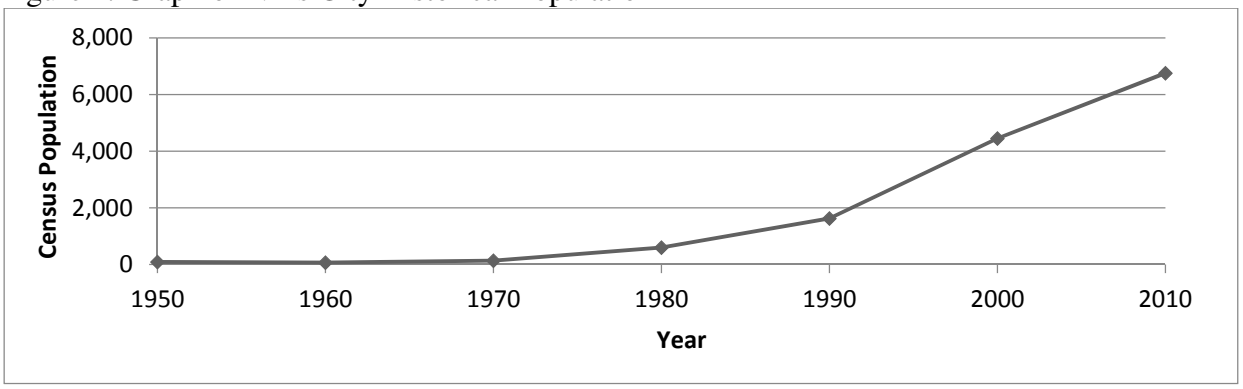
## Historical Population

Ivins City has rapidly grown over the past three decades from a sparsely populated rural city to a significant suburban city being the fourth largest city in Washington County. Table 2 and Figure 3 below shows the historical growth of Ivins City since 1950 based U.S. Census data.

Table 1. Historical Population of Utah, Washington County and Ivins City

| | 1950 | 1960 | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 | 2010 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| State of Utah | 688,862 | 890,627 | 1,059,273 | 1,461,037 | 1,722,850 | 2,246,553 | 2,763,885 |
| % Growth | | 29.3% | 18.9% | 37.9% | 17.9% | 30.4% | 23.0% |
| Washington County | 9,836 | 10,271 | 13,669 | 26,065 | 48,560 | 90,354 | 138,115 |
| % Growth | | 4.4% | 33.1% | 90.7% | 86.3% | 86.1% | 52.9% |
| Ivins City | 95 | 77 | 137 | 600 | 1,630 | 4,450 | 6,753 |
| % Growth | | -18.9% | 77.9% | 338.0% | 171.7% | 173.0% | 51.8% |

Figure 1. Graph of Ivins City Historical Population




In previous decades, Ivins City had been growing at a rate well above the County rate. In the last decade, the growth rate shows to have slowed to be nearly the same as the County. In review of Ivins City garbage account data, which is a good indicator of the number of homes in Ivins City, it indicates that construction growth was more than the population growth as Ivins City grew from 1,690 garbage accounts to 2,841 accounts indicating a 68.1% growth rate. This is shown in the table below.

Table 2. US Census Population 2000 vs. 2010

| | Year 2000 | Year 2010 | % Growth |
|---|---|---|---|
| US Census Population | 4450 | 6753 | 51.8% |
| US Census Households | 1435 | 2427 | 69.1% |
| US Census Housing Units | 1598 | 2880 | 80.2% |
| US Census Persons per Household | 3.10 | 2.78 | |
| Vacant Housing Units including second homes | 163 (10.2%) | 453 (15.7%) | 178% |
| Second Homes (Seasonal, Recreational, or Occasional Use) | 91 (5.7%) | 289 (10%) | 217% |

Even though population has only increased 52 percent over the 10 years between censuses, the housing units have increased 80 percent. The large gap between population growth and housing growth can be attributed to the following factors. First, the number of persons per household has significantly decreased to 2.78 from 3.10. This may be indicative of the attractiveness of Ivins City as a retirement community as our population 65 and older has increased from 10.2 percent to 19.8 percent. There may also be a trend in local population demographics towards smaller sized families. Lastly, the attractiveness of Ivins City for second homes has increased.

As shown in the table above the number of second homes has more than doubled and vacant housing (which includes second homes) now accounts for nearly 16 percent of Ivins City residences versus 10 percent in the previous census.

**Existing Land Use**

Land use analysis is basic to City planning. It is necessary to understand the existing land use and compare to the future land use as determined by the adopted Land Use Plan which is Figure 1 of the General Plan. The City area was analyzed to determine the number of existing residences, irrigated acres, and extent of commercial land uses.

Table 4 below shows a summary of the existing land use analyzed by area in acres. Of the more than 6,000 acres of the Ivins City Boundary, 2,242 acres or 36% is developed. Another 14.5% is considered to be permanent open space.

Table 3. Summary of Existing Development

| | Total (acres) | % |
|---|---|---|
| Developed Residential | 2,079 | 33.7% |
| Developed Commercial/Civic/School/Church | 163 | 2.6% |
| Undeveloped | 3,028 | 49.1% |
| Open Space | 892 | 14.5% |
| Total | 6,162 | |

As shown 49% of the city still remains to be developed and is currently either naturally vegetated, cultivated, or fallow. A portion of this area may be undevelopable due to slopes, flood plains and other natural geographical features. This does not include the 400 acres of potentially developable land in the Anasazi Valley annexation zone.

The existing land use was further evaluated to determine a more exact number of residences. These results are given in Table 5 below.

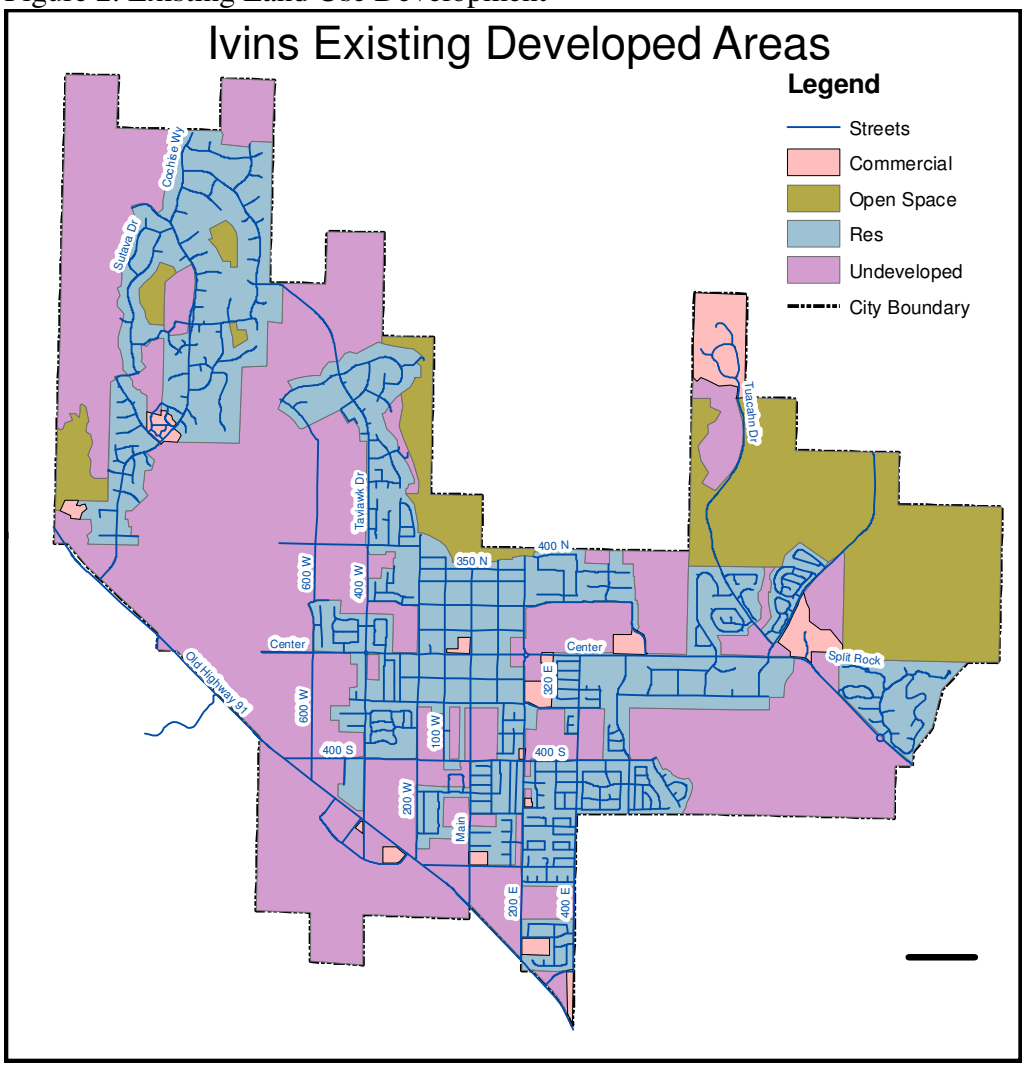
Table 4. Existing Land Use in Ivins City as of May 2014

| | All Ivins City |
|---|---|
| Single Family Houses | 3,121 |
| Multi-Family Units | 69 |
| Total Housing Units | 3,190 |
| Total Households (85% of housing units) | 2,712 |
| Estimated Population (2.78 x # of households) | 7,539 |
| Hotel/Spa Units | 140 |
| Single Family Vacant Lots | 629 |

As shown, with a total of 3,190 residential units and estimating that 85 percent of these units are permanent households, the current population can be estimated at 7,539.

The following Figure 4 shows the existing developed areas of Ivins City.

Figure 2. Existing Land Use Development




**Future Land Use & Projected Buildout**

The following Figure 5 shows the current Land Use Plan as of May 2014. The build out population is based on a detailed analysis of the Land Use Plan and existing plans that have been submitted to Ivins City at various stages. This detailed analysis was completed using GIS technology and the resulting work map is provided in Appendix A of the Ivins City Water Master Plan. The analysis identified areas for infill development as well as the development of the undeveloped areas. Table 6 as follows the Land Use Plan figure shows the results of this analysis.

Figure 3. Ivins City Land Use Plan (May 2014)

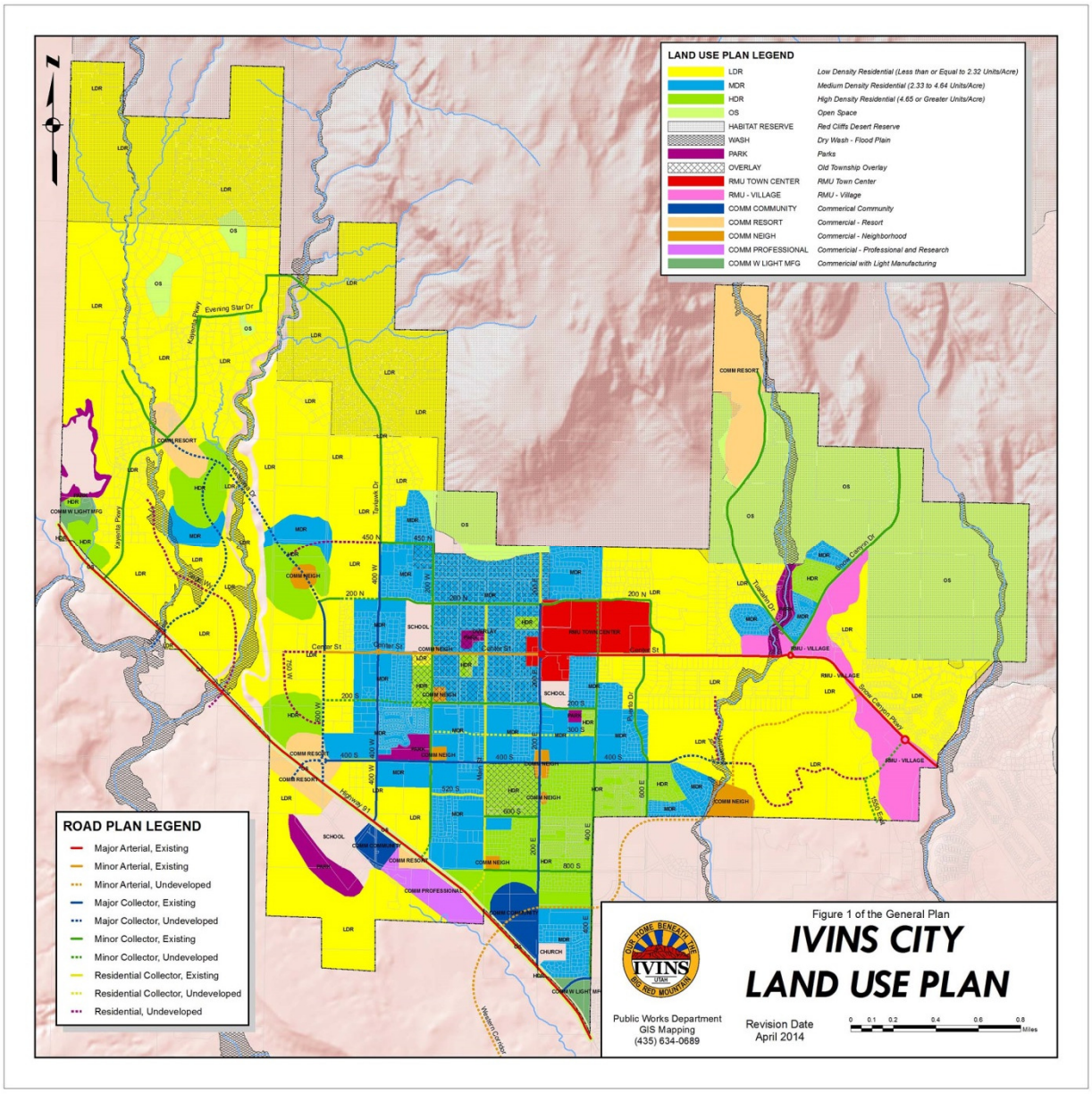


Table 5. Landuse Data for Future Buildout Calculations

| | Ivins City | |
|---|---|---|
| | Existing | Buildout |
| Single Family Housing Units | 3,121 | 7,332 |
| Multi-Family Housing Units | 69 | 475 |
| Total Housing Units | 3,190 | 7,807 |
| Vacant Lots for Single Family Housing | 629 | 0 |
| Anasazi Valley SF Residences | 0 | 500 |
| Transient Units | 140 | 582 |
| Jobs | 547 | 3,996 |

The buildout number of residences is 7,807 plus 500 residences added for the annexation of Anasazi Valley for a **total of 8,307 residences**. Assuming that 15% of the residences are second homes or unoccupied in accordance with current conditions as calculated in the discussion of Historical Population, 7061 would be considered resident households and using a household size of 2.7 (see population projections in Table 7) indicates a **buildout population of 19,100**.

This buildout population estimate will change with any changes to the Land Use Plan. Lately the trend has been towards allowing more dense development with each modification of the Land Use Plan, so there is a possibility that the estimated buildout population will increase as time moves forward. In prior capital facilities plans, an effort was made to estimate this larger population in anticipation of the Land Use Plan being modified, however, this has been deemed unnecessary as these plans are updated every four to six years and should simply be adapted as the Land Use Plan changes over time.

**Population Projections**

The population projections identify the timing of community growth and provide information to determine how soon capital facilities need to be placed into service. This growth projection is based on analysis of previous years of growth and an understanding of the local demographics. The State of Utah Governor's Office of Management and Budget (GOMB) is a source for population projections as well as other studies that are looking at the regional growth.

Figure 6 as follows shows the GOMB population projections for Ivins City. Ivins City is using this projection as it appears to be reasonable and appropriate based on observed trends. The resulting population projection shows that buildout population approximately 20,000 people.

Figure 4. Population Projections

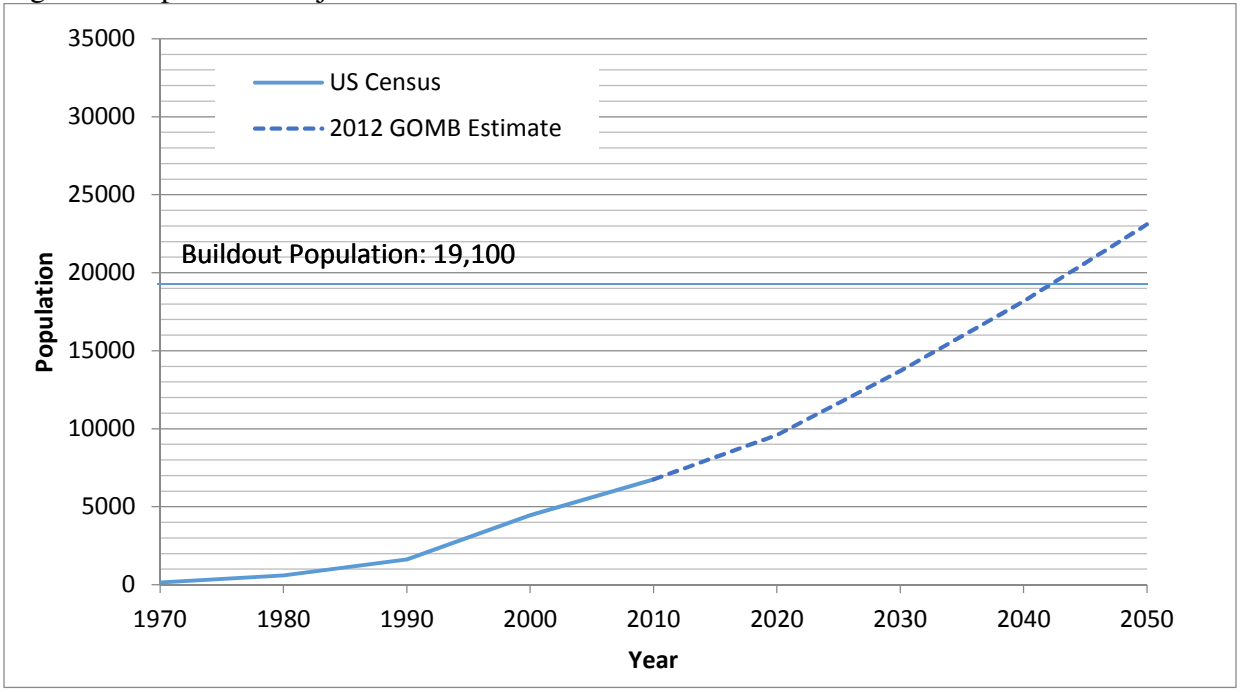



Table 6. Ivins Population Projection Data

| Year | Population | Population % Growth | Total Housing Units | Total Residences % Growth | Resident Households* | Household Size |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1970 | 137 | | | | | |
| 1980 | 600 | 338% | | | | |
| 1990 | 1630 | 172% | | | | |
| 2000 | 4450 | 173% | 1690 | | 1435 | 3.10 |
| 2010 | 6753 | 52% | 2880 | 70% | 2427 | 2.78 |
| ↓ GOMB 2012 Projected Data ↓ | | | | | | |
| 2020 | 9600 | 42% | 4240 | 43% | 3500 | 2.75 |
| 2030 | 13700 | 23% | 5520 | 44% | 5030 | 2.73 |
| 2040 | 18200 | 33% | 7140 | 34% | 6730 | 2.7 |
| 2050 | 23100 | 27% | 9150 | 27% | 8560 | 2.7 |

*Resident households are considered to be 85% of the total housing units accounting for 15% of homes considered to be second homes or otherwise unoccupied as currently exists per the 2010 US Census.

# CHAPTER THREE
# VISIONS AND GOALS

## The Community's Vision for the Future

As Ivins City grows, the primary objective of the General Plan is to protect and enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors alike. The elements that define Ivins City's quality of life are:

- The spiritual quality of the land.
- Magnificent landscapes.
- Open space.
- A clean and serene environment.
- Variety and charm in the mix of housing.
- Diverse recreational opportunities.
- Compatible retail, hospitality and professional services.
- Supporting and fostering cultural and performing arts.
- A feeling of safety and comfort.
- A sense of belonging to the community.
- Careful planning and preparation for the future.

The Policies outlined in this General Plan are intended to provide a vision for the future of Ivins City and address the following:

- Preserve and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape and spiritual quality of the environment.
- Protect the spectacular ~~views~~ vistas for all to enjoy.
- Preserve a unique community that reflects the serenity of its natural surroundings.
- Create an uncrowded feel with ample open space.
- Maintain a safe and well-protected community.
- Encourage housing types diverse in price range, size and architecture that blend with the natural environment.
- Plan civic/commercial centers where residents and visitors can gather, shop, dine, and be entertained.
- Encourage festivals and events that promote community spirit, build traditions, celebrate heritage and attract tourism.
- Encourage activities and recreational opportunities that will serve the needs of the community, attract tourism and promote economic development.
- Efficiently manage revenue sources to adequately fund services and infrastructure.
- Promote effective government that embraces community involvement.
- Plan for and manage development so growth does not outpace the capacity of public facilities and services.
- Protect the night sky by carefully regulating lighting while also promoting safety for residents.
- Promote Ivins City as a resort destination community.
- Supporting and fostering arts and culture, artists, art installations, activities, and education.

## Goals, objectives, Policies and Actions

In any city, decisions are made regularly concerning roads, sewers, parks, schools, new subdivisions, commercial developments, etc. Taken separately, the decisions may not seem related; however, the cumulative effect of such decisions has a significant impact on the community and the quality of life of its residents. Clearly defined goals and objectives provide a means by which a government can focus these individual decisions for the good of the community. When adopted by the City Council, the Goals, Objectives and policies of the General Plan become a guide as to how Ivins City intends to direct its energies and resources with respect to the many issues facing the community. The community's vision for the future is outlined below in numbered goals and supporting objectives.

### *Goal 1. General Plan*

Protect the superior quality of life in Ivins City.

*General Plan Supporting Objectives:*

- Specify the intent of the City Council regarding the planning and regulation of growth, land use and development, and the distribution of densities within Ivins City and surrounding areas.
- Encourage the type of development that enhances the qualities that make living in Ivins City desirable.

### *Goal 2. Natural Setting*

Preserve the natural beauty and ~~views~~ vistas that give Ivins City its unique identity, including the Red Mountain and the other natural hillsides that surround the City, the natural washes, the lava beds, open spaces, and the night sky.

*Natural Setting Supporting Objectives:*

- Assure that development patterns and building scales reasonably preserve ~~views~~ vistas of the city's natural setting.
- Provide incentives for preserving open space and the lava beds.
- Discourage development that would mar the hillsides surrounding Ivins City.
- Place existing and future power lines underground and remove existing poles.
- Encourage architecture, lighting, landscaping and the use of colors that blend with the natural surroundings.
- Preserve the night sky.

### *Goal 3. Economic Development*

Attract and sustain businesses that will provide employment opportunities for Ivins City residents and enhance its tax base.

*Economic Development Supporting Objectives:*

- Participate in local economic development boards and/or tourism councils. .
- Create commercial areas where business can thrive and residents can gather.
- Attract businesses that reflect and support our community values, which will allow residents to work in Ivins City.
- Encourage patronage of locally-owned businesses.

***Goal 4. Resort Destination***

Develop Ivins City as a resort destination community.

Resort destination supporting objectives:

- Attract businesses and development that can service tourism
- Encourage housing options that cater to tourism
- Maintain a commitment to the arts and expand art opportunities
- Encourage businesses and activities that promote health and fitness including spas and recreational opportunities
- Develop, maintain, and enhance walking/bike trails
- Maintain, expand, and support community events that attract visitors
- Develop additional outdoor recreation infrastructure

***Goal 5. Unique Identity***

Maintain a strong sense of place and individual identity for the City.

*Unique Identity Supporting Objectives:*

- Guide development in a manner that enhances the City's appearance.
- Protect scenic vistas and the visual quality of entrances to the City.
- Encourage the preservation of farmland and open pastures that recall the agricultural heritage of Ivins City.
- Establish logos, slogans, mottos, street signage, street lighting, street furniture, etc. that are unique to Ivins City.

***Goal 6. Growth***

Foster orderly growth compatible with the character of the community and surrounding natural beauty.

*Growth Supporting Objectives:*

- Encourage growth in areas and at levels that can be reasonably sustained by City services and facilities and that minimize the financial burden on residents.
- Identify and protect growth areas that are visually, economically or geographically related to Ivins City within which annexation must take place before development occurs.
- Apply design standards that preserve the City's quality of life.
- Encourage infill development to efficiently utilize existing urbanized areas and facilities.
- Assure that development takes place with adequate public facilities and services.

***Goal 7. Residential***

Allow for a variety of housing types in attractive, functional neighborhoods, to meet the needs of all income levels.

*Residential Supporting Objectives:*

- Encourage development that preserves a sense of neighborhood and high moral values.
- Encourage the preservation of areas for a rural lifestyle consistent with the local heritage.
- Encourage residential design that complements the natural beauty and character of the area.
- Encourage low profile housing.

***Goal 8. Transportation (SEE TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN)***

Provide a road system that moves people and goods safely and efficiently to and through Ivins City and minimizes negative impacts, visual and otherwise, on adjacent property.

*Transportation Supporting Objectives:*

- Consider transportation impacts in land use decisions and neighborhood developments.
- Preserve the rights-of-way necessary to accommodate future traffic needs.
- Encourage traffic calming designs through residential neighborhoods.
- Require road connections between subdivisions where practical.
- Require roundabouts at major intersections (those requiring more than four way stop signs)
- Provide walking paths and bike paths/lanes in an interconnected system that links major destinations.
- Upgrade existing roads, curbs, gutter, and sidewalks.
- Assure that development impact fees and/or land dedication requirements accurately reflect the City's cost to address the transportation needs for new development.
- Promote the idea of mini traffic circles at intersections to slow traffic and as a means of visually enhancing the grid character of the streets.

***Goal 9. Recreation (SEE PARKS AND TRAILS MASTER PLAN)***

Provide a wide range of recreational facilities and opportunities for all ages.

*Recreation Supporting Objectives:*

- Provide recreation facilities and activities to meet a diverse spectrum of recreational interests ~~needs~~ for Ivins City residents.
- Assure that future residents ~~populations~~ will be able to enjoy ~~the existence of and~~ access to parkland through acquisition and development of additional park properties.
- Work closely with the School District to develop joint City/School park sites.
- Assure that development impact fees and/or land dedication requirements accurately reflect the costs to the City of providing parks for new development.

- Create a spectacular trail system by implementing the Ivins City Parks and Trails Master Plan (Figure 4).
- Develop the Ivins Reservoir as a water recreation area and nature park.
- Plan and eventually build a Community Recreation Center.

***Goal 10. Public Services***

Ensure that public facilities, services, and utilities are adequate to meet the needs of present and future residents of Ivins City.

*Public Services Supporting Objectives:*

- Assess impact fees as necessary to assure that new developments are paying the appropriate costs of the utilities and services.
- Analyze current levels-of-service for City services and set targets to be maintained as future development occurs.
- Assess user fees as necessary to provide funding for established levels of service.
- Promote energy and water conservation in existing and new developments.
- Through Special ~~Improvement Districts (SID)~~ Assessment Areas or other means, bring older neighborhoods within the City up to standard in terms of public services.
- Continue to support and promote public transportation

***Goal 11. Education***

Support quality public schools, private schools, charter schools and continuing education.

*Education Supporting Objectives:*

- Search for and utilize joint-use facilities to minimize costs to the City and the School District.
- Assure that land resources are reserved for future school needs through cooperative long range planning.
- Encourage state charter schools.
- Encourage the utilization of qualified retirees to enrich public education.
- Support plans for elementary schools, a middle school, high school, a library and even higher education and/or research facilities in Ivins ~~City~~.

***Goal 12. Water Development***

Provide safe, dependable water in sufficient amounts to meet the future needs of the residents, businesses, and amenities of Ivins City.

*Water Development Supporting Objectives:*

- Develop in conjunction with Washington County Water Conservancy District a fair and equitable comprehensive water conservation program.
- Encourage conservation through efficient use of water and application of developing technologies.

- Promote economical development of water resources.
- Develop a reliable secondary water system.
- Secure additional water to provide for projected buildout population.
- Preserve and protect water rights.
- Assess user fees as necessary to provide funding for established levels of service.
- Assess impact fees as necessary to assure that new developments are paying the appropriate costs of water development, purchase, storage and delivery.

***Goal 13. Neighboring Communities***

Establish and maintain friendly, neighborly relationships with the Shivwits Indian Reservation, Washington County and the Cities of Santa Clara and St. George and other Washington County cities and organizations.

***Goal 14. Emergency Services***

Continue to evaluate and establish appropriate Public Safety service so that Ivins City becomes and remains a truly safe and well-protected community.

*Emergency Services Supporting Objectives:*

- Establish and maintain appropriate levels of service for police, fire protection, emergency medical services and animal control.
- Ensure the proper training and equipment for emergency services personnel.
- Enlist the aid of Ivins City residents in establishing and maintaining a safe community through programs such as Neighborhood Watch and CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams).

***Goal 15. Arts and culture***

Encourage and promote arts and culture, artists, art installations, activities and education to create a welcoming environment and enrich the lives of residents and visitors.

Arts and Culture supporting Objectives:

- Encourage support and promote public, private, and public/private arts installations in roundabouts, transportation corridors, parks, and other locations accessible to the public.
- Encourage support and promote private art installations and activities in and around commercial and residential developments.
- Support arts and cultural education.
- Support and encourage the expansion of performance art.
- Encourage, promote, and develop arts and cultural activities.
- Recognize, support, and promote the artists living and/or working in Ivins City.
- Seek public and private funding for the Arts.
- Develop a comprehensive Arts Master Plan

# CHAPTER FOUR
# NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

In order to develop policies and strategies that bring about the goals and objectives outlined in the vision for Ivins, City it is important to understand the physical characteristics of the City, both natural and man-made, that provide opportunities for and constraints to development.

## Climate

Ivins City is located within the northern extension of the Mojave Desert. Its southwestern setting and low elevation provide Ivins City with a desert climate characterized by low humidity (rapid evaporation), generally clear skies, relatively mild winters and hot summers. The average annual temperature is approximately 77 degrees.

Average ~~annual~~ precipitation is approximately eight inches per year. The dry climate has attracted many who experience physical discomfort due to humidity. At the same time, this arid condition places a high importance on the availability of water. Because of its relative scarcity in the western United States and the cost of delivery, water has been and will continue to be a key factor in the city's growth.

## Scenic National and Regional Resources

Ivins City is located in a region that includes the largest concentration of natural recreation areas in the contiguous 48 states. The area includes four national parks, four national monuments, two national recreation areas, five state parks, three national forests and four wilderness areas. Ivins City is located in close proximity to Snow Canyon State Park, Ivins Reservoir, Gunlock Reservoir, Sand Hollow Reservoir and Quail Creek Reservoir State Parks. It is within a relatively short driving time from Zion National Park, Bryce Canyon National Park, Lake Powell, Lake Mead, the north rim of the Grand Canyon and Great Basin National Park.

The visually striking red sandstone cliffs, plateaus and mountains provide a scenic backdrop to the community. The natural beauty of the geologic features and vegetation gives Ivins City a unique character.

### *Scenic National and Regional Policies:*

Capitalize on the uniqueness of the environment; protect that environment and harmonize development and design with it.

## Cultural, Religious and Historic Resources

Ivins City is dedicated to supporting a broad public understanding of and appreciation for the cultural arts, and recognizes the positive impact the arts play in enriching cultural, economic and intellectual life in our community and schools. Home to a diverse and growing cultural arts community, Ivins City recognizes, encourages and supports the growth of artistic diversity. Additionally, art and cultural events and businesses contribute to the wellbeing of the tourism

industry making them an invaluable partner. Currently Ivins City is home to a number of festivals and celebrations.

Mormon pioneers originally settled the area, so historically the LDS Church has been the predominant religion. Growth has brought residents of many faiths creating a blended culture fostering cooperation and united community support.

Of all those now living in Washington County none have been here as long as the Shivwits band of Paiutes. The Southern Paiute probably entered Utah about 1100 AD. There were larger groups that settled along the rivers and smaller groups that stayed near the springs. The Paiute were mainly foragers, hunting rabbits, deer, and mountain sheep, and gathering seeds, roots, tubers, berries, and nuts. They also had some irrigated fields along the banks of the Virgin, Santa Clara, and Muddy Rivers. They raised corn, squash, melons, gourds, sunflowers, and later, winter wheat.

The first reservation for the Paiutes was established in 1891 on 100 acres of land near the Santa Clara River at Shivwits, about 10 miles west of St. George. In the 1950's the Utah Paiutes' tribal status was terminated by Congress. This caused many problems for the people for nearly 20 years. In the 1970's award money was given to the people to pay for land that was taken many years before (27 cents per acre). On April 3, 1980 President Carter signed legislation that restored federal recognition for the Paiute. This has made it possible for the people to once again have a tribal council and the help of social programs.

The Shivwits settlement has changed over the years. Most of the early homes are gone and newer homes have been built east of the old site. The cemetery is still in use. The people of the Shivwits band and the other Southern Paiute remain a close-knit group. As always their culture is very important in making them a unique and proud people.

On the south side of the City there is a significant collection of Native American petroglyphs that date back to 800 A.D. The petroglyphs and archeological sites are preserved by the establishment of the Santa Clara River Reserve, an interlocal agreement between the Bureau of Land Management, Santa Clara City, and Ivins City.

***Cultural, Religious and Historic Policies:***

- Interface with necessary federal agencies and the Shivwits Band to plan for protection of the petroglyphs and Native American culture.
- Support and fund the Santa Clara River Reserve trails and protection.
- Promote the cultural arts.
- Honor the City's pioneer heritage.

**Hillsides and Geologic Hazard Areas**

Many of the hillsides that frame the north and south side of Ivins City contain steep slopes greater than 8% which present a number of particularly difficult problems when subject to development: rock fall, scarring, slope failure, erosion, storm water control, and traffic access.

Geologic conditions that exist in the Ivins City area which are of the greatest significance include:

- Potentially unstable slopes on steep hillsides.
- Moderate earthquake hazard.
- High ground-water conditions in low-lying areas that may result in instability and affects the city aesthetics from the alkali staining.
- Collapsible and expansive soils that may pose a hazard to building structures.

***Hillside and Geologic Hazard Policies:***

- Where hillsides are in private ownership and development rights exist, the City will discourage development on hillsides through measures such as zoning, density transfer and acquisition/dedication. Where hillside excavation cannot be avoided, cuts are to be fully reclaimed to a natural appearance through landscaping, or screened from general view.
- Public health and safety must be preserved by assuring that stability is properly maintained on any development of hillsides and/or slopes.
- In all development, problem soils must be properly identified and mitigated.
- All proposals for building sites must include a geologic/soils report addressing specific conditions of the site.

**Storm Watercourses**

A large system of dams was constructed at the base of Red Mountain beginning in the late 1970's to convey floodwaters around Ivins City to Dry Wash and Padre Canyon Wash and ultimately the Santa Clara River. Storm watercourse areas subject to the 100-year flood (flood with a one percent chance of occurring in any given year) are shown in Figure 2.

***Storm Watercourse Policies:***

- The City discourages any development within known 100-year storm watercourses or flood prone areas. The exception is for development what is compatible with periodic flooding such as trail systems, golf courses and other public or private uses that will permit the free passage of floodwaters and do not involve habitable buildings nor result in significant property damage.
- The City will continue to enforce, and refine when necessary, its current storm watercourse protection regulations.
- The City seeks to minimize flooding risk by:
  - Preparing and updating city-wide storm water plans for the conveyance and management of storm water.
  - Preparing a plan for regional detention structures to prevent increased peak storm flows arising from property development.
  - Increasing detention in storm water systems to decrease peak flow; and
  - Protecting and expanding natural floodable areas and locating appropriate uses, such as parks, in these areas.

- The City discourages the channelization of streams and encourages the preservation of natural watercourses.
- To accomplish the above, the City will prevent the development of habitable structures within a storm watercourse.
- To recognize the storm water runoff as a resource and as a potential source for other uses.
- The City proposes the following drainage policy:
  - Minimize the increase in the rate of flow from developing properties unless downstream facilities exist to accommodate the increased flow rates.
  - Maintain the flow of storm runoff within its natural drainage basin and path as much as possible.
  - Discourage the use of retention basins by providing adequate detention areas.
  - Encourage the design of drainage facilities that adequately handle storm runoff.
  - Minimize flooding nuisance in 10-year flood events with the goal of keeping all roads open and drivable.
  - Design all city underground conveyance systems for the 25-year flood event.
  - Protect life and property in the 100-year flood event by conveying storm water using the combination of pipelines, channels, and roadways and planning regional detention facilities to ensure that these facilities are not overwhelmed.
  - Control peak flow discharges from the Ivins City boundary into other jurisdictions so other jurisdictions are not negatively impacted from the development of Ivins City.

**Dry Washes**

Throughout the Ivins City area, dry washes provide a natural storm drainage system carrying storm water to the Santa Clara River. This natural drainage system is also important as visual open space, wildlife habitat area and recreation corridors. The larger drainage washes are the Dry Wash and Padre Canyon Wash. Other smaller washes should also be maintained in a natural state wherever feasible.

When the natural conditions of a dry wash are disturbed they are often invaded by tamarisk, which chokes out other vegetation and impedes drainage flows even to the point of causing flooding. A tamarisk (salt cedar) management effort is necessary to restore dry washes to a healthy state.

***Dry Wash Policies:***

- Dry Wash and Padre Canyon Wash should be preserved in a natural condition except for flood prevention, detention, or water conservation.
- Wherever feasible, smaller washes shall be preserved in their natural state.
- Tamarisks (salt cedars) should be removed from dry washes and native plants reintroduced.

**Red Cliffs Desert Reserve**

Ivins is the only City in Washington County that co-signed the Habitat Conservation Plan as a Management Agency. The Red Cliffs Desert Reserve provides many opportunities for recreation and enjoyment of the diverse and fragile environment of Washington County. The Habitat Conservation plan (HCP) was developed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Utah State, Washington County and the municipalities impacted by the Endangered Species Act of 1973. The HCP created a 61,000-acre Desert Tortoise preserve including the northern edge of Ivins City.

***Endangered Species Policies:***

- The City will support and assist in the implementation of the Habitat Conservation Plan for the Desert Tortoise, as well as other legitimate threatened or endangered species in the local area.
- Land use proposals that could have adverse impacts on critical wildlife or plant habitats shall be modified to eliminate or adequately mitigate such adverse impacts.

**Air Quality**

The relatively pristine air around Ivins City is another of the community's great natural resources and attractions. Local air quality is excellent. The principal source of air pollution in the Ivins City area is wind-blown dust. It is anticipated that automobile emissions will become an increasing problem in the future.

***Air Quality Policies:***

- The City will control man-induced dust by requiring strict dust suppression (such as watering during construction) and that land disturbance associated with development be graded and revegetated within a reasonable time period.
- Encourage bike and pedestrian travel ~~are encouraged. to reduce the air pollution cause by motorized vehicles~~.
- Promote the general use of non-polluting alternative fuel vehicles
- Continue to support and promote public transportation
- Clean businesses or offices for research and development, such as medicine, software and other technologies are encouraged to be part of the economic development of the City.
- The City proactively supports efforts to reduce emissions on a regional basis.
- Continue to develop renewable energy resources within the city.
- To the extent feasible, the City will strive to utilize fuel efficient and/or alternative fuel vehicles.

# CHAPTER FIVE
# ELEMENTS OF THE GENERAL PLAN

## Land Use

The Land Use element is the core-coordinating component of the General Plan. It interrelates all of the elements of the General Plan that have implications for the arrangement of uses of the land. The Land Use Plan is a physical expression of the implication of the various policies that make up the General Plan. (See Figure 1.)

The Land Use element considers areas within the City. The Land Use element is an important guide for decisions related to development. The Land Use Plan is a visual reference for public or private entities seeking information about the land development objectives of the City.

In addition to the designations on the Land Use Plan, policies are adopted to guide future City decisions on a case-by-case basis.

The Land Use Plan is general. There are areas that do not necessarily follow the existing property lines. Property-specific conditions are taken into account when the City Council zones, rezones and/or grants a building permit for a specific parcel.

***General Land Use Policies:***

- All zoning and other land use decisions shall be consistent with the General Plan.
- Urban development should be located within, or adjacent to, existing urban areas in order to avoid sprawl and strip development, maximize the cost-effectiveness of public facilities and services, and preserve agricultural and open space land uses.
- Innovative urban planning should be used in all zones to protect, enhance and blend development with the unique natural character of the area.
- Growth should pay its own way, i.e. the costs for the new public infrastructure should be paid by the development entity that generated the need and that will benefit therefrom.
- Any review of planned development shall include proof that adequate public facilities are available to serve each development.

## Residential

One purpose of the General Plan is to promote the City's objectives with respect to development. Another purpose is to introduce greater densities than the zoning may indicate in order to achieve open space through the use of density bonuses or other incentives. The objective is to achieve preservation of key scenic features and important amenities per the General Plan while maintaining overall average zone density.

Apartment/condominium housing is important to fulfill a variety of housing needs, whether it is luxury condominiums for retirees, or low-cost housing for young couples just starting careers. The Land Use Plan designates apartment/condominium housing throughout the community in

locations that have adequate street and utility capacity as well as other amenities such as parks, trails, etc.

***Residential Policies:***

- Areas that contain designated open space, parks or other scenic/natural resources should be developed with clustering to encourage and preserve the desired resource(s) and overall net density shown on the Land Use element.
- Medium and apartment/condominium density housing shall be located near collector and arterial roads, and as a buffer between low density housing and other land uses.
- The Historic ~~old~~ core area of the City should continue to be developed with medium-to-high density housing.
- Apartment/condominium housing (townhouses, for example) should be located so as not to block views of the mountains and the building mass should be stepped and staggered.
- Publicly accessible art is encouraged

**Moderate Income Housing**

Ivins City desires to have a variety of housing types, including moderate-income housing. In all residential Zoning Districts, Ivins City encourages the use of Overlay Districts that allow for density bonuses as a way to provide incentives for developers to build and sell more affordable housing. Within the Historic Township area of the City specifically infill development will be encouraged through density bonuses and flexibility in the subdivision of land, lot design and home placement.

Ivins City also encourages the utilization of state or federal funds or tax incentives to promote the construction of moderate-income housing. Utilization of programs offered by the Utah Housing Corporation and the Department of Community and Culture are also encouraged.

**Commercial**

Pioneer settlers established the basic layout of Ivins City. They envisioned it as a traditional agricultural community. In recent times it has grown to be a bedroom community with its residents working and shopping in the St. George area. As Ivins City grows toward its projected build-out population of approximately 20,000 people, it will need a corresponding growth in commercial development.

Ivins City's commercial areas should develop using state-of-the-art methodologies. Successful commercial developments have their own unique characteristics, such as historic charm, an open-air experience and a wider mix of uses (offices, government, etc.) that attract customers. These advantages can indeed produce a vibrant healthy community centerpiece.

- Ivins City may have one of more core retail areas. These areas should have the following characteristics:
  - Landscaping, lighting, and signage in compliance with the Ivins City Design Guidelines

- Low profile, attractive buildings with placement, orientation, and design in compliance with the Ivins City Design Guidelines
- Pedestrian friendly with attractive walks, benches, planters, plazas, etc.
- Parking designed to reduce visual dominance with visual compatibility with the surrounding landscape

The following businesses that are consistent with the above characteristics would be well suited for core retail areas:

- Resorts/Hotels
- Shops, restaurants, art galleries and studios
- Grocery stores, drug stores and similar stores that blend in well with other commercial uses in the area
- Professional offices for needed community services (doctors, realtors, lawyers, accountants, insurance, etc.)
- Business offices
- Offices for research and development such as in medicine, software and other technologies
- Entertainment and cultural venues

Neighborhood Commercial areas provide locations for commercial uses that are in harmony with adjacent residential buildings and are well landscaped and fenced so as not to detract from the surrounding neighborhood.

In addition to the growing Coyote Gulch commercial area, major resort/hotel/commercial centers are envisioned on Snow Canyon Parkway near the eastern boundary of the City. Commercial Centers are also envisioned at the intersection of Snow Canyon Drive/Center Street, 200 East and on Highway 91. These centers would appeal to the residents of Ivins City as well as those of the neighboring communities and visitors to the area.

***Commercial Policies:***

- The City supports developing pedestrian-oriented resort/commercial centers on Snow Canyon Parkway Strip commercial development should be avoided.
- The City also supports creating and maintaining healthy, vibrant, neighborhood core retail areas that will provide convenient shopping and work locations for residents while minimizing cross-city travel.
- All commercial development should have a pleasing appearance with attractive and ample landscaping and be in compliance with Ivins City's Design Guidelines.
- Publicly accessible art is encouraged

**Business**

The history of other communities shows that if Ivins City's quality of life in maintained, it will also become increasingly attractive for business development. In addition to the advantages of southwest Utah in general, climate, natural setting, redundant fiber optics, proximity to Las

Vegas (two hour drive) and air service to major cities, the livability of Ivins City will make it an appealing ~~location~~ destination for professionals, businessmen and women, artists, craftsmen, ~~resort visitors and~~ other skilled employees and resort visitors.

It is an important goal of the City to attract businesses and professions, which provide employment opportunities to the Ivins City area.

***Business Policies:***

- The City will encourage and help attract business development including resort and professional complexes, medical office buildings, educational/research facilities, entertainment venues, recreation facilities and art related business development that will provide higher than prevailing wage rates and are environmentally sensitive.
- The City will encourage employment centers and other large traffic generators to locate near major collector or arterial roads.
- The City will encourage architectural designs that blend with the natural environments and are in compliance with the Ivins City's Design Guidelines.

**Municipal Campus and Public Square**

Ivins City owns and/or uses the majority of the city block extending from Center Street to 100 North and from Main Street to 100 West. The southwest corner is owned by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) with a meetinghouse located there. Currently our City Hall, Fire Station and City Park are located on this block as well. Ultimately the City will build a ~~City~~ Community Recreation Center and a replacement City Hall. It will also work with Washington County to locate a Public Library in Ivins ~~here~~. Ideally these facilities would be built on this ~~located on the~~ same block. To accomplish this goal the City will need to eventually acquire the church property and develop a comprehensive plan for a municipal campus and public square.

***Municipal Campus and Public Square Policies:***

- The City will continue to negotiate with the LDS Church for the acquisition of the church owned property.
- The City will seek to acquire an appropriate piece of property to exchange with the LDS Church for their property.
- The City will systematically develop a comprehensive plan for the municipal campus and public square.
- The City will continue to work with Washington County officials to locate a Public Library on the site.

**Agriculture**

Agricultural land is a non-renewable resource that is recognized as a valuable land use. Agricultural land has two public benefits: preservation of open space and aesthetic values associated with the rural lifestyle that has played an important role in the region's heritage.

However, the City recognizes the right of private landowners to eventually sell/develop land that may be currently used for agricultural purposes.

***Agricultural Policies:***

The City will support measures for the preservation/conservation of agricultural land. Such measures might include:

- Large lot zoning
- Clustering of density
- Conservation easements
- Transfer of Development Rights (TDR's)

**Parks and Recreation**

Parks and recreation are important aspects of a healthy community. Recreation and park facilities help attract people and businesses to a community. The City currently has three larger developed parks: Red Rock Park is approximately 3.7 acres, Ivins City Park is approximately 5 acres, and UNITY Park is approximately 12 acres. In addition, there are two smaller parks: Megan Fitness Course and Del Coronado Mini Park.

Park planning faces particular challenges for the City. As the community grows there will be a need for more parkland yet there will be less undeveloped land available and the cost of that land will be higher. It is important for the City to not only meet present needs, but to also set aside land that will be needed for a future larger population.

The Ivins City Parks & Trails Master plan establishes goals and strategies ~~which~~ that will provide guidance in the future development of parks, trails, recreational facilities and open space preservation in Ivins City.

A portion of future parkland needs can be met by encouraging future developments to set aside parkland in proportion to the demand created by that development's residents and be available for use by any resident of the community. This is usually practical only for meeting neighborhood park needs. Community parks and special use parks that serve more than one neighborhood are most effectively developed by the City. The costs of these kinds of parks should be provided through impact fees, bonding and/or equity buy-in.

***Parks and Recreation Policies:***

- The City shall maintain the current level of service for neighborhood parks. The City shall strive to increase the total developed parkland. The City will also strive to increase the number of recreation programs available to the residents of Ivins City.
- The City will regularly update a separate parks element of the General Plan, using it as a guide for location and prioritizing park development and land acquisition. The Parks & Recreation Master Plan and Impact Fees Facilities Plan will accomplish this.
- New development is encouraged to provide neighborhood park facilities and art-related amenities that are easily accessible and available for all residents.

- The cost of community or other special use parks and their amenities shall be equitably shared by residents.
- The City shall develop and maintain a trail system to connect neighborhoods to parks, open spaces, recreation and other community facilities. A major feature of the trail network will be to preserve native landscapes, wildlife habitats and natural beauty. The Parks & Trails Master Plan and Impact Fees Facilities Plan shall serve as a guide for trails.
- The City shall develop and maintain the Ivins Reservoir as a water recreation area and nature park sensitive to water fowl, wildlife and neighboring property owners.
- The City will plan and eventually build a Community Recreation Center

**Open Space**

Areas within and around the community that are desirable to be preserved as permanent open space include:

- Existing and future park sites
- The Santa Clara river corridor
- The hillsides and rims of the Red Mountain
- The Desert Tortoise Wildlife Management Area north of Ivins City
- Major washes, including Dry Wash and Padre Canyon Wash
- Other natural formations that give the community its identity and that separate communities and keep them from growing together
- Elephant Rock, Humpback, Pyramid, and Rock Park (all in Kayenta)

Dedicated open space land can also be used for passive recreation and trails connecting significant facilities (parks, schools, commercial areas) and to provide residents with access to natural resources.

There are a variety of techniques, which may be used to help preserve open space. The following is a brief over view of some of the techniques available:

- Acquisition – The most effective way to preserve open space lands is to acquire open space lands or their development rights. Many communities have acquired open space through both purchase and gifts.
- Conservation Easements – An easement is a legal restriction on the use of all or a portion of a particular property. A conservation easement does not change the ownership of the land, but it places limits on the use of the land, such as restricting development. Conservation easements are used for a wide range of public goals such as land/scenic conservation and agricultural preservation. Conservation easements can normally be acquired at a much lower cost than the sales price of the land since the owner can still own and use the land in a manner consistent with the easement. Conservation easements may be obtained by either a public agency or by non-profit organization land trusts (e.g. Virgin River Land Preservation Association or Nature Conservancy).
- Cluster Development – Clustering is a method used to shift or relocate development from a less desirable to a more desirable location. For example, on a parcel that is zoned for four 1-acre lots, in order to preserve open space for a particular purpose, the developer could be encouraged to create four ½-acre lots in a cluster that leaves the remaining two

acres free from development and preserve open space. Through the use of clustering, the City may be able to preserve critical open space area without the necessity of purchasing it or depriving property owners of their development rights.

***Open Space Policies:***

- The City shall attempt to preserve land designated as Open Space (on the Land Use element) permanently free from development and left in a natural state for public, passive recreational purposes such as parks and pedestrian/bicycle trails.
- The City shall actively pursue the preservation of such significant open space through conservation easements, acquisition, Transfer of Development Rights (TDR's), clustering, by enlisting the aid of organizations such as the land trusts and other land preservation techniques.

**Public Lands**

There is much public land surrounding Ivins City that is managed by either the State Institutional Trust Lands (SITLA) or the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). It is entirely possible that several of the large BLM tracts in the vicinity of Ivins City would become private land through land exchanges and thus be subject to future development. SITLA lands were expressly granted to the state for the purpose of supporting public education. It is likely that SITLA will be subject to increasing development pressure. The SITLA holdings are also candidates for future development. If development occurs in these areas, it is the City's preference that it be developed in harmony with the current zoning requirements. It will be important that the City monitor land trades and potential development of SITLA properties to assure optimal land use in terms of protection of existing property values, traffic, economics, utilities, visual/aesthetics, and zoning ordinances.

***Public Lands Policies:***

- Lands within the City under the jurisdiction of SITLA and/or the U.S. Bureau of Land Management should be carefully reviewed by the City for development impacts when an exchange or sale of such land is considered.
- Public lands within the City ~~which~~ that are suitable for schools, parks or open space, should be designated in advance by the City and sought by the City when disposal or exchange is considered.
- In order to communicate essential concerns for future development the City will include public lands in the General Plan Land Use Element and on the Annexation Growth Plan.
- The City may when requested rezone public lands within its jurisdiction consistent with the Land Use Element of the General Plan.

**Transportation**

The Transportation element of the General Plan addresses decision-making related to roads for the safe transportation of people, goods and services in the Ivins City region.

The Ivins City roadway system consists of a hierarchy of street types: major and minor arterials, major and minor collectors and residential streets. Residential streets are the predominant street type found in every neighborhood. Very few unpaved streets and roads remain in Ivins City.

Ivins City was a participant in the St. George Master Traffic Study, which addressed regional traffic needs. Ivins City is at the western end of the regional road system. The Shivwits Reservation and public land effectively preclude urban development west and north of Ivins City. Previously the only access to Ivins City was from the south via Highway 91 that passes through Santa Clara. A second arterial, Snow Canyon Parkway, now provides additional access to Ivins City. Another access in the northeastern area is through Snow Canyon State Park.

In west Ivins City the right of way is typically 49.5 feet. The Ivins City Transportation Master Plan identifies 200 East and 400 West as major collectors for Ivins City. 400 East is classified as a minor collector and is seen as an alternate through-route providing a relief valve for in-city traffic.

As a matter of policy the City does not build new roads. Developers are expected to construct the roads that serve their own projects. Roads may also be funded through Special Assessment Areas that assess property owners. The City levies street impact fees on new development based on the most current Impact Fee Facilities Plan and Impact Fee Analysis. One challenge the City ~~has~~ faces is ~~finding~~ securing adequate funding to pave and maintain existing roads.

The City's current design standards require curb and gutter be installed in all new developments. The installation of curb, gutter and sidewalk also acts as a safety barrier separating pedestrians and traffic. ~~Generally,~~ Although curb and gutter is the standard requirement for new developments the development of viable drainage alternatives will be reviewed and considered on a case by case basis.

The Transportation element of the General Plan (Figure 3) illustrates existing and proposed locations and types of roads that the City anticipates will be required in the future. The Transportation element has been adopted by the City Council in conformance with state statue.

In addition to guiding its own capital improvements planning, the City can use the Transportation element to guide private development. For instance, the City can:

- Deny development that is not consistent with the Transportation element (and other elements) of the General Plan.
- Require developers to locate internal streets so they are consistent with and tie into existing road locations.
- Require developers to construct new roads or make improvements to existing roads if justified by the anticipated traffic impacts of the proposed development.

The Transportation element is coordinated with and reinforces other elements of the General Plan in order to provide necessary traffic capacity throughout the community. Since road rights-of-way also serve as essential utility corridors, the Transportation element is closely coordinated with the Utilities element.

***Transportation Policies:***

- The construction of new roads and widening of existing roads should be paid for by those who generate the need and who will benefit from such improvements. In most cases a developer or group of developers will need to pay for new roads or road widening to serve their project(s). Where a proposed road will also clearly benefit existing development, a combination of developer(s) and existing residents may jointly fund road improvements through Assessment Areas.
- Curb and gutter is the standard requirement for new developments.
- If requested, and prior to development approval, impacts to the roadway system caused by development shall be based upon a traffic study in accordance with accepted traffic engineering principles.
- Developments that will increase traffic volume on collector and arterial road intersections will be required to improve such intersections (no more than 40 seconds average wait at an intersection during peak hours).
- As street lighting is installed, low profile full cut off lights that do not negatively impact residential areas will be used.
- Private roads are permitted but not encouraged.
- Art installations are encouraged along roadways at appropriate focal points.

**Roundabouts**

Roundabouts are proven to be the safest and most efficient way to move both vehicular and pedestrian traffic through a busy intersection. Ivins City currently has four significant roundabouts. They function extremely well and enhance the artistic flavor of the City. Roundabouts are required in Ivins City for any intersection determined to need more than four way stop signs. They are presently shown in our Transportation Master Plan at all major intersections. A traffic signal will be allowed only as a last resort when no other solution is possible. Roundabouts are safer, more efficient and more attractive than traffic signals. They are comparable in cost and require less maintenance. Pedestrian lighting is all that is needed in a roundabout and unlike traffic signals they will not impact our cherished night sky.

***Roundabout Policies:***

- The City will require roundabouts to be built in lieu of traffic signals at all major intersections.
- The City will plan for, acquire and preserve right of way for roundabouts to be built at all major intersections.
- The City will continue to use roundabouts to showcase public art and artistic landscaping consistent with the Ivins City Arts Master Plan.
- The City will continue to educate residents and visitors concerning the safe use of roundabouts.

**Public Transportation**

Ivins City was the first in Washington County to extend SunTran bus service beyond the City of St. George proper. Throughout the day busses carry a growing number of passengers through the central part of our city with additional stops at our charter schools and Tuacahn. With the route beginning and ending at a major hub riders can continue on to Dixie State University, Dixie Regional Medical Center and professional & retail centers in St. George or find their way to and from work each day. This service is intended to provide a convenient and economical alternative to car travel thus improving traffic congestion and air quality.

***Public Transportation Policies:***

- The City will budget for this service to continue into the future.
- The City will work with SunTran to expand service throughout the city as demand increases.
- The City will develop bus stops with benches and shade structures in areas of highest use.
- The City will promote the use of public transportation as part of its comprehensive transportation plan.

**Bikeways**

Bicycle riding and hiking are both recreation and transportation. Bike trail planning should consider the needs of all residents. As Ivins City grows, well-planned and functional bikeways systems will be an important part of the community development plan.

***Bikeway and Trails Policies:***

- The City encourages the development of a bikeway system that is integrated and interconnected with pedestrian paths and on-street bike lanes that will connect major destinations (shopping, schools) with parks and open space corridors.
- The City will encourage bike/pedestrian paths in all new developments and will encourage such paths to be designed and located to tie into a citywide system.
- Bike/recreation paths should take advantage of street and utility rights-of-way when available.
- The City will work with other land agencies such as irrigation companies, utility providers and the County and State to obtain access for trails.
- Art installations are encouraged along bikeways and trails at appropriate focal points.

**Utilities**

**Water**

Like most western cities, Ivins City's future growth is closely ties to the availability of water. The low precipitation climate makes water one of Ivins City's most critical natural resources. A central question in Ivins City's desert setting will always be, "Is there enough water?"

Ivins City's water supply comes from the following sources:

- Snow Canyon wells developed jointly with St. George and Santa Clara.

- Gunlock groundwater wells developed jointly with St. George.
- Regional Water treated and delivered by Washington County Water Conservancy District (WCWCD)

Additional sources of water are currently available when needed from:

- ~~Lounsbury groundwater well owned and operated by Ivins City.~~
- Ence groundwater wells operated by WCWCD located near the Santa Clara River southwest of Ivins City.

**Water Conservation**

Water conservation is an essential aspect to all cities that foresee growth with a limited water supply. WCWCD has projected that the Washington County region will need aggressive conservation to ensure water supplies, even with large-scale regional water development such as the Lake Powell pipeline.

Conservation measures can most effectively be applied to outdoor irrigation. High-water-use landscaping on a lot as small as 10,000 square foot (1/4 acre) can result in outdoor water use exceeding indoor water use. Low-water-use, desert landscaping can significantly reduce outdoor water use. Ivins City encourages desert landscaping (Xeriscaping) along with other conservation measures to reduce water use.

Other water conservation measures appropriate for Ivins City include:

- Install water-efficient fixtures in all new construction.
- Encourage replacing non-efficient fixtures with water-efficient fixtures in existing structures.
- Encourage new development to adopt water conservation policies and water-efficient landscaping.
- Respond rapidly, taking corrective action and instituting recurrence control, on all water system leaks.
- Periodically publish the status of City water consumption with comments and recommendations for conservation. ~~Also provide examples of water conservation landscaping that is effective.~~
- Continue to use water rate structures that reward low water usage.
- Continue the enforcement of Ivins City Code sections that define misuse and appropriate punishment for water waste.
- Promote the use of new conservation technologies.
- ~~Promote~~ Develop a secondary water system for irrigation purposes.
- Develop in conjunction with the Washington County Water Conservancy District a fair and equitable comprehensive water conservation program.

**Secondary Irrigation System and Water Reuse**

Ivins City envisions a secondary water system for irrigation purposes in the City. New developments are required to install dry pipelines for this future irrigation system. The main advantage of a secondary irrigation system is the ability to use water that does not meet the water

quality requirements for culinary water. This water is ~~often~~ obtained at a lower cost since treatment is generally not required.

Another reason to consider installing a secondary irrigation system is that water reuse is beginning to be developed in the region by the City of St. George. St. George has expanded its wastewater treatment plant to generate water suitable for reuse and has constructed a pipeline from the wastewater treatment plant to Ivins City Reservoir for the purpose of providing this water to the Shivwits Indian Reservation. This new pipeline may be an opportunity for Ivins City to complete the irrigation system.

To operate a functional city-wide irrigation system, the City will consider the following:

- Work with Ivins Irrigation Company to determine if there are any opportunities to combine the City's secondary water delivery system with the existing irrigation system. Also discuss combining water storage.
- Consider development of infrastructure to convey re-use water as a source for the irrigation system.
- Identify a phased capital facilities program to incrementally install the secondary system.
- Identify whether ~~Lounsbury Well or~~ the Ence Wells could be used as a source of water to the system.

***Water Policies:***

- The City shall prepare and periodically update city-wide culinary water and secondary water system master plans to ensure that the system can provide the aforementioned level of service for the existing community, and to enable the City to prepare for new development and sustainability.
- The City continues to promote desert landscaping and other water conservation measures in an effort to reduce water supply needs.
- Users of large amounts of water for landscaping and other exterior purposes shall be encouraged to use secondary and irrigation water rather than culinary water.
- The City should evaluate and consider combining the Kayenta private water system with the City's culinary water system.
- The City ~~shall adopt~~ should consider water-conserving measures for its own facilities, including:
  - Desert landscape design.
  - Reduction in turf grass areas requiring irrigation.
  - Installation of water saving plumbing fixtures.
  - Use of secondary water for major irrigated areas.
  - Use of irrigation control systems responsive to weather conditions to reduce water runoff.
  - Continued maintenance of delivery systems for efficient use and application.

**Wastewater**

Ivins City owns, operates, and maintains the sewer collection system within the City. This collection system transmits the wastewater into St. George sewer trunk lines. St. George then

treats this water at its wastewater treatment plant near the Virgin River. As discussed previously, St. George has expanded the treatment processes to generate suitable reuse water that may become available to Ivins City.

***Wastewater Policies:***

- The minimum level of service is to maintain a collection and treatment system capable of meeting the daily and peak flows of the City in compliance with State and Federal standards.
- The City shall prepare and periodically update the city-wide wastewater system master plan to ensure that the system can provide the aforementioned level of service for the existing community and to enable the City to prepare for new development.
- The permitted capacity of the treatment facility shall not be exceeded.
- The City shall enforce State laws and local Ordinance requiring sewer connection.

**Natural Gas**

Natural gas is provided to Ivins City and surrounding communities by Questar. Questar plans to service all areas of Ivins City and will extend service lines to an area when an adequate customer base exists.

**Electric Power**

Electric service to Ivins City is provided by Rocky Mountain Power and arrives via a 35KV line.

The main power line that serves Ivins City is a 69KV overhead line and has a major visual impact on the community. Ivins City has been requiring new developments to install all underground power systems, and also to underground any existing overhead lines adjacent to the development.

Nevertheless, the City's main distribution system is via overhead lines. Main (trunk) lines are installed entirely at Rocky Mountain Power's expense. It is not their current policy to underground existing trunk lines or even new ones. To do so would require a policy change by Rocky Mountain Power and/or a commitment by the City to pay the differential cost. This additional cost (construction surcharge) for underground installation of trunk lines could be funded in a variety of ways:

- Assessment to the properties adjacent to the portion to be undergrounded, whose appearance and property values would benefit significantly from the visual improvements
- General one time City-wide assessment under the assumption that the entire community will benefit from the visual improvement due to removing overhead power lines
- A dedicated tax that could be used to retire bonds for the construction surcharge

***Gas/Electric Policies:***

- The City encourages the conservation of energy resources in anticipation of future costs and shortages.

- The City shall evaluate and adopt guidelines for energy conservation including building insulation requirements and planting trees to reduce solar gain.
- The City will continue to require the undergrounding of present and future power lines throughout Ivins City.

**Renewable Energy**

Ivins City generates approximately forty percent of its annual municipal power needs with solar photovoltaic panel arrays on its Public Works maintenance facility, its Center Street Fire Station, the parking shade structure at City Hall and the recreation building at UNITY Park. These solar generating systems came at very little cost to the City having been provided by grants from Rocky Mountain Power through its "Blue Sky" program and by the State of Utah through its renewable energy program. The City currently saves roughly a thousand dollars per month in electric utility costs and contributes to a cleaner environment through the use of renewable energy.

***Renewable Energy Policies:***

- The City will strive to remain a Rocky Mountain Power "Blue Sky Community".
- The City will continue to apply for grants to provide additional solar generating capacity on municipal facilities.
- The City will design future municipal facilities to incorporate solar energy production.
- The City will promote the use of solar and other renewable energy sources by its residents.

**Telephone and Fiber Optics**

Telephone service is provided by various service providers. Some fiber optics have been installed in the city. In addition, Century Link, TDS (Baja) and Interlinx Communications have fiber also installed fiber optic cable and/or conduits throughout the City as part of southern Utah fiber optic loop network. This fiber optic backbone may provide an incentive for companies that need large bandwidth communications to consider relocating to Ivins City. Fiber connections were provided to the City Hall and the Fire Station for future communication needs. These connections may become important as the City needs to upgrade communications. It is the long-term objective of the City to provide 1 GB/second internet service to its residents.

***Telephone Policies:***

- The City will work with telephone service providers to address interim phone needs until the fiber optic system is operable.
- They City and telephone service providers will confer regularly to plan future phone system components.
- All new installations will be underground.
- New subdivisions will install the equipment for subsequent installation of fiber optics.
- Encourage fiber optics and new technologies.

## Solid Waste Disposal

The City contracts with Allied Waste for the collection of all solid waste. Allied Waste delivers garbage to the landfill managed by Washington County Solid Waste. The City also provides a monthly dumping location at 450 North 100 West for green waste and overfill of non-construction debris for standard size waste cans. This excludes appliances and home furnishings. Special pick-ups can be arranged by contacting Allied Waste directly.

### *Solid Waste Disposal Policies:*

- The City supports the District's objective of reducing by up to 25% the amount of solid waste disposed in the County landfill.
- The City ~~will expand recycling services.~~ in cooperation with the Washington County Solid Waste District will maintain a mandatory curbside recycling program with a hardship provision that exempts households falling below a specified annual income from participating.

## Public Safety

Ivins City established a Public Safety Department in 2001 to provide Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, and Animal services. The Law Enforcement Division currently consists of 13 police officers and one court bailiff. As the City grows, there will be a need to expand the number of Public Safety personnel. In 2011 Ivins City combined law enforcement services with Santa Clara.

## Animal Services

In 2014 Ivins City combined animal services with Santa Clara. The Ivins City Animal Shelter provides Animal Control Services including impoundment and adoption. The policy of the City is to work with volunteer groups to achieve the goal of finding homes for all adoptable animals.

### *Animal Services Policies:*

- The City will add ~~the~~ animal shelter/animal control staff as needed.

## Fire Protection/Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

~~Fire/Emergency Medical~~ The Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Divisions of Public Safety currently consist of ~~55~~ 20 volunteer firefighters~~/EMTs~~ and 24 Advanced EMT's and/or Paramedics, eight of whom also serve as additional volunteer firefighters, with two fire stations seven fire vehicles and three ambulances ~~with seven trucks~~. The ~~volunteer~~ Fire/EMS Divisions of Public Safety have provided the City will excellent firefighting and EMS services. ~~On an official insurance rating scale of 10 (1 = best), Ivins City has a fire rating of 6.~~ As the City grows, more personnel and manned stations will be needed. The goal is to maintain the current ratio of firefighters-to-residents. Specific future sites should be negotiated in conjunction with future development.

On December 15, 2007 Ivins City began providing ~~basic~~ ambulance transport service of Ivins City residents to the hospital after being licensed by Utah State. Ivins has now been licensed to provide Paramedic services as well and recently had its coverage area expanded by the State to provide ambulance services to Santa Clara, Snow Canyon State Park, the Shivwits Band, Highway 91, Gunlock and even as far as Motoqua.

***Fire Protection/Emergency Medical Policies:***

- The City's goal is to maintain a minimum of two fire and/or EMS stations within the City.~~have a manned Fire Station within a 1.5 mile service radius~~.
- The City will accept offers of land and buildings from developers in order to meet the aforementioned standard.
- The City's goal is to provide a maximum five-minute response time for all fire and EMS calls for service in the City.

**Schools**

***School Policies:***

- The City will communicate regularly with the school district to encourage future school development. The City will work in conjunction with the School District by identifying potential school sites to meet population growth.
- As schools are developed, the City ~~shall~~ will seek to reduce the costs of both schools and parks through joint development, so long as accessibility to the joint facility will meet the community's needs.
- Encourage specialized schools, institutions of higher education and/or research facilities to locate in Ivins.

**Library Services**

Library services are administered on a countywide basis by the Washington County library system. The County maintains five library outlets, the closest one being on Lava Flow Drive or Santa Clara Drive in St. George.

***Library Policies:***

Support and encourage the County to establish a library in Ivins City.

**Community Appearance**

The physical appearance of a community conveys an impression about its values and pride. Are the streets landscaped appropriately? Are the parks orderly and well maintained? Are the streets in good repair? Does the City have a character and identity of its own? Are buildings and signage in harmony with the area? Are street and directional signs easy to follow?

In pioneer times, visual cohesiveness and character came easily to a community because there were few building materials available in the region and they were used by a relatively small number of artisans. Signs, lights, and architecture tended to be consistent within each community. ~~Today, with a wide choice of materials, a multitude of design influences, and an abundance of outside corporations with their own ideas, community appearance can easily become chaotic.~~ Community development and appearance is guided by specific Design Guidelines set forth in the City's Zoning Ordinance.

Ivins City's appearance should reflect a small, friendly and well-maintained community nestled harmoniously in a unique and beautiful natural setting.

***Community Appearance Policies:***

To assure that community appearance efforts are working in harmony, the following guidelines will be used to bring about an overall consistency in the City's character and appearance:

- Encourage fewer, more modest signs which are easily read, but do not compete with each other in size or design
- Upgrade the city entrances and high traffic routes with landscaping and well-maintained roads to give a pleasant first impression of the community
- Encourage basic design standards to assure that new buildings are "good neighbors" to existing development and to ensure that they do not detract from the natural beauty of the area. This can be achieved through low building heights, stepped building massing, reasonable protection of vistas, landscaping, lighting, etc. Allow individuality and creativity in architecture, but encourage it to be done using regional building materials and natural colors in order to maintain a relaxed, quiet, and natural feel for the City
- The areas in the City that have no overhead lines are the strongest evidence of the improved appearance that can result. New utilities should be underground
- Streetscaping helps to establish the character of the community and its use is encouraged. Care must be taken not to ~~block views or~~ dramatically change the natural character of the area. In our desert climate rocks, boulders and native vegetation are encouraged
- When needed, walls must be innovatively designed so as not to leave streets looking monotonous and sterile. Natural colors and materials should be used and a landscaped buffer area should be placed between walls and streets
- Lighting is to be subdued and night-sky friendly; traffic signals are to be avoided and street lighting minimized using full cut off street lights while still proving for safe pedestrian travel by use of subdued trail lighting.

# CHAPTER SIX
# IMPLEMENTATION AND ACTION PLAN

In order for the General Plan to be valuable~~, the plan~~ it must result in action. The process of carrying out the policies and proposals included in the plan requires a long-term commitment by the community and particularly its elected officials. A plan that results in a benefit to the community does not happen by the mere adoption of a plan. The plan must be implemented.

## A Variety of Implementation Tools

The General Plan represents a common vision for the community. It represents the end objective desired by the community. There are a variety of tools available to the City to achieve the vision of the General Plan. These include:

### *Zoning Ordinance*

Zoning consists of a Land Use Plan and associated ordinances consistent with the Land Use Plan element of the General Plan that define appropriate locations, allowed uses, and restrictions for each zoning category. Where the General Plan illustrates an overall general desire, zoning has the force of law.

The uses identified in the General Plan are implemented through zoning. However, the zoning boundaries may not exactly match the General Plan areas. For example, the General Plan may indicated that a hillside should be preserved undeveloped and that an adjacent flat area should be developed at *low density*. The General Plan objectives can be met by clustering the homes on a smaller portion of the property at a higher *net* density but still adhering to the overall density for the parcel. Zoning must be carefully applied in order to fully accomplish the General Plan.

In addition to the typical aspects of zoning there are ~~also~~ other aspects of the zoning approval process that give greater flexibility to the City and to the landowner. These include:

- Conditional Use Provisions – uses allowed with conditions imposed to mitigate adverse consequences after specific review and approval by the City. Usually there are guidelines by which the design and appropriateness of the use is evaluated.
- Overlay Districts – a zoning district, with its accompanying requirements~~, that is~~ when applied to an area that may place development standards on a zoning district in addition to the base-zoning district requirements.
- Planned Development and Subdivision Enhancements Overlay Districts – overlay districts ~~to~~ provide flexibility in the development requirements of the underlying zoning district ~~that~~ allowing for cluster development. ~~and~~ They
- Require creative and efficient subdivision designs ~~that~~ provide areas of open space and other desirable design features.
- Sensitive Lands Regulations – special regulations to protect sensitive lands such as steep slopes, hillsides, lava fields, wetlands and storm water courses.

### *Subdivision Ordinance*

The Subdivision Ordinance specifies the process by which a parcel of land is subdivided into smaller parcels. Subdivision ordinances often contain standards for certain aspects of development that are not contained in the zoning ordinance. These might include design standards for roads, sidewalks, drainage, utilities, lighting and even dedication requirements such as for parks. The Subdivision Ordinance may also include site design criteria to be used by the Planning Commission and City Council in determining whether the location and plan proposed for the buildings, roads, utilities, etc. are appropriate and safe. Some of the objectives and policies of the General Plan can be implemented through the Subdivision Ordinance.

Another implementation tool available to the City is its Impact Fee Facilities Plan~~,~~ which that specifies improvements necessary for all utilities and services including water, sewer, storm drain, parks and recreation, public safety, and transportation.

**Implementing the General Plan**

There are several general actions to implement the plan:

- A formal commitment by the City Council that zoning and other land use/development decisions will be guided by the General Plan (a consistency policy). This includes a commitment that major deviations from the General Plan should be preceded by a review and amendment of the plan through a public hearing process.
- Formal general Plan review will occur periodically to assure that its elements are still consistent with community goals.
- Zoning and subdivision ordinances should be revised as needed to provide a control mechanism whereby the Planning Commission and City Council can manage new development in a desired manner.
- Upon adoption of the revised General Plan, the zoning map should be revised to reflect the goals of the General Plan.
- Major public utility line extensions (water, sewer, gas, electricity) and new roads should be planned and installed in a manner that is consistent with the General Plan and in consonance with the Capital Facilities Plan.
- In order to involve and educate the general public, the General Plan should be made available for wide distribution throughout the community.
- Capital Facilities Plans will be reviewed and revised periodically.

**Conclusion**

The high quality of life currently enjoyed in Ivins City coupled with the potential magnitude and pace of growth demands the attention of all its residents. The City Council, Planning Commission, appointed boards and committees, City Staff, developers and residents will do their greatest work in defining and promoting Ivins City as an ideal place ~~to live~~ for old and young alike to live and to visit ~~and as a world class resort destination~~. This will not occur without consistent efforts to protect our scenic vistas ~~views~~, preserve our unique character, provide for the health, safety and welfare of our residents and maintain the quality of life that has made Ivins City great.