

Plan Overview

The purpose of the Envision 2035 Comprehensive Plan is to set the goals and priorities recommended by a multitude of stakeholders including county planning staff, task force members, advisory board, Planning Commission, County Commission, and members of the general public. The plan will provide direction in making land use and development decisions throughout the rural area of Minnehaha County. It will communicate your collective values, goals, and policies for current residents and future generations.

The future of Minnehaha County presents a unique challenge with the constantly changing complexity of the urban/rural dichotomy. The County must support growth management techniques that preserve the foundation of the local economy in order to maintain a high level of efficiency as the state's leading agricultural producer. The County will be expected to address issues relating to the economic growth potential of the Sioux Falls' Metropolitan Statistical Area and effectively managing this outward pressure, rural character and housing density, natural resource conservation and open space planning, transportation, public safety, and intergovernmental cooperation.

Envision 2035 represents an opportunity to engage the stakeholders involved in the planning process and allow for improved communication across forms of government. The process identified a general consensus among members of the public and plan committee members that there should be a strong focus on supporting agricultural production and local farms. The plan is neither a beginning nor ending point, but a continual process for engaging the public in all land use and development decisions.

Envision 2035 is a tool to assist community leaders in the better representation of the needs of a growing total population while managing the often contentious issues among the vast differences in types of landowners. The chapters throughout this document describe planning elements in greater detail, and outline the goals and action steps critical to effectively managing the issues presented in this plan.