

## Introduction

In March 1999, the Town Council appointed a Vision Committee made up of residents, business owners and other community participants that guided the process of updating the Town's Vision 2000 document for the year 2020 and beyond. With the help of the Community Development Department and an independent planning consultant, the Vision Committee solicited broad input on the Town's future through an extensive public participation program. The result of this effort, "Our Legacy, Our Future: Vision 2020," has served as the Town's collective concept of what it wants to become in the future – declaring Castle Rock's common goals, guiding Town decisions, uniting the community with a common purpose and motivating residents and leaders to meet the vision's goals.

During the spring and summer of 2013, members of the community were asked to weigh in on the Town's progress toward the implementation of specific goals, the relative importance of individual goals as part of the Town's vision looking forward to 2030, and to identify new goals or issues for consideration. Through this process, community members confirmed that while most of the vision's goals were still valid, refinements were needed to update and align the document with the community's vision going forward.

The vision statement and cornerstones below represent what is most important to the Castle Rock community. They draw heavily upon earlier Town visioning efforts, yet reflect the perspective of a community that is growing and evolving over time. Together, they are intended to serve as resource for all Castle Rock leaders, residents and businesses and to guide the Town's day-to-day planning and decision-making.

## Vision Statement

***The Town of Castle Rock is a world class community that embraces its small town character. The Town will continue to grow and prosper through the implementation of the Town Cornerstones, which includes a healthy and growing economy, preservation of community character through a distinct town identity, providing high quality community services, and responsible growth and development. The Town will:***

- ***Be physically freestanding, maintaining open spaces with mountain and prairie views;***
- ***Preserve and enhance history and heritage through a vibrant downtown that enriches the Castle Rock's sense of community;***
- ***Diversify the local economy through job creation and economic development;***
- ***Encourage business and industry development efforts along the Interstate-25 corridor and in other activity centers;***
- ***Maintain a high quality of life as a safe, family-friendly community with a variety of recreational opportunities and community events;***
- ***Plan for responsible growth that balances housing, services, and employment while preserving and managing open space, water and other natural resources;***
- ***Ensure a safe community through outstanding community services including police, fire, emergency medical, parks, recreation, water and transportation; and,***
- ***Continue to serve as the County seat and the center for governmental services.***

# Cornerstones

The building blocks of our vision for Castle Rock's future are embodied in four cornerstones:

- **A Distinct Town Identity**
- **Responsible Growth and Development**
- **High Quality Community Services**
- **A Healthy and Growing Economy**

Each of the four cornerstones plays a critical role in the community's success and resiliency over time. The four cornerstones reflect Castle Rock's key areas of focus and serve as the organizing framework for the Comprehensive Master Plan. To effectively support the community's vision, principles and policies beneath each of the four cornerstones should be held in balance—to the maximum extent feasible—as part of day-to-day decision making. The order of the Cornerstones or that of the principles beneath them is not intended to reflect their order of importance.

stones





## A Distinct Town Identity

### LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

*Castle Rock is a unique and welcoming community distinguished by its small town feel, diverse and easily accessible recreational options, scenic backdrop and natural environment, and family-friendly events and activities.*

#### Principles to support a distinct town identity include:

- A highly accessible and geographically well-distributed system of parks, recreation facilities, open space, and trails
- A community that values its history, arts, and culture
- A community recognized for and enhanced by its natural environment and scenic vistas
- Responsible stewardship of our natural resources
- A tradition of local community events and cultural and entertainment opportunities

## Responsible Growth & Development

### LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

*Castle Rock will be responsibly planned to accommodate the needs of existing and future residents while preserving and protecting the Town's historic Downtown character, distinct identity as the County seat and a freestanding community, independent spirit, access to nearby destinations within the region, and quality of life.*

#### Principles to support responsible growth and development include:

- Orderly, cost-effective, equitable and fiscally responsible growth
- Active participation in local and regional discussions surrounding growth and development
- Annexation of areas with the potential to accommodate growth in a fiscally and environmentally sound manner
- A balanced mix of land uses to meet the short and long-term needs of the community
- Cohesive neighborhoods and mixed-use centers that offer a variety of lifestyle options for Castle Rock residents
- Infill development that is sensitive to the scale and character of the surrounding context
- An integrated multimodal transportation system that allows for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods
- Reduced risk to life and property from natural and manmade hazards



## High Quality Community Services

## A Healthy & Growing Economy

### LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

*Infrastructure and essential community services will be provided in an efficient manner to support the public interest and well-being of all Castle Rock residents and businesses.*

### LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

*Castle Rock will be a self-sufficient community that is home to a variety of businesses and industries, offers a broad range of primary employment opportunities for residents, and maintains a healthy tax base.*

#### Principles to support high quality community services include:

- Effective community safety programs
- Adequate community facilities and levels of service
- A renewable water supply to serve the long-term needs of the community
- Efficient high quality water, wastewater, and stormwater systems
- Expanded access to health and human services
- Efficient operation and maintenance of Town facilities
- Castle Rock as the County seat and the center for governmental services

#### Principles to support a healthy and growing economy include:

- Diversification of the local economy through proactive job creation and economic development
- An emphasis on business and industry development efforts along the Interstate-25 corridor and in other activity centers
- A vibrant downtown that enriches the Castle Rock's sense of community
- Educational opportunities that meet the changing needs of Castle Rock's residents and business community
- Strong partnerships and collaboration locally and within the region
- Enhanced tourism and local awareness of what Castle Rock has to offer
- A position of fiscal and economic health