

Vision, Mission and Values

& Strategic Initiatives



September 27, 2023

Vision, Mission and Values

- At its October 29, 2022 goal setting meeting, the city council directed staff to develop statements to help guide the city's path now and into the future. Council adopted the statements at their May 23, 2023 meeting.
- Clear and compelling vision, mission and values statements define the organization, by communicating where the organization is going (**vision**), why the organization exists (**mission**), and what it stands for (**values**).

Definitions

- **Vision statement:** States what the City of Lakewood achieves if it is successful, and where it wants to be in the future in an aspirational and forward-thinking manner.
- **Mission statement:** Defines why Lakewood uniquely exists, what it does and why it is important. The mission explains Lakewood's plan for the present based on what it wants to achieve.

Definitions

- **Values statement:** These are Lakewood's core principles and philosophical ideals. Values inform and guide the decisions and behaviors of the people inside the organization and signal to residents and stakeholders what is important to the city.

Drafting Process

- **Staff formed a Vision, Mission and Values Committee comprised of city employees and historian emeritus.**
- **The committee came up with key “tenets” that describe the city.**
- **Based on these tenets, drafted initial statements.**
- **Statements were then reviewed by the members of the city’s three commissions and Measure L Citizens Oversight Committee.**

Vision Statement

To be a welcoming and thriving community where everyone can live, work and play in a safe and healthy environment.

Mission Statement

To enhance the quality of life of the Lakewood community by providing efficient public services that are responsive and fiscally prudent and with a commitment to legendary customer service.

Values Statements

Legendary Customer Service: We exceed the expectations of our customers and leave a lasting positive impression by delivering exceptional service.

Honest, Ethical and Trustworthy: We are truthful, transparent, and straightforward in all interactions; do what is right, just and fair; are reliable and dependable; and consistent in our commitments to each other and to our community.

Values Statements

Fiscally Responsible and Financially Prudent: We manage the city's financial resources in a well-organized and cost-effective manner that benefits our community and the city organization over the long term.

Responsive and Accountable: We respond to the needs of the Lakewood community by being open, accessible and prompt and by taking responsibility for our actions and decisions.

Values Statements

Equitable, Diverse and Inclusive: We strive to ensure that all members of our community have access to the city's opportunities and resources. We recognize and embrace the differences that exist in our community and seek to create a welcoming environment in which community members feel valued and respected.

Values Statements

Teamwork and Collaboration: We work together and with our public partners and community members to realize our vision for Lakewood and accomplish our organizational mission using our unique skills, knowledge and perspectives. We seek opportunities to work with others within and outside the City of Lakewood to achieve success in realizing our mission and carrying out our vision.

Strategic Initiatives

- **Strategic initiatives are distinct and interdependent areas of governance, management and operations that comprise the means through which the City of Lakewood translates its vision into practice.**

Strategic Initiatives

INITIATIVE #1: SAFE COMMUNITY

Lakewood is a safe community and prepared to protect lives and property through our partnerships with public safety agencies, the application of proven risk management practices and public education.

INITIATIVE #2: RECREATION AND LEISURE OPPORTUNITIES

Residents and visitors benefit from Lakewood's parks, leisure facilities, public spaces, and recreational programs for all ages that promote a healthy community and make Lakewood a great place to live and play.

Strategic Initiatives

INITIATIVE #3: HIGH PERFORMING GOVERNMENT

Lakewood is a leader in city government and effective in delivering outstanding municipal services through collaboration with public agencies and private businesses with the guidance of the Lakewood City Council.

INITIATIVE #4: FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Lakewood's financial resources are managed in a responsible and prudent manner. The city makes informed decisions about how to allocate funds and maintain a balanced budget that serves the community's needs and priorities.

Strategic Initiatives

INITIATIVE #5: WELL-MAINTAINED INFRASTRUCTURE

Lakewood plans, develops, and maintains a high-quality built environment of city facilities and infrastructure that makes Lakewood livable and attractive.

INITIATIVE #6: AN INFORMED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Lakewood gives community members access to accurate and timely information about issues that affect them, as well as opportunities to engage in dialogue with one another and with civic leaders.

Strategic Initiatives

INITIATIVE #7: ECONOMIC HEALTH AND PROSPERITY

Lakewood actively promotes a healthy and prosperous local economy and stimulates new investment to help the local economy grow and businesses to thrive.

Post Adoption

- **City employees are already being trained on these statements and the purpose behind them.**
- **These statements will also be shared with residents and stakeholders of the community.**
- **We will periodically review the vision, mission and values to be sure they are relevant, meaningful and current.**
- **Website – www.lakewoodcity.org/Vision**

Vision, Mission and Values

& Strategic Initiatives



September 27, 2023