

CHECKLIST OF MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR RAMSEY

The checklist below was compiled from information on the [Plan Elements](#) pages in the [Local Planning Handbook](#) under the “Minimum Requirements” sections of the respective topics. Please note that this information is subject to change. The most current information can always be found on the website. Also, please remember that additional information may be requested during the review process for clarification and accuracy by the Technical Review staff. If you have any questions, please contact your [Sector Representative](#).

LAND USE

Forecasts and Community Designation

- Include a table of forecasted population, households, and employment for 2020, 2030, and 2040, consistent with the Council’s forecasts.
- Remember, Council forecasts must be used consistently throughout your entire comprehensive plan.
 - Your transportation plan needs to allocate forecasts to transportation analysis zones (TAZs).
 - Your water and wastewater plans need to reflect forecasts to plan for urban services.
 - Your land use plan must reflect and be coordinated with your forecasts.
- Include a map acknowledging your regional Community Designation(s) and acknowledge the overall density expectations for your Community Designation(s).
- Each Community Designation identifies both Council and Community Roles in Thrive’s land use policy section. Plans must be consistent with Community Roles for your Community Designation(s) as well as Community Roles that apply to everyone.

Existing Land Use

- Provide an Existing Land Use Map with a land use legend.
- Provide an Existing Land Use Table. Calculate total acres and percent of total acres for each land use category.
- Land uses categories on the map and in the table, as well as any text references must all be consistent with one another.
- Show existing regional parks, park reserves, and special recreation features with a land use of “Park” (or your equivalent) on your Existing Land Use Map.

Future Land Use

- The Future Land Use plan must be consistent with the Council’s forecasts of population, households, and employment and identify sufficient land to support your community’s forecasted growth.
- Provide a Future Land Use Map and land use legend, including density ranges for all land uses that allow residential development.
- Provide a Future Land Use Table. Calculate total acres and percent of total acres for each land use category for each 10-year planning period (2020, 2030, and 2040).
- Define each land use category shown on the Future Land Use Map. Land use categories must be used consistently throughout your plan.
- Land use categories must include types of allowed uses and the minimum and maximum densities (“the allowable density range”) for all categories that allow residential uses. Allowed uses should include a description of allowable housing types such as single family, detached, duplexes, townhomes, etc.
- For each “mixed use” category, define an expected share of individual land uses and identify the permitted density range for residential uses. For example, Mixed Use Downtown might have an expectation of 30% commercial, 40% office, and 30% residential with a density of 10-15 units per acre.
- Acknowledge Council-approved master plan boundaries of regional parks, park reserves, and special recreation features by guiding the properties with a land use of “Park” (or your equivalent) on your Future Land Use Map.

For Communities within the Metropolitan Urban Service Area (MUSA) and Rural Centers:

- Identify employment locations and provide a measurement of intensity of planned employment. Employment locations are typically the areas guided for commercial, office, industrial and institutional uses. Acceptable measurements of intensity include Floor Area Ratio (FAR), building footprint or impervious coverage. Ranges for measuring intensity are acceptable.

For Communities with Special Resources:

- In order for properties to be enrolled in the Agricultural Preserves Program, the Future Land Use Map must reflect an Agricultural land use designation with a maximum density of 1 unit per 40 acres at the time of plan adoption, as required by state law.
- Identify aggregate resources in your community on the Future Land Use Map.
- See the Special Resources section within the Land Use Plan Element for requirements for Critical Area Plans, Historic Preservation, and others.

Density Calculations

- Identify where forecasted residential growth will happen on your Future Land Use Map. Show expected new development and re-developed areas.
- Identify what density range is expected for each residential land use in your community.
- Identify when residential development or redevelopment is anticipated to happen. See the Handbook section on Staged Development and Redevelopment.
- The average net residential density for your community must be consistent with the density requirements for your community designation.
- Provide a minimum and maximum value for each residential density range. (Zero is not an acceptable minimum. The maximum value must be a whole number.)
- Use the lowest allowed residential density from land use ranges in your calculations. For example, a land use that permits a density range of 3-5 units per acre must use 3 units per acre in all density calculations for this land use. This ensures that even at the lowest permitted density, the community will be developing at densities that meet overall density expectations.
- Focus on areas of change. Show us which planned land uses have changed from your previously approved plan and where new land uses (change or development intensity) is planned/expected.
- Provide the net developable acreage for each residential land use. It's OK to exclude wetlands and natural water bodies, public parks and open space, arterial road rights-of-way, and natural resource lands protected by local plans and ordinances (i.e. steep slopes, wetland buffers, tree preservation) from area calculations. Stormwater ponds, utility easements, local roads, and local rights-of-way cannot be excluded from area calculations.
- The information you develop in your land use plan carries over to other elements of your comprehensive plan. The areas and densities in the land use plan must be consistent across elements related to forecasted growth, wastewater, water, housing, and transportation.

For Communities with Existing or Planned Transitways or High Frequency Bus Corridors:

- Minimum average net densities near transitway stations and high frequency bus corridors must meet the standards in the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan (TPP). Refer to the Transportation Plan Element.

For Communities with an Affordable Housing Allocation:

- Guide residential land at densities sufficient to create opportunities for affordable housing using one of the following options outlined in the Housing Plan Element. Refer to the Projected Housing Need section.

Staged Development and Redevelopment

- Identify potential local infrastructure impacts for each 10-year increment.
- Demonstrate that the municipality is capable of providing services and facilities that accommodate its planned growth.
- The staging plan or likely development phasing must be consistent with the volume of anticipated sewer flow identified in your community's Local Sewer Plan.
- The staging plan or likely development phasing must support and be consistent with your community's share of the Region's Need for Affordable Housing for 2021 - 2030.

For Suburban Edge, Emerging Suburban Edge, Rural Centers, and Communities with Orderly Annexation Agreements (OAAs):

- Map stages of development in 10-year increments (existing, 2020, 2030, and 2040).
- Provide a table of staged development in 10-year increments. The table must include future land uses, area in acres, density ranges, and total residential units by each 10-year time increment.

Natural Resources

- Describe your community's goals, intentions, and priorities concerning preservation, conservation, or restoration of natural resources in your community.

Special Resource Protection

- All plans must include a protection element for historic sites.

- All plans must include policies for the protection and development of access to direct sunlight for solar energy. Solar access is addressed in depth under the Resilience section.
- All plans must identify whether or not aggregate resources are available within the community. For communities with aggregate resources, additional requirements apply.

For Communities with Agricultural Preserves:

- In order for properties to be enrolled in the Agricultural Preserves Program, the Future Land Use Map must reflect an Agricultural land use designation with a maximum density of 1 unit per 40 acres, as required by state law.

For Communities with Aggregate Resources:

- Identify aggregate resources in your community on the Future Land Use Map using the Aggregate Resources Inventory.
- You must address and minimize potential land use conflicts.
- Identify planning and regulatory measures to ensure that aggregate resources are extracted prior to urbanization of aggregate-rich sites.

For Communities in the Mississippi River Critical Area Corridor

- Review Critical Area plans to ensure consistency between state and federal guidelines and land use updates.
- Review and consider protection and enhancement requirements of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (MNRRA) Plan. The corridor boundaries of the Mississippi River Critical Area and MNRRA are the same.
- Include a map of the Mississippi River Critical Area Corridor and your community.
- After the DNR completes pending Rules revisions, we will update this section to reflect any additional or changed planning requirements.