

LAND USE ELEMENT

Population Target

As of 2002, Mountlake Terrace's population was 20,470. In 2004, the population was officially estimated as 20,390. To meet the City's adopted target of 22,456 by 2025, 2,066 people more people will need to live here. At 2.2 persons per household, that means about 980 more residential units¹ will be needed during the 2004-2025 period. In order to meet this objective, Mountlake Terrace will need to take an aggressive approach that encourages compact development and a variety of land uses.

Urban Design

No matter the size of a city, how it is designed makes a big difference in livability. "Urban design" means the concept of planning streets, sidewalks, parks, open space, landscaping, buildings, and neighborhoods so they work together to make the community attractive, pleasant, safe, and convenient.

Quality design does not have to be extravagant or expensive. Rather, it can be a more thoughtful approach to many aspects of creating a development. Design describes more than appearance; design includes the way a development functions and how it relates to its surroundings.

Mountlake Terrace has a set of design guidelines for certain commercial areas. The design guidelines encourage development to be "pedestrian-friendly" and to include landscaping, art, and spaces for people to socialize.

¹ See the Housing Element for more information regarding this objective.