



## II. GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION

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In Section II of the Growth Policy, there are separate sections for Richland County, Sidney, and Fairview to make it clear what decisions and actions are being made by each county and municipal jurisdiction. There are two sections for each jurisdiction:

- Goals and Objectives
- Implementation Strategy

The following generally describes what is included in each of these sections.

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

*“One of the most important phases of the development of a growth policy is the articulation of community goals and objectives. The development of goals and objectives provides the philosophical framework for the growth policy.”*

Montana’s Growth Policy Resource Book, Montana Department of Commerce, April 2006.

The Growth Policy is a method to assess the future, articulate what citizens want their community to become, and set a path for achieving that future. Identifying what people want for the future is done with a vision statement. Then goals and objectives are developed to help attain the vision.

#### **Vision:**

There is a separate vision statement at the beginning of each goals and objectives section for Richland County, Sidney, and Fairview. To develop these vision statements, the Planning Board reviewed other planning efforts and visioning exercises to date .

**Goals:** General policy statements, usually long-term (5-20 years)

**Objectives:** Define strategic direction or implementation steps to attain the goals. Objectives are more specific than goals, and typically of shorter time-frame.

## IMPLEMENTATION

*"In short, planning is only as good as the commitment and abilities of the people responsible for carrying out the town plan."*

(The Small Town Planning Handbook, Daniels, Keller, Lapping)

This section describes how the goals and objectives will be implemented. This section for each jurisdiction—Richland County, Sidney, and Fairview--includes the following requirements from state law regarding growth policies.

### **76-1-601(3), MCA**

A growth policy must include:

- (d) A description of policies, regulations and other measures to be implemented in order to achieve the goals and objectives
- (e) A strategy for development, maintenance, and replacement of public infrastructure including drinking water systems, wastewater treatment facilities, sewer systems, solid waste facilities, fire protection facilities, roads and bridges
- (f) An implementation strategy that includes:
  - (i) a timetable for implementing the growth policy
  - (ii) a list of conditions that will lead to a revision of the growth policy; and
  - (iii) a timetable for reviewing the growth policy at least every five years and revising the policy if necessary
- (g) A statement of how the governing bodies will coordinate and cooperate with other jurisdictions that explains:
  - (i) if a governing body is a city or town, how the governing body will coordinate and cooperate with the county in which the city or town is located on matters related to the growth policy;
  - (ii) if a governing body is a county, how the governing body will coordinate and cooperate with cities and towns located within the county's boundaries on matters related to the growth policy
- (h) A statement explaining how the governing bodies will coordinate and cooperate with other jurisdictions that explains:
  - (i) Define the criteria in 76-3-608 (3)(a); and
  - (ii) evaluate and make decisions regarding proposed subdivision with respect to the criteria in 76-3-608 (3)(a)
- (i) A statement explaining how public hearings regarding proposed subdivisions will be conducted.