

# OUR LEGACY, OUR FUTURE VISION 2020



CASTLE ROCK, COLORADO

## INTRODUCTION

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In March 1999, the Town Council appointed a Vision Committee made up of residents, business owners, and other community participants who would guide the process of updating the Town's Vision 2000 document for the year 2020 and beyond. With the help of the Community Development Department and an independent planning consultant, the Vision Committee began work through a series of weekly public meetings. The group's first step was to develop an extensive public participation program to gain broad input on the Town's future. A diverse set of community stakeholders were selected by the Vision Committee and individually interviewed; four neighborhood forums with a variety of input exercises were publicly advertised and held to allow all interested parties to come and express their opinions; and 2,000 Castle Rock residents and property owners were randomly selected and professionally surveyed. Upon completion of the input process, the Vision Committee, the Community Development Department, and consultants synthesized all the information gathered and created "Our Legacy, Our Future: Vision 2020."

Vision 2020 is the Town's collective concept of what it wants to become in the future. The purpose of the Vision is fourfold: to declare, guide, unite, and motivate. "Vision 2020" declares Castle Rock's common goals, guides Town decisions, unites the community with a common purpose, and motivates citizens and leaders to meet the Vision's goals. It is a resource for all Castle Rock leaders, residents and businesses and should serve as a reminder of what is most important to the community.

Vision 2020 is organized into two parts: an overall Vision Statement and four vision sub-categories referred to as Town Cornerstones. The overall Vision Statement summarizes what the Town of Castle Rock wants to become in the future. It is a banner statement or motto for the future of the community. The four Town Cornerstones are fundamental guiding principles and expand upon the overall Vision Statement. Each of these four categories contains a series of goals that, if pursued, will steer the Town toward its desired future.

## TOWN CORNERSTONES



### TOWN IDENTITY

**Intent:** To preserve Castle Rock's character as a distinct and physically separate community that is the center of Douglas County.

**Goals:**

- Preserve Castle Rock's historic buildings and small-town atmosphere.
- Design new commercial, office and industrial developments in such a way as to appropriately fit within the context of the existing "town-like" scale and architectural character.
- Plan new residential development at a neighborhood scale and character through appropriate setbacks, street landscaping, sidewalks, and architectural design.
- Preserve open space areas in and surrounding Castle Rock to protect the Town's natural beauty, ridgelines, and scenic views, and to maintain a physical separation from surrounding communities.
- Support the development of Castle Rock as a self sufficient community.
- Continue the tradition of local community events and provide additional cultural and entertainment opportunities over time.
- Maintain Castle Rock as the seat of Douglas County government with major county facilities and services located within the Town.



### COMMUNITY PLANNING

**Intent:** To ensure the Town is carefully planned to accommodate the needs of existing and future residents while preserving and protecting Castle Rock's Town identity and quality of life.

**Goals:**

- Accommodate future growth through logical infill development.
- Provide an adequate Town water supply through careful planning and financial investment.
- Encourage a broad range of housing types to provide for all household types, ages, and income ranges within the community.
- Maintain a physical separation from surrounding communities.
- Establish an interconnected and diverse transportation system including local and regional trail, roadway, and public transit linkages.
- Move the industrial rail line out of downtown.
- Plan and provide for high-quality open space areas to accommodate community events, active and passive recreation, trail linkages, natural buffers, and environmental preservation.
- Require new development to adequately mitigate fiscal, environmental, and social impacts.
- Adhere to local plans, policies and regulations that set the standard for high quality development.



### COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Intent:** To ensure that all necessary community services are provided to support the public interest and well being of all Castle Rock residents and businesses.

**Goals:**

- Provide and maintain cost-effective, efficient infrastructure facilities including water, sewer, drainage, streets, and trails.
- Design streets, trails and public transit facilities to match the scale and character of the community, utilizing such elements as street trees and other kinds of landscaping.
- Provide and maintain the highest quality public safety services for the Town, including fire, police, and emergency medical services.
- Facilitate the development of a 24-hour medical facility within the Town.
- Support the continued provision of high quality schools for our children and additional educational opportunities for the community as a whole.



### LOCAL ECONOMY

**Intent:** To promote economic self-sufficiency and long-term stability of the local economy to provide residents with a broad range of employment opportunities and to provide the Town with a healthy tax base.

**Goals:**

- Seek a balanced mix of commercial and residential growth.
- Recruit quality employers to provide jobs for Town residents and to diversify the local economy.
- Establish a higher education facility in Castle Rock to provide support and training for a diversified workforce.
- Encourage the use of public/private partnerships as a means of accomplishing the Town's economic development goals.
- Direct available community resources to strategic areas and projects that would most greatly benefit the Town.

## VISION STATEMENT

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Castle Rock stands apart from surrounding communities, unique among the cities of the Colorado Front Range. The Town's distinct identity stems not only from the namesake rock, but from its small-town atmosphere, traditional downtown, and scenic natural landscape framed by prominent buttes, ridgelines, and areas of Ponderosa Pine and Gambel Oak.

Since 1874, Castle Rock has served as the seat of Douglas County, occupying a central role in county government, commerce and culture. Neighbors helping neighbors, a strong tradition of community events, and a commitment to families and public health and safety make Castle Rock an ideal place to call home.

In order to preserve their rich traditions and quality of life, Castle Rock citizens effectively manage change. The community works to enhance the Town's self-sufficiency and foster a strong local economy, making Castle Rock an attractive place to work or run a business. Town leaders work to preserve open space for recreation and environmental preservation and make development decisions based upon sound planning principles.

All that Castle Rock is — its history, unique sense of place, economic self-sufficiency, and strong community participation and leadership — reflects not only where it has been, but paves the way for where it's headed.

Our legacy is our future.

VISION 2020



**OUR LEGACY, OUR FUTURE  
VISION 2020**

**Vision Committee Members**

Jim Hunsaker, Chairman  
Brad Brown  
Katie Everett  
Diane Evans  
Scott Kumpf  
Meme Dunckel Martin  
Dave Moody  
Dennis Pottenger  
Sandi Thomas

**Town Council**

Al Parker, Mayor, District 7  
Carl Alessi, District 1  
Al Wonstolen, District 2  
Herb Teets, District 3  
Millie Bennett, District 4  
Judy Crenshaw, District 5  
Cori McCain, District 6

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who provided input to Vision 2020

Technical Support:  
Jeanette Bare, AICP, Town of Castle Rock, CO  
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CMI, Inc., Littleton, CO

**Town of Castle Rock  
100 Wilcox Street  
Castle Rock, Colorado 80104  
303-660-1015**