

V. INFRASTRUCTURE

VISION

Before 2020, Angelina County will have the necessary infrastructure to support continued growth and to provide for an enhanced quality of life through a proactive maintenance and improvement program.

STRATEGIES

A. Growth Management

1. **Develop and implement coordinated master infrastructure plans for cities and Angelina County that provides the infrastructure with an adequate level of service required by Vision 2020 Key Benchmarks.**
 - **Plans will be developed and implemented for the following infrastructure elements: transportation (including roadways, bike and walking trails, rail and air travel), waste management, utilities (water, sewage, solid waste, electricity, gas, alternative energy), parks and recreation, drainage, historic preservation, environment, economic development, and communications.**
 - **Encourage neighborhood development and non roadway linkages between neighborhoods.**
 - **Promote “Smart Growth” that utilizes existing infrastructure.**
 - **Place emphasis on areas that are declining or at risk for decline. Focus efforts of government departments on these at-risk areas. Take actions that will eliminate the decline and increase the real estate tax base.**
 - **Coordinate efforts and resources between different entities to increase the livability and quality of life in all parts of our County.**
 - **Provide incentive programs that encourage higher quality development.**
2. Enhance the public/private partnership that considers and develops cost effective and flexible approaches for drainage permits and other development regulations.
3. Create and maintain user friendly street signs.

B. Downtown Redevelopment

1. **Continue to develop downtown Lufkin (a Main Street community) as a specialty shopping, eating and business district. Consider improving building façades by establishing architectural guidelines and providing**

façade grants and loans. Consider rehab of Angelina Hotel, the downtown railroad properties, courthouse, and other major landmarks.

C. Beautification

- 1. Place proactive focus on maintaining the cleanliness and aesthetics of our streets and highways and reducing visual pollution. Increase civic pride in our appearance. Enhance and preserve the beauty and aesthetics of Angelina County while maintaining the flexibility to meet our Key Benchmarks. Implement an ordinance that increases the appeal and/or use of abandoned buildings. Strengthen the landscape and signage ordinances. Ensure the major entrances into Lufkin are inviting.**
2. Develop and improve Kurth Drive a primary northern entrance into Lufkin.
3. Consider implementation and enforcement of an ordinance that ensures that obsolete vacant buildings are razed.

D. Housing

- 1. Develop housing that is affordable for a wide range of income levels of our residents and that would meet the needs of a variety of age levels.**
2. Initiate an aggressive, integrated approach to attain government funds for affordable housing.

E. Environment and Natural Resources

- 1. Develop the Neches River Corridor to preserve the Neches River.**
- 2. Identify and preserve the natural resources, such as forested open spaces, creeks, rivers, and aquifers, which freely provide the clean air and water fundamental to economic growth. Research what other communities are doing to achieve this successfully.**

F. Transportation

- 1. Develop a regional commercial airport beginning with increasing charter operations, air cargo and aviation repair facilities.**
- 2. Plan, design, finance and build 1-69.**
3. Consistently review traffic flow on streets and highways and use creative designs for small projects that will reduce choke points and enhance traffic flow.
4. Consider a Regional Mobility Authority (RMA) to help finance transportation.

5. Consider transportation to Houston airports.

G. Utilities

1. **Maintain adequate water supply to meet Angelina County's growth needs through-out this century.**
2. **Maintain state of the arts communications capability through-out the County which would include fiber optics, wireless and future technologies.**
3. Improve the county-wide recycling program