

Get Involved in the

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

How are you or your organization assisting in the effort to keep taxes and fees competitive, have an efficient government, reduce crime, improve District 150, grow employers and jobs, invest in infrastructure and transportation, support sustainability, and reinvest in neighborhoods?

Go to

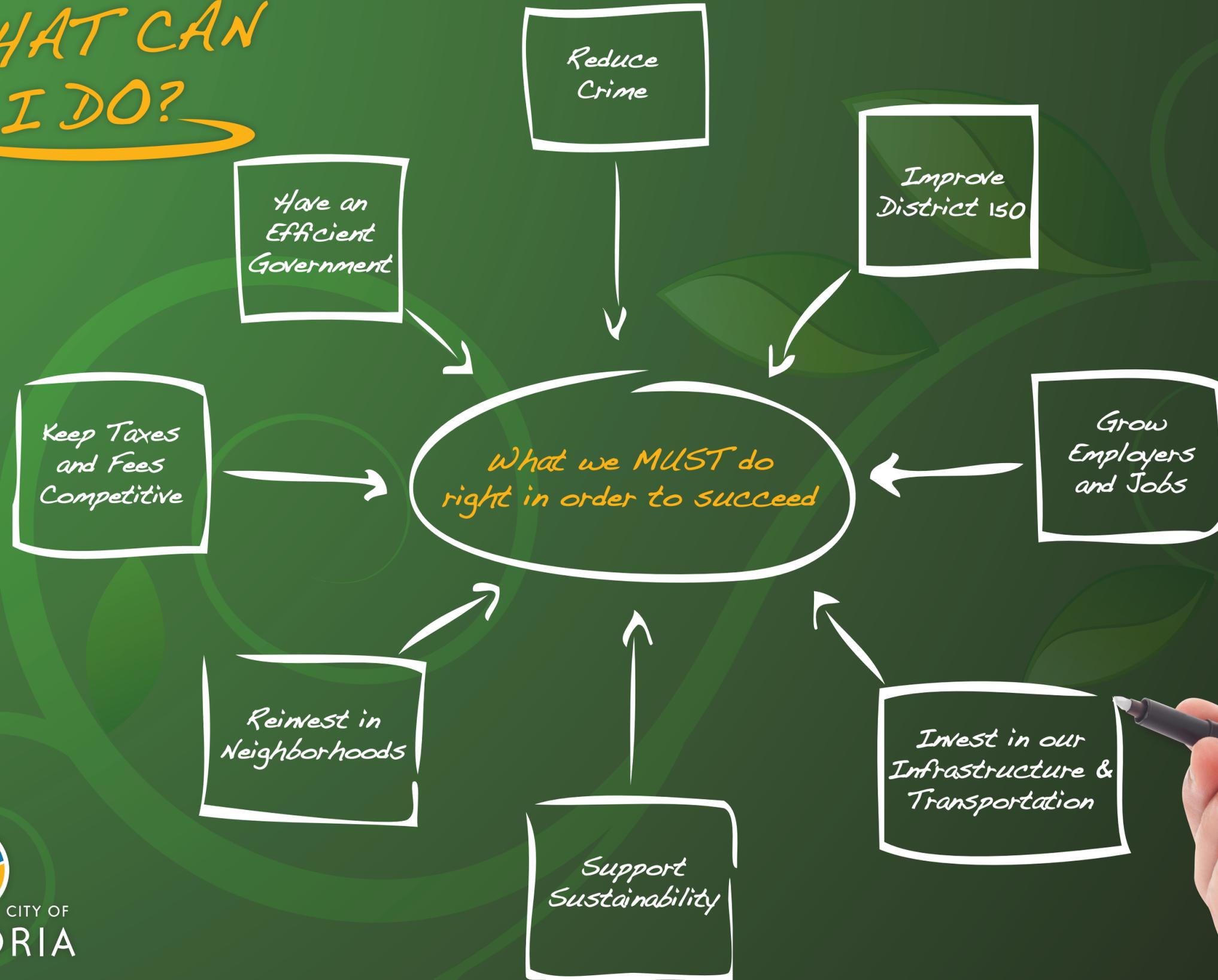
www.growpeoria.com

to share your experiences.



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

WHAT CAN I DO?



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

MISSION STATEMENT

We will **GROW PEORIA** by providing an **ENVIRONMENT** that **ATTRACTS AND RETAINS JOBS** by focusing on Economic Development, Public Safety, Education, and Infrastructure. We will **PARTNER** to deliver these services in a **CREATIVE** and **SUSTAINABLE** manner.





The Comprehensive Plan is the master-planning document for the City of Peoria. As such, it provides strategic policy, future land use, and development guidance to the City Council, City Commissions, and the City Administration. It also provides a clear vision of what type of community the citizens of Peoria seek.

"City Planning seeks to create a new vision, a widened horizon, as a stimulating incentive to a grand, united effort. It shuns partisanship and selfish motives and in its development aims to favor all sections and people alike."

City of Peoria – Comprehensive Plan 1937

SELECTED AS A 2008 GOLD AWARD WINNER FOR
**OUTSTANDING
PUBLIC OUTREACH**

by the
Illinois Chapter of the
American Planning Association



GROW PEORIA

This simple statement encapsulates the Vision found within this Comprehensive Plan. The statement will represent different goals for different groups. It could be the growth of good educational choices, the growth of population, the growth of income levels, the growth of a diverse employment base, the growth of arts and recreation, the growth of good public health, etc. The bottom line is that Peoria will grow, will be successful, will move forward and not backward, and will be a better community in the future by strategically focusing on those actions outlined in this plan.

What type of growth the City wants to encourage is ultimately entirely up to the City Council. This document strongly suggests that all future decisions taken by the City Council on growth and development in Peoria be viewed through the prism of what the public has set forth as their Vision for Peoria and with an eye toward balanced growth that will ultimately provide a positive return for Peoria.

This Vision is not designed to be superfluous in nature. It is, in fact, a true strategic goal, defined by the public, refined by the Planning Commission, approved by the City Council, and executed by the City of Peoria and its partners. The successful execution of this Vision will necessitate forethought and difficult choices to be made by policymakers and implementers alike.

WE WILL **GROW PEORIA** BY PROVIDING AN ENVIRONMENT THAT ATTRACTS AND RETAINS JOBS

Building upon all of the information gathered and the strategic planning steps followed, the Planning Commission created a Mission Statement for Peoria that is included as part of this Comprehensive Plan. The Mission Statement focuses on how Peoria will grow and thrive over the 20-year term of this plan.

The Mission is quite clear. **In order for Peoria to grow, an environment conducive for the growth and retention of jobs must be developed and maintained.** Peoria is not a community that generally attracts people for retirement purposes (although it is a fine place to retire), for the climate, or for specific educational or recreational pursuits. This plan suggests that this will not change over the next 15 to 20 years. People move to Peoria for jobs, jobs that exist and the opportunity to create new jobs and new business. The Mission of the Strategic Plan section of this Comprehensive Plan is to focus the efforts of the community to create an environment that will attract an increasing number of new jobs and opportunities to Peoria. It must be clearly understood that the Mission is not for the City of Peoria as an organization to create jobs, but rather the Mission is to create an environment that makes job creation easier.

This suggested Mission is not simply economic in nature and is clearly not a suggestion that codes should be ignored or completely removed. The Focus and Critical Success Factors indicated below add definition to the Mission Statement and provide guidance for any changes to existing codes and procedures that the Council may want to pursue in order to implement this plan.

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

WHAT WE MUST DO RIGHT TO SUCCEED

The Critical Success Factors, indicated below, represent items where success must be achieved in order for the City to fully implement the Mission Statement as written. Even if success is achieved in other areas, it will have little impact on the overall implementation of the Mission Statement during the term of this Comprehensive Plan if the Critical Success Factors are not fully realized.

REDUCE CRIME

- Be involved in Neighborhood Watch
- Actively work to reduce neighborhood crime
- Create positive opportunities for youth
- Analyze neighborhood problems and create an action plan
- Engage the community in appropriate behavior
- Increase community collaboration

IMPROVE DISTRICT 150

- Encourage increased parental involvement and discipline
- Participate in mentoring programs
- Work with students to help increase student achievement
- Work with neighborhood on problem analysis and action plan
- Invest in our infrastructure and transportation
- Work with neighborhood to develop an action plan
- Work with neighborhood association to establish future direction

GROW EMPLOYERS AND JOBS

- Help nurture and grow businesses
- Support small businesses in the community
- Support the arts
- Organize and participate in community events and activities
- Work to improve quality of life
- Assist in creating a positive image of Peoria

INVEST IN NEIGHBORHOODS

- Be involved in the Adopt-A-Street Program
- Assist in the development of older neighborhoods
- Participate in the Impact Zones
- Work to make neighborhoods attractive
- Assist in the marketing of area events
- Promote neighborhood art

KEEP TAXES & FEES COMPETITIVE

- Be business-friendly
- Encourage private investment in the Warehouse District

SUPPORT SUSTAINABILITY

- Protect and conserve natural resources
- Promote local art and entertainment
- Encourage recreational activities
- Be involved in historic preservation
- Participate in urban farming
- Be involved in regional planning activities
- Be involved in a neighborhood association

HAVE AN EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT

- Work with the City on community improvement initiatives
- Participate in public meetings

CITY COUNCIL GOALS

