

Scott County Comprehensive Plan

CHAPTER 10: STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

There is overwhelming support for farmland preservation in concert with an emphasis for land development to be located within municipalities as indicated by the citizens of Scott County. A vision statement has been formulated to capture the future view Scott County residents expressed through the public input process. The vision states what the County wants to become.

“Scott County will be distinguished as a governmental leader by protecting its farming heritage and preserving its agricultural land within the unincorporated areas, by conserving its critical resource areas and promoting economic vitality within the County, and by fostering intergovernmental cooperation and applying well-defined land use policies.”

To achieve its vision, Scott County’s leaders will need to embrace and make progress toward the goals, objectives, and land use policies listed in Chapter 2. On the following pages are some of the ongoing, short term, and long term activities necessary for Scott County to accomplish these goals and to achieve the shared vision. Short-term activities are anticipated to be achieved within the next five years, while long-term activities will take six or more years to accomplish. It will be up to the County leaders to decide the order in which to address these goals and activities.

County officials should understand that the strategies set forth in this chapter are progressive in nature. They provide framework for meeting the County goals. Other tasks and requirements may be required of the County in addition to those listed on the following pages. Any updates to this comprehensive plan should include updates to the strategies for implementation.

Many activities can be done without large investment by the County. Yet other activities will require significant time and funding investment from public and private interests. In the implementation of future projects, careful consideration should be given to the full utilization of existing facilities and funding opportunities.

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Land Use

Chapter 2 outlines the land goals, objectives, and land use policies. The following implementation activities are recommended to either facilitate continuation of orderly and efficient growth and development and/or refine how the goals, objectives, and land use policies are interpreted and implemented.

Timeframe	Implementation Activities
Ongoing	Review and reaffirm the Comprehensive Plan periodically. Revise as needed.
Ongoing	Review subdivision and zoning ordinances periodically for consistency with the Comprehensive Plan. Revise as needed.
Ongoing	Leverage Geographic Information Systems data and technology for improved land information analysis and visualization in the land use decision-making process.
Short Term (0-5 years)	Adopt six month moratorium on zoning and subdivision applications to allow consideration of short term land use implementation activities.
Short Term (0-5 years)	Map undeveloped areas of Scott County currently zoned for residential development and identify the type of wastewater treatment systems is appropriate based on soil types and geologic/hydrologic vulnerability. Use as tool for plat review process.
Short Term (0-5 years)	Amend stormwater ordinance to require capture of runoff from 100-year rainfall event and clarify the release rate is not more than 5-year flow at pre-developed state.
Short Term (0-5 years)	<p>Revise subdivision ordinance for the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To clarify subdivisions with single entrances and regulations of the maximum number of lots on a cul-de-sac. Review best practices related to density, entrance length, and topography. To require municipal water systems be extended if a subdivision is within ½ miles of water mains. To require submittal of soil profile and septic drainfield location before building permits for new houses are issued. To require common wastewater treatment facilities in any subdivisions with greater than 30 lots, when median lot size is less than 1 acre, allow on-site systems in subdivisions with more than 30 lots when 90% or more of the lots are greater than 1 acre in size.
Long Term (6-20 years)	Review and update the Comprehensive Plan within five to ten year cycles or coincide with decennial census.

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Environment

These strategies address protecting and conserving the natural, human, and economic resources of Scott County. A healthy environment sets the foundation for a quality life in Scott County.

Timeframe	Implementation Activities
Ongoing	Continue to participate and partner with organizations established to improve the environmental health of Scott County, such as the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Partnership for Scott County Watersheds, Quad Cities Air Quality Task Force, Waste Commission of Scott County, River Action Inc., etc.
Ongoing	Examine Scott County’s development regulations, e.g. zoning, subdivision, floodplain management, other county codes or building code regulations in relation to minimizing impacts to the natural environment.
Short Term (0-5 years)	Identify and create guidance to allow new development to be designed to create a minimum disturbance to natural drainage patterns, natural landscape, habitat vegetation, and the ability to absorb rainfall and prevent erosion.
Short Term (0-5 years)	Consider green building principles and energy conservation measures/equipment by the County when initiating new construction or making equipment purchases.
Short Term (0-5 years)	Develop a risk assessment for vulnerable public facilities related to the natural and man-made hazards. Plan for mitigation of these hazards. Complete countywide evacuation plan.

Parks, Open Space and Conservation Areas

Key elements of these strategies are to meet the recreation and open space needs of residents and offer opportunities to visitors to Scott County.

Timeframe	Implementation Activities
Ongoing	Continue to partner with and support with organizations promoting health through recreation, open space, and conservation practices as well as those welcoming visitors to Scott County, such as the Quad City Area Recreation Directors, Quad Cities Convention and Visitors Bureau, among others.
Ongoing	Implement activities within the Conservation Board Strategic Plan and re-evaluate the plan on a periodic basis.

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Timeframe	Implementation Activities
Ongoing	Examine open space needs and opportunities within Scott County. Participate in implementation of Quad Cities, Illinois-Iowa Metropolitan Area Greenway Plan, particularly for passive greenways located along the numerous creeks in Scott County. They are valued for conservation, slope protection, and floodplain management.
Short Term (0-5 years)	Participate in issues related to a countywide trail plan.
Short Term (0-5 years)	Complete upgrade to Scott County pool.
Long Term (6-20 years)	Partner with municipalities in creating a trail network. Look for opportunities to create or enhance scenic overlooks of the Mississippi River within Scott County.

Transportation

Timeframe	Implementation Activities
Ongoing	Review priorities for roads to be upgraded and the type of road surface needed.
Short Term (0-5 years)	Establish criteria and quantitative standards to determine adequacy of roads to handle additional traffic generated by new development.
Long Term (6-20 years)	Monitor status of roadway funding sources. Seek ways to provide a quality roadway system in Scott County.

Other Facilities/Services

Timeframe	Implementation Activities
Ongoing	Continue to participate and partner with organizations established to improve the environmental health of Scott County, such as the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Partnership for Scott County Watersheds, Quad Cities Air Quality Task Force, Waste Commission of Scott County, River Action Inc., etc.
Ongoing	Examine Scott County's development regulations, e.g. zoning, subdivision, floodplain management, other county codes or building code regulations in relation to minimizing impacts to the natural environment.
Ongoing	Consolidate and improve communication capabilities for emergency services providers.

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Timeframe	Implementation Activities
Ongoing	Continue to support the development and ongoing maintenance of the Scott County GIS system as outlined by the GIS Strategic Plan and Parcel Management Re-engineering report and with regular guidance and/or oversight from the Scott County Steering Committee, Scott County GIS Technical Committee, County Administrator, Board of Supervisors, and GIS Coordinator.
Short Term (0-5 years)	Identify and create guidance to allow new development to be designed to create a minimum disturbance to natural drainage patterns, natural landscape, habitat vegetation, and the ability to absorb rainfall and prevent erosion.
Short Term (0-5 years)	Consider green building principles and energy conservation measures/equipment by the County when initiating new construction or making equipment purchases.
Short Term (0-5 years)	Develop a risk assessment for vulnerable public facilities related to the natural and man-made hazards. Plan for mitigation of these hazards. Complete countywide evacuation plan.

Administration

Timeframe	Implementation Activities
Ongoing	Review administrative, management and personnel issues, establish County priorities, target issues, and management plan through bi-annual goal setting process with supervisors, elected department heads, court administrator and appointed department heads.
Ongoing	Prepare and maintain an annual budget that maintains County facilities, implements County operations, and provides County services in a cost effective manner.
Ongoing	Maintain leadership in issues related to the Quad Cities and continue participation in regional organizations that promote intergovernmental cooperation and communication.

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Economic Development

Timeframe	Implementation Activities
Ongoing	Continue participation with regional planning, economic development, environmental, and tourism organizations.
Ongoing	Encourage and support the development of appropriate infrastructure to support business retention and expansion.