

# **CHAPTER 6: PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES**

## **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **BACKGROUND SUMMARY**

This element of the Plan considers the present and future needs of facilities and services such as water, sewer, fire and police protection, health, and education. The City of Albany, like many other local governments, has been faced with severe financial constraints while the number of people requiring services and the land area of the city have continued to increase. As the City continues to develop, the demand for services will increase, requiring careful and coordinated management to provide services in an orderly fashion while attempting to minimize the public cost.

The fundamental goal of the Public Facilities element is to establish and maintain a general and timely view of where, when, and how public services will be provided to support planned growth in the Albany urbanizable area. Within the Comprehensive Plan, the policies and criteria underlying these decisions are established and integrated in the overall land use planning process. However, the actual public facilities plans remain a separate but interlocking network of technical information documents. Within each of the technical public facility plans, there is a complete inventory and condition assessment, listing of anticipated short-range and long-range projects, project descriptions, project timing, cost estimates, funding mechanisms, and identification of the service providers. Within Appendix VI of the Comprehensive Plan is a composite list of projects and their timing for each of the required public facilities planning elements (water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer and transportation).

The siting and sizing of public facilities has a significant impact on land use patterns and future growth in an area. Inadequate provision of services and facilities tends to discourage development and may have a long-range impact on the economic stability of the area. On the other hand, providing unneeded or untimely services may result in higher taxes, user fees and inflated development costs. The location of facilities such as schools, fire stations, sewer lines, water mains, streets, and recreational areas determines the type and location of other urban development.

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### **WATER BACKGROUND SUMMARY**

The City of Albany purchased the municipal water system from Pacific Power and Light Company (PP&L) in 1984. At the time of purchase, PP&L provided water service for the City of Albany, the City of Millersburg, and the North Albany County Service District (NACSD). Since purchasing the system, the City has accepted maintenance responsibilities and eventual ownership of the NACSD assets (July 1991) and is currently working with the City of Millersburg to develop a Joint Water Project (JWP) that will help meet both communities water needs through build-out of their urban growth boundaries. When this project is completed Millersburg will no longer rely on the City of Albany for its water supply and will be responsible for operating its own water system.

Albany pursued the JWP with Millersburg to provide greater reliability and redundancy in water supply and to meet future needs for additional capacity. With the completion of the JWP, both cities will have a state-of-the-art treatment facility that is well positioned to meet future regulatory and capacity requirements.

The Albany water system includes a dam and intake on the South Santiam River near the City of Lebanon, an eighteen-mile supply canal from the intake to the City of Albany, a water treatment plant, and a network of pipelines with associated reservoirs and pumping stations. The City also owns a hydro-electric power plant associated with the Vine Street water treatment plant.

The canal, which transports water from the South Santiam River to the Vine Street water treatment plant in Albany, receives runoff from adjacent residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural lands. To protect the Canal as Albany's drinking water source, the City has participated in the review of proposed land uses adjacent to the canal and has coordinated with the City of Lebanon and Linn County.

The Vine Street water treatment plant was constructed in 1912. Capacity and water quality improvements were made in the late 1940s, mid 1960s, the late 1970s, and early 1990s. The plant's current maximum capacity is approximately 16 million gallons per day (mgd). Demand occasionally exceeds the plant's capacity and reservoir storage must be used to meet the water demands. Historically, treated water quality is maintained well above that required by state and federal requirements.

The condition of the system's distribution pipeline network varies from poor to generally good. Many portions of the older areas of the City are served by deteriorated steel and iron pipes. These older lines are in need of replacement due to corrosion that reduces capacity and structural failure that results in increased frequency of leakage and interruption of service. Additionally, some locations within the water service area experience low pressures during periods of high demand or fire flow conditions. Improvements are required in these locations to improve the level of service and reliability.

# **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

## **WATER POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION METHODS**

### **POLICIES**

1. Provide an adequate supply of water to meet projected demands based on the Comprehensive Plan land use designations and adopted population projections.
2. Maintain high standards of water quality and service levels for the community water system. Consideration shall be given to:
  - a. Long-range public facility planning as well as implementation of a five-year capital improvement program.
  - b. The adequacy and reliability of the water supply.
  - c. Maintenance of water quality in conformance with state and federal requirements.
  - d. The adequacy of the distribution system.
  - e. Construction and operational standards.
  - f. Ensuring protection of and accessibility to water lines, water supply, and other facilities.
3. Prohibit the construction of structures over public water lines and easements.
4. Review and regulate development proposals, in accordance with the Development Code, to ensure that adequate water service improvements shall be provided for the proposed development as well as to serve future land uses as identified in the Comprehensive Plan.
5. The availability of an alternate water supply does not relieve a property owner from the responsibility of participating in a local improvement district or other financing method for public water distribution regardless of whether the property connects to the system.
6. Develop and periodically review and adjust funding mechanisms and rate structures to ensure adequate revenues for operation, maintenance, and expansion of the system.
7. Developments requiring the extension or expansion of water facilities will be required to pay an equitable share of the costs.
8. Rely on the Water Facility Plan and Capital Improvement Plan to assist in prioritizing extension of water service lines and correction of system deficiencies to ensure that the provision of water services is occurring in an equitable and logical fashion.
9. For those properties located outside the City limits but within the Urban Growth Boundary, require annexation or consent to annex agreements prior to receiving water service.
10. For those properties located outside the Urban Growth Boundary, prohibit extension of water service except as provided by Albany City Council policy or resolution, or specific contracts.
11. Regularly update the Water Facility Plan as part of the Public Facilities Plan. The Water Facility Plan shall be used as the primary guide for setting of priorities for the expansion, improvement, or modification of the water system.
12. Coordinate with other local jurisdictions and state and federal agencies to ensure a safe water supply.
13. Encourage the use of techniques and devices that promote water conservation.

14. Provide service to former customers of the North Albany County Service District in accordance with applicable agreements.

### **IMPLEMENTATION METHODS**

1. Ensure protection of Albany's water resources by the following actions:
  - a. Continue routine inspections of activities along the Santiam-Albany Canal.
  - b. Develop regulations for areas near the Santiam-Albany Canal and within the City to protect the water from activities that could potentially contribute to degradation of water quality.
  - c. For those areas outside the City, coordinate and collaborate with Linn County and the City of Lebanon to review land use actions along the Santiam-Albany Canal.
2. Ensure that an adequate supply of water is available for fire protection and emergency needs within the urban growth boundary by planning for and providing adequate storage facilities.
3. Periodically review water quality and consumption data to ensure that existing and projected needs can be met by available sources.
4. Actively pursue additional water rights and options for alternative sources to ensure that the City's water needs continue to be met over time.
5. Utilize the Capital Improvement Program to identify short-term water system improvements and commensurate funding sources.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. Develop an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Lebanon to protect water quality by reducing stormwater runoff discharged to the Santiam-Albany Canal from adjacent properties and Lebanon's stormwater system.

## **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **STORM DRAINAGE BACKGROUND SUMMARY**

The Urban Growth Boundary contains the downstream end of 14 different drainage basins with only the Thurston Ditch Basin entirely within the city limits. Periwinkle, Burkhart, Truax, Cox, and Oak Creek basins extend beyond the UGB with Oak Creek being the largest basin extending into the foothills beyond the city of Lebanon.

Urban development can have an effect on the area's drainage characteristics by reducing the amount of pervious land and inhibiting the recharge characteristics of the soil. Albany has a number of storm drainage problems which are directly related to urban development, inadequate pipe capacity, discharge into open drainage ditches which are inadequately sized or poorly maintained, and a combined sanitary/storm sewer in the older neighborhoods. Existing storm drainage conveyance systems are a combination of pipe drains, roadside ditches, and natural drainage courses.

The City has done an inventory of the problem in the older areas and is completing a separation of the combined system. In developing areas, additional concern for drainage issues are part of the review process and improvements are being required which will help alleviate drainage related problems.

Problems related to inadequate storm drainage include flooding, erosion, and siltation. Manmade conveyances in many cases do not have the capacity to handle peak storm flows. Obstructions also sometimes occur in the drainage canals and maintenance difficulties exacerbate the conveyance of water through these canals. In several areas, storm drainage systems discharge into open drainage ditches along roadsides and on undeveloped land. As soils become saturated, during periods of extended heavy rainfall, runoff often drains back onto roadways and some property flooding may occur. These problems are even more pronounced in those areas where the streets do not have curb and gutters.

In some of the older neighborhoods where sewer separation has not been completed, the hydraulic capacity of the system is exceeded by minor storms. As a result, the sanitary sewer system is frequently surcharged. In addition, floodwaters from the Willamette River backup into these combined sewer systems, further reducing the system's ability to convey storm water or sewage. Separation of this combined system into conventional systems is being accomplished in phases as money becomes available.

## **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **STORM DRAINAGE GOALS, POLICIES & IMPLEMENTATION METHODS**

#### **GOAL**

Work toward the elimination of existing drainage problems and minimize future drainage problems within the Albany Urban Growth Boundary area.

#### **POLICIES**

1. Protect existing drainage systems and easements, allowing modification to existing open drainageways upon approval and in conformance with other Comprehensive Plan policies.
2. Cooperate with the Department of Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency to restrict discharge of polluted storm water into any waters of the state.”
3. Encourage drainage systems which utilize natural drainageways unless it can be shown that a conventional piped drainage system is a more suitable alternative.
4. Continue to review and analyze the effects of storm water runoff on the operation of the wastewater treatment system.
5. When reviewing development applications, work towards the reduction of direct storm water disposal into the Albany-Lebanon Santiam Canal as long as it continues to be the source of Albany’s water supply.
6. Prohibit the construction of buildings over drainage improvements and easements.
7. Develop and implement equitable funding mechanisms for the provision of storm drainage improvements.
8. Storm drain facilities in developing areas should be designed with the capacity to accommodate the projected storm drainage flows to at least the end of the planning period based on the land use designations.
9. Ensure that needed storm drainage improvements are scheduled for implementation as part of the Albany Capital Improvements and Public Facility Plan.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION METHODS**

1. Establish erosion control standards which minimize erosion and runoff from developing areas where the soil and/or natural vegetative ground cover has been disturbed.
2. Where detention basins are used, they should be integrated into the development with landscaping and open space features.
3. When reviewing new development proposals, discourage the pumping of storm water (including the use of sump pumps) as a solution for proper storm drainage.
4. Developments, including parking lots, will be required to prepare drainage plans and provide drainage improvements that are compatible with the master storm drainage plan. These plans shall be reviewed for all drainageway improvements and new developments.

5. Develop Development Code standards and administrative policies for the review of drainage which include the following criteria:
  - a. Emphasize the use and improvement of natural drainageways.
  - b. Investigate the desirability of detention ponds or conventional systems.
  - c. Indicate how any drainage facility will be maintained.
  - d. Minimize the amount of impervious surfaces.
  - e. Where possible, provide storm water easement conforming substantially to natural drainageways.
  - f. Maintain unrestricted flow from runoff originating elsewhere.
  - g. Make provisions for planned increases in drainage flow resulting from upstream development.
  - h. Where useful, consider a present or future mechanism to control the rate of runoff discharge so that excess capacity of drainageways does not occur.
  - i. Protect structures and lots from damage caused by ponding and runoff.
  - j. Ensure that downstream properties and/or structures will not be harmed by runoff originating from the development.
  - k. Ensure that the drainage system connects to an approved drainageway.
6. Establish an accumulating fund for making capital storm drain improvements.
7. Establish funding mechanisms for storm drainage improvements that:
  - a. Are based on the City's master area drainage plans.
  - b. Allocate costs equitably such as on an acreage basis or a per-unit basis.
  - c. Consider both developed and undeveloped lands.
8. Establish ordinances to define the City's authority to direct the orderly development and management of the drainage system.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. Encourage Linn and Benton Counties and applicable districts to review all development proposals along drainage basins which pass through the Urban Growth Boundary area for potential adverse effects on the downstream portions of such drainage basins.

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### **WASTEWATER SYSTEM BACKGROUND SUMMARY**

The existing Albany Wastewater Treatment Plant was originally constructed in 1952. In 1969, the plant was expanded and upgraded to an 8.7 million gallon per day (mgd) secondary treatment (activated sludge) facility designed to treat both municipal wastewater and seasonal high-strength industrial wastewater from local food processors. The influent lift station was expanded, a diffuser added and solids handling improvements were completed in the early 1990's. Although these improvements met regulatory requirements and improved solids treatment at the plant, they did not increase the plant's capacity. The Albany Wastewater Treatment Plant operates under a waste discharge permit issued by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. Treated effluent from the plant is discharged to the Willamette River. Stabilized biosolids from the treatment process are applied to local farmland for beneficial uses.

The plant presently provides treatment for domestic, commercial, and industrial wastewaters from the city of Albany and domestic wastes from the city of Millersburg. The rest of the developed property within the Albany Urban Growth Boundary is served by individual on-site systems.

Flows treated at the plant vary considerably throughout the year due to varying rates of infiltration/inflow (I/I) entering the collection system from groundwater and surface runoff sources. During the dry weather period of June through October, the plant treats an approximate average volume of 6.9 mgd (1998), which is less than the current 8.7 mgd dry weather design capacity. However, during the wet weather periods of the year (November through May), waste flow treated at the plant has averaged approximately 12.7 mgd (1998). The plant has frequently treated a maximum of approximately 20 mgd (maximum wet weather capacity) due to I/I entering the wastewater collection system.

The hydraulic capacity of the existing treatment plant is not sufficient to treat the total collection system flows during the high groundwater, high rainfall periods of the year due to the I/I problem. The current peak design wet weather flow is approximately 40 mgd and consequently peak flows overload the wastewater system and result in overflows of wastewater to the Willamette and Calapooia Rivers.

In 1991 sanitary sewers were extended to serve approximately 565 properties in North Albany that had been declared a health hazard by the Oregon State Health Division. The health hazard area represented only a portion of the developed area in North Albany. The Health Division concluded a health risk existed due to failing septic tank drainfield systems that contaminated drainageways and groundwater.

Other significant collection system improvements completed recently include replacement of portions of the Calapooia Interceptor, addition of the Columbus Street Sewage Lift Station and extensions of trunk and collector sewers to serve new development.

[Ord. 5465, 9/27/00]

# GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES

## WASTEWATER SYSTEM POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION METHODS

### GOAL

Provide and maintain wastewater facilities and services in an orderly and efficient manner that reflects the community's environmental stewardship responsibilities and meets regulatory requirements.

### POLICIES

It shall be the policy of the City of Albany that:

1. The *2000 Wastewater Facility Plan Summary (Summary)* shall be the primary document for planning the community's wastewater system improvements. [Ord. 5946, 9/25/2020]
2. The basic concept of the wastewater system is a gravity system. Pump stations and force mains will be minimized and will not be allowed unless approved by the Public Works Director (PWD).
3. Review and regulate development proposals to ensure adequate wastewater service improvements will be provided to the development and to future developments and ensure that adequate assurances have been secured for participation in the public system when these services become available.
4. Capital improvements to the wastewater systems will be prioritized based on the following criteria:
  - a. Projects needed to meet regulatory requirements for improving water quality;
  - b. Projects needed to maintain capacity and reliability of critical system components, such as pump stations and structural integrity of sewer lines;
  - c. Projects related to street improvements;
  - d. Projects needed to eliminate or reduce basement flooding;
  - e. Projects needed to reduce inflow and infiltration; and
  - f. Projects related to other issues such as alleviating health hazards.

These criteria are not necessarily ranked in order of priority.

5. Extensions of service shall be based on findings that provision of service to low priority areas will not impair the City's ability to accommodate higher priority wastewater system needs including recognition of the City's contractual service obligations.
6. Annexation is required to receive sewer service in unincorporated areas within the Urban Growth Boundary. Consequently, sewer service shall not be provided outside Albany's city limits, except as provided by specific contracts with the City of Millersburg, Oak Grove elementary school, Spring Hill Country Club or as authorized by the Albany City Council.
7. Development or expansion of "stand alone" wastewater treatment plant systems shall not be allowed within the Urban Growth Boundary that are not planned as part of the City's facility.
8. Developments extending wastewater collection facilities pay an equitable share of the costs. This may include:
  - a. A systems development charge (SDC) based on the number of residential units constructed or some other equivalent for commercial or industrial developments;

- b. Payment for extension costs with the provision that the developer may be partially reimbursed in accordance with City Council Policy, and
  - c. Payment for over sizing with the provision that the developer may be partially reimbursed in accordance with City Council Policy.
9. Sewer revenues will be periodically reviewed to maintain rate and fee schedules that ensure adequate revenue is generated to meet operating and maintenance costs, debt service requirements and capital improvement needs.
  10. The City will continue to develop specific plans and funding mechanisms for expansion of the wastewater treatment plant.
  11. Construction of structures over public wastewater lines and easements is prohibited.
  12. The City shall encourage the use of conservation techniques and devices that reduce the amount of wastewater discharged into the City sanitary sewer system.
  13. The City shall continue to update, improve, and expand participation in the City's industrial wastewater pretreatment program for industrial wastewater generators. The City shall continue to develop pollution prevention programs and ensure compliance with Oregon Department of Environmental quality, Environmental Protection Agency and the City of Albany industrial wastewater pretreatment standards.
  14. The City shall continue a program for eliminating discharge and infiltration of storm and groundwater into the sanitary sewer system.
  15. The City shall continue to develop beneficial uses for the application of biosolids that:
    - a. Are cost effective and environmentally sound;
    - b. Provide viable long-term beneficial use opportunities, and
    - c. Make productive use of biosolids.

### **IMPLEMENTATION METHODS**

1. Continue the policy of charging property owners outside the city limits a higher monthly rate.
2. Develop procedures for working with Millersburg and other jurisdictions to coordinate effective and efficient service delivery options that equitably distribute improvement costs to add capacity and meet regulatory requirements.
3. Ensure that new developments pay an equitable portion of the costs associated with expanding the wastewater treatment plant and extending sanitary sewer service.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Encourage Linn and Benton Counties to advise property owners within the Urban Growth Boundary who propose to install new or replacement septic systems that they may be required to hook up to sanitary sewer when their property is annexed to the city even if there are no documented problems with the existing system.
2. Encourage Linn and Benton Counties to stop issuing new septic tank permits in the urban growth boundary area where there have been recorded septic system failures or documented aquifer pollution.

[Ord. 5465, 9/27/00]

## **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **SOLID WASTE BACKGROUND SUMMARY**

The collection and regulation of solid waste is a regional concern. Albany is included in the Linn and Benton Counties' waste shed for the purpose of coordinating solid waste and recycling activities. An advisory committee has been established which oversees the coordination of waste disposal and recycling activities and includes representation from Linn County, the City of Albany, the City of Lebanon, the City of Sweet Home, three representatives at-large, and rotating representation from the smaller jurisdictions within the area.

All solid waste from the Albany Urban Growth Boundary is being disposed of 13 miles away at the Coffin Butte site in Benton County. This disposal site is projected to have a life span through the year 2025. Solid waste collection in Albany is accomplished by a private operation which is regulated by a City solid waste franchise.

The recycling of solid waste and resource recovery of certain materials after the waste has been collected is becoming more economically feasible as the price of energy and raw materials increases. On a national level, it is estimated that the amount of waste could be cut in half and that 50% of the total waste, which is paper products, could be suitable to produce energy in the form of steam. Advantages of recycling and resource recovery include the decreasing demand for landfill sites, the availability of recycled materials such as paper which decreases demand on timber resources, and the reuse of metals such as aluminum and tin which require large amounts of energy to produce.

In Albany, recycling is being accomplished on a medium, if not large scale. Albany's recycling center recycles newspapers, cardboard, glass, tin, aluminum and motor oil. The center is open at all times and depends upon people to drop off recyclable materials. Curbside residential pick-up of sorted recyclable materials (cardboard, newspaper, glass, aluminum, tin, and motor oil) is also available free of charge to all city residents. This program has been operational for the last five years. A commercial source separation program is also in place, and it is anticipated that an industrial recycling program will be available within the next three to five years.

In addition to providing waste disposal service, Albany Lebanon Sanitation has been involved in an education program for effective waste resource management. This program focuses on a five step process which includes: 1) reducing the amount of waste, 2) resource reuse, 3) resource recycling, 4) resource recovery, and 5) appropriate use of landfill.

In recent years there has been an increased interest in identification and clean-up of potential toxic waste disposal sites within the Albany Urban Growth Boundary. The Albany city dump, located on 53rd Avenue in south Albany, was closed in 1975 by the Department of Environmental Quality because it was located within the 100-year floodplain. There is concern that toxic waste may be in the dump site. Since little is known about what kinds of wastes may have been disposed here, further research should be completed prior to any additional development of areas suspected of containing toxic waste.

## **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **SOLID WASTE POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION METHODS**

#### **POLICIES**

1. Ensure that the solid waste franchise continues to provide a full range of solid waste disposal services including a recycling program that:
  - a. Increases awareness for the need to recycle.
  - b. Considers the needs of the residential, commercial, and industrial waste generators.
  - c. Promotes utilization of recycling efforts.
2. Ensure that there is land available and zoning regulations which would accommodate firms specializing in resource reuse, recycling, or resource recovery.
3. Work with Linn and Benton Counties and other nearby jurisdictions to assure continuous provision of regional, cost effective solid waste disposal.
4. Identify known hazardous waste disposal sites on the Albany Comprehensive Plan map and zoning map.
5. Prohibit development on the fill portion of the former Albany dump site on 53rd Avenue or any other site where hazardous waste disposal or residue is probable unless studies show the intended development would include a strategy for mitigation of the potential hazard to an acceptable level.
6. Work with local, state, and federal agencies for the identification, clean-up, and/or protection of sites containing toxic waste material within the Albany Urban Growth Boundary area. Also work with these agencies to develop safe practices for the disposal of these materials.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION METHODS**

1. Review solid waste collection franchise agreements prior to renewal to determine if recycling and other aspects of collection can be improved upon and at what cost to the public.
2. Support educational programs which encourage resource re-use, resource recycling and resource recovery.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. Coordinate with Linn and Benton Counties and other nearby jurisdictions to develop an energy efficient comprehensive solid waste management plan which considers both separation for recycling purposes and treatment of mixed waste for alternative uses.

## **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **OTHER UTILITIES BACKGROUND SUMMARY**

Energy (electric power and gas) and other utility services in Albany are provided by privately-owned utilities all of which are members of the Albany Utilities Coordinating Council. The Coordinating Council works with the City in the placement of service lines, etc. during street projects or housing development and in long-range utility planning.

Electricity is supplied to Albany mainly by Pacific Power & Light, although Consumers Power provides electricity to a small portion of the Urban Growth Boundary. Northwest Natural Gas is the other major energy supplier within the Urban Growth Boundary. US West Communications supplies local telephone service, while a number of other companies provide long distance service. TCI Cable TV Company has the Albany franchise for TV cable service and is expanding to all areas of the community.

Albany's Energy Conservation Program is dealt with in more detail in the Plan under Chapter 3 - Growth Management, and in the Background Report under Goal 13: Energy Conservation.

## **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **OTHER UTILITIES POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION METHODS**

#### **POLICIES**

1. Facilitate the continued provision of high quality utility services that are coordinated with the City.
2. Easements necessary for the provision of utility services shall be protected.
3. Encourage local utility companies to underground utility services whenever possible, coordinate utility installation with each other, and conform with the City's standard construction specifications.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION METHODS**

1. Provide all local utility companies with growth projections, capital improvement plans, public facility plans, and other information that will be of assistance to them in the provision of utilities in an orderly and efficient manner.
2. Coordinate all public facility planning and construction projects with other area utilities to increase efficiency in service provision, and avoid conflicts and service disruptions.

## **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES BACKGROUND SUMMARY**

Police services within the Albany Urban Growth Boundary are provided by the City of Albany Police Department, the Linn and Benton County Sheriffs' Departments, and the Oregon State Police. The City also has a volunteer police force whose activities include public service at such events as the Timber Carnival, Veteran's Day Parade and the River Rhythms concert series.

The City Police Department provides service to all areas inside the city limits and will cover areas of limited distance outside the city in cases of emergency until the County Sheriff or State Police arrive. The County Sheriff and State Police can respond to calls inside the city limits. Their enforcement power is limited to state laws within the city limits. They do not enforce City ordinances.

Services provided by the Albany Police Department include: traffic enforcement, regulatory services, community service, crime prevention, detection and prosecution, parking enforcement, and animal control.

Over the last few years, Albany's ratio of police personnel to population and police cost per capita have been low when compared with other Oregon cities. Fluctuating finances have been the major problem which kept the City from increasing the quantity of police services.

While a new jail facility has been built to meet current needs, there remains a need for long-range justice and law enforcement planning for Albany and Benton and Linn Counties to address current and future issues and problems.

The City of Albany Fire Department provides fire protection for all areas within the city limits and contracts to furnish fire protection within the Albany Rural, North Albany Rural, and Palestine Rural Fire Protection Districts. Mutual aid and automatic response agreements are maintained with all neighboring fire districts.

Fire protection services are funded through City tax assessments and rural fire protection district contracts. These services include fire suppression, inspection and investigation, public education, fire code information, and community service. In addition, the Albany Fire Department participates in a subscription ambulance program. This program provides affordable ambulance service for all members of the community while reducing tax support for ambulance service.

As the urban area expands, the demand for fire protection will continue to increase. During the 1970's there was an increasing frequency of alarms. This trend has continued throughout the 1980's as well. The two existing Albany fire stations have been able to meet this demand; however, there may be a future need for one or possibly two new fire stations in the eastern portion of the district and in the North Albany area if development in these areas continues.

# **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

## **POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION METHODS**

### **POLICIES**

1. Provide for the public protection needs of all of Albany's citizens by maintaining high standards of police and fire protection.
2. Ensure that all development can be provided with adequate police and fire protection. Particular consideration shall be given to:
  - a. Fire hydrant distribution and sufficient water flow capabilities for adequate fire protection to promote a high level of public safety.
  - b. Street layout and site design features that promote easy emergency vehicle access and building identification.
  - c. Exterior site lighting.
  - d. Building layout and site landscaping.
  - e. Building proximity and relationship to other buildings on and off the site.
3. Work with county, state, and federal agencies to coordinate improvement of city and county law enforcement and justice services.

### **IMPLEMENTATION METHODS**

1. Periodically review the quantity and quality of fire and police protection services to ensure a high level of service within the city.
2. Emphasize primary prevention techniques within the city as a means for preventing losses due to fire and crime. Such methods may include school education programs, neighborhood watch and block programs, voluntary alarm hook ups, building, fire, and municipal code enforcement, etc.
3. Ensure adequate fire protection resources are provided commensurate with the special needs of commercial and industrial development. Especially continue to coordinate with local industries to provide for their special fire protection needs.
4. Provide timely information to help proponents of new developments meet fire code requirements and conduct thorough fire inspection services for all new developments and changes of use and periodically inspect existing developments to maximize public safety.
5. Recognize the special protection needs of Albany's elderly, young, and socially disadvantaged. Promote the provision of education and primary prevention services to these groups, such as drug education, home fire and crime proofing, neighborhood watch and block programs.
6. Consider the long-range needs for fire and police protection services such as:
  - a. Determining facility needs and future locations.
  - b. Establishing strategies for implementation and maintenance.

7. Review the distribution of fire hydrants and water flow capabilities as part of the public facilities planning effort. As appropriate, make modifications to the existing system to ensure that new development will be provided with an acceptable level of service.
8. Review home occupations to determine their compliance with the Uniform Fire Code.
9. When reviewing new development proposals identify measures such as building orientation, design, and street visibility that will discourage losses from crime and fire and facilitate the effective provision of services.

## **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **CITY SUPPORT SERVICES BACKGROUND SUMMARY**

There are various City department that provide essential and valuable support service to the community. These departments include Planning and Building, Engineering, Public Works, Administration, Employee Relations, Library, Finance, and Municipal Court. These departments provide a range of services that enhance the opportunities and quality of life for all of Albany's residents. While many of these departments primarily do not get directly involved in the land use process, they are impacted by growth and development pressures. To ensure that these services maintain their current level of quality, they must also be considered during the planning process.

## **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **CITY SUPPORT SERVICES**

#### **POLICY**

Ensure that the City continues to provide the full range of support services that contribute to the quality of life in Albany by providing adequate financial support through controlled growth of the tax base and in other revenue sources.

## **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **EDUCATION BACKGROUND SUMMARY**

Public education needs within the Albany Urban Growth Boundary area are primarily provided by the Greater Albany Public School District (GAPS). The District operates twenty-four schools which provide education from kindergarten through twelfth grade. Twenty of these schools are in the Urban Growth Boundary. This includes 15 elementary schools, 3 junior and 2 senior high schools. To maximize the use of present facilities, the District has been analyzing needs and periodically makes adjustments in attendance boundaries.

The current trend in school enrollment is significantly different than experienced throughout the 1970's. In the 1970's there was a significant increase in student enrollment, especially in the primary level. During the period from 1979-87, there has been an overall decrease in student population from a high of approximately 8,300 in 1979 to a current enrollment of 7,469 in 1987. This decrease has been felt more in the primary grades, while enrollment at the middle and high school level has remained fairly constant in the last few years.

In addition to the developed school sites, GAPS owns five undeveloped sites within the Urban Growth Boundary that are being considered for future school sites. Four are within the city limits and one is in North Albany. However, a recent Facility Usage Study prepared by Greater Albany Public Schools has projected that there will not be significant growth in the student enrollment for the foreseeable future; therefore, there is no need for additional acquisition at this time. In addition to the public school system, Albany has two private schools, the Albany Private School, and St. Mary's Elementary School.

Linn-Benton Community College is a two-year public community college located in South Albany with educational objectives of providing career training based on locally determined occupational and education needs. A lower division college curriculum is provided for those who wish to transfer to a four-year college or university. Applied technical training includes such programs as business, nursing, mechanics, metallurgical technology, wastewater technology, and culinary arts. The nearest four-year institution of higher learning is Oregon State University in Corvallis. Other major universities and colleges within commuting distances include Willamette University in Salem, University of Oregon in Eugene, Western Oregon State College in Monmouth, and Linfield College in McMinnville.

It is recognized that educational quality contributes to the stability of an area and that it is an investment that pays dividends to the entire community. Land use actions that can help maintain this quality should therefore be considered.

# **GOAL 11: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

## **EDUCATION POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION METHODS**

### **POLICIES**

1. Encourage the siting of future elementary schools in locations which are separated from arterial streets and minimize the need for children to cross arterial streets.
2. Review all major residential proposals for:
  - a. Safe and efficient access to school and park sites.
  - b. Potential impacts on the school system.
  - c. The adequacy of existing facilities and the need for new facilities.
3. Coordinate with the School District the planning and design of safe pedestrian and bicycle routes to all schools including consideration of crosswalk placement, traffic signals, handicapped access, footbridges, and dedicated pedestrian easements through residential areas.
4. Recognize the importance of schools to neighborhood identity.
5. Support Linn Benton Community College as a community resource in its role as a provider of higher education, vocational training, and professional services.

### **IMPLEMENTATION METHODS**

1. Provide the School District with updated population projections, proposed residential densities, master street plans, and other related documents for the school district's use in capital facilities planning.
2. Work with neighborhood groups to encourage sidewalk construction, bikepaths and signalization where these improvements are lacking.
3. Streets that provide access to school sites should be designed and constructed with sidewalks and bikepaths.
4. Development proposals determined to have a significant impact on the school system should be transmitted to the school district for review and comment.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. Encourage the School District to coordinate capital facility planning and school site selection with the City.