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## Purpose of the Vision

According to an old story, two stonecutters were asked what they were doing. The first said, “I’m cutting this stone into blocks.” The second replied, “I’m on a team that is building a cathedral.”

This story describes the role of a vision on managing the growth and development of a city. Without a vision, development management works much like the first stonecutter. New pieces are added without a clear picture of what is being built. The vision provides the picture of the “cathedral” that Faribault seeks to become. Each development and redevelopment project must help to build the future, not just fit cleanly with the next “stone block”.

The Vision Statement provides a broad view of Faribault and inspires the community to move forward. The Vision serves the following purposes:

- Provides a shared understanding of community desires for the future.
- Looks to current conditions and community traditions for clues guiding future decisions.
- Orients the community to the future, even to a future that is twenty years distant.
- Requires imagination, recognizing that the direction it sets will be the reality of the future.
- Serves as a tool for evaluating proposals, projects, ideas and new directions.
- Provides an anchor in times of conflict and change - a way of finding common ground and shared values.
- Creates energy and enthusiasm for maintaining the commitment to the Comprehensive Plan.

## Vision for Faribault

Through the Comprehensive Plan, the City seeks to protect, support and enhance the many facets of "place" that is Faribault.

### *Sense of Place*

Faribault is a place unlike any other. Faribault builds on a proud and rich heritage. Faribault exists in a beautiful natural setting defined by river, lakes, woods, hills and farmland. Faribault sits poised on the edge of the Twin Cities- ready to seize the best of this opportunity.

### *Complete Place*

Faribault seeks to be a complete place. Homes, jobs, goods, services, entertainment, culture, education, churches, health care and a variety of other elements all form the mosaic of community. While it is not realistic to expect that everything will be avail-

able in Faribault, we will keep looking for ways to grow and improve.

### ***Place to call home***

Faribault embodies the qualities of "home town". Faribault builds on a foundation of strong neighborhoods. Faribault neighborhoods foster pride in property and concern about neighbors. People of all ages, incomes, and heritages make Faribault their home. This diversity requires a variety of housing types offering opportunity at all incomes.

### ***Place to do business***

Faribault attracts, sustains and grows quality businesses. Successful businesses provide jobs for Faribault residents. Seeking jobs at all wage levels promotes improves the quality of life. Faribault supports businesses with well designed and functional commercial districts and industrial parks, available and affordable public utilities, a quality work force, and an excellent transportation system. A strong downtown forms the cornerstone of the business community.

### ***Place to play***

Parks reflect the soul of the community. Parks bring us out of our homes to meet, gather and play. Faribault knows the value of play. Through a variety of excellent recreational facilities, we learn important life skills, gather with our friends and build community identity. Trails allow us to move around the community by foot, bike and skate. Nature center and open spaces embrace the beautiful natural setting of Faribault.

### ***Place to learn***

Education and Faribault are inseparable. Schools are focal points of community activities. The quality and diversity of the education system attract and keep people. Opportunities for lifelong learning are important elements of community growth. Job training keeps Faribault vital in a constantly changing world.

### ***A welcoming place***

Faribault welcomes the future with open arms. The welcoming spirit of Faribault appears through support of people and services to meet a growing range of needs. Opportunities for community involvement keep people informed and invested in Faribault. The sense of welcoming extends into the physical elements of community. Gateways, corridors and signage invite you in and help you find your way.