

CHAPTER 2: GOALS

This chapter provides overall goals for the achievement of good urban design city-wide. Area-specific goals are provided at the beginning of each chapter, with standards and guidelines provided in each chapter to achieve the goals. The standards are intended to mandate necessary design components in Livermore building projects that will help to create or preserve good urban fabric. The guidelines are intended to encourage high-quality building and site design while allowing flexibility for designers.

The goals that follow apply to all areas of development in the City of Livermore.

A. *Respect the Existing Livermore Context*

1. Encourage a harmonious development pattern that respects, responds to and improves upon the character of the surrounding built and natural environments.
2. Preserve the sense of a small-scale residential community surrounded by rural open space.
3. Encourage development that contributes to the character of Livermore by establishing linkages to community focal points, such as open space, parks, schools and civic buildings.
4. Encourage development that allows for continued views of the surrounding environment, including vistas, hills and scenic corridors or natural features that are unique to Livermore.

B. Contribute to Neighborhood Identity

1. Enhance and improve the visual and design character of the City.
2. Facilitate the development of projects that establish individual identity while complementing the character of traditional design established within the existing neighborhood and the City.

C. Encourage High-Quality Building Forms

1. New development should utilize high quality architectural design, which incorporates appropriate massing, façade articulation, roof forms and quality building materials.
2. Buildings should be designed to provide attractive and detailed façades on all sides, including those that face streets as well as those that face adjacent development.

D. Strengthen the Pedestrian Realm

1. Encourage landscape and building elements, such as enhanced paving materials, accent lighting, streetscape furniture and adequate sidewalk space, that will contribute to pedestrian environments that are attractive and physically safe.
2. In commercial areas, develop pedestrian amenities that contribute to active and economically vibrant environments.

E. Create Multiple and Varied Public Spaces

1. The spaces between and around buildings should contribute to a larger network of non-vehicular connections between neighborhood and cross-town destinations.
2. Maintain and strengthen high-quality public places.

F. Strategically Locate Parking Reservoirs

1. Decrease the visual prominence of the automobile and related parking facilities.
2. Surface parking lots should be screened in ways that allow buildings and landscaping to be the primary focal elements viewed from streets.

G. Facilitate Multiple Modes of Circulation

1. Enhance the non-vehicular environment by developing streets at a scale that is conducive to pedestrian and bicycle use.
2. Establish and maintain attractive and functional sidewalks to maximize pedestrian access to development projects.
3. Enhance and maintain attractive and functional streetscapes for vehicular traffic.

H. Announce Entries to Livermore

1. Gateways to Livermore should demarcate the transition to the City from freeway entrances, urbanized areas and adjacent rural and agricultural lands.
2. Gateways should identify and help to establish the unique identity and character of the City of Livermore.

I. Recognize the Historic Significance of Vineyards and Wineries

1. Build on the imagery associated with Livermore’s wine-producing history by strengthening the visual and physical connections between the City proper and the winemaking areas.
2. Establish a clearly designated route between the freeway and the vineyards that will facilitate movement of visitors through the City to the wineries.
3. Encourage development to include design elements, where appropriate, to emphasize the City’s vineyard and winery themes.

J. Facilitate the Development of Desirable Places

1. Promote the development of an urban form that integrates and creates a compatible relationship among a variety of uses, including housing, commercial opportunities, industrial uses, employment centers, schools, parks and civic facilities.

2: GOALS

2. Encourage designs for building projects, streetscapes and open spaces that capitalize on Livermore's physical and environmental characteristics. Development should create or enhance development of unique places capable of providing opportunities for a wide range of activities.
3. Promote the development of site plans that create attractive, comfortable outdoor spaces.

K. Encourage Green Building Design

1. Encourage the use of green or sustainable building materials, including recycled content materials, that are consistent with the underlying architectural style and character of the building.
2. Encourage site and building design that improves energy efficiency by incorporating natural cooling and passive solar heating. This may include extended eaves, window overhangs, awnings and tree placement for natural cooling, and building and window orientation to take advantage of passive solar heating.
3. Encourage alternative modes of transportation through site planning and building orientation that emphasize connections to sidewalks, bike paths and trail networks. Also, encourage attractive pedestrian amenities on-site and comfortable, convenient pedestrian connections between sites and to transit stops to facilitate alternatives to the automobile.
4. Encourage green site design by utilizing existing trees and plants where possible, incorporating permeable paving and designing resource-efficient landscapes and gardens.

