

Lincoln City Council Retreat Report

During the Council Retreat on March 1, 2023, the Council identified six strategic priorities for the City as they focus on creating a future for Lincoln City that will continue to provide a high quality of life for residents and other stakeholders. Under each strategic priority, the Council listed milestones that give some clarity and definition to what the Council desires. The City Staff, under the guidance of the City Manager, will now develop initiatives that support these priorities and milestones. The strategic priorities are listed below in no particular order.

Strategic Priorities

Strategic Priority: Emergency Management Preparedness

Milestones:

1. Evaluate our current plans and update them as required.
2. Develop an internal and external communication plan and action plan.
3. Implement the plan, including internal and external feedback loops.
4. Review lessons learned from previous emergencies with Council and Staff.

Strategic Priority: Financial Health

Milestones:

1. Maintain reserve ratios.
2. Prioritize projects and identify funding needs.
3. Use utility rates to fund infrastructure maintenance.
4. Create revenue diversification for funding.
5. Utilize debt financing for CIPs.

Strategic Priority: Economic

Development Milestones:

1. Adopt the Urban Renewal Plan that will provide for a lite industrial park.
2. Do economic opportunities analysis and buildable land inventory.
3. Consider re-zoning areas to be planned industrial.
4. Seek funding for economic development tools.



Strategic Priority: Housing

Milestones:

1. Allow all housing types in all mixed use, residential, and commercial zones.
2. Eliminate conditional uses and make permitted uses with standards.
3. Create code language that establishes homeless shelter standards.
4. Phase out VRD from residential zoning and expand VR zone.
5. Eliminate lot size requirements, while keeping the same setback standards.

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure

Milestones:

1. Create a master plan of facilities and assets so that they are all identified along with a list of their upgrade and maintenance needs.
2. Prioritize repairs that are needed.
3. Create a long-term schedule with possible funding mechanisms.
4. Communicate the needs creatively to the community.

Strategic Priority: Environment

Milestones:

1. Develop a climate action plan.
2. Begin implantation of climate action plan.
3. Create a plan to protect the watershed and Devil's Lake and other resources and assets that are not addressed by the climate action plan.

