RESILIENCY

HAZARDS & RISKS ASSESSMENT

Community resiliency in Wimberley refers to the ability of the community to anticipate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from significant adverse events, particularly natural hazards. This concept encompasses not only the physical and infrastructural aspects but also the social and economic systems that support the community's ability to bounce back and even thrive after disruptive incidents.

Primary Hazards Impacting Wimberley's Resiliency

Wimberley's resilience to primary hazards such as flooding, wildfires, and drought is bolstered through strategies like improved flood warning systems, defensible space for fire safety, and water conservation measures, addressing the risks posed by its geography and climate.

1. **Flooding**: Wimberley is particularly vulnerable to flooding due to its location near rivers and creeks, including the Blanco River. The topography and hydrology of the region contribute to rapid water rise during heavy rainfall events, posing significant risks to both life and property.
2. **Wildfires**: Given its location in a largely wooded area of Texas, Wimberley also faces the risk of wildfires, especially during dry and hot periods.
3. **Drought**: Periodic droughts can affect Wimberley, impacting water supplies, agriculture, and natural vegetation.

001



#001

Posted by **David** on **04/30/2025** at **1:37pm** [Comment ID: 27] - Link

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Drought may be the number one threat to our region, the environment and our economy. We have been in drought for nearly five years and with continued growth the tight margins of capacity in the Middle Trinity Aquifer are very tight. Less than one foot of aquifer level change can stop Jacob's Well from flowing. Climate Change predictions are for longer hotter droughts and drier conditions in general.

Elements of Community Resiliency

- **Infrastructure**: Developing and maintaining infrastructure that can withstand hazard events, such as elevated buildings to prevent flood damage and fire-resistant materials to protect against wildfires.
- **Preparedness and Education**: Continuous community education and preparedness activities that help residents know how to protect themselves and their properties from natural hazards.
- **Response and Recovery Plans**: Well-defined emergency response and recovery plans ensure quick and effective actions post-disaster to minimize human and economic losses.
- **Community Cohesion and Social Networks**: Strong social networks and community cohesion provide critical support during and after disasters, facilitating faster recovery.

By focusing on these areas, Wimberley aims to bolster its resilience, ensuring it can withstand and recover from the natural hazards it faces. This integrated approach is vital for sustaining the community's safety, economic stability, and quality of life in the face of environmental challenges.

Risk Ranking Results

The risk ranking values for the 2018 Hays County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) were generated from questionnaires and public surveys. They highlighted the hazards posing the highest risk to Wimberley:

002 003

1. **Floods:** With a risk ranking value of 99.4, floods emerge as the most significant hazard, reflecting the community's vulnerability to inundation from the Blanco River and other water bodies.
2. **Wildfire:** Poses a considerable risk with a ranking value of 95.9, indicating the potential for devastating fire events, especially in the wildland-urban interface areas.
3. **Windstorms:** Windstorms, to include thunderstorms and tornadoes, rank third

Order	Hazard	Value
1	Floods	99.4
2	Wildfire	95.9
3	Windstorms	94.7
4	Severe Winter Storms	89.1
5	Drought	74.7
6	Lightning	72.8
7	Tornadoes	72.2
8	Hailstorms	55.0
9	Extreme Heat	54.4
10	Expansive Soils	47.5
11	Hurricanes / Tropical Storms	41.3
12	Land Subsidence	39.4
13	Dam/Levee Failure	36.3
14	Earthquakes	33.1

#002

Posted by **John Espinoza** on **04/21/2025** at **3:03pm** [Comment ID: 19] - Link
resiliance
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
The Hays HMP Update 2024 Draft references drought as the highest threat

#003

Posted by **Nathan** on **04/02/2025** at **11:18am** [Comment ID: 8] - Link
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
What scale is this on? 1-100?

with a value of 94.7, underscoring the threat of high winds and associated damage.

Building Resiliency Measures into Plan

The Resilient Communities Program aims to integrate hazard mitigation plans into the comprehensive plan of a community, thereby enhancing its resilience to various hazards. The primary objective of the RCP is to develop a comprehensive approach to hazard mitigation by incorporating mitigation strategies into the community's long-term planning framework. By integrating hazard mitigation plans into the comprehensive plan, the program seeks to minimize the impacts of natural and human-caused hazards on communities, infrastructure, and the environment. Hazard mitigation and community resilience are related concepts aimed at reducing the impacts of disasters and building stronger, more adaptable communities. The table describes the difference between hazard mitigation and community resilience.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Integration

This section captures ways that the Risk Assessment, Goals and Actions developed in the HMP can be integrated into other City of Wimberley documents, programs, and regulations. These are used to develop some of the goals and objectives for this Resilient Community Plan.

General Resiliency Goals & Objectives

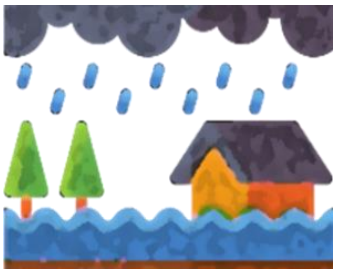
The mitigation strategy outlined for Wimberley involves a combination of structural and non-structural measures aimed at reducing risks and enhancing community resilience.

Goal 1: Enhance the abilities of Hays County, and the communities within its boundaries to provide protection of life, property, economy, and natural systems from natural hazards.

Goal 2: Mitigate vulnerabilities to lessen hazard impacts on safety, damage to critical infrastructure/facilities and the capabilities of emergency responders.

Goal 3: Incorporate measures that are consistent with the improvement of water conservation efforts in Hays County.

Flood Resiliency Goal



Enhance flood resilience and safety within the community through targeted infrastructure improvements, regulatory enhancements, and public awareness initiatives.

1. Improve Infrastructure to Reduce Flood Risk

Objective 1.1: Replace or reconstruct low water crossings at FM 1492 at Blanco River, Hidden Valley at Blanco River, Little Arkansas at Blanco River, Valley Drive at Pierce Creek, Flite Acres Road, FM 1492 at Pierce Creek, Wilson Creek at River Road, Green Acres Dr. at Fire Station, Leveritt's Loop, Hidden Valley at Blanco River, River Road at Western City Limits, Paradise Hills, and Little Ranches at Panther Creek and Hoot's Holler.
Objective 1.2: Reconstruct the roadway along River Road along the Blanco River to withstand flood events.
Objective 1.3: Implement and enforce a flood damage prevention ordinance by inspecting for unauthorized private dams in the floodway and requiring a n009ise study when such encroachments are found to ensure neighboring properties are not negatively impacted.

2. Enhance Early Warning Systems

Objective 2.1: Install three emergency siren systems in flood-prone areas to provide timely warnings to residents. 005

3. Promote Flood Insurance and Risk Awarenes007

Objective 3.1: Place National Flood Insurance Program brochures in City Hall and other public buildings to increase community awareness and participation in flood insurance. 004

4. Mitigate High-Risk Properties

Objective 4.1: Acquire or elevate tw006e repetitive l008ss properties to reduce financial and human impacts from future flood events.

#004

Posted by **John Espinoza** on **04/21/2025** at **3:07pm** [Comment ID: 22] - Link
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
Include City's website

#005

Posted by **John Espinoza** on **04/21/2025** at **3:07pm** [Comment ID: 21] - Link
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
Will also require public education regarding how and when sirens are used including locals and tourists

#006

Posted by **Nathan** on **04/02/2025** at **11:22am** [Comment ID: 10] - Link
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
What twelve properties?

#007

Posted by **Tera Villaret** on **04/21/2025** at **12:35pm** [Comment ID: 14] - Link
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
Can we add a goal to become a Community Rated System (CRS)Community to provide discounted premium flood insurance rates? This would also require the City to reduce and avoid flood damage to insurable property, strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the National Flood Insurance Program, and foster comprehensive floodplain management. This means not supporting variances related to building in the floodplain and informing boards and commissions of the imposed risk.

#008

Posted by **Tera Villaret** on **04/21/2025** at **12:58pm** [Comment ID: 18] - Link
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
I disagree with the City purchasing these properties.

#009

Posted by **John Espinoza** on **04/21/2025** at **3:05pm** [Comment ID: 20] - Link
typo
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
Change no-rise to no adverse impact

5. Strengthen Regulatory Framework

Objective 5.1: Adopt a 2011t freeboard requirement in the existing flood damage prevention ordinance for new development and substantial repairs.

Objective 5.2: Restrict development along the Blanco River through specific ordinance updates to mitigate loss of life and property.

6. Enhance Floodplain Management Expertise

Objective 6.1: Send a certified member of staff to advanced floodplain management courses to improve the community's floodplain management capabilities.

Wildfire Resiliency Goal



Increase community resilience to wildfires through strategic planning, public awareness, and targeted mitigation efforts.

1. Integrate Wildfire Risk Management into Planning and Development

Objective 1.1: Formally adopt wildfire maps from the Hays County Firewise Project by the end of 2010 to guide development and la012-use decisions in hazard-prone areas.

Objective 1.2: Implement guidelines based on the adopted wildfire maps to ensure new developments incorporate proper wildfire mitigation measures by mid-2025.

2. Enhance Community Awareness and Participation in Wildfire Mitigation

Objective 2.1: Coordinate and promote a Large Item Pick-up Day twice a year, starting in 2024, emphasizing the benefits of removing brush and overgrown lots for wildfire mitigation.

Objective 2.2: Launch a public education campaign by early 2025 to inform residents about the importance of maintaining defensible space around their properties to reduce wildfire risk.

#010

Posted by **Nathan** on **04/02/2025** at **11:22am** [Comment ID: 11] - Link
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
Update date.

#011

Posted by **Nathan** on **04/02/2025** at **11:21am** [Comment ID: 9] - Link
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
City Council just did this! 2' freeboard adopted on January 17th.

#012

Posted by **Tera Villaret** on **04/21/2025** at **12:41pm** [Comment ID: 15] - Link
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
Does this mean the consideration of adopting the ICC IWUIC code?

Windstorms, including severe thunderstorms and Tornadoes Goal



Enhance community resilience and safety against windstorms, including severe thunderstorms and tornadoes, through improved infrastructure, early warning systems, education, and robust emergency response plans.

1. Wind strap Requirement on Temporary Structures

Objective 1.1: Update ordinances to mandate winds trap installation on all temporary structures to reduce wind impact and debris during windstorms, severe thunderstorms, and tornadoes.

2. Improve Emergency Communication & Warning Systems

Objective 2.1: Purchase advanc013 equipment and provide comprehensive training for personnel to enhance emergency communication and warning systems at local and county levels.

3. Storm Ready Designation

Objective 3.1: Apply for the Storm Ready Designation to classify and improve the community's preparedness for severe weather and storms, excluding expansive soils and land subsidence hazards. 014

4. Increase Public Awareness of Windstorms, Severe Thunderstorms, and Tornadoes

Objective 4.1: Launch a public awareness campaign providing detailed natural hazard information on the city website, including links to HaysInformed.com, to educate residents about windstorms, severe thunderstorms, and tornadoes.

#013

Posted by **John Espinoza** on **04/21/2025** at **3:11pm** [Comment ID: 23] - Link

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Flood and rain gauges being installed by Hays County/TWDB grant funds. Make reference to Hays County Office of Emergency Services including HaysInformed andWarnCenter Texas.org

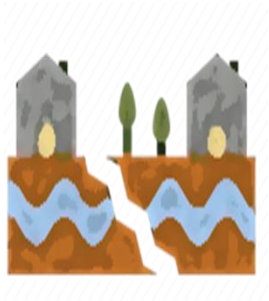
#014

Posted by **John Espinoza** on **04/21/2025** at **3:12pm** [Comment ID: 24] - Link

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

This requires for the City of initially conduct some work and then submit an application

Drought, Land Subsidence and Expansive Soils Goal



Enhance community resilience to drought and land subsidence by implementing drought monitoring, recommending soil compaction practices, strengthening water conservation ordinances, and launching a public awareness campaign on water conservation.

1. Drought Monitoring Program

Objective 1.1: Implement a widget on the City homepage to provide daily updates on US Drought Monitor conditions, enhancing community awareness of current drought status.

2. Soil Compaction

Objective 2.1: Recommend soil compaction practices to mitigate the effects of expansive soils, aligning with existing slab requirements for manufactured and mobile homes.

3. Enhance Water Conservation Ordinance

Objective 3.1: Strengthen the existing water conservation ordinance by promoting rainwater collection and xeriscaping through incentives such as permit fee waivers to protect the community's water supply.

4. Public Awareness Campaign for Water Use

Objective 4.1: Develop and launch a public information campaign to educate residents on water conservation practices, ensuring sufficient water for firefighting, drinking, and reducing groundwater depletion.

Severe Winter Weather and All Hazards Goal



Strengthen community resilience to severe weather by creating a de-icing plan, improving emergency communication, achieving Storm Ready designation, and increasing public awareness.

1. De-icing Contract Research/Plan Development

Objective 1.1: Develop a comprehensive plan outlining established procedures, service providers, and negotiated rates for ice removal on city streets to address severe winter weather conditions. 015

2. Improve Emergency Communication & Warning Systems

Objective 2.1: Purchase advanced equipment and provide training for personnel to enhance local and countywide emergency communication and warning systems for all hazards, excluding expansive soils and land subsidence.

3. Storm Ready Designation

Objective 3.1: Apply for the Storm Ready Designation to classify and improve the community's preparedness level for severe weather and storms.

4. Increase Public Awareness of Hazards

Objective 4.1: Launch a public awareness campaign to provide information on natural hazards through the city website, including links to HaysInformed.com, to educate residents on various risks and preparedness measures.

#015

Posted by **John Espinoza** on **04/21/2025** at **3:14pm** [Comment ID: 25] - Link
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
Which roads and how is it paid

Community Risk Assessment

[Community Report - Census tract 48209010810, Hays County, Texas | National Risk Index]

Determining Risk in Community Planning

The FEMA National Risk Index defines risk as the potential for adverse impacts from natural hazards, quantifying it through three main components:

- **Expected Annual Loss (EAL)**: Represents the average financial loss due to natural hazards annually.
- **Social Vulnerability**: Enhances the risk by indicating the sensitivity of certain social groups to natural hazards.
- **Community Resilience**: Reduces risk by representing a community's capacity to prepare, adapt, and recover from natural disruptions.

Expected Annual Loss
x Social Vulnerability
÷ Community Resilience
= Risk Index

These elements combine to form the Risk Index, calculating both composite and specific hazard type Risk Index values for communities, standardized in 2022 U.S. dollars. Census Tract 48209010810 (shown below) is the most representative for Wimberley. The *Risk Index rating 70.72 is Relatively Moderate* for the census tract when compared to the rest of the U.S.



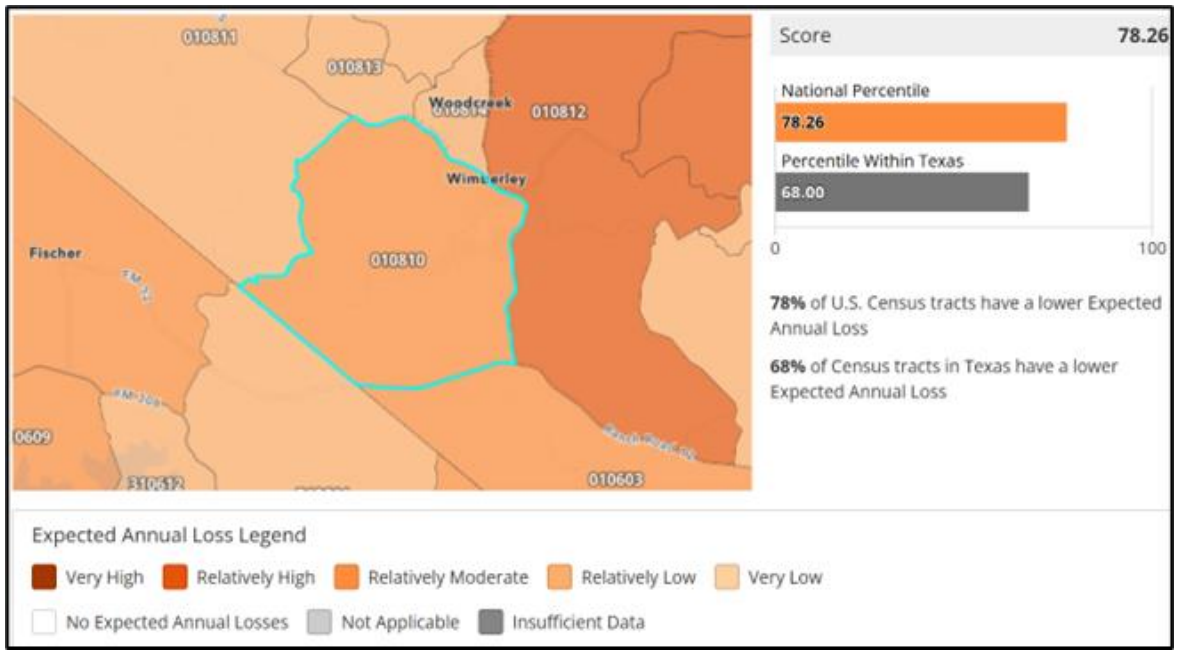
The community is scored and rated based on:

- **Composite Risk Index**: Reflects overall community risk from all 18 studied natural hazards.
- **Hazard-Specific Risk Index**: Indicates the community's risk level for specific hazards like tornadoes.

Risk Adjustments and Measurements

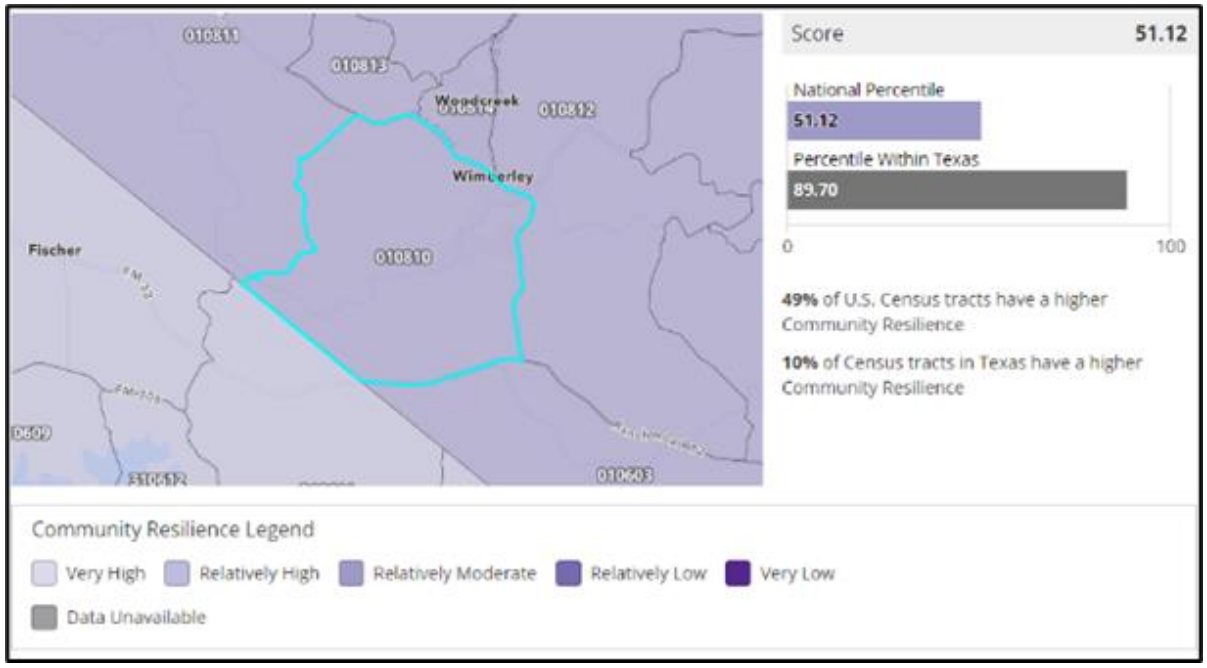
The EAL is adjusted based on the community's social vulnerability (increasing risk) and resilience (decreasing risk). This adjustment is crucial in generating accurate Risk Index values and percentiles across communities, highlighting areas with higher vulnerability and those better equipped to handle disasters.

This framework informs the community's comprehensive resiliency plan, ensuring that development and emergency preparedness strategies are informed by concrete, quantifiable risk assessments. In this tract, expected loss each year due to natural hazards is Relatively Moderate when compared to the rest of U.S.



Social Vulnerability

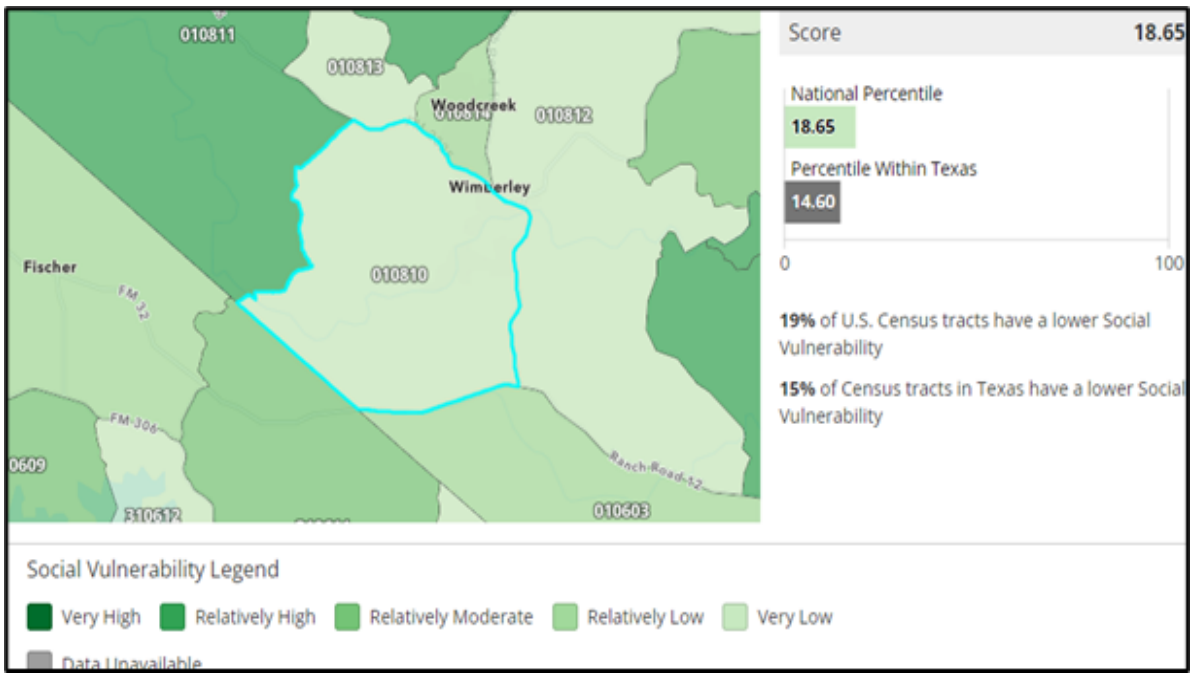
In the National Risk Index, a community's Social Vulnerability score indicates its susceptibility to the impacts of natural hazards, with a higher score increasing the community's overall Risk Index score. This census tract is rated as having a *Very Low susceptibility* compared to the national average, suggesting a lower risk level from natural hazards.



Community Resilience

Community resilience is the ability of a community to prepare for anticipated hazards, adapt to changing conditions, and withstand and recover rapidly from disruptions. Consequently, the reduction risk component of the National Risk Index, a Community Resilience score and rating represent the relative level of a community's resilience compared to all other communities at the same level. A community's Community Resilience score measures its national rank and is inversely proportional to a community's risk. A higher Community Resilience score results in a lower Risk Index score.

This census tract has a *Relatively Moderate ability to prepare for anticipated natural hazards, adapt to changing conditions, and withstand and recover rapidly from disruptions* when compared to the rest of the U.S.



In community planning, the FEMA National Risk Index is essential for analyzing risk and preparing for emergencies by evaluating three key elements:

1. **Expected Annual Loss (EAL)**
2. **Social Vulnerability**
3. **Community Resilience**

The Risk Index calculates both overall and specific risk scores for communities, using this data to inform and tailor local resiliency plans. This strategic approach ensures that community planning is both responsive to current risks and proactive in enhancing long-term sustainability and resilience.

The Growth Management Goals and Objectives establish a resilient framework for preserving Wimberley's authentic character, promoting ecological respect in development, and ensuring adequate infrastructure to help our community withstand future challenges while maintaining its unique qualities.

Growth Management Goals & Objectives

1. Preserve the Area's Character

- Maintain zoning and subdivision ordinances.
- Uphold building codes for quality and safety.
- Establish fees for regulatory costs.
- Regulate development's scope, scale, and density.
- Promote mixed-use developments with pedestrian access.
- Prioritize pedestrian access.
- Base development decisions on the Comprehensive Plan, avoiding external pressures.

2. Promote Ecological and Environmental Respect in Developments

- Require green spaces and parks in new developments.
- Encourage development that conserves natural areas.
- Use natural buffering between residential and commercial areas.
- Protect sensitive aquifer recharge zones through regulation.

3. Ensure Adequate Utilities and Services

- Consider water availability for new permits or developments.
- Assess wastewater disposal systems for new projects.
- Evaluate roadway adequacy for development approval.

CATEGORY 1: LAND USE

City Scale and Atmosphere

Wimberley is a quaint city nestled among the Hill Country's hills and valleys, featuring shops and businesses alongside diverse residential areas originally consisting of small cottages and cabins made from local materials. There is a strong desire to preserve the city's charm through its mix of residences and stores, ensuring new development complements its small-town feel.

Goals and Objectives

1. Maintain Wimberley's Small Town Atmosphere

- Enforce regulations on residential and commercial development to preserve the small-town feel.
- Control the height, placement, and size of buildings.

2. Encourage Traditional Hill Country Architecture

Promote designs that reflect Hill Country's style, scale, colors, and materials.

3. Preserve Wimberley's Character and Natural Beauty

- Support architectural practices that maintain scenic views and use materials matching the area's nature.
- Create regulations ensuring new constructions align with the existing character and quality.

CATEGORY 2: TRANSPORTATION

Transportation planning is key in strengthening community resilience against hazards by integrating land use principles that steer development away from vulnerable areas, thereby reducing potential risks. Ensuring that transportation and other critical infrastructure are designed to withstand hazards is crucial, enabling them to remain operational during emergencies or disasters. These strategies ensure the continuity of essential services, supporting connectivity and recovery, making transportation planning a key component in promoting a secure and resilient community.

The Roads and Transportation section of the Plan effectively outlines the transportation challenges facing Wimberley, starting with its geographic isolation from major highways and progressing to the impact of population growth and tourism on local traffic conditions. It highlights the lack of significant pressure on state or county levels to improve road infrastructure, contrasting this with the increasing necessity for traffic management, road maintenance, and safety measures as key concerns among residents.

Goals and Objectives for Transportation

1. Maintain a Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan

- Work with EMS and Volunteer Fire Department for emergency routes.
- Collaborate with TxDOT and Hays County for traffic flow improvements, including traffic lights and crosswalks.
- Evaluate future road plans for city impact.
- Coordinate with Wimberley Independent School District to ease school zone congestion.
- Promote alternative transportation modes like vans, buses, and shuttles.
- Ensure pedestrian safety and handicapped accommodations.
- Require new developments to address traffic and parki017access.
- Assess and maintain city-owned streets and roads.

2. Ensure Transportation Developments Respect Natural Beauty

- Make new constructions safe for pedestrians and bicycles, maintaining scenic and ecological integrity.
- Partner with law enforcement and environmental groups to protect nature during construction.

3. Minimize Through-Traffic

- Develop plans to reduce through-traffic, promoting Winters Mill Parkway as an alternative.

4. Ensure Adequate Parking in Business Areas

- Develop pedestrian-friendly parking for the City Center.
- Mandate new businesses to provide sufficient o016treet 018ing.

Pedestrian Ways

Most residents enjoy the outdoors and would like to see further development of the city as a walking city. Encourage a pedestrian-friendly environment. The city should encourage off-street pathways and greenways for walking and bicycling.

#016

Posted by **Nathan** on **04/02/2025** at **11:43am** [Comment ID: 13] - Link

parking

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

We should have caution with more parking mandates. None of the businesses in our existing downtown could be built today with our existing parking mandates. Parking mandates seem to be at odds with pedestrian friendly walkable downtowns.

#017

Posted by **Nathan** on **04/02/2025** at **11:35am** [Comment ID: 12] - Link

parking

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Does parking access mean more parking lots?

#018

Posted by **Tera Villaret** on **04/21/2025** at **12:47pm** [Comment ID: 16] - Link

parking

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

Or require and enforce parking fee in lieu to build and maintain public parking/reassess fees as real estate prices have increased

CATEGORY 3: HOUSING

Housing policies play a pivotal role in enhancing community resilience by ensuring the strategic location and design of housing that adheres to building codes and considers potential hazards. These policies aim to make new or improved housing developments more resilient to environmental and other risks. Strengthening or replacing vulnerable structures through maintenance, rehabilitation programs, and specific policies for nonconforming or damaged properties further boosts a community's ability to withstand unforeseen challenges.

Housing Goals and Objectives

Given Wimberley's residential nature, with a modest commercial and industrial presence, citizen input supports continued residential development.

1. Support Diverse Residential Development

- Assess housing needs to support under-served groups and promote affordable housing.
- Regulate new residential developments and subdivisions to maintain the city character.
- Manage high-density multi-family development while encouraging low-density residential areas.

2. Elder Accommodations

- Promote small-scale, conveniently located housing for elder citizens.
- Ensure senior housing is accessible, pedestrian-friendly, and barrier-free.

CATEGORY 4: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The link between economic development and resilience is grounded in their common goal of boosting community sustainability. By aligning hazard mitigation with economic policies, communities can encourage business growth in safe areas, less susceptible to hazards. This integration not only protects the community but also positions resilience as a significant factor in attracting and keeping businesses and industries.

According to the Plan, the business character of Wimberley has been crucial in shaping and maintaining the area's lifestyle for generations, with its recent development driven by its appeal for summer and weekend homes, stimulating tourism. This resort atmosphere has led to a mix of businesses catering to both tourists and residents, underlining the importance of maintaining a balanced approach to economic activity through careful policy and ordinance development.

Goals and Objectives for Economic Development

1. Promote and Preserve Small Town Business Character

- Encourage balanced, initiative-taking, and diversified business development.
- Support small, low-impact businesses that reflect the community's character.
- Promote businesses that minimize overcrowding, traffic, and pollution, such as non-traditional businesses without storefronts.

2. Support Locally Owned Small Businesses

- Develop plans to enhance small business growth in underserved local markets.
- Foster cooperative programs that promote the area's natural environment, arts, and culture.

Commercial Development Goal and Objectives

Maintain Regulations on Development

- Implement zoning to limit high-impact commercial development.
- Promote commercial construction that aligns with the traditional Hill Country aesthetic,

including scale, style, colors, and materials.
- Enforce ordinances regulating industrial uses.
- Encourage mixed-use growth patterns.

CATEGORY 5: PUBLIC FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Community facilities and infrastructure policies significantly influence land use and development, playing a key role in building resilience against hazards. By limiting public facilities expansion in vulnerable areas and protecting critical infrastructure, communities can enhance their safeguard against risks. Adopting goals that support mitigation projects, like stormwater improvements or converting hazard zones into open spaces, further bolsters community resilience.

Water and Wastewater Systems Goals and Objectives

1. Secure Water Supply 019

- Partner with water providers for a sustainable supply.
- Implement conservation and quality measures with experts.
- Require new developments to show adequate potable water availability, including rainwater systems.

2. Reliable Wastewater System

- Develop municipal systems for waterway and aquifer protection, using exacting standards for effluent treatment and recycling.
- Design municipal systems with environmental protection in mind, with capacity limited to specific locations and uses.
- Control wastewater systems, including discharge, in partnership with other entities.

Goals and Objectives for Flood Hazard and Rainwater Runoff Management

Wimberley, experiences persistent droughts interrupted by occasional flooding due to its semi-arid climate and sporadic rainfall. The region's geology, marked by shallow limestone and rocky soil, leads to rapid runoff during heavy rains, transforming dry creek beds into raging torrents and causing rivers to overflow.

1. Minimize Flood Hazards

- Enforce construction rules near waterways and flood zones to meet or exceed FEMA standards.
- Preserve watersheds and limit impervious surfaces to protect water quality.

2. Manage Rainwater Runoff

- Create a watershed protection and master drainage plan for storm and flood management.
- Promote both structural and natural stormwater systems to maintain natural landscapes and replenish water supplies.
- Eliminate pollution sources in watersheds and aquifers.
- Encourage erosion-preventing landscaping, especially in vulnerable areas like ravines and dry creek beds.

Parks and Recreation Goals and Objectives

1. Expand Recreational Opportunities

- Offer recreational activities for all ages and abilities in existing parks.

#019

Posted by **John Espinoza** on **04/21/2025** at **3:18pm** [Comment ID: 26] - Link

Agree: 0, Disagree: 0

What are the City's current role in partnering with water providers?

- Develop a variety of parks, including neighborhood playgrounds.
- Create nature-appreciation areas for hiking, biking, jogging, horseback riding, bird watching, and picnicking.
- Maintain and protect the Blue Hole Regional Park as per the Parks Master Plan.
- Partner to provide swimming pools.
- Include ball fields and tennis courts.

2. Promote Green Spaces in New Developments

- Urge developers to incorporate green spaces and parks in new projects.

CATEGORY 6: NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION

Water Quality and Conservation

Wimberley's quality of life is tied to water availability, with the community relying heavily on groundwater from private wells and a few private or cooperative distribution systems for its potable water supply. However, the rate of water withdrawal from the aquifer exceeds the replenishment rate from rainfall, posing a sustainability challenge.

Goals and Objectives for Water Management

1. Preserve and Protect Potable Water Supply

- Encourage rainwater collection in new and existing buildings.
- Launch public education programs on water conservation.
- Collaborate with regional entities to safeguard groundwater.
- Seek grants with local partners for a Source Water Protection Plan.

2. Water Reuse

- Facilitate safe water reuse according to regulations.
- Implement water reuse in city operations.
- Promote education on safe water reuse in homes and businesses.

Air Quality Goals and Objectives

1. Preserve and Protect Air Quality

- Support Non-Polluting Industries
- Encourage industries that minimize pollution.
- Promote Permeable Surfaces in Developments
- Advocate for the use of permeable materials in new developments to reduce dust.
- Collaborate on Regional Air Quality Efforts
- Join efforts with civic, governmental, and quasi-governmental entities to protect regional air quality.

Wildlife and Vegetation

1. Protect and Preserve Natural Environment

- Study and Protect Local Flora and Fauna
- Support studies to identify key local species and areas of importance.
- Promote the protection of significant native life.

- Implement conservation easements and tools.
- Educate the public on invasive species.

2. Develop Land with Respect to Native Plants

- Enact policies to safeguard specimen trees and plants.
- Educate on threats like oak wilt.
- Implement tree and plant replacement policies.
- Start a planting program.

Scenic Vistas and Open Spaces

The appeal of the Wimberley Valley with its diverse natural landscape, including rolling hills and valleys, prominent rock formations, meandering waterways, verdant meadows, and areas rich in tree coverage. This variety not only contributes to the area's aesthetic charm but also indicates a rich ecological diversity that enhances its environmental value.

Goals and Objectives

1. Preserve Scenic Vistas and Open Spaces

- Recognize and Protect Visual Landscapes
- Safeguard vistas and open spaces that improve the visual experience from public viewpoints.
- Consider Scenic Preservation in Permitting
- Factor in the preservation of scenic vistas and spaces in the building permit process.
- Protect Natural Hillside Features
- Prevent extensive grading and destruction of native flora on hillsides and ridges.
- Limit Construction on Ridgelines and Hilltops

CATEGORY 7: HISTORIC PROPERTIES AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Special Areas Goals and Objectives

1. Enhance Highway Entrance Corridors

- Maintain ordinances to limit and guide commercial and service business placement along major highways.
- Promote Hill Country style architecture along corridors, including appropriate colors and materials.
- Regulate signage and lighting; design welcoming entrance features reflecting community character.
- Discourage large, generic multi-lane highways.

2. Develop and Enhance the City Center

- Create a comprehensive plan for the City Center, focusing on scale, character, and pedestrian amenities.
- Address parking and pedestrian circulation issues.
- Avoid strip retail that undermines the City Center's ambiance.
- Mandate commercial developments to include and maintain landscaping and screen unsightly areas.

3. Preserve Waterway Adjoining Lands

- Protect lands near significant waterways.

4. Preserve Historic and Prehistoric Sites

- Support the identification and documentation of important sites.
- Offer special protection for these sites.
- Collaborate with owners and entities for preservation and enhancement.
- Ensure new developments around historic sites are compatible in design and landscaping.

Arts, Culture and Volunteerism

Wimberley has historically supported a vibrant community of artists and artisans, attracting residents interested in culture, with citizens expressing staunch support for the civic promotion of diverse artistic and cultural activities.

Goals and Objectives

Support Artistic and Cultural Programs

- Encourage activities of civic, cultural groups, and organizations that support or promote the arts and preserve Wimberley's cultural identity.
- Support existing arts and cultural programs and encourage new ones.
- Promote the development of facilities for arts and cultural events.
- Develop policies for the public display of art.

Promote Volunteerism in Wimberley

Support and acknowledge volunteer efforts in city governance and community organizations focusing on beautification, service, charities, and tourism.

BROADER VISION

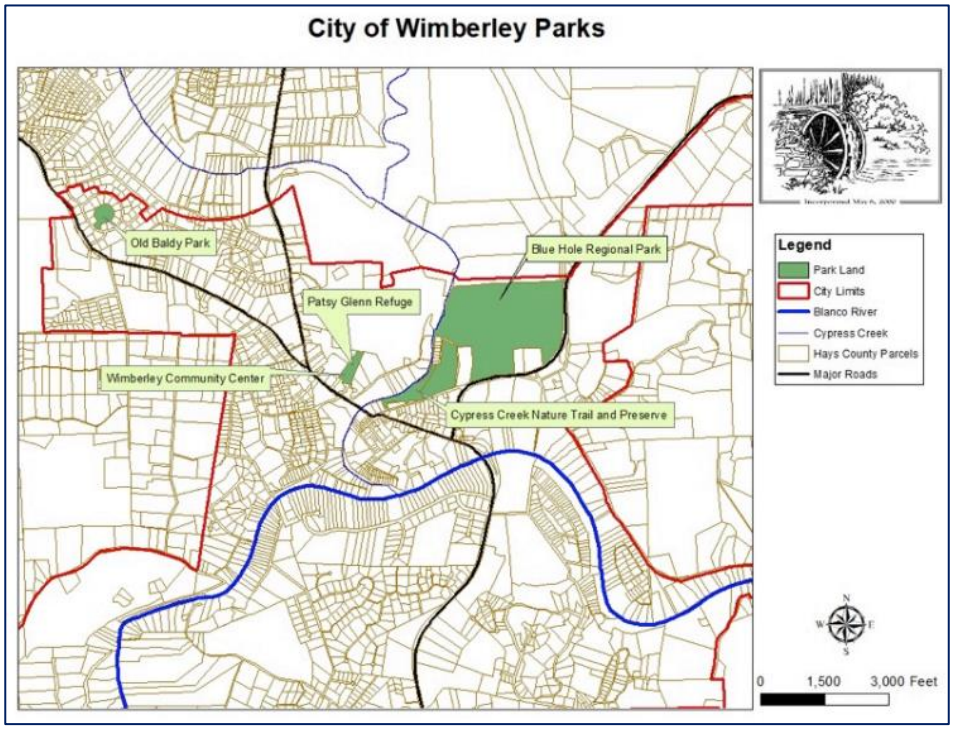
The City of Wimberley, along with the City of Woodcreek, its ETJ, and the unincorporated areas of Hays County, forms the Wimberley Valley—a region united by shared natural assets, history, and challenges. Emphasizing the importance of community resilience, the Wimberley Comprehensive Plan advocates for a collaborative approach to planning that transcends individual jurisdictions to prevent conflicts and maximize resource efficiency. This collaborative vision calls for the inclusion of non-resident voices in decision-making processes and insists on continuous, informed planning that considers the activities of all governmental levels and community groups, ensuring that local actions contribute positively to the Valley's overall resilience and sustainability.

Comprehensive-Plan-Amended-February-4-2016-PDF (cityofwimberley.com)

City of Wimberley Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Plan Development

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan for Wimberley was developed through a collaborative process involving the City Council, Parks Advisory Board, City staff, and the citizens, culminating in its initial adoption in July 2001 after extensive research and public input. The plan has been reviewed and updated, most recently in 2018, to reflect the evolving needs and population growth of Wimberley, incorporating public feedback from three meetings. The plan outlines recommendations for land acquisition, park expansion, and development, serving as a fiscal planning framework for the city's park system over the next five years. To ensure alignment with community needs and priorities, the Parks Board should conduct annual reviews.



Inventory

As of 2018, the City of Wimberley owned the following parks or recreational properties:

- Cypress Creek Nature Trail and Preserve: A 7.2-acre tract of property along Cypress Creek located less than 100 yards from the Square in Downtown Wimberley.
- Wimberley Community Center: An 8,000 square foot facility located one block from the Square in Downtown Wimberley.
- Patsy Glenn Refuge: A 1.7-acre tract of undeveloped property located adjacent to the Wimberley Community Center, one block from the Square in Downtown Wimberley.
- Blue Hole Regional Park (BHRP): A 126-acre tract of property acquired by the City in 2005, with a natural swimming area on Cypress Creek as its current main recreation feature.
- Old Baldy Park: A 4.3-acre tract of property located off FM 2325, approximately 2.5 miles from the Square in Downtown Wimberley.

The City of Wimberley's finances are primarily sourced from a one percent sales tax, franchise fees, and development-related fees, without levying any property tax. Therefore, funding future infrastructure and

community amenities will rely heavily on grants, partnerships with landowners, and ongoing community support and volunteerism.

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Continue to acquire and protect open space, natural areas, and park land for all citizens of Wimberley.

Objective 1: Acquire properties particularly along waterways for protection as natural scenic areas, reflective of the character of Wimberley's setting and history.

Phase A: Work with non-profit organizations, land conservation trusts and other interested parties to acquire property along Cypress Creek and the Blanco River.

Phase B: Seek funding for development of appropriate infrastructure from foundations, donations, grants, and other resources.

Phase C: Encourage land donations suitable for park or preservation uses.

Goal 2: Develop a balanced mix of multipurpose sports and recreational fields for all age groups.

Objective 1: Work with non-profit organizations, local businesses, and other groups to facilitate creation, expansion, and improvement of sports fields, playgrounds, and parks on City parklands.

Objective 2: Seek opportunities to develop hike and bike trails using federal, state, and county grants and other appropriate resources to fund such improvements.

Objective 3: Develop cooperative agreements with the YMCA/YWCA and other private groups to provide public sports and recreation programs on City properties as appropriate.

Goal 3: Develop information strategies for recreational programs and facilities.

Objective 1: Develop materials to educate the community, financial sponsors, and donors of the need for continued development of adequate park land and recreational facilities in Wimberley.

Objective 2: Develop communication systems within Wimberley to circulate event and program information to all audiences.

Objective 3: Develop relationships with area media outlets to publicize events and programs.

Goal 4: Encourage developers and other land managers to include greenspace, parkland, playgrounds, and other recreation facilities when platting and developing property. 021

Objective 1: Work with City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission to encourage developers to include park and recreation land in residential developments.

Goal 5: Develop pocket parks on small sites in and near the commercial center of Wimberley.

Objective 1: Support Senior Citizens Activities, Inc. and Wimberley Birding Society programs to develop appropriate recreational facilities and outdoor environmental education programs.

Objective 2: Encourage and work with business enterprises in commercial areas to locate benches, picnic tables, landscaping, or other facilities for the public as appropriate.

[Park Plan | Wimberley Parks and Recreation Department]

020

#020

Posted by **admin** on **03/19/2025** at **2:54pm** [Comment ID: 7] - Link
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
test

#021

Posted by **Tera Villaret** on **04/21/2025** at **12:55pm** [Comment ID: 17] - Link
parking
Agree: 0, Disagree: 0
Or require it. Park land dedication or fee in lieu of dedication

Wimberley Draft Goals & Objectives – Consolidated Summary

1. Environmental Resilience

- Drought as a Primary Threat: Recognized as the region's top environmental and economic challenge.
- Climate Change Impacts: Anticipated to increase the severity and duration of droughts, leading to generally drier conditions.
- Water Resource Management:
    - Middle Trinity Aquifer operates within tight capacity margins.
    - Jacob's Well can cease flowing with less than a one-foot drop in aquifer levels, highlighting extreme sensitivity.

2. Flood Risk Management & Insurance

- CRS Community Goal: Recommend becoming a Community Rating System (CRS) community to:
    - Offer discounted flood insurance premiums
    - Reduce and avoid flood damage to insurable property
    - Strengthen National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) participation
    - Foster comprehensive floodplain management
- Floodplain Policy Enhancements:
    - Enforce no variances for floodplain development
    - Inform boards and commissions of floodplain risks
    - Update terminology from "no-rise" to "no adverse impact"
    - Note: A 2' freeboard was adopted by City Council on January 17th

3. Land Use and Development

- Property Acquisition:
    - Clarify which twelve properties are referenced for potential purchase
    - Acknowledge community opposition to the City purchasing properties
- Parkland Dedication:

    - Suggest requiring dedicated parkland or a fee in lieu of dedication

- **Parking Policy:**
    - Be cautious with expanding parking mandates—current policies may conflict with walkable downtown goals
    - Clarify if “parking access” means more surface lots
    - Consider alternatives:
        - Enforce parking fee-in-lieu policies
        - Reassess fees based on increasing land values

4. Code and Infrastructure Updates

- Wildland Code Consideration: Clarify potential adoption of the ICC Wildland-Urban Interface Code (IWUIC)
- Monitoring Systems:
    - Acknowledge flood and rain gauges funded by Hays County/TWDB grants
    - Recommend referencing Hays County Emergency Services, Hays Informed, and WarnCenterTexas.org

5. Governance & Planning Processes

- Application Processes: Clarify the City’s role and required preliminary work before submitting grant or program applications
- Infrastructure Funding: Clarify which roads are included in improvement plans and how funding is secured

6. Water Provider Collaboration

- Clarify the City’s role in partnering with water providers to support long-term water resilience.