



# SISTERS VISION IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

ANNUAL VISION PROGRESS UPDATE

JULY 2019 – JULY 2020

**Welcome** to the 2019/20 Sisters Vision Implementation Team’s Annual Progress Update. This document was created at the end of the VIT’s first year and offers a summary of the progress on the Sisters Country Vision from July 2019 to July 2020.

The Sisters Country Vision and Action Plan was a collaborative community process that began in 2017 and concluded in 2018. The Sisters Country Vision Action Plan was adopted by Sisters City Council and other key partners in early 2019. The Vision Implementation Team was formed in July 2019.

**Action Items are color-coded as shown in the table key below:**

<b>Blue Background</b>	<b>Vision Strategy, as seen in the 2018 Vision Action Plan</b>
<b>Yellow Background</b>	<b>Action item/activity included in the original Vision Action Plan, which has seen progress in the past year</b>
<b>Red Text</b>	<b>Action item/activity included in the Vision Action Plan, that has seen no work completed in the past year, or the team has decided not to pursue (for now)</b>
<b>Green Background</b>	<b>New action item/activity not included in the original Vision Action Plan, which one or more partners decided to take on in service to the Vision Strategy and is currently in progress</b>
<b>Purple Background</b>	<b>Action item/activity that has been completed!</b>

# FOCUS AREA: LIVABLE SISTERS

<p><b>LIVABLE STRATEGY 1</b> <b>Walkable Downtown</b></p>	<p><b>Expand pedestrian-friendly amenities in Downtown Sisters, encouraging residents and visitors to get out of their cars and walk, including during the evening hours.</b></p> <p><b>VIT Strategy Lead(s): City of Sisters</b></p>	
<p><b>What was done?</b></p>	<p><b>Who participated?</b></p>	<p><b>When did the work happen?</b></p>
<p><i>Action item title + short, 1-2 sentence description</i></p>	<p><i>Bulleted list of any organization, agency or other legal entity who has contributed in the past year</i></p>	<p><i>Date range for each action item + date completed (if applicable)</i></p>
<p><b>1. Improved Downtown Lighting.</b> No additional lighting was added, but the City of Sisters updated their urban renewal district plans to include funding for future downtown lighting improvements. Completed Adams Ave. Streetscape plans.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Sisters</li> <li>• Urban Renewal District</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>2. Pedestrian Flag Program.</b> No work has begun to expand the existing pedestrian flag program. Funds budgeted for traffic safety audit in 2020/21.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> Existing program</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>3. Hey Let's Walk There! Initiative.</b> No work has begun to develop a "Hey, Let's Walk There!" initiative.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> Not yet started.</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> N/A</p>
<p><b>4. New Funding for Walkability Infrastructure.</b> The City of Sisters doubled the existing System Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>

<p>Charges (SDC) for transportation, creating new future funding to support essential walkability infrastructure. City is applying for grants and looking at using URA funds to support walkability. Coordinating with development projects to incorporate walkability infrastructure</p>		
<p><b>5. Design and Construct new Locust Street Multi-use Path.</b> City of Sisters completed design and construction of a new multi-use pathway along Locust Street, the key connector to Downtown Sisters.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> June 2020</p>

<p><b>LIVABLE STRATEGY 2</b> <b>Affordable Housing</b></p>	<p><b>Increase the availability of affordable housing in Sisters Country, including a comprehensive review of the 2010 Sisters Housing Plan, promotion of a diverse mix of housing types, and support for private and volunteer programs that address the issue of housing affordability.</b></p> <p><b>VIT Strategy Lead(s): City of Sisters</b></p>	
<p><b>What was done?</b></p>	<p><b>Who participated?</b></p>	<p><b>When did the work happen?</b></p>
<p><i>Action item title + short, 1-2 sentence description</i></p>	<p><i>Bulleted list of any organization, agency or other legal entity who has contributed in the past year</i></p>	<p><i>Date range for each action item + date completed (if applicable)</i></p>

<p><b>1. Sisters Housing Plan Update</b> The City has planned an update of the Housing Plan for 2020/21. To support this goal, they completed an update of the Buildable Lands Inventory and Housing Needs Assessment in 2019/20.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>2. Long-term Rental Housing</b> To support new long-term rental housing opportunities, the City:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Established new short-term rental ordinances, placing limitations on short-term rentals.</li> <li>● Relaxed Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) codes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> December 2020</p>
<p><b>3. Workforce Housing</b> No work was done to pursue workforce housing specifically, but all action items helped to contribute to increased workforce housing availability. Workforce Housing is being considered as a project on the updated URA Project List.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sisters Urban Renewal Agency</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> August 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>4. New Affordable Housing Development</b> The City of Sisters completed or advanced development of new affordable housing projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Completed Cowboy Court Apartments</li> <li>○ Completed Development Agreement for McKenzie Meadows</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> <li>● Housing Works</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Spring 2020</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Completed Ponderosa Heights, in partnership with Housing Works</li> </ul>		
<p><b>5. Affordable Housing Grant Program</b> The City established a new affordable housing grant program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> January 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> April 2019-Annual Grant Program is ongoing.</p>
<p><b>6. Housing Policy Advisory Board</b> The City established a new Housing Policy Advisory Board.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> December 2018</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>7. Forest Service Property Sale &amp; Residential Development</b> The “middle parcel” of the Forest Service Property is under contract to be sold to a private developer, who is interested in some affordable residential development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> <li>● USFS</li> <li>● Developer</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>8. Affordable Housing Established as a City Council Goal</b> The Sisters City Council designated Affordable Housing as a goal in 2019/20.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> April 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LIVABLE STRATEGY 3</b></p> <p><b>Integrated Transportation Options</b></p>	<p><b>Implement the updated Sisters Transportation System Plan that addresses changes in local and regional growth and new state transportation policies. Determine a preferred alternative to address congestion on Highway 20 in Downtown Sisters, exploring alternate routes and roadway designs, traffic management strategies, bicycle and pedestrian options, signage, and centralized public parking.</b></p> <p><b><i>VIT Strategy Lead(s): City of Sisters</i></b></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What was done?</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Who participated?</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>When did the work happen?</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Action item title + short, 1-2 sentence description</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Bulleted list of any organization, agency or other legal entity who has contributed in the past year</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Date range for each action item + date completed (if applicable)</i></p>
<p><b>1. Alternative Regional Transportation Options</b> On March 1, 2020 Age Friendly Sisters Country launched the Sisters Transportation and Ride Share (STARS), providing free transportation in Sisters, Bend, and Redmond for non-emergency medical appointments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Age Friendly Sisters Country</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>2. Grant Funding for Transportation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cascades East Transit (CET) secured Statewide Transportation Improvement Funds (STIF) to add new bus routes and stops in Sisters Country.</li> <li>● Age Friendly Sisters Country secured grant funding to support their STARS program from AARP and Ford Family Foundation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Age Friendly Sisters Country</li> <li>● Cascades East Transit (CET)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>

<p><b>3. Washington Avenue Bike Boulevard</b> Development Code updated to implement bike boulevard improvements with new development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>4. Needs Assessment: Activity Bus Route</b> No work started yet.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Age Friendly Sisters Country</li> <li>SPRD</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> not yet started</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> N/A</p>
<p><b>5. Survey: Intra Sisters Country Transit</b> As part of the development of the STARS program, Age Friendly Sisters Country conducted outreach on needs and options for new intra-Sisters Country transit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Age Friendly Sisters Country</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>6. Adams Ave Streetscape Design</b> The City of Sisters completed the design for Adams Avenue, including enhanced transportation access. Exploring funding opportunities for construction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> Spring 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> July 2019</p>
<p><b>7. Barclay Roundabout</b> The City of Sisters completed the Barclay Roundabout project.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> 2016</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> 2019</p>
<p><b>8. Locust Ave Roundabout</b> The City of Sisters budgeted \$250,000 to jumpstart the design and engineering for a roundabout at Locust Street in 2020.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City of Sisters</li> <li>ODOT</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>



<p>9. <b>Public Safety Survey</b> The City of Sisters completed a Public Safety Survey, which highlighted the need for a Traffic Safety Audit to be completed in 2020/21.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Survey complete Sept 2019, Safety Audit ongoing</p>
<p>10. <b>New Bus Stop Shelters</b> The City has completed design and engineering. Funding for this project is in place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Sisters</li> <li>• CET</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> ongoing</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LIVABLE STRATEGY 4 Expanded Trail System</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Support Sisters Trails Alliance and the U.S. Forest Service in expanding and integrating equestrian, bicycle and hiking trails throughout Sisters Country and beyond, connecting unincorporated rural communities with Downtown, linking Sisters to Redmond and Bend, and facilitating appropriate access to recreational areas.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>VIT Strategy Lead(s): USFS &amp; Deschutes County</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What was done?</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Who participated?</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>When did the work happen?</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Action item title + short, 1-2 sentence description</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Bulleted list of any organization, agency or other legal entity who has contributed in the past year</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Date range for each action item + date completed (if applicable)</i></p>
<p><b>1. Trail Expansion Outreach</b> USFS has partnered with Discover your Forest to form the Deschutes Trails Coalition, a broad-based stakeholder group to facilitate sustainable trail development and reduce user conflicts across the Deschutes NF. DTC is developing a spatial decision support tool for</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USFS</li> <li>• Discover your Forest</li> <li>• Deschutes Trails Coalition</li> <li>• Sisters Trails Alliance</li> <li>• Central Oregon Trails Alliance</li> <li>• Oregon Equestrian Trails (OET)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2018</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> ongoing</p>

<p>assessing appropriate areas for siting new trail construction.</p>		
<p><b>2. Trail Expansion Funding</b> Deschutes County is working on a State Transportation Growth Management Plan grant to fund an expanded, multi-use trail system plan in Sisters.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Deschutes County</li> <li>● USFS</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2020</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> ongoing</p>
<p><b>3. Regional Trails System</b> Deschutes County Road Department is preparing to implement the Transportation System Plan. They developed an RFP, reviewed consultants, negotiated contract and developed a timeline.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Deschutes County Road Department</li> <li>● Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> February 2020</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> ongoing</p>
<p><b>4. Separated Bike and Equestrian Trails on Sisters Tie Trail</b> USFS, with STA support, replaced the bridge over Indian Ford Creek on Sisters Tie Trail; authorized construction of three connectors to Peterson Ridge Trail; and started construction on a state-of-the-art gateway trailhead to the Peterson Ridge Trail system.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● USFS</li> <li>● Sisters Trails Alliance</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> January 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> December 2020</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LIVABLE STRATEGY 5 Parks, Recreation &amp; Greenspace</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Identify potential new parks, greenspaces and recreation sites and facilities in Sisters Country to meet the needs of a growing resident population and create new public amenities and visitor attractions. Recognize and honor the City of Sisters' status as a Tree City, and Develop Dark Skies program.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>VIT Strategy Lead(s): SPRD &amp; City of Sisters</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What was done?</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Who participated?</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>When did the work happen?</b></p>
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<p><b>1. New Community Recreational Facilities</b> SPRD actively working to identify site for new community recreation facility</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SPRD</li> <li>● Sisters School District</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>2. New City Park on East Portal (Forest Service Property)</b> Worked towards acquiring the east portal property to increase opportunities for open space and park amenities on a portion of the property.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> <li>● US Forest Service</li> <li>● Oregon Department of Transportation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019 <i>(work started in 2018)</i></p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>3. Greenspace and View Corridor Assets Inventory</b> Reviewing as part of comprehensive plan update Fall 2020/21.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> not yet started</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> N/A</p>
<p><b>4. Greenspace and View Corridor Standards</b> Reviewing as part of comprehensive plan update Fall 2020/21.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> not yet started</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> N/A</p>

<p><b>5. Tree Planting/Re-planting</b> Continual project.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>6. Sun Ranch Park</b> SPRD and the City completed the design for the future Sun Ranch “Pollinator” Park concept design.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> <li>● SPRD</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> September 2018</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> January 2020</p>
<p><b>7. Creekside Riparian Project</b> City of Sisters and the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council completed the design of a future creekside riparian project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> <li>● Upper Deschutes Watershed Council</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> May 2018</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>8. Update Public Event Policies</b> City of Sisters updated public event policies regarding use of public parks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> January 2020</p>
<p><b>9. Village Green Play Structure Upgrade</b> Completed a complete overhaul of the VG Play Structure including ADA fall protection and upgraded equipment with the help of a OPRD grant.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● City of Sisters</li> <li>● SPRD</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work started:</b> July 2019</p> <p><b>Work completed:</b> June 2020</p>