

CHAPTER 1: THE FUTURE

The time to plan for the future is now. The Comprehensive Plan represents the desired physical form of the city in the future as defined by the community through the planning process. Defining a vision for the future is an important first step for achieving the community of the future.

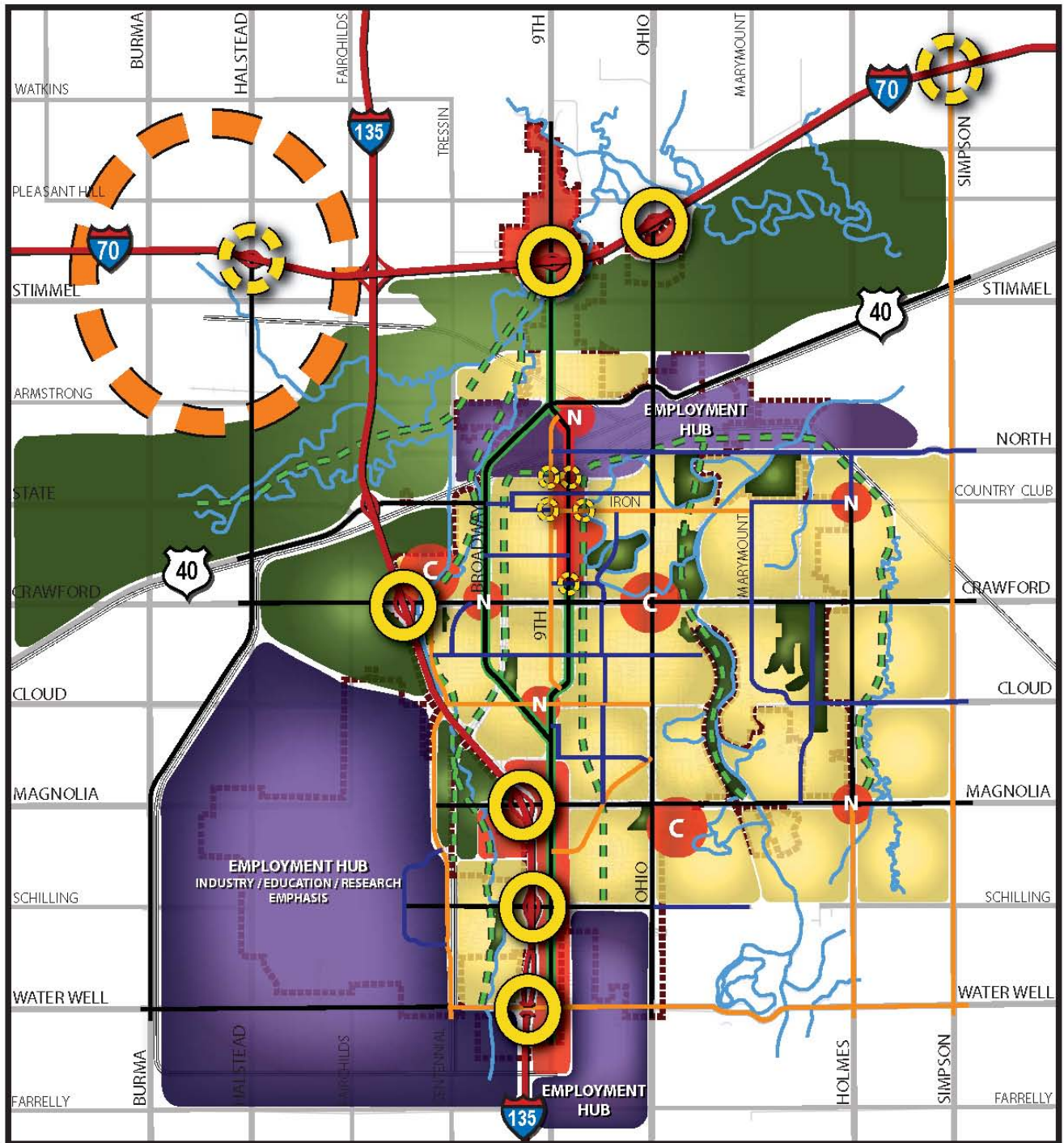
1.1 VISION

The future of Salina is defined by the **vision** crafted by the community through the planning process. The vision for the community is a blend of issues, ideas, goals, strengths and weaknesses identified by the community. An extensive community involvement program was employed throughout the planning process which included the engagement of the advisory committee, subject specific focus groups and the general public as well as city staff. The participation of community members in the process represents their dedication to the community and interest in its future. The vision prepared is complemented by the review and analysis of technical information regarding Salina. A complete record of the information collected and analyzed can be found in the Technical Support Document that accompanies the Comprehensive Plan document.

Additionally, the **value statements** in the plan represent the philosophies that the plan is built upon. These principles are present throughout the plan and have influenced the content of the plan. The vision statement and guiding principles contained herein represent the foundation for the policies, recommendations and actions outlined in the plan.

1.2 VISION STATEMENT

**SALINA WILL BE THE REGIONAL CENTER OF CENTRAL KANSAS,
PROVIDING GOOD JOBS, QUALITY HOUSING, NECESSARY GOODS AND
SERVICES INCLUDING QUALITY HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION FOR OUR
YOUTH AS WELL AS CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
THAT ENRICH THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY FOR EVERY
RESIDENT AND VISITOR.**



The Future Concept Map is not the land use map for Salina rather it represents a defined vision with regard to the future physical growth and development. The Future Land Use Map can be found in Chapter 2.

Figure 1-1: Future Concept Map
Source: Gould Evans

The **future concept map** (Figure 1-1) represents a depiction of the defined vision with regard to the future physical growth and development of the community. This map, while conceptual, represents a starting point for defining those elements of the plan that are important to the community and can serve to achieve the plan vision. The elements of future land use, growth and development, connectivity, parks, downtown, neighborhoods and housing, and economic development stem from this map as conceptualized through the planning process.

1.3 VALUE STATEMENTS

The Comprehensive Plan represents the action plan to achieve the vision for the future of Salina. The actions in this plan are guided by a few simple values that are important to the people of Salina. These values have and will continue to influence the manner in which the vision and goals are achieved. These values also provide a basic understanding of those elements that are important to the future of the community across all actions taken.

The people of Salina value:

- A thriving, vibrant community achieved through an enhanced **Quality of Life** for residents and visitors.
- Salina as a **Regional Center** that provides for and supports surrounding communities and people of the region.
- **Growth, development and redevelopment** that is fiscally responsible, environmentally sensitive, sustainable, efficient and supported by quality municipal services.
- Efficient **Infrastructure** systems that provide quality service and supports the growth and development of Salina.
- A **Downtown** that is the heart of the community created through a mix of uses as the retail, business, health care, government and cultural center of the community.
- Strong, identifiable **Neighborhoods** with quality **Housing** that support the families and residents.

- **Parks**, recreation and natural areas that enhance the quality of the built environment and the quality of life for residents and visitors of Salina.
- An accessible and **Connected** community that embraces all modes of transportation including automobile, pedestrian and bicycle ways and public transit that contributes to the quality of life in Salina.
- A diverse regional **Economy** that provides stability and ensures the future success of Salina as a community and regional center.
- An **Education** that is rooted in lifelong learning that prepares youth for the future and provides adults with a means to further contribute to the community.
- Effective City **government** that maximize its resources and services in a financially efficient and effective manner to serve the population of Salina.
- Diverse **Arts and Cultural** activities, including entertainment and business opportunities, and their positive physical and social influence on the citizens and quality of life in Salina.
- **People** and their ability to make a difference, individually and collectively
- **Partnerships** for action, including Salinans, the City, public, private, non-profit, service, cultural and educational organizations.
- The **Youth**, as they are our future.

For a complete summary of the planning process and the feedback received during the community engagement program please reference the Technical Support document that supplements this plan document.