Chapter 1 - Introduction & Organization

Contains a general overview of Helena's historic background, current conditions and context, a discussion of how a Growth Policy is used, and explains how this document is organized. Contains Helena's topical vision statement.

Chapter 2 - Economic Conditions

Describes the current and projected economic situation, and identifies personal income sources and growth, and income by industry. Describes Helena's demographic conditions and growth projections. Introduces and lists economic-related goals and objectives.

Chapter 2 - Land Use

Describes existing and future patterns of commercial, industrial, and residential development, downtown, mixed-use areas, and future annexation. This chapter identifies issues related to infill, rehabilitation, and redevelopment, sustainability, and livability. The existing and future land-use maps are included in this chapter. Introduces and lists land use-related goals and objectives.

Chapter 3 - Housing

Describes current housing conditions and home values, affordability, changing demographics, and the role of regulations in addressing the community's needs for housing. Introduces and lists housing-related goals and objectives.

Chapter 4 - Public Facilities & Services

Describes current conditions related to infrastructure and the ability to accommodate future growth including transportation, water, wastewater, stormwater drainage, solid waste, parks, recreation, open space, and fire and police protection. Introduces and lists public facilities-related goals and objectives.

Chapter 5 - Transportation

Describes current transportation conditions and addresses multi-modal transportation options for the City of Helena. Introduces and lists transportation-related goals and objectives.

Chapter 6 – Natural Resources

Describes the physical surroundings of the City and identifies potential physical constraints to development. This section also includes information related to the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), wildlife, weeds, sand and gravel, air and water quality, climate change, and energy. Describes the quantity and quality of water in the Helena area, including ground water, surface water, and wetlands. Introduces and lists natural resource-related goals and objectives. Introduces and lists natural resource-related sections.

Chapter 7 – Community Character & Culture

Contains a description of Helena's arts and cultural environment, including historic, public art, and recreational amenities. Introduces and lists community-culture-related goals and objectives.

Chapter 8 - Implementation

Describes how the City of Helena will coordinate with other jurisdictions, particularly East Helena, Lewis and Clark County, and Jefferson County. Describes considerations for updating the Growth Policy and for creating neighborhood plans. Introduces and lists Growth Policy implementing action items.

Appendix A

A master list of the entire Helena Growth Policy Goal, Objective and Actions framework.

Appendix B

Addresses how the Growth Policy will be used during the subdivision review process.

Appendix C

Provides Helena's evaluation of potential for wildland fire, per 76-1-601(3)(j), MCA.

Appendix C

A list of previously adopted plans and other supporting background data that provide a basis for much of the information included in the Growth Policy.

Appendix D

A glossary of Growth Policy-related terms and abbreviations.