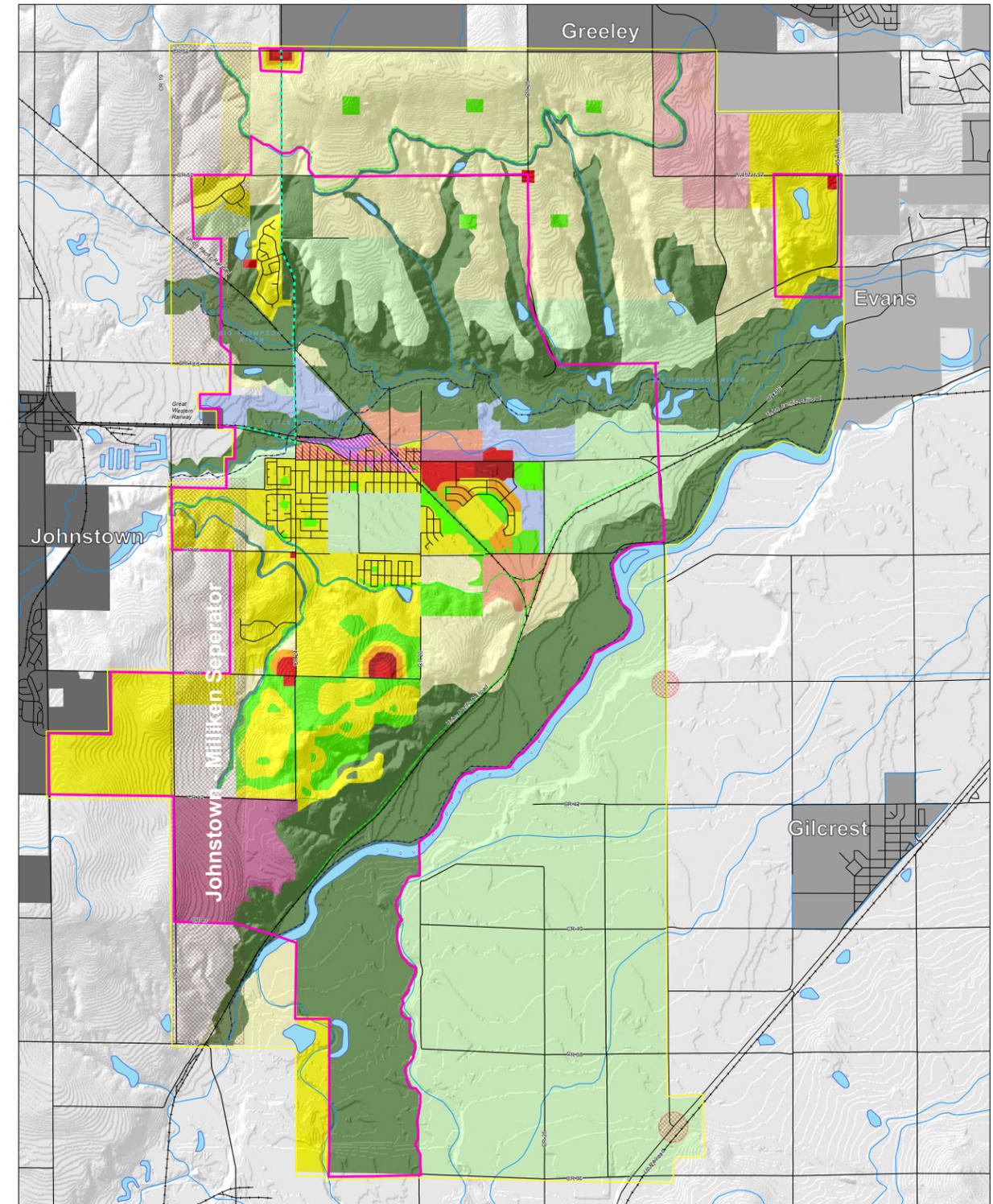


2010 FRAMEWORK PLAN

The previous comprehensive plan for the Town of Milliken, Envision Milliken, was created in 2010. The plan created a Framework Plan that would serve as a guide for future development and land use decisions. Underlying the plan map was a series of vision statements and principles that captured the values of the community. The vision includes:

- Agriculture retains a defining role in Milliken’s future
- An expanded and enhanced Downtown
- Historic preservation
- Maximize employment opportunities
- Build community amenities
- A comprehensive system of open space and trails
- Fiscally sustainable development patterns

Legend			
Urban Growth Area	Open Space Area	Downtown	High Density Residential
Influence Area	Commercial	Town Residential	Buffer Parcel
BusRoute	Commercial/Mixed Use	Estate Residential	Weld County Urban Development Node
Agriculture	Business/Industrial	Low Density Residential	Neighborhood Trail
Greenways	Mixed Use	Medium Density Residential	River Trail



FLOOD RECOVERY & RESILIENCY

The flooding that occurred in Colorado during 2013 greatly affected the town of Milliken. Parks and public facilities were damaged, roads were washed away, and the town was left virtually isolated during the event. The floods led to serious discussions about how to recover and rebuild, as well as how to prepare for future natural disasters, flooding or otherwise. The town supported the “BOOST” or Building on Strengths Traditions Flood Recovery and Resiliency committee which over the course of a year long effort drafted recommendations for a five year horizon in four key areas: economic development; emergency preparedness; housing and infrastructure; and parks, education, recreation, and culture. Working in conjunction with FEMA, the town adopted new floodplain mapping. As a result of the updated mapping, two of the town’s mobile home parks are now located in the floodplain and are proposed for acquisition. Due to severe damage major roadways incurred during the flood, the town has a renewed focus on improving the road network to meet future needs and to provide reliable travel following another major hazard event. The following are goals and objectives outlined in both the **2010 Envision Milliken Comprehensive Plan** and the **BOOST (Building on our Strengths and Traditions) Flood Recovery and Resilience Committee** relating to flood recovery and resiliency.

Envision Milliken

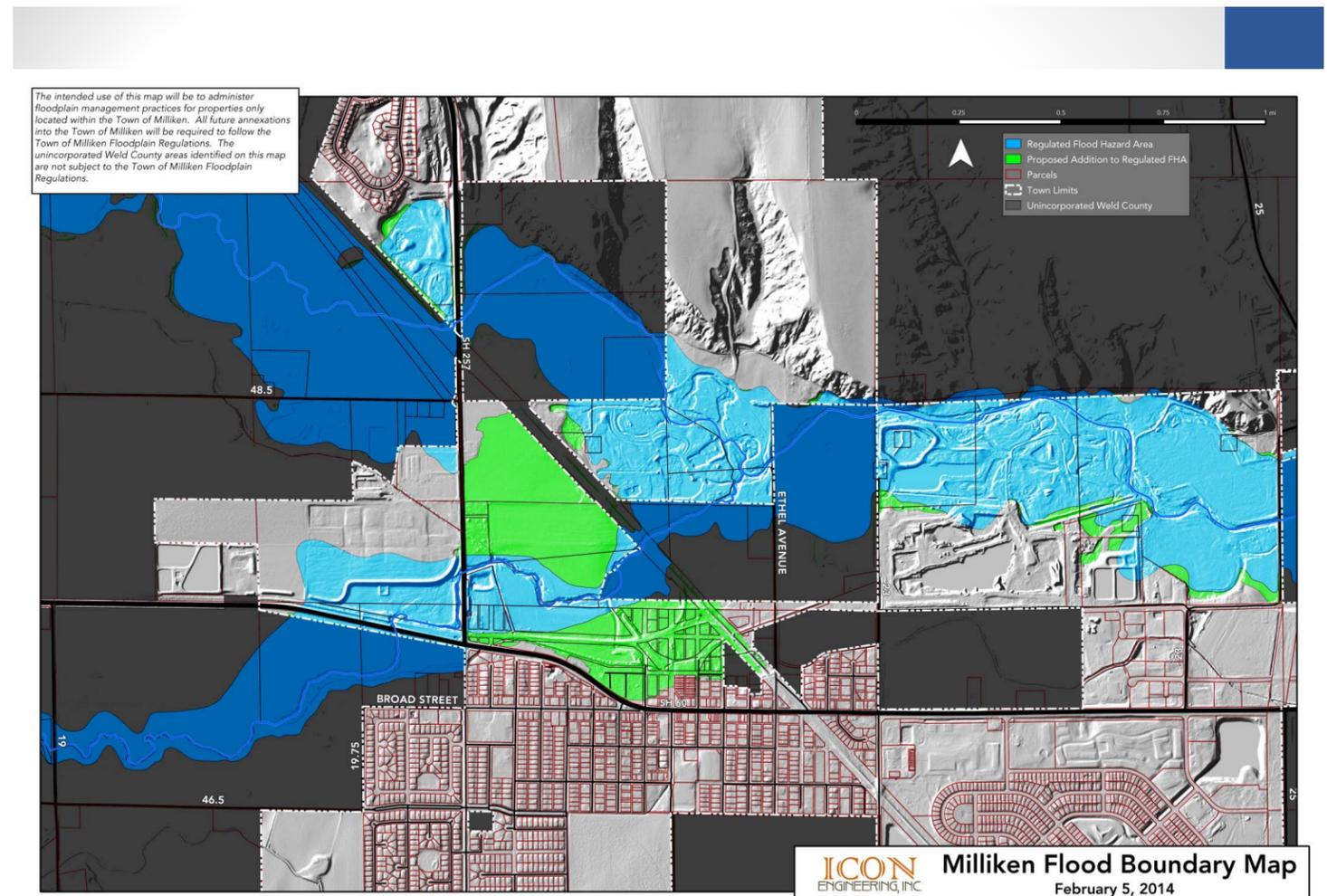
- **ESR-1:** Protect and preserve significant natural ecological systems
- **ESR-2:** Encourage innovation in Green Building Practices

BOOST

- **EP-1.1:** Improve communication by utilizing training and exercise opportunities
- **EP-1.2:** Alert the public regarding road closures and canceled events.
- **EP-1.3:** Improve upon volunteer coordination.
- **EP-1.4:** Restore critical services to residents.
- **EP-1.5:** Set up shelters and alternative housing for area residents impacted by the disaster.
- **EP-1.6:** Increased individual and collective preparedness.
- **EP-1.7:** Ensure debris removal occurs in a swift and expedient manner.
- **EP-2:** Make Milliken a more disaster resilient community using a Whole Community Approach (understand and meet the actual needs of the whole community; engage and empower all parts of the community; strengthen what works well in communities on a daily basis).
- **EP-2.2:** Prevent Town growth and investment in disaster prone areas.
- **PERC-3.2:** Determine most appropriate uses for Flood Prone lands acquired by the Town.
- **HI-2.1:** Utilize the Town of Milliken’s Storm Water Drainage Plan Update to implement drainage improvements Town-wide in order to create a more disaster resilient community.

Related Plans

A Plan for the South Platte River Corridor, 2013
Milliken Water & Sanitary Sewer Master Plan Update, 2014
BOOST Recommendations, 2014



The latest flood boundary with proposed additions to the regulated flood hazard area based on the flooding that occurred in 2013.

GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

Both residential and commercial permit activity has increased over the past year bringing in new households and jobs. While these additions are welcomed, several factors such as ownership patterns/adopted plans and infrastructure availability/affordability will influence where new development will go and how quickly it will occur. Proactive planning efforts will help make new development orderly and predictable. Much of the recent industrial growth the town has experienced has been related to oil and gas activity which is a major driver of the town's budget. The town needs to continue to capitalize on the opportunities presented by oil and gas development but also identify ways to diversify its economic and fiscal base so it is not too dependent on the industry. The following are goals and objectives outlined in the **2010 Envision Milliken Comprehensive Plan**.

Envision Milliken

- **LU-1:** The town will cooperate with other jurisdictions to resolve land use issues of mutual concern.
- **LU-3:** Promote adequate residential densities to support existing and future commercial centers.
- **LU-4:** Encourage mixed-use development, especially in the downtown area to support commercial uses, promote walkability, and provide for a variety of housing options.
- **LU-5:** Variety of commercial centers. Develop commercial centers of an appropriate size and scale and within the right locations, to ensure economic sustainability and shape community form.
- **LU-6:** Encourage growth in serviceable areas and identify the town's ultimate built out. Promote the infill of vacant parcels and reinvestment in buildable areas.
- **LU-7:** Encourage design standards that successfully enhance quality of life in a manner that is economically viable and sustainable for the town and the private sector.
- **LU-8:** The town will promote land use compatibility.
- **D-2:** Promote policies and financial incentives that assist downtown redevelopment efforts.
- **H-4:** The town should allow for housing opportunities with densities that will support vibrant retail centers.
- **CRL-2:** Historic preservation efforts should be supported throughout the town.
- **CRL-3:** Design standards and guidelines will promote community identity, sustainability, and civic pride.

Related Plans

Town of Milliken, Downtown Design Guidelines, 2014

DOWNTOWN MILLIKEN 2013

Project Area Recommendations

Project Area Map



The recently completed *Downtown Milliken Design Guidelines* focused its recommendations on these seven focus areas.

HOUSING

With a growing and changing population, Milliken has a greater need for a diversity of housing options. There is an increased need for entry-level/workforce housing, affordable senior homes, as well as homes for residents with growing incomes and families. The Milliken Housing Authority will have to continue to coordinate with the town to provide more affordable housing especially for seniors and older adults. Others have noted the high cost of development in Milliken compared to neighboring communities due to the cost of providing infrastructure, such as water. The following are goals outlined in both the **2010 Envision Milliken Comprehensive Plan** and the **BOOST (Building on our Strengths and Traditions) Flood Recovery and Resilience Committee** relating to housing:

Envision Milliken

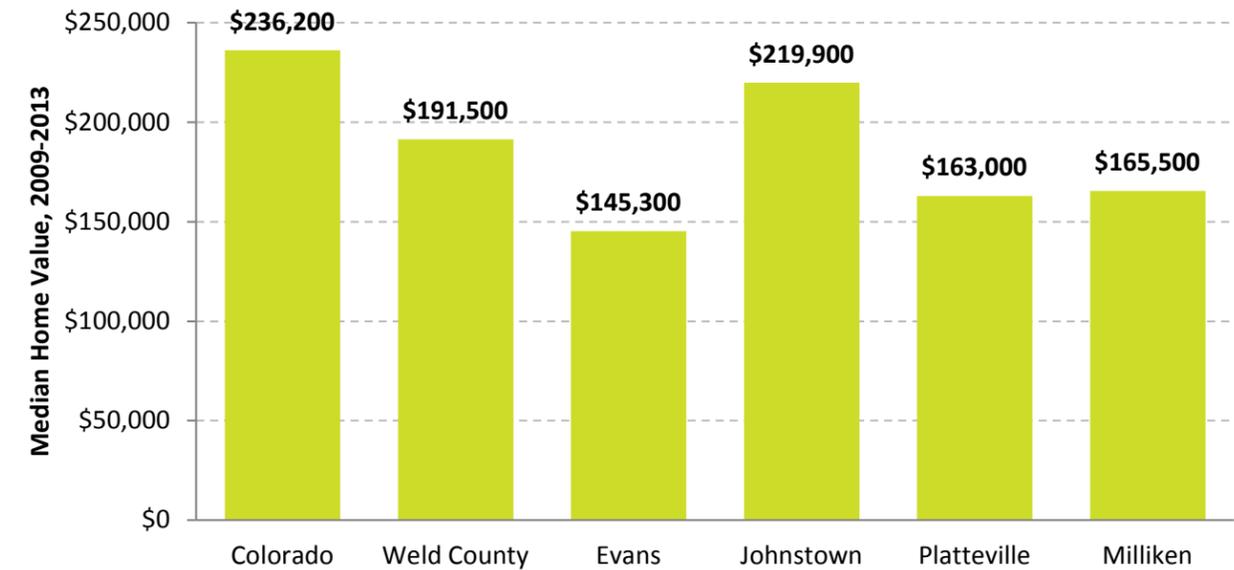
- **H-1:** Maintain the character and identity of existing residential neighborhoods.
- **H-2:** The town should support housing development and redevelopment strategies that promote well-designed, compatible, and high quality residential areas that have a mix of unit types and pricing to meet the changing economic, social, and multi-generational need of those who would like to reside in the community.
- **H-3:** The town will promote high quality residential design.
- **D-1:** Downtown will provide retail, office, service, and government uses mixed with residential. A mix of housing types for all income levels, family types and age groups, with a variety of prices and rent levels will be encouraged.

BOOST

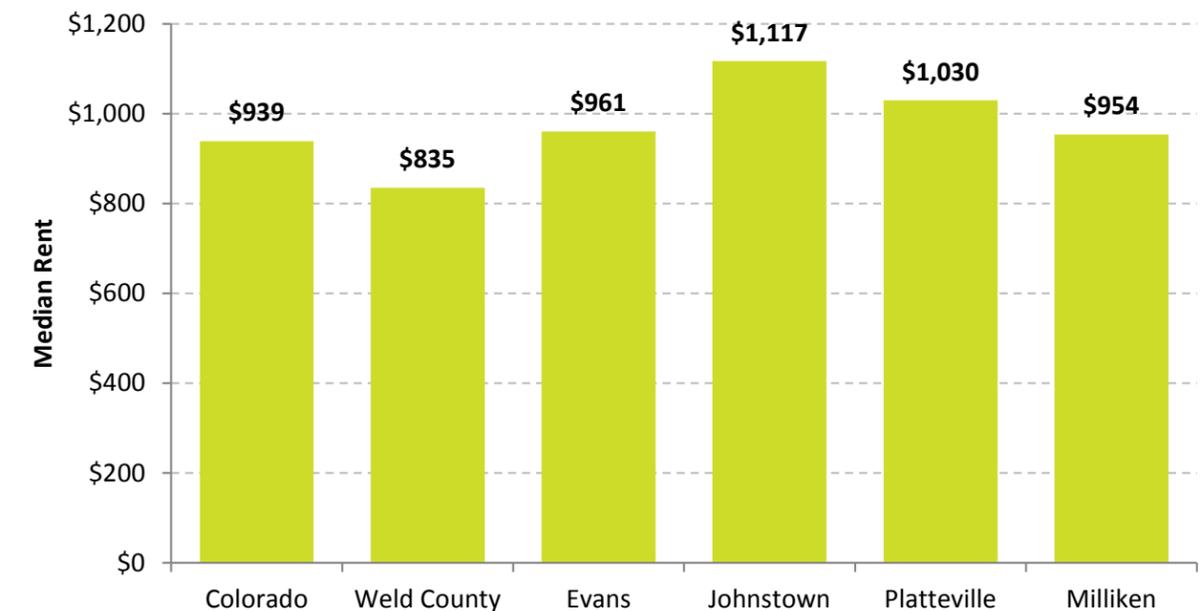
- **HI-1.1:** Create more affordable housing opportunities for all members of the community (multi-family, mobile homes, subsidized units, senior housing, etc.)

Related Plans

Town of Milliken Housing Needs Assessment, 2014



Source: 2009-2013 ACS; Economic & Planning Systems



Source: 2009-2013 ACS; Economic & Planning Systems

The median home value in Milliken was \$165,500 between 2009-2013, 16% lower than the county median. The median rent for a renter-occupied unit in Milliken was \$954 during the same period, higher than the median rent for Weld County, but lower than the median rent in nearby Johnstown and Platteville.



INFRASTRUCTURE & SERVICES

Like most Colorado communities, ensuring the town has access to a sufficient and affordable water supply is a key concern. While Milliken has its own reverse osmosis treatment plant, the town's current water delivery structure relies on the City of Greeley and Central Weld County Water District resulting in higher tap and raw water fees compared to neighboring communities. While this structure is sufficient for meeting current needs, many stakeholders expressed concern that this issue may be unduly increasing the cost of development. Location and timing of new infrastructure has also been an ongoing focus for the town. Infrastructure is currently not available to serve some parts of the town's urban growth area, which has only compounded challenges relating to water supply and availability. The following are goals and objectives outlined in both the **2010 Envision Milliken Comprehensive Plan** and the **BOOST (Building on our Strengths and Traditions) Flood Recovery and Resilience Committee** relating to the infrastructure and services:

Envision Milliken

The following goals from the **2010 Envision Milliken comprehensive plan** address subjects related to infrastructure and services:

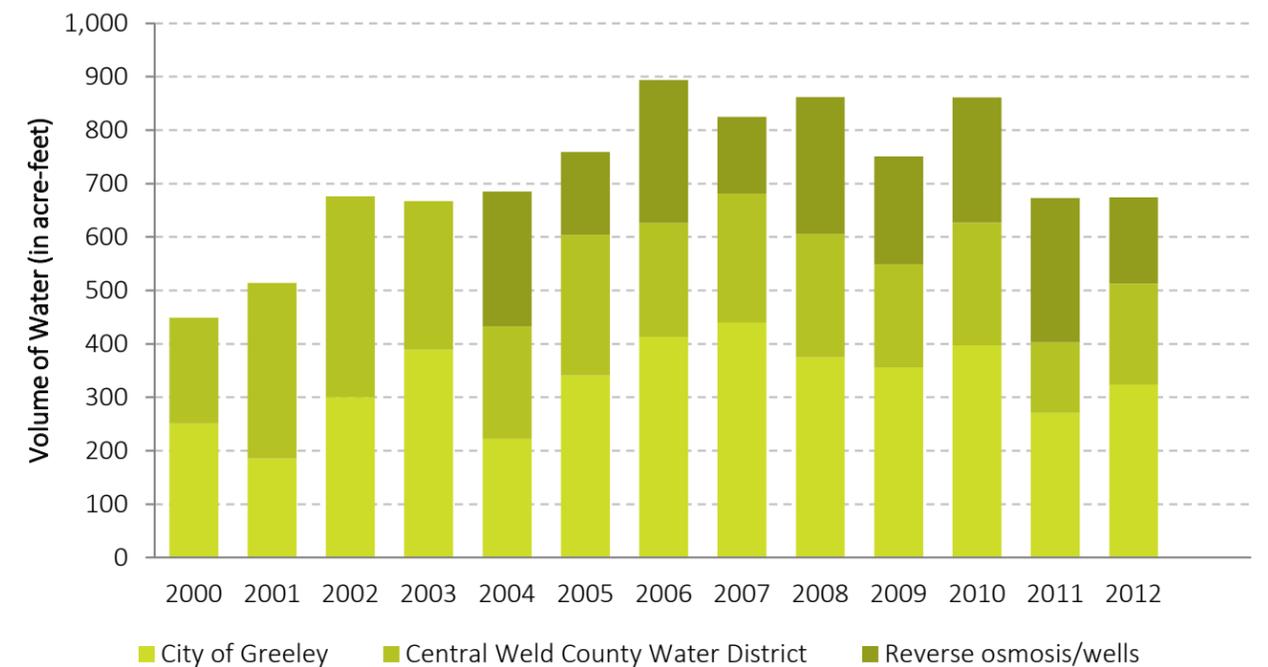
- **CSU-1:** In order to protect and use past investments in capital improvements, new development and redevelopment will be located in areas where adequate public services and facilities presently exist or are planned to be provided.
- **CSU-2:** Growth will pay a fair share of associated costs for facilities and services and mitigate negative impacts.
- **CSU-3:** The town should promote the health and safety of the community and continue to utilize the concept of "community policing".
- **CSU-4:** The town should provide adequate water, sewer, and related utility services to meet the demands of existing and future residents and commercial and industrial growth.
- **ESR-3:** Minimize the disposal of solid waste to preserve landfill space

BOOST

- **PERC-4:** Identify ways to improve coordination between the town and Weld RE5J District regarding future educational activities.
- **HI-2.2:** Establish benchmarks for making upgrades to the Town's water and sewer systems to ensure the town has adequate capacity for growth.
- **HI-2.3:** Use acquired flood prone properties as recharge areas for augmentation to recharge Town wells, especially for irrigation.

Related Plans

Milliken Water & Sanitary Sewer Master Plan Update, 2014



Source: Milliken Water & Sanitary Sewer Master Plan Update, 2014

Milliken's historic water use and origin. In 2012, less than a quarter of the delivered treated water came from the town owned reverse osmosis treatment plant. As Milliken grows, acquiring rights to a sufficient supply of water will become a critical issue.

PARKS & RECREATION

Through partnering with the Thompson Rivers Parks and Recreation District, Milliken provides its residents with a variety of recreational facilities and offerings. Residents have noted that parks not only provide recreation amenities but also act as informal community gathering places. When looking strictly at number of parks and acreage, Milliken scores highly for a community of its size. However, many note the need for many facilities to be brought up to modern standards and have higher levels of connectivity to multi-use trails, schools, neighborhoods, and downtown. Planning efforts are underway to highlight gaps in the park system and the feasibility for a network of greenways that will ultimately connect to a greater regional trail system. The following are goals and objectives outlined in both the **2010 Envision Milliken Comprehensive Plan** and the **BOOST (Building on our Strengths and Traditions) Flood Recovery and Resilience Committee** relating to parks and recreation.

Envision Milliken

- **PRTO-1:** The town and other service entities should provide and maintain a diverse, high-quality, safe and affordable system of parks, trails, and recreational facilities that provide for all ages and abilities.
- **PRTO-2:** The town should provide a system of interconnected trails that connects neighborhoods, services, adjacent regional trails and communities

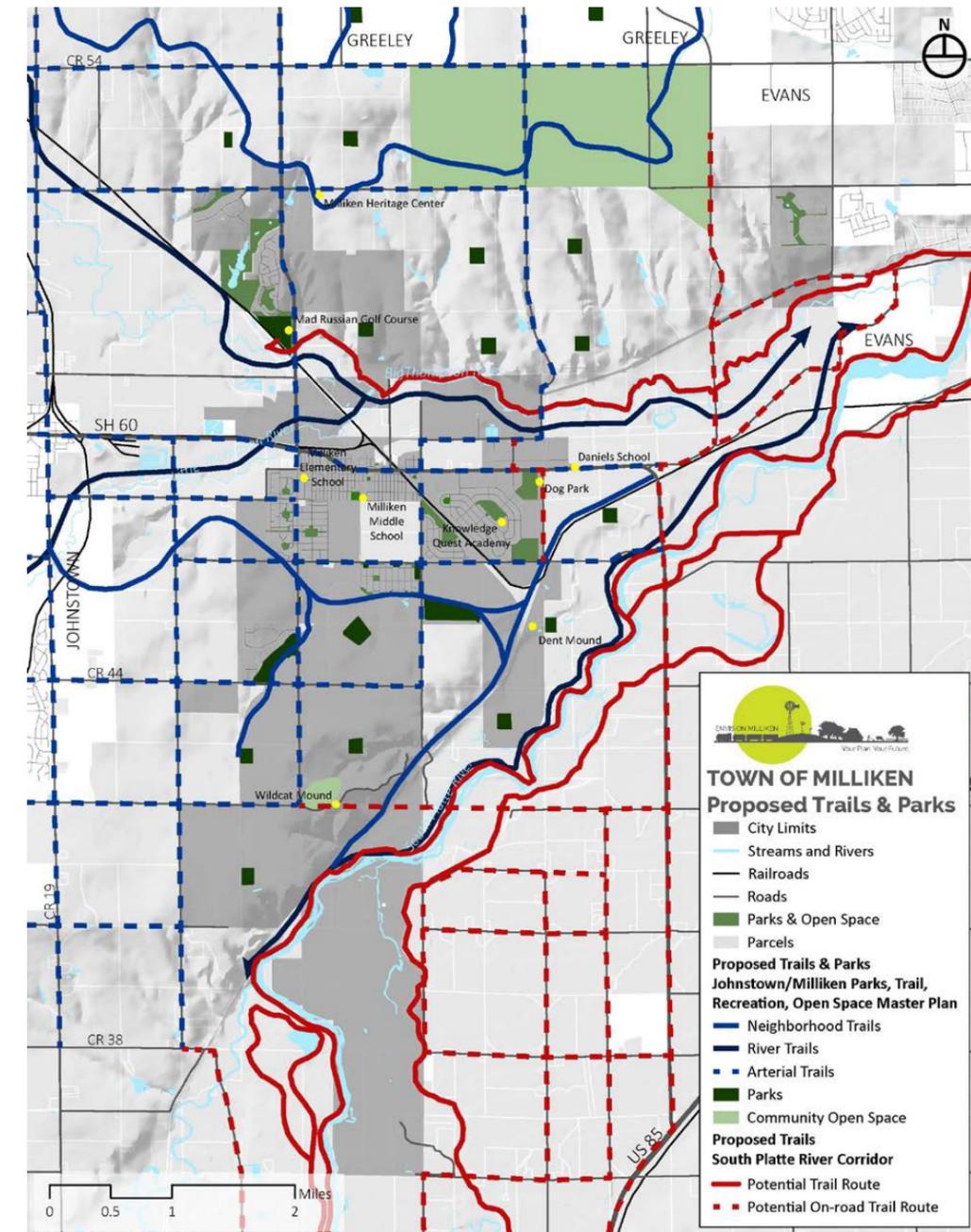
BOOST

- **PERC-1.1:** Ensure Milliken will have a sufficient system of parks, trails, and open space to continue the areas high quality of life.
- **PERC-2.1:** Milliken should continue to partner with the Thompson Rivers Parks and Recreation District and other entities to better promote and diversify the Town's parks and recreation offerings.

Related Plans

A Plan for the South Platte River Corridor, 2013

Johnson-Milliken Parks, Trails, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan, 2003



Source: Weld County GIS; Town of Milliken; Johnson/Milliken Parks, trails, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan; A Plan for the South Platte River Corridor

Multiple plans have proposed new trails and parks for Milliken. This composite map shows how they envision improving pedestrian and bicycle connectivity in Milliken.

ECONOMY

As Milliken looks to transition from being a bedroom community, economic development and diversification have become increasingly important. While embracing its agricultural roots, the town has maintained a clear focus on the need to diversify jobs, services, and businesses especially with the recent fluctuations and cutbacks in the oil and gas industry. Planning efforts are underway to improve the town's downtown through pedestrian and landscape enhancements but have had a mixed reception from stakeholders. The following are goals and objectives outlined in both the **2010 Envision Milliken Comprehensive Plan** and the **BOOST (Building on our Strengths and Traditions) Flood Recovery and Resilience Committee** relating to the economy:

Envision Milliken

- **AG-1:** The town will support agriculture as a base industry and integral part of the community.
- **D-3:** The town will implement and encourage innovative techniques designed to spur downtown revitalization activities.
- **ED-1:** The town will utilize Milliken's strengths, including its small town character, agricultural productivity, affordability, business and family-friendly environment, and other quality of life amenities as a tool to attract living-wage jobs.
- **T-1:** The town shall promote cultural tourism focusing on the town's archaeological, architectural, and historic resources.
- **T-2.1:** The town shall seek appropriate outlets to promote its natural, cultural, and educational based tourism and visitation opportunities.
- **T-2.2:** The town shall coordinate promotional efforts with Weld County and public and private tourism-related entities.
- **CRL-1:** Our community should continue to support cultural amenities as a contributor to our economic health and as a reflection of the importance of the arts and our heritage.

BOOST

- **ED-1.1:** Attract various businesses that the Town does not currently have (i.e. grocery store, car dealership, consignment shop, hotel, dentist, or doctor's office) in order to strengthen the Town's economic base.
- **ED-1.2:** The Town should explore using tax incentives, tax increment financing (TIF), or other tools to expand new or existing businesses.
- **ED-1.3:** Take steps to provide more affordable housing opportunities for the community in order to attract more businesses to the Town of Milliken.
- **ED-2.2:** Educate potential local entrepreneurs and businesses regarding the Small Business Development Center and other potential resources for start-up businesses.
- **ED-3:** Work with local landowners, developers, and businesses to develop new industrial and commercial parcels.
- **PERC-3.1:** Promote Town events such as Beef N Bean Day, Fall Harvest Festival, Farmers Market, Festival of Lights, National Night Out, Fishing Derby, and Community Bike Rides.

Related Plans

Milliken Downtown Design Guidelines, 2014

Industry	NAICS	Employment	Pct of Total
Manufacturing	31-33	215	33.0%
Retail Trade	44-45	78	12.0%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	71	68	10.4%
Public Administration	92	47	7.2%
Educational Services	61	43	6.6%
Construction	23	41	6.3%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	55	28	4.3%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	11	24	3.7%
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	56	22	3.4%
Wholesale Trade	42	18	2.8%
Health Care and Social Assistance	62	17	2.6%
Transportation and Warehousing	48-49	14	2.2%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	54	12	1.8%
Accommodation and Food Services	72	10	1.5%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	53	6	0.9%
Finance and Insurance	52	4	0.6%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	81	4	0.6%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	21	---	---
Utilities	22	---	---
Information	51	---	---
Total		651	100.0%

Source: QCEW 2013; Economic & Planning Systems

Nearly one third of jobs in Milliken were in the Manufacturing industry in 2013. Other large employment sectors were Retail Trade and Art, Entertainment, and Recreation.



MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION

While Milliken has major natural and built barriers to east-west circulation, improving connectivity and multimodal options are important tools for reducing congestion. Many residents have expressed a desire to have greater pedestrian/bicycle connectivity between community destinations and some sort of public transportation option for those without access to automobiles. Growing traffic volumes, especially commercial truck traffic, have created concerns about pedestrian safety and commuter congestion. The following are goals and objectives raised in the **2010 Envision Milliken Comprehensive Plan** and by the **BOOST (Building on our Strengths and Traditions) Flood Recovery and Resilience Committee** relating to multimodal transportation:

Envision Milliken

- **TR-1:** The Town should provide an efficient, safe, and cost-effective roadway network that provides connections to the neighboring communities and regional residential, business, school and industrial areas.
- **TR-2:** The town should promote mass transit as an integral part of the town's overall transportation system.
- **TR-3:** The town should integrate transportation and land use decisions to be mutually supportive.
- **TR-4:** The town should provide a transportation system that has a clearly defined hierarchy, integrating multiple modes of travel, and will meet the town's mobility needs in a manner compatible with fiscal and environmental constraints.

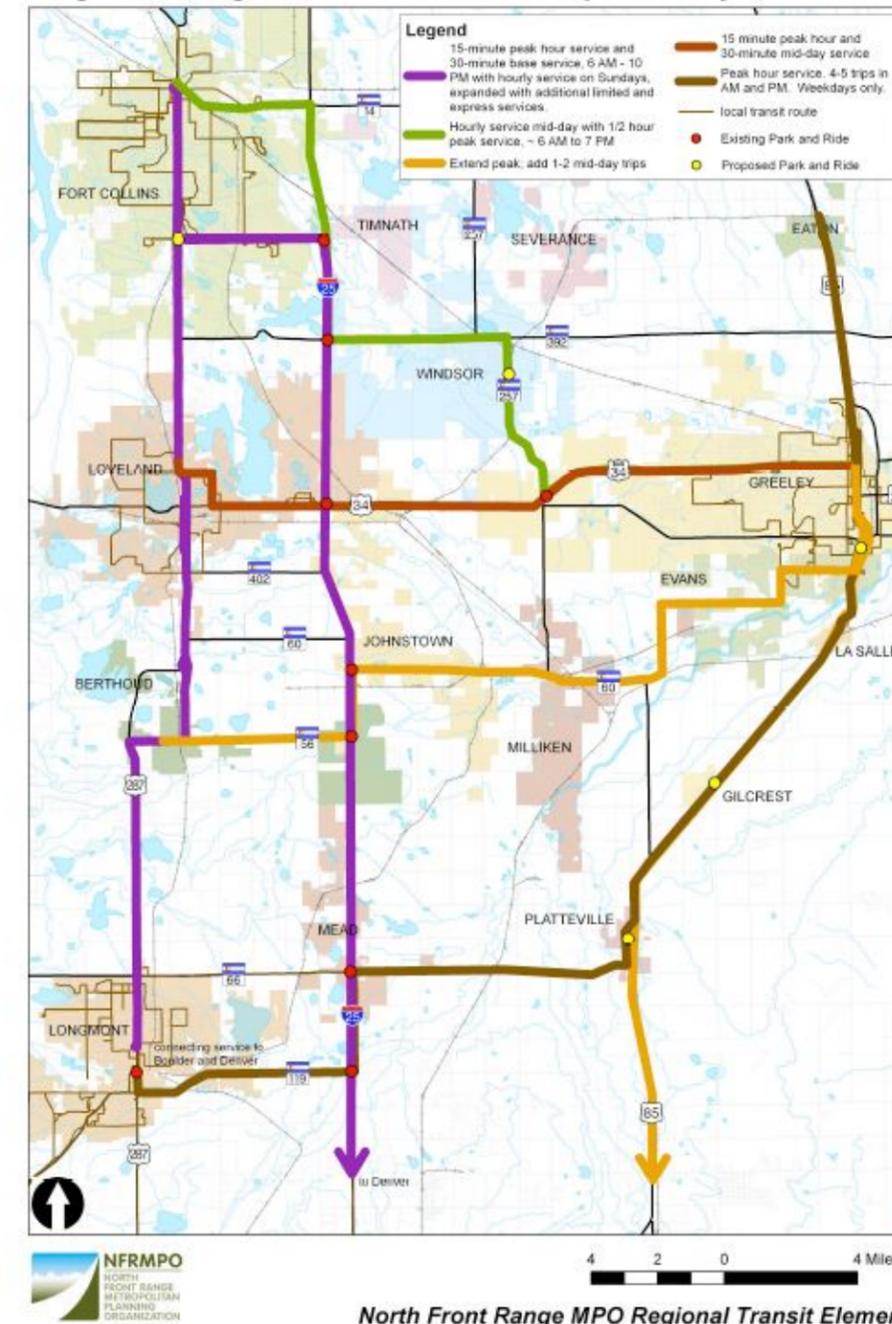
BOOST

- **PRTO-2:** The town should provide a system of interconnected trails that connects neighborhoods, services, adjacent regional trails and communities.
- **HI-3.1:** Coordinate with developers to determine traffic impacts for all proposed developments in order to alleviate future traffic concerns for Milliken residents.
- **HI-3.2:** Conduct a trails and sidewalk gap analysis to identify potential pedestrian projects that can increase sidewalk and trail interconnectivity.

Related Plans

Town of Milliken, Transportation Master Plan, 2008

Johnstown Milliken Parks, Trails, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan, 2003



While Milliken currently is not served by public transit, proposed scenarios from the North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization do include Milliken in a regional transit network. This high transit service alternative shows the best case scenario for regional transit service in 2035.

