



Comprehensive Plan Update  
*Community Engagement Plan*



May 2024

# What is a Comprehensive Plan?

## A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN IS...



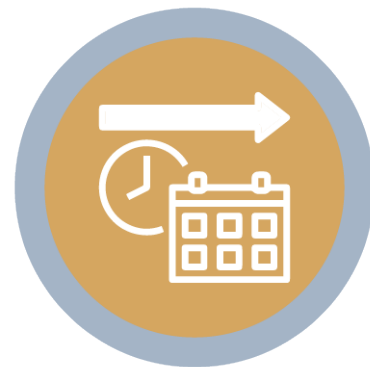
### GENERAL

This is a high level document meant to provide broad guidance and direction for the future of the County.



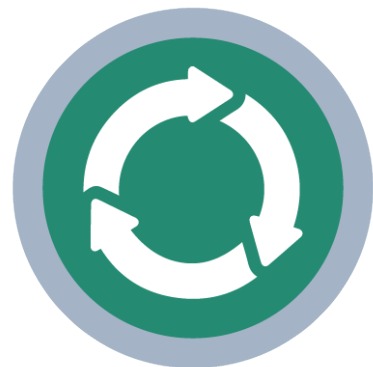
### COMPREHENSIVE

It will address a thorough range of the physical, economic and social components impacting the County.



### LONG RANGE

It provides a long-term vision for the County and impacts development and government decisions for 10 to 20 years.



### EVOLVING

While long range, the Comprehensive Plan is meant to change and adapt to the needs of the County community.

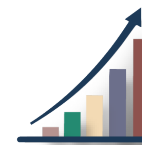


### NOT ZONING

This document provides guidance for the future use of land across the unincorporated County and provides a framework for implementation of programs and regulations.

## A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COVERS...

Comprehensive Plans typically cover, but are not limited to the topics below. Other topics can include transportation and circulation, resilience and sustainability, and more.



### Growth Trends



### Housing and Land Use



### Infrastructure



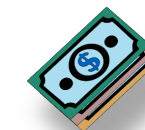
### History and Culture



### Open Space and Recreation



### Water and Natural Resources Conservation



### Economic Development and Tourism



### Regional Connections

*A comprehensive plan is built for the community, by the community!*



# What topics will be in the Alamosa Comprehensive Plan?



**CULTURE/HISTORY**  
Alamosa County's past and present that shapes the culture of the community.



**DESIGN**  
The look and feel of Alamosa County's natural and built environment.



**PUBLIC SERVICES**  
The essential facilities, resources and programs of the County.



**LAND USE**  
The current and future use of land for various purposes.



**RESILIENCE**  
The capability of adapting, recovering, and thriving when faced with various challenges.



**RECREATION**  
Opportunities for recreation, conservation, and enjoyment by residents and visitors.

## ALAMOSA COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TOPICS



**HOUSING**  
Addresses the housing needs of current and future residents at all levels of affordability.



**TRANSPORTATION**  
The ways in which people, goods and services move.



**CHARACTER**  
The unique qualities that contribute to a place's identity, personality, and atmosphere.



**ECONOMY**  
The jobs, industries and economic standing of Alamosa County.



**WATER**  
The management, conservation, and sustainable use of water resources within the County.



**RESOURCES**  
The natural and environmental resources that sustain the County.



# Who are we hearing from?

The Comprehensive Plan update requires input from all corners of the community. Here are just some of the perspectives and organizations we are engaging in the planning process!



# How can you be involved?

## LISTENING SESSIONS



Listening Sessions will consist of one-on-one and small group conversations that will take place throughout the project, either virtually or in person, at key locations across the County. Participants will have the chance to share their perspectives on challenges and opportunities in Alamosa County.

## ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRES



Online Questionnaires will replicate information shared and questions asked at in-person events. In total, the public will have the opportunity to respond to three questionnaires throughout the process that address key topics in the Comprehensive Plan update.

## COMMUNITY POP-UP EVENTS



Pop up information stations will be utilized at existing community events and in public spaces such as recreation centers and libraries, for County staff and Project Partners to collect feedback and share information about the Plan in a fun and informal setting!

## HIGH SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT



High-school students from Alamosa County will help define the direction of the Comprehensive Plan update through small group work sessions. Students will facilitate interviews and distribute questionnaires around the County.

## OPEN HOUSES



At these technology-supported Open Houses, the community will have the opportunity to visualize and evaluate the visions, choices and opportunities for Alamosa County. Open Houses will take place throughout the project at key locations across the County to ensure as much participation as possible.

## COMMUNITY CHOICES WORKSHOPS



The Community Choices workshop series offers community members the chance to provide input on key themes in the draft Plan. There will be interactive activities to make envisioning Alamosa County's future fun.

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS



Community Advisory Committee Meetings will consist of community leaders, business owners, and organization representatives that have volunteered to be a sounding board for ideas developed through the plan update process. There will be 9 AC meetings in total.

## COMMUNITY SHOWCASE



The Community Showcase is a celebration of Imagine Alamosa County's Comprehensive Plan. This presentation of the final draft of the plan will celebrate all who participated and contributed to Alamosa County's future.



# When can you participate?

The Imagine Alamosa Comprehensive Plan update is defined by three phases, each spanning several months. Every phase is guided by an overarching set of engagement events meant to achieve different levels of public impact, paired with community advisory committee meetings. At each stage, there will be opportunities for residents and community members to provide input on all elements of the plan update in English and Spanish. Public Review of the Draft Plan occurring in Phase 3 marks the final forum for community feedback.

2024

## Setting the Foundation PHASE 01

February - May

- Questionnaire #1
- Roundtable Events
- Listening Sessions
- Advisory Committee Meeting #1 & #2
- ★ PC
- ★ CC

This initial phase sets the foundation for the Imagine Alamosa County. This phase offers the community opportunities to get involved, share what they love, and learn about ways to stay engaged throughout the process.

2025

## Defining the Direction PHASE 02

May - November

- Questionnaire #2 & #3
- Advisory Committee Meeting #3 & #4
- Drop-In Visioning Events
- Community Choices Workshop
- ★ PC

Building on earlier community input, this phase will engage residents and elected officials in a series of visioning outreach activities. The goal of this phase is to learn more about what community members value in Alamosa County along with better understanding some of the County's key challenges and opportunities.

November - April

## Realizing the Plan PHASE 03

- Advisory Committee Meeting #5, #6, #7 & #8
- Public Review Event
- ★ PC
- ★ CC

Based on all analysis, input, and work completed up to this point, the team will assemble a Draft Plan for review and refinement. Results from this phase will include documentation of how public comments were addressed and incorporated into the final Plan.

Imagine Alamosa County Comprehensive Plan!

### KEY



In-person engagement is indicated with a solid circle; virtual engagement is indicated with a dashed line; hybrid meetings are indicated with both a solid and dashed circle.

- ★ PC Countywide Planning Commission
- ★ CC County Commission



# Phase 1: *Setting the Foundation*

## Phase Summary

This initial phase is all about laying the groundwork for the Comprehensive Plan Update by hosting conversations with people in the community. We will host a series of one-on-one or small group listening sessions, that will take place virtually or by phone. Additionally, there will be a chance to meet in person during the kick-off week throughout the County. An online questionnaire will also be open for further discussion.

This phase offers the community opportunities to get involved, share what they love, and learn about ways to stay engaged throughout the process.

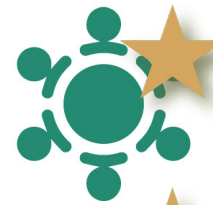
## Launching the Conversation...

- What do you love about Alamosa County?
- What are the top reasons why you choose to live or spend time in Alamosa County?
- What are top issues facing Alamosa County?
- What are top issues facing the rural areas of Alamosa County?

 **Spanish Engagement Opportunities**



**Virtual Kickoff Meeting**



**Roundtable Events**



**Listening Sessions**



**Advisory Committee Meeting**



**Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners Meeting**



**Website Launch**



**Questionnaire**



**Alamosa Growing Smart Working Group Meeting**



# Phase 2: *Defining the Direction*

## Phase Summary

This next phase is all about taking what we already heard from the community and diving deeper, engaging residents and elected officials in the process. We will host a series of visioning outreach events that will feature interactive workshops on shared values and big ideas facing Alamosa County. We will also organize a series of public workshops that utilize electronic polling, hands-on technology, and interactive discussions to establish the values and vision for the County.

Our goal in this phase is to learn more what community members value in Alamosa County along with a better understanding of some of the County's key challenges and opportunities.

## Deepening the Dialogue...

- What types of development would you like to see in Alamosa County, and where?
- How can commercial development be balanced with maintaining the character and environment of Alamosa County?
- How important is preserving agricultural land to you, and what strategies should be used to support local farmers?
- How can we make transportation in Alamosa County more accessible and environmentally friendly?

★ **Spanish Engagement Opportunities**



**Visioning Events**



**Community Choice Events**



**Questionnaire**



**Advisory Committee Meeting**



**Planning Commission Meeting**





# Phase 3: *Realizing the Plan*

## Phase Summary

Based on all analysis, input, and work completed up to this point, we will assemble a Draft Plan for review and refinement. We will present key components from the document at open house events throughout the County and provide a version of the document online for public review. During this stage, we will document how we've considered and addressed public feedback. The initial policy outline will cover goals and policies, a Land Use Map indicating future land use and conservation plans, strategies for managing growth, services, infrastructure, and potential expansion into urban areas.

## Shaping the Future...

- Did we address your feedback and concerns?
- Are there any specific concerns or issues you feel are not adequately addressed in the Draft Plan?
- What do you think are the strengths and weaknesses of the draft plan overall?
- Are there any concerns or suggestions regarding the proposed strategies for managing growth within the community?

 Spanish Engagement Opportunities



**Advisory Committee Meeting**



**Planning Commission Meeting**



**Public Review Events**



**Planning Commission Public Hearing**



**Board of County Commissioners Public Hearing**



*Stay Involved Throughout the Process!*

For more information about Imagine  
Alamosa County visit the project website!

[www.imaginealamosa.com](http://www.imaginealamosa.com)

