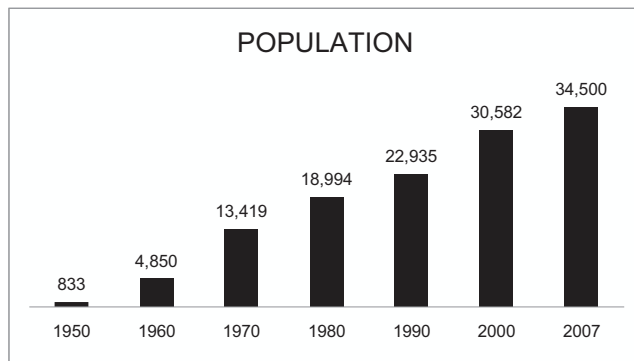


Projected Growth & Vision

community began with the development by Orrin Thompson Homes of the Thompson Grove subdivision located south of TH 61. This development was followed by other single family subdivisions in the 1960's, most also built by Orin Thompson Homes. Suburban development continued at a steady and moderate pace until the present, with 200 to 300 new households added in a typical year.

Figure 1-1 Historical Population

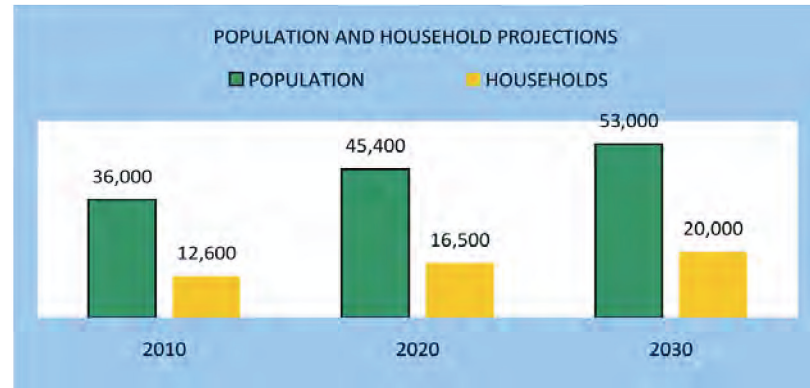


PROJECTED GROWTH

The rate of growth is projected to increase slightly through 2030, with Cottage Grove expected to add approximately 270 new households per year. Driving this future growth will be the availability of undeveloped land in Cottage Grove and the improved transportation access to the remainder of the Metropolitan Area.

By 2030 the population of Cottage Grove is expected to grow by 55 percent to 53,000 people. The number of households over the same period is projected to increase by 66 percent. The higher growth in households than total population is due to a continued trend toward smaller sized households.

Figure 1-2 Projected Population



Factors which could affect the rate of future growth include the pace of recovery from the current slowdown in housing sales and higher fuel prices which increase the cost of commuting.

COMMUNITY VISION

In community discussions on updating the Comprehensive Plan, several guiding principles have been identified:

- Maintain Small Town Character.** When asked what they like best about the community, residents have repeatedly stated that they value the small town feel of Cottage Grove. A key challenge will be to retain that small town character in a developing community. The most effective approach is to build and maintain strong cohesive neighborhoods throughout Cottage Grove. As the city grows, the ability of residents to identify with individual neighborhoods will increase in importance. This plan also addresses the desire to retain the small town character of the community by