



Ralph G. Hellmich

Mayor, City of Foley

To the Citizens of Foley, Members of the Foley City Council, Planning Commission, and Our Esteemed Community Partners,

Foley's inception was founded upon a clear plan. When John B. Foley established the original town in the early twentieth century, he meticulously designed a connected grid, designated rear-loading alleys, ensured generous rights-of-way, defined a civic core and public space, and created a walkable structure that has indelibly shaped the city's character for generations. His intentional methodology created a community built with foresight, a legacy that continues to inform our decisions today.

Foley is currently recognized as one of the most rapidly expanding cities in the United States. Our escalating full-time population, compounded by seasonal peaks that frequently exceed one hundred thousand individuals, presents both significant opportunities and considerable strain on our infrastructure, neighborhoods, transportation networks, and essential public services. Absent a defined and clear direction, such rapid expansion risks diminishing the established character and quality of life that our residents greatly value.

This Comprehensive Plan is designed to provide that essential direction. It establishes a deliberate and intentional framework for effectively managing growth, solidifying the historic downtown as the civic and cultural heart of the community, orienting new development around pedestrian-friendly centers, enhancing major transportation corridors, and safeguarding the rural periphery that defines our natural setting. Furthermore, the plan advances Foley's economic prosperity by supporting high-quality commercial and retail development, encouraging the establishment of modern employment centers, expanding access to high-paying employment opportunities, and guiding sustained investment in healthcare services to meet the needs of a growing regional population.

Crucially, this plan is designed to protect and enhance the quality of life for our citizenry. It honors our foundational principles, proactively addresses the demands of contemporary growth, and charts a clear course toward a more vibrant, resilient, and prosperous future. Through the implementation of this plan, we reaffirm our commitment that growth, when guided with intention and purpose, unequivocally strengthens the community we are privileged to call home.

Thank you for your sustained dedication to shaping a stronger Foley. Working collaboratively, we will ensure that the legacy of a meticulously planned community endures for succeeding generations.

Respectfully,

Ralph G. Hellmich
Mayor, City of Foley