



Village of Arlington Heights  
Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee  
Commissions Room, 2nd Floor  
Arlington Heights Village Hall  
33 S. Arlington Heights Road  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005  
October 28, 2014  
6:30 PM

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Minutes - 9/30/14

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Comprehensive Plan Update - PC#14-020

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Persons with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services, such as an American Sign Language interpreter or written materials in accessible formats, should contact David Robb, Disability Services Coordinator, at 33 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005, (847)368-5793 (Voice), (847)368-5980 (Fax) or drobb@vah.com.



**Item:** Minutes - 9/30/14

**Department:** Planning & Community Development

**ATTACHMENTS:**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Type</b>
Minutes	Minutes

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF  
**THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE**  
 OF THE VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS PLAN COMMISSION

HELD AT VILLAGE HALL ON:

September 30, 2014

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Plan Update

**Petitioner:** Village Of Arlington Heights

**Attendees:** George Drost, Chairman  
 Jim Tinaglia, Trustee  
 Mary Jo Warskow, Plan Commissioner  
 John Sigalos, Plan Commissioner  
 Joe Lorenzini, Plan Commissioner  
 Terry Ennes, Plan Commissioner  
 Bill Enright, Deputy Director Planning and Community Development

**Project Summary**

B. Enright provided background on the Comprehensive Plan which was last updated in 1997. Since that time though, there have been several redevelopment plans adopted such as the Downtown Master Plan, STAR Line Plan, Thoroughfare Policy Plan and the Hickory Kensington Area Plan, among others. There have also been numerous amendments to the land use map. The 1997 Plan was the merging of several "Planners Notebooks" each of which addressed components such as Housing and Population, Economics Development, Parks, Traffic, among others. These documents were updated and combined into the 1997 Plan as one document. In addition, the Comprehensive Planning Program, which was authorized by the Board in 1991, was incorporated into the Plan document. The Land Use map was updated and included the areas to be studied pursuant to the Comprehensive Planning Program.

Staff suggests that with this update to the Plan, we first focus on updating the demographics section to reflect 2000 and 2010 data and trends. Also we will need to review the goals and policies to ensure that they are current and consistent with other documents. We would also like to look at the components of the Plan to see if any should be added such as a "Sustainability" section. Staff would also advise that the Subcommittee review the Comprehensive Planning Program and determine if there are other areas to look at, especially corridors. There are a few corridors in the Village, typically along major street, that could be enhanced. One area already being studied is the Rand Road / Palatine Road / AH Road area or "Uptown". The Board approved a contract with a consultant to evaluate improvements to this area.

Staff would also like to utilize social media to obtain public input. In addition, the Board has approved \$20,000 in the current budget to assist with the plan.

**Meeting Discussion:**

Commissioner Lorenzini asked who come up with the areas to study in the Comprehensive Planning Program?

B. Enright responded that the Planning Dept, specifically Charles Perkins and Bill Enright, who then presented the areas to the Board who endorsed the program.

Trustee Tinaglia mentioned that the Northwest Highway corridor along the railroad right of way in in very poor condition with dead or dying landscaping in certain areas. Is this an area we will look at and how do we get the UP railroad to work with us? He would like to see that area improved. B. Enright indicated that we definitely want to look at this area, in fact the Public Works Department was looking to budget in the CIP funds to improve the corridor.

Commissioner Sigalos asked about the Dundee Road corridor and whether or not the proliferation of auto dealerships was

## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE

a result of the Comprehensive Planning Program or did it just result from one dealer went up there and other followed to be near each other?

B. Enright indicated that there was no specific corridor plan for Dundee Road, but when Rohrman bought the former Honeywell site, we were very much in support of that use given that the Village had lost other dealerships especially along Northwest Highway.

There was general discussion on updating the demographics, including the aging of the population and the trends in single person households. B. Enright indicated that we see this reflected in the type of housing developers are proposing, with rental apartments with many studios and 1 bedrooms.

B. Enright mentioned possibly adding a green or sustainability section to the Plan. Developers are looking to build more sustainable projects to save money.

Trustee Tinaglia mentioned that he is seeing two primary reasons why developers may choose to build a sustainable project: to save money and or for marketing purposes. Often the process and cost involved to obtain LEED status is prohibitive in time and money. Developers will want some incentive from the Village such as a density increase in order for them to be able to justify spending the money to do it (build green).

Commissioner Warskow indicated that you don't need to necessarily obtain LEED status but rather stress including components of sustainability in a project.

Chairman Drost added that Chicago has led the way with green sustainable development. He asked what other communities are leaders in sustainability and can we emulate what they are doing? B. Enright indicated that we can certainly research what others are doing to obtain ideas.

Commissioner Warskow indicated that Oak Park, Evanston. She also mentioned that this is not just trying to appeal to the developer, but the community. This is about managing peak electrical usage so that we don't have outages, storm water management to reduce flooding. A lot is developing a culture in the community in addition to code requirements.

Commissioner Lorenzini asked what our roll would be...to draft ordinances? Also, where are these costs incurred upfront, the design phase, construction? Trustee Tinaglia responded that all of these phases cost more to attain LEED certification.

B. Enright responded that no this committee would not draft ordinances but rather recommend goals and policies in the Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Sigalos indicated that as a general contractor he has done five LEED Silver projects. He generally would agree but the more they got into doing them the less cost. He has found that construction costs are about 5% higher for LEED Silver, but recently there seems to be less interest in LEED. Also new energy codes for lighting insulation, etc are addressing efficiencies in saving energy and reducing costs.

Commissioner Warskow added that often there is no longer term follow through with projects and their sustainability.

Chairman Drost added that it seems that we need to effect change and create a culture to promote sustainability. He mentioned the smoking ordinance as an example.

B. Enright added that the Village did change the zoning code to allow solar, wind and geothermal technologies on commercial and residential property. Previously there were no regulations to allow these technologies. Also the recently approved Hickory Kensington Area Plan included goals to incorporate sustainable development. The TIF District could help incentivize sustainability.

## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE

Commissioner Warskow added that the Hickory Kensington development concept itself is sustainable given that it's transit oriented development.

Chairman Drost mentioned the demographics section and what happens to the older wealth in the community, do they stay or head south to live in Florida? Also a project like Arlington Downs, good to bring in younger persons who initially rent. How do we keep them in town longer term? Need to look at the long term economics of the population.

B. Enright indicated that one thing we want to look at is how to develop/redevelop areas of town to enhance the economy of the Village? With the aging of the population, there are areas where we may want Institutional uses for senior care, etc. One example to look at is along south Arlington Heights Road near the Autumn Leaves development for Institutional uses.

Commissioner Warskow mentioned that we always need to look ahead for adaptive reuse of land and buildings as conditions change. Also, are there services from CMAP which could help guide us through the process?

B. Enright indicated that yes CMAP has a technical assistance program but it's typically on a competitive basis with annual deadlines for projects. He will reach out to CMAP and see if they have any one time seminars, etc. We do want to look at possible focus groups, surveys, etc to reach out to the community as part of the process.

Chairman Drost added that we may want to include the downtown in our evaluation.

B. Enright then went over the time line for the project, being about 12 months meeting once per month. The Committee agreed that one per month would work and suggested meeting at 6:30 pm and try to keep to 90 minutes each.

Commissioner Lorenzini asked is staff would update the demographics. B. Enright said yes he will update for the Committee. Commissioner Lorenzini added that it would be expected that the Committee review the Goals and Objectives for October for discussion.

Commissioner Warskow asked if Roberts Rules of Order apply to this Committee? And if so if she has something to share with the Committee how should that be done? B. Enright indicated that yes Roberts Rules of Order do apply and he suggested getting information to him to distribute to the Committee as the Committee can't send emails around as a violation of Open Meetings.

Trustee Tinaglia asked about the Potential Annexation Areas indicated on the Map and whether we plan to discuss those areas? Also how did the area along east Rand Road get so circuitous between Prospect Heights and Arlington Heights?

B. Enright responded that staff has looked at these areas and there are issues. The area to the northeast near Buffalo Grove does not have sanitary sewers and it would be costly given the elevations to do so. The area northwest is primarily multi family but there have been issues with crime in that unincorporated area. We may want to clarify the annexation strategy in the goals and policies. With respect to the boundary with Prospect Heights, the meanderings boundary was due to annexations in the 1960's where each community annexed property but with no long term plan. We did meet years ago with Prospect Heights officials to discuss rationalizing the borders and trading properties but we felt they wanted too much and it want an even swap.

Trustee Tinaglia asked what separates the Comp Plan Land Use map from zoning and is the next logical step to compare the map with the zoning for an area?

B. Enright responded that yes it is logical to look at these two maps to see how they match and to possible rezone properties as a result. One example is the estate residential areas of town. The Village amended the Land Use map to preserve the larger lots in town but then followed that up by actually rezoning these areas. The Hickory Kensington Area Plan was adopted and then the next step was to rezone the area.

## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE

Chairman Drost asked if we should look at the race track land use?

B. Enright responded that the track is designated Mixed Use which allows for a variety of uses such as residential, commercial, entertainment, offices, etc.

Commissioner Warskow added that the area, given its proximity to the train station, is a TOD possibility.

The Committee then decided to meet once per month at 6:30pm with the idea to keep the meetings at about 90 minutes. The next meeting will be October 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm followed by a meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup> due to the holidays.

The Committee concurred to designate Commissioner Warskow as Vice Chair.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

None at this time.

**Chairman Drost** adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.

**George Drost, Chair**  
**Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee**  
**Bill Enright, Recorder**



**Item:** Comprehensive Plan Update - PC#14-020

**Department:** Planning & Community Development

**ATTACHMENTS:**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Type</b>
Staff Memo	Report
Goals & Policies Draft 1	Correspondence
Demographics	Exhibits
Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy	Exhibits
Orland Park Comp Plan	Exhibits

## Memorandum

To: Chairman Drost and Members of the Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee

From: Bill Enright, Deputy Director Planning and Community Development

Date: October 24, 2014

Subject: Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee Meeting:  
**Tuesday, October 28, 2014 at 6:30 PM**  
**Commissions Room - Second Floor**  
Comprehensive Plan Update

Please find as attachments the following:

1. Minutes of the September 30, 2014 Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee meeting
2. Proposed Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies (draft)
3. Demographics Update
4. Copy of the Village's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy (for reference)
5. Copy of Orland Park's Sustainability Section (for reference)

▪ *Goals and Policies*

I have reviewed the Goals and Policies of the Comprehensive Plan and provided proposed amendments (additions underlined in red, deletions ~~struck through~~ in red) based on current practices and by reviewing the following documents to make sure that the Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the goals and policies of these documents:

- a. Village Board Goals
- b. Thoroughfare and Transportation Policy Plan
- c. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy
- d. Homes for a Changing Region Study
- e. Downtown Master Plan
- f. Affordable Housing Policy

I would like to focus this meeting on the goals and policies keeping in mind that we can always revise or add/subtract as we move forward with the review of the Plan over the next months.

#### ▪Demographics

I have provided a chart which compares certain demographic data over time. The compilation of data is a work in progress. Some interesting observations are that the health and social services / education and retail categories have increased. Also the age of our population continues to increase from 36.7 in 1990 to 39.7 in 2000 and 42.7 in 2010. The over 65 age cohort has increased from 12.2% in 1990 to 16.1% in 2000 and 17.2% in 2010, somewhat stabilizing, however there are 9,880 persons who were 55 to 64 in 2010, followed by the next cohort of 45 to 54 year olds (12,000 persons) in 2010 that in 2030 will add to the 65 and over cohort. Of course there will be people moving in and out of town, and mortality rates need to be factored in, but we should see a continued increase to the average age in the community. Not only are we humans aging, but so is our housing stock. The percentage of housing 40 years and older has risen from 7% in 1990 to 45% in 2010.

#### ▪Components of the Plan

The current Plan consists of the various components or sections, which should be reviewed and updated as necessary. New components could be explored such as Green Technology/Sustainability. Included in the packet is the Village's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy, which can serve as a starting point for developing a Sustainability section in the Comprehensive Plan. I have also include the Village of Orland Park Sustainability section from their Comprehensive Plan for reference. I would like to begin discussing the idea to include a sustainability section and the format.

#### **Next Steps**

Continue to modify the Goals and Policies as needed. Focus on drafting a sustainability section to include in the Comprehensive Plan. Also in December I would like to start discussing the Land Use Map focusing on areas to be suggested by staff.

C: Charles Witherington Perkins

## Goal Setting

The planning process is a series of steps which include goal setting, data collection, analysis of problems and opportunities, plan formulation, implementation and evaluation. Of these steps, goal setting is certainly one of the most basic and important steps. It is in this stage that citizens, local officials, and planners try to provide answers to the most fundamental questions. What vision do we hold for the future quality of life in the Village? What decisions shall we make to help meet the challenges of the present and of the future?

The Comprehensive Plan can be an effective instrument to guide the future only if it is based upon carefully formulated goals and policies. Goals represent the general aim and direction of the Plan. Policies are courses or methods of action selected, in the light of existing trends and future needs, to guide future decisions in pursuit of goals.

## Goals and Policies

The goals and policies that follow establish the basis for continuity of the decision making process. They become the basis for the direction of all other plans and documents relating to the Comprehensive Plan. Together the goals and policies and the Comprehensive Plan Map comprise the Arlington Heights Comprehensive Plan.

### General Planning Goals

- 1 To maintain a self-sustaining community where people may reside, pursue education, earn a living, shop, and enjoy their leisure time.
- 2 To preserve and enhance nature and the existing environment.
- 3 To permit the utilization of the full potential, talents, capabilities, and productivity of all residents, regardless of race, origin, color, religion, income, sex, age, or education.
- 4 To create a flexible plan which will reflect changing conditions.
- 5 To preserve physical resources of historic value which exemplify the ~~cultural, political, economic~~ ~~or social~~ heritage of Arlington Heights.
- 6 To exercise due regard for the goals of neighboring communities and other governmental units in planning activities.
- ~~7 To take into consideration the impact that increases in property taxes have on all residents, and particularly, on certain valued segments of the community such as senior citizens and young families.~~
- 8 To increase the property tax base of the Village.
- 9 To focus on Village wide business development.
- 10 To develop effective transportation planning.
- 11 To promote affordable housing for various income levels and housing types.
- 12 To maintain and improve Village infrastructure.
- 13 To promote and encourage green based policies and services.
- 14 To improve the overall quality of life.

### General Planning Policies

1. To provide adequate facilities, improvements, and institutions to adequately support all basic activities of present and future residents. Foster economic growth through necessary governmental actions. Initiate Village and private business partnerships to create new developments. Future ordinances, regulations, and procedures should encourage the orderly growth.
2. All developments should respect and take advantage of land and natural features.
3. The Planning and Economic Development Programs should stimulate citizen and business interest and participation in community planning and development processes.
4. To review and periodically update the entire Comprehensive Plan.
5. Whenever specific land areas and/or existing structures come under review for general planning progress, or in conjunction with a specific land use petition, consideration should be given to

identify, for possible preservation purposes, land areas or buildings that meet any of the following criteria:

- A. Structures that exhibit a high quality of architectural design reminiscent of the past.
  - B. Structures that exhibit unusual or distinctive design, or construction technique which contribute to the architectural interest of its environs either as an accent or a counterpoint.
  - C. Land areas that have long provided an established or familiar visual presence in Arlington Heights by virtue of: a unique location; distinctive physical characteristics; or, historical association.
6. To analyze existing boundary agreements and plans of adjoining communities when considering projects that could affect these communities.
  7. To provide a broad spectrum of recreational, educational, social, cultural, and entertainment opportunities to improve the quality of life.

### Land Use Goals

- 1 To ensure that the general land use pattern and relationships of all land uses remain or become acceptable to the present and future community.
- 2 The remaining limited amount of undeveloped land shall be utilized in a manner which benefits the community.
- 3 The intensity of development should be related to the location and availability of transportation facilities.
- 4 Incompatible zoning should be avoided.
- 5 Only well planned commercial and industrial developments should be built.
- 6 Remaining unincorporated land, adjoining or within the Village, should be annexed only if beneficial to the Village as a whole.
- 7 Future growth should be accommodated and encouraged through a redevelopment program in selected priority areas as defined in the Comprehensive Planning Program.

### Land Use Policies

- 1 To require quality planning in new developments utilizing advanced land planning and development concepts. Encourage mixed land use concepts in proper locations consistent with the Village's Land Use Map.
- 2 Intensive developments should be limited to the central downtown area, in areas where there is adequate access to public transportation and those areas which are adjacent to controlled access intersections and/or major intersections, or in conjunction with an approved redevelopment plan.
- 3 The rezoning of land should be considered only where such rezoning is supported by detailed studies.
- 4 Encouragement should be given to commercial and industrial developments which have safe access, respect nearby land uses, do not landlock nearby land parcels, and which can provide adequate screening and landscaping.
- ~~5 Negotiations should be conducted with the owners of unincorporated land to actively bring their parcels into the Village.~~
- 6 ~~Research the possibility of selected redevelopment.~~ Determination of ~~selection of~~ redevelopment sites should be based upon the Village Comprehensive Planning Program, proper studies like "opportunity corridors," detailed building conditions and economic studies.
- 7 Protect distinct functional areas from intrusion and encroachment of incompatible uses.
- 8 Revitalize declining areas through rehabilitation, redevelopment, and In-fill strategies as appropriate.

### Population and Housing Goals

- 1 To preserve the basic single-family character of the Village.
- 2 To preserve and protect existing and future residential neighborhoods in the Village.
- 3 To encourage construction of necessary housing to meet present and future residential needs

- ~~within the confines of~~ consistent with Population & Housing Goals #1 and #2.
- 4 To encourage a wide variety of housing alternatives by type, size, and price range.
  - 5 To maintain and improve property values.
  - 6 To maintain the social and economic viability of neighborhoods.
  - 7 To utilize good housing redevelopment concepts in areas where rehabilitation of existing housing is not practical.
  - 8 To encourage the development of an adequate residential population base in and around the Central Business District Downtown to improve its economic viability.

### **Population and Housing Policies**

- 1 To construct a necessary amount of single-family detached and attached single-family houses, ~~monitor construction of other housing types and multi family housing to meet market demands while to~~ maintaining a proper housing balance.
- 2 To protect present and future residential areas from encroachment by other less desirable land uses or improvements that could diminish quality of life or property values.
- 3 To prepare and maintain results of demographic and housing studies to assist in planning future developments.
- 4 To utilize Federal, State, and local programs to assist in the development of affordable housing while retaining Village controls pursuant to the Village's affordable housing tool kit for homeownership and rental units.
- 5 To construct smaller housing units necessary to maintain smaller households in the community.
- 6 To provide a wide variety of housing for young, elderly, disabled and single households, including rental housing.
- 7 To enforce Village codes and regulations in order to prevent housing deterioration and, when appropriate, to utilize State, Federal, or local assistance programs.
- 8 To preserve and renovate housing of historic or aesthetic value and upgrade and renovate public improvements and facilities in Village neighborhoods.
- 9 To designate future redevelopment sites and proceed with necessary steps leading to redevelopment of selected sites pursuant to the Comprehensive Planning Program.
- 10 To prepare realistic plans for the areas in and around downtown with all necessary safeguards for fine residential and historical properties.

### **Economic Development Goals**

- 1 To promote balanced economic growth through imaginative planning leading to a strong, vital local economy.
- 2 To work closely with local businesses to promote their growth and expansion and prevent the loss of existing establishments.
- 3 To facilitate redevelopment and modernization of mature business and industrial areas of the Village.
- 4 To attract new business enterprises by taking full advantage of Arlington Heights' location in the transportation "hub" of the Midwest, as well as its labor market, business climate, educational facilities and governmental resources.
- 5 To improve the Central Business District (CBD) downtown through aggressive rehabilitation and redevelopment of targeted properties pursuant to the Downtown Master Plan and provide assistance to parties interested in the rehabilitation and redevelopment of the CBD Downtown.
- 6 To realize the full ~~re~~development potential of Arlington International Race Course.
- 7 To attract educational facilities and promote development of educational programs to maintain the well trained labor market of Arlington Heights and meet the training and retraining needs of tomorrow's technology driven firms.
- 8 To effectively balance population, housing and economic growth with reasonable and effective environmental safeguards to enhance the established quality of life in the Village.

- 9 To promote a more business friendly property tax system.
- 10 To increase and maintain business occupancy rates.

**Economic Development Policies**

- 1 To undertake necessary research and planning to create information systems and implement programs which promote balanced economic growth.
- 2 To assist businesses in transition by maintaining access to resources and available space to facilitate relocations and expansions.
- 3 To assist owners of outdated or deteriorated business facilities with facility renovation and modernization.
- 4 To ~~implement~~ continue to enhance and maintain the a permanent public information program Village web site which highlights Arlington Heights’ unique advantages for business to attract investors, developers and business owners.
- 5 To encourage rehabilitation and redevelopment of the ~~Central Business District Downtown~~ through improved public facilities and additional financial assistance when appropriate.
- 6 In cooperation with ownership at the Arlington International Race Course, prepare bold plans and promote practical development of corporate office structures, retail, hotel, convention, exhibition, entertainment, sports and high density living in the race course area.
- 7 To assist local educational institutions and work force training organizations and access industrial training programs to provide vital advanced technology training.
- 8 To monitor existing business and industrial establishments and comprehensively screen all new development to mitigate any potential detrimental effects on the community.
- 9 Continue to identify and revitalize underperforming shopping areas.

**Recreation and Open Space Goals**

- 1 To protect the environment and provide adequate resources for active and passive recreation.
- 2 To explore new concepts in recreational facilities.
- 3 To fully implement water detention and recreational facilities.
- 4 To make provisions to acquire future recreational land.
- 5 To encourage additional new types of parks and recreational facilities such as linear parks, vest-pocket playgrounds, neighborhood squares, pedestrian and bicycle paths.
- 6 To fully develop present undeveloped park land according to potential needs of residents while utilizing existing facilities by means of expanding recreational, educational, vocational, and cultural programs.

~~**Recreation and Open Space Goals**~~

- ~~1 To make provisions to acquire future recreational land.~~
- ~~2 To encourage additional new types of parks and recreational facilities such as linear parks, vest-pocket playgrounds, neighborhood squares, pedestrian and bicycle paths.~~
- ~~3 To fully develop present undeveloped park land according to potential needs of residents while utilizing existing facilities by means of expanding recreational, educational, vocational, and cultural programs.~~

~~**Service, Facilities, and Systems**~~ **Municipal Services Goals**

- 1 To provide adequate municipal services and facilities in developing areas and improve them where necessary in the existing Village area.
- 2 To improve the economy and efficiency of municipal services and facilities.
- 3 To promote the cooperation of all concerned governmental agencies in planning, development, and operation of services and facilities.

### **Service, Facilities, and Systems-Municipal Services Policies**

- 1 To plan, in advance, for land acquisition for municipal services and facilities for future development areas.
- 2 To establish priority systems, corresponding to budgetary resources utilizing new technology to improve municipal services and facilities.
- 3 To economize expenditures, streamline the operation through joint operations. Merge Village operations with other units of government if such action will bring improvements and savings.

### **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Goals**

1. To link transportation and land use in order to enhance transit options for residents and the labor force.
2. To promote and encourage energy efficiency for residential and commercial buildings.
3. Encourage the use of renewable energy and resources such as solar, wind, geothermal, and bio fuels.
4. Continue to promote and encourage both residents and businesses to reduce waste and increase recycling.
5. To optimize tree planting and protection of existing trees for maximum carbon reduction and to increase water conservation measures.
6. Keep abreast of new policies and research regarding energy efficiency and provide support for local, state, and Federal efforts to promote energy conservation measures.
7. Educate and Promote using Public Relations to encourage energy conservation and support for the Village Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy.

### **Circulation, Traffic Thoroughfare and Transportation Goals**

- 1 To promote the adequacy, efficiency, convenience, aesthetics and safety of traffic and transportation.
- 2 To promote and coordinate transportation systems, including public transportation, through cooperation with other involved agencies and other communities, when such improvements benefit the Village.
- 3 To minimize conflict between vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
- 4 To provide for bicycle traffic, preferably separated from vehicular traffic.
- 5 To improve the aesthetics of existing traffic facilities.
- 6 To minimize the need for the operation of individual vehicles within the Village.
- 7 To ensure that the character of and quality of life in the Village is not adversely affected by future traffic and transportation improvements.
- 8 Encourage public participation in planning thoroughfare network improvements.
- 9 Review traffic calming measures in residential areas.

### **Circulation, Traffic Thoroughfare and Transportation Policies**

- 1 To schedule, plan, and construct necessary physical improvements including widenings, turning lanes, and bays and grade-separations other appropriate improvements if appropriate before serious problems develop.
- 2 To establish close cooperation with adjoining communities and other agencies for traffic and transportation planning and implementation.
- 3 To construct safe pedestrian walkways separate from automotive traffic.
- 4 To establish safe bicycle path systems away from motorized traffic where the volume of bicycle traffic through cooperation with other agencies (i.e., Park District, Commonwealth Edison, and bicycle clubs) will justify such investments.

- 5 To landscape, where possible, arterial roadways; screen parking areas; improve street graphics; and improve the appearance of signalization and other elements related to traffic and transportation.
- 6 To explore and implement alternate modes of local transportation such as minibus, tramway, monorail, van and car pooling, and establish locations for parking facilities.
- 7 To examine all proposed traffic and transportation improvement projects from the aspect of impact on local housing, neighborhoods, business and industry.

#### **Central Business District Master Plan Objectives**

- ~~1 To promote diversity and concentration of use in the downtown core.~~
- ~~2 To create a quality pedestrian environment.~~
- ~~3 To strengthen downtown's residential function.~~
- ~~4 To create a unique image and identity.~~
- ~~5 To promote quality development through design review.~~
- ~~6 To emphasize public/private partnership in implementation.~~
- ~~7 To emphasize early action and tangible results.~~

#### **Downtown Master Plan Vision**

A Downtown that is recognized as the business, cultural and entertainment heart of Arlington Heights – offering a thriving business climate, a sense of community and residential pride and is viewed as a desired destination for all residents of the Northwest suburbs.

#### **Downtown Master Plan Objectives**

1. Promote diversity and concentration of use in the downtown core.
2. Create a quality pedestrian environment.
3. Strengthen downtown's residential base by encouraging additional residential development.
4. Create a unique identity and positive image.
5. Promote quality development through design review.
6. Emphasize public / private partnerships in implementation.
7. Emphasize early action and tangible results.
8. Facilitate growth and development of selected areas including guidelines for redevelopment.
9. Develop retail strategy to attract and retain quality commercial businesses.
10. Evaluate and recommend funding options for long term infrastructure needs, redevelopment, special events and marketing.
11. Develop a marketing plan and strategy, including a communication plan, for downtown.

#### **Comprehensive Planning Program Goals and Objectives**

**Annexation Studies Goal:** To determine the viability of annexing remaining unincorporated areas adjacent to the Village as designated on the Comprehensive Plan.

- Objective 1 Analyze and assess the fiscal impacts of annexation for both the village and affected property owners.
- Objective 2 Identify all issues, fiscal, social and otherwise, that pertain to the particular area being studied.

**Corridor Plans Goal:** To improve upon existing conditions which detract from the overall functioning of the corridor.

- Objective 1 Develop a strong and positive image and appearance which establishes a unified image and sense of place which reinforces and supports commercial and economic activities along the corridor.

- Objective 2 Create a system of on- and off-street parking facilities which adequately serve the needs of commercial uses within the corridor in a safe and functional manner.
- Objective 3 Promote a safe and effective traffic circulation system which adequately accommodates the varied types of traffic movement utilizing the corridor.
- Objective 4 That development activities within the corridor be compatible with adjacent non-residential and residential uses.

**Redevelopment Plans Goal:** To assure that the future development of blighted, vacant and/or underdeveloped land in selected areas throughout the Village is properly developed.

- Objective 1 To limit the effects of piecemeal development by encouraging unified, cohesive development.
- Objective 2 To limit the impacts of non-residential uses on adjacent residential uses by providing adequate buffering and screening.
- Objective 3 To promote and enhance the economic vitality of each redevelopment area.

## Demographics

	1990		2000		2010		2014 est.
<b>Population</b>	75,460		76,031		75,101		
Male	36,321	48.1%	36,556	48.1%	36,019	48.0%	
Female	39,139	51.9%	39,475	51.9%	39,082	52.0%	
Under 18	17,097	22.7%	17,555	23.1%	16,580	22.1%	
Over 18	58,363	77.3%	58,476	76.9%	58,521	77.9%	
65 and Over	9,235	12.2%	12,221	16.1%	12,920	17.2%	
<b>Median Age</b>	36.7		39.7		42.7		

White	70,027	92.8%	68,854.0	90.6%	66,266.0	88.2%	
Hispanic	2,037	2.7%	3,393.0	4.5%	4,306.0	5.7%	
Black	453	0.6%	728.0	1.0%	984.0	1.3%	
Asian	2,943	3.9%	4,548.0	6.0%	5,349.0	7.1%	

## Housing

Total Units	30,428		31,725		32,795		
<b>Vacant Units</b>	1,618	5.30%	962	3.00%	1,876	5.70%	
Owner Occupied			23,608	74.4%	23,600	76.3%	
Average Household Size			2.60		2.55		
Renter Occupied			7,155	22.6%	7,319	23.7%	
Average Household Size			1.91		1.93		

## Age of Housing

< 10 years old	7,159	23.5%	3,036	9.6%	1,529	4.7%	
10 to 20	6,758	22.2%	5,662	17.8%	2,979	9.1%	
20 to 30	9,288	30.5%	7,260	22.9%	5,104	15.6%	
30 to 40	4,968	16.3%	7,751	24.4%	7,288	22.2%	
40 to 60	1,066	3.5%	6,673	21.0%	12,387	37.8%	
60+	1,189	3.9%	1,331	4.2%	2,450	7.5%	

## Employment

<b>Labor Force (private sector)</b>			53,982		44,641		45,651
NW Suburbs			480,696		394,999		393,460
Cook Co.			2,340,639		2,004,132		2,095,533

<b>Labor Force by Industry</b>	48,000		53,982		44,641		45,651	100%
Health & Social Serv, Education			7,151				11,170	24%
Professional							7,521	16%
Retail			4,186				7,117	16%
Admin							5,157	11%
Accommodations / Food Service							2,719	6%
Manufacturing							2,092	5%

<b># of UI Covered Businesses</b>			3,076		3,196		3,234	
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<b>Education pop 25+</b>	52,083		54,025		53,766			
<9th grade	2,003	3.8%	1,467	2.7%	1,129	2.1%		
9th to 12th no diploma	3,322	6.4%	2,452	4.5%	1,237	2.3%		
High School grad	11,633	22.3%	10,475	19.4%	10,914	20.3%		
Some College no degree	10,970	21.1%	11,479	21.2%	9,033	16.8%		
Associates Degree	3,557	6.8%	3,051	5.6%	3,656	6.8%		
BS Degree	14,037	27.0%	16,309	30.2%	16,936	31.5%		
Grad degree	6,561	12.6%	8,792	16.3%	10,807	20.1%		

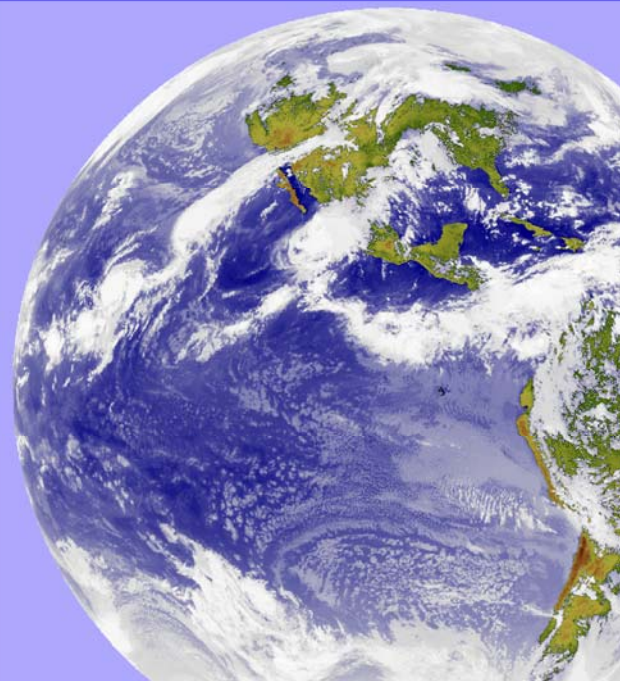
VILLAGE  
OF  
ARLINGTON  
HEIGHTS



**Ene  
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Conservat  
Strat**



June, 2009



**MAYOR**

Arlene J. Mulder

**TRUSTEE**

Norman Breyer  
Thomas F. Stengren  
John Scaletta  
Thomas Glasgow

**TRUSTEE**

Bert Rosenberg  
Thomas W. Hayes  
Helen Jensen  
Joseph C. Farwell

**VILLAGE MANAGER**

William C. Dixon

**ENERGY EFFICIENCY CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

Charles Witherington-Perkins, Chairman  
Director of Planning & Community Development  
Diana Mikula, Assistant to the Village Manager  
Mike Reynolds, Supt. of Maintenance  
Mary Ellen Juarez, Chief Accountant  
Nora Boyer, Housing Planner  
Jeff Bohner, Health Officer

**JUNE 2009**

**VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS  
33 South Arlington Heights Road  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005**

*[www.vah.com](http://www.vah.com)*

# ENERGY EFFICIENCY CONSERVATION STRATEGY

## INTRODUCTION

Back in 1836 a Yankee stone cutter, Asa Dunton was the first to stake claim and cultivate a living on land that became Arlington Heights. By 1845, Dunton's son William had already established a house and a store on the site, setting out to build a town of the future, but it was the railroad that actually put Arlington Heights on the map. As soon as the tracks were laid in 1853, property became valuable overnight. Land began to be developed and businesses started booming. To this day, the railroad is still one of the reasons the town remains a thriving business and residential community. These early pioneers laid the foundation for progress, advancement, and improvement that assured steady growth into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Today, shopping centers, major corporations, and high-rise mixed-use developments are intermixed with quaint store fronts, brick sidewalks, and antique lighting creating the ambiance of a small town and amenities of a big city.

While the landscape has changed over the years, the Village's heritage to public transportation has remained. As the community has grown, Arlington Heights has been a leader in many areas. It has been the recipient of several National awards for Downtown Transit Oriented Development (TOD). Today, the Village continues to be a strong advocate for regional planning, preservation of natural resources and a strong commitment to building sustainable neighborhoods that are pedestrian friendly and easily accessible to the award winning redeveloped Downtown.

As a new era approaches, the Village continues to take a leadership role to expand its past efforts to preserve natural resources and protect the environment from the effects of climate change.

The Village of Arlington Heights is pleased to present this Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy that is designed to encourage residents, businesses, non-profit agencies, and other units of local government in their green initiatives.

## BACKGROUND / HISTORY

Over the past four decades, the Village of Arlington Heights has been very active in "Green Activities". During this time, the Village has implemented many programs and initiatives covering a wide range of disciplines including air quality, urban forestry, recycling, and electricity conservation. Many of these programs have been collaborative efforts involving the Village of Arlington Heights and other public agencies such as the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) and private industry.

The following historical chronology outlines specific environmental programs and milestones over the past four decades:

- ◆ **1971** - The Village established the Environmental Control Commission (ECC). The ECC is an advisory body to the Village Board to address environmental concerns throughout the Village. In 1983, the ECC began an annual poster contest to promote environmental awareness. From 1990 through 2005 the ECC solicited the community for award nominations. Any Arlington Heights business, school, youth or senior group, government or civic organization, individual, service club or homeowners' group was eligible for these awards of environmental excellence. Awards are given for outstanding performance that occurred in that particular year.

- ◆ **1985** - The Village established the Bicycle Commission. As with the ECC, the Bicycle Commission is an advisory body to the Village Board to address traffic reduction through the promotion of bicycle use. A bike route system has been established to provide safe bicycle traffic through the Village.
- ◆ **1985** - The Village became certified as a Tree City USA. The Village continues to be proactive in issues involving our urban forest including Arbor Day. The Village currently manages an urban forest of approximately 47,000 trees of varying species. The Village has received the recognition at "Tree City USA" for 24 consecutive years.
- ◆ **1988** - The Village began its community-wide curbside recycling program for single-family residences. Through our continuous marketing efforts, residents in our single family program divert, on average, over 900 lbs. of recycled material per household annually.
- ◆ **1993** - The Village began its recycling program for multi-family residences. Multifamily residences are required to submit a recycling plan to the Village's Health Department. Each summer an intern reviews the plans, and inspects for compliance and offers suggestions for recycling opportunities.
- ◆ **1994** - The Village began participating in the "America Recycles Day" event. As part of this annual event, the Village drops off free recycling bins to residents that have damaged or lost bins.
- ◆ **1995** - The Village, in conjunction with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County and Motorola, hosted the first electronics recycling event. A total of 81 tons of electronic equipment was collected from 1,315 area residents and kept out of landfills. This is a successful program that has turned into a bi-annual event.
- ◆ **1995** - The Village began a pilot commercial recycling program in the Downtown. The program began in November 1995 and was completed in October of 1996 with 230 businesses participating. A total of 172 tons of recyclable materials were collected in the program. When the pilot program ended, approximately 20 businesses elected to continue their recycling program.
- ◆ **1996** - The Village began a 10-year program to convert all of the Village's 12 Civil Defense Sirens from electric power to solar power.
- ◆ **1998** - To help reduce vehicle emissions and improve air quality, the Village has been purchasing Low Emission Vehicles (LEV). Future initiatives include the use of alternative fuels and the purchase of hybrid vehicles.
- ◆ **2002** - The Village begins holding periodic Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection events. These HHW events have been co-sponsored by the Village, EPA, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago and the Villages of Mt. Prospect, Rolling Meadows and Elk Grove Village.
- ◆ **2004** - The Village installed a waste oil heater in its Public Works Annex Building. This heater is fueled by waste oil generated from the various Village vehicles. The Village recycles 200 gallons of oil annually.
- ◆ **2005** - The Village began a program to replace its older incandescent bulb traffic signal modules with newer more economical and energy efficient light emitting diode (LED) traffic signal modules. It is expected that this will reduce the electricity required to operate the traffic signals by 85%. All 18 Villages maintained intersections have been modified.
- ◆ **2005** - The Village began participating in a mercury exchange program sponsored by the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County.

◆ **2006** - The Village's accomplishments for 2006 are highlighted below:

The Village was awarded a matching grant in the amount of \$8,750 from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to augment its tree planting program. Annually approximately 500 parkway trees are planted throughout the Village.

The Village became a member of the "Clean Air Counts Coalition" and in December 2006 was awarded the Bronze Level Certification for our efforts to improve air quality. Among the efforts required to receive this award are a number of public outreach efforts that include: providing a brief description of the purpose of the CAC program and a link to the CAC website on the Village's municipal web-site. The Village displays CAC public information materials in prominent locations such as at the Public Works Department, Village Hall, and Senior Center and raises environmental awareness through community mailings and other outreach efforts.

The Mayor of Arlington Heights is the current Chair of the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission and has and has served as the only Chair of the Commission during its 12 years of existence.

The Village joined the Northwest Municipal Conference's Environmental Best Practices Committee.

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, the Village Board passed the Smoking Ordinance which, among other things prohibits smoking in most buildings within the Village.

The Village participated in the "Cans for Cash City Recycling Challenge" sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and received a certificate of recognition for that participation.

The Village provided a document destruction event, sponsored by SWANNC, at our Senior Center. Approximately 5.5 tons of shredded paper was generated from this event and sent to a recycling center.

The Village completed its transition to 20% bio-diesel fuel for use in all of its diesel vehicles. Diesel exhaust is responsible for more than 20% of the nation's smog-causing nitrogen oxide emissions and 15% of particulate matter (soot) emissions. Through the use of bio-diesel and other alternative fuels, reductions in soot, hydrocarbon, and carbon monoxide emission levels the Village can make significant progress toward improving air quality.

The Village continued the installation of LED traffic signal modules. A grant was received from the Illinois Clean Energy Foundation to augment this program.

The Village began a three-year program to illuminate the Village's entryway signs using solar power. The Village completed the installation of solar power at three of its entryway sign locations.

In 2006, the Village began construction of its new Village Hall. Inclusion of Green Building Technology was researched for this project. Energy efficient lighting was incorporated into the design of the Village Hall.

◆ **2007** - The Village's accomplishments for 2007 are highlighted below:

Attainment of the Clean Air Counts Silver Award level.

Retrofitting some of the Village's diesel trucks to reduce emissions. A diesel retrofit program is designed to reduce emissions of soot, smog-forming pollutants, and other toxic air pollution caused by diesel-powered vehicles. Using retrofit technologies, reductions in soot, hydrocarbon, and carbon monoxide emission levels can make significant progress toward improving air quality. One older and dirtier diesel vehicle can emit almost 8 tons of pollution per year, or a total of 160 to 240 tons of pollution over the life of the engine.

◆ **2008** - The Village's accomplishments for 2008 are highlighted below:

The Village received \$14,966 from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Alternate Fuels Rebate Program for the Village's continued use of Bio-Diesel (B-20) for Village vehicles.

10 Public Works trucks were retrofitted with diesel particulate exhaust filters. This \$17,819 project was funded through a grant from the Clean Air Counts Campaign. Diesel exhaust is responsible for more than 20% of the nation's smog-causing nitrogen oxide emissions and 15% of particulate matter (soot) emissions. Through the use of bio-diesel and other alternative fuels, reductions in soot, hydrocarbon, and carbon monoxide emission levels can make significant progress toward improving air quality.

The Village continued with a multi-year program to illuminate the Village's entryway signs using solar power. The Village completed the installation of solar power at two additional sites.

The Village placed into service two Hybrid SUV vehicles. These were replacements to the Village's fleet.

The Village signed the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Greenest Region Compact, pledging our commitment to improve the environment region-wide with specific actions. With the signing, the Village received nearly 19,000 CFL light bulbs to distribute to our residents.

The Village Board passed the Sound Insulation and Energy Efficiency amendments to the Village Code requiring minimum energy efficiency construction standards. These provisions developed to minimize the effects within buildings from infiltrating external noise sources and to improve the energy efficiency of buildings and homes.

◆ **2009** - The Village's accomplishments for 2009 thus far are highlighted below:

The Village placed into service four Hybrid vehicles for non-emergency use. These vehicles were replacements to the Village's fleet.

Development of the "Green Guide" and "Green Initiatives" corner on the Village's new web site.

Creation of a Staff Committee to research and recommend Green Initiatives as part of the American Recovery and Re-Investment Act (ARRA).

Preparation of the Village Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy (EECS).

## VISION STATEMENT

*Arlington Heights is a community that embraces and promotes energy efficiency and conservation measures thereby reducing its carbon footprint and resulting in healthier improved lifestyles.*

## GOALS & OBJECTIVES

### TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE

#### **1. Continue to support and encourage mixed-use, transit-oriented development.**

- a. Continue to implement the 2007 Downtown Master Plan
- b. Maintain the reduced requirement for the number of parking spaces provided in developments Downtown or near new transit stations.
- c. Evaluate a requirement to provide spaces for bicycles and hybrid or electric vehicle parking in new developments.
- d. Encourage developers to provide shared parking in mixed-use developments.
- e. Maintain the existing payment option for developers in lieu of providing parking spaces Downtown.
- f. Continue to promote and manage the shared parking system in public parking garages.

#### **2. Encourage Arlington Heights businesses to adopt strong employee commuting or other programs aimed to reduce the number of single occupant automobile commuters.**

- a. Promote the Village's Bicycle to Work program and encourage businesses to consider similar programs.
- b. Support car-share programs by expanding designated parking for car-share vehicles in Village garages.
- c. Increase awareness of car-share program benefits among Arlington Heights residents and businesses.
- d. Encourage and promote other employee commuting measures such as RTA commuter credit, reverse commuter parking, shuttle bus service, or van pools.

#### **3. Reduce vehicle emissions.**

- a. Encourage taxi companies, local shuttle services and school buses to convert to hybrids or other fuel efficient vehicles.
- b. Explore offering incentives to taxi companies that purchase hybrid or highly fuel efficient vehicles.
- c. Where feasible, implement traffic-calming and speed reduction strategies that reduce unnecessary stops and starts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- d. Develop a Village wide anti-idling campaign and promote awareness to residents and businesses.

#### **4. Support measures that reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions. Promote healthy living and alternative transportation modes.**

- a. Support efforts to improve public transit connections.
- b. Encourage walking and bicycling to school by designating routes.
- c. Continue sidewalk enhancements and maintenance programs.
- d. Coordinate the installation of additional sheltered bicycle racks downtown and at transit stations.
- e. Facilitate the full implementation of the Village Bicycle Plan, and promotion of viable bike routes.

**5. Promote public transit as a viable option for commuting to work, home, and entertainment.**

- a. Continue to support, promote and implement the proposed Metra STAR Line.
- b. Continue to promote walkable neighborhoods to Downtown.
- c. Promote using Metra public transportation where feasible.

**6. Increase affordable housing options and resources in Arlington Heights as a mechanism to reducing vehicle travel.**

- a. Continue to explore and encourage affordable private housing.
- b. Promote the Village's Affordable Housing Toolkit Policy to facilitate jobs near housing thereby reducing vehicle travel.

**7. Reduce Village of Arlington Heights fleet vehicle emissions.**

- a. Continue to replace higher emitting vehicles with vehicles that meet or exceed the most current Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) emission standards.
- b. Ensure that the vehicle purchased "fits" the size of the duties for which it is intended.
- c. Maintain Bio diesel converted fleet.
- d. Monitor & expand purchase of hybrids as replacement vehicles.
- e. Where feasible, pool Village vehicles and reduce the size of the fleet.
- f. Promote bicycling and walking as an option, where feasible, within Police and Parking Enforcement operations to reduce fleet size.
- g. Promote anti-idling for Village vehicles
- h. Consider retrofitting applicable Village vehicles with emission reduction technology.

**ENERGY EFFICIENCY & BUILDINGS**

**Businesses**

**8. Reduce emissions related to electric and gas use in commercial, institutional and industrial buildings and promote Energy Efficiency through Utility Programs.**

- a. Encourage businesses to participate in programs that allow users to manage their energy use and take advantage of real-time pricing, if feasible.
- b. Collaborate with ComEd to increase awareness of and encourage businesses to participate in ComEd's commercial energy efficiency incentive programs including ComEd Load Response Program.

**9. Promote Business Community Outreach.**

- a. Promote the installation and use of programmable thermostats as an energy saving mechanism.
- b. Reduce heating and cooling loads by promoting light-colored roofs and paving materials, planting trees and increasing landscaping.
- c. Promote "best practice" examples by Arlington businesses.
- d. Encourage developers and contractors to exceed the minimum requirements established by the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) when building or renovating.
- e. Work with the State to increase awareness of and encourage schools and affordable housing providers to participate in the IL Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's (IL DCEO) energy efficiency incentive programs.
- f. Encourage local retailers to stock and promote Energy Star products.
- g. Promote use of Energy Star products.
- h. Promote and facilitate energy audits and installation of recommended improvements.

## **10. Energy Efficiency Resources.**

- a. Expand and maintain the web based community resource guide for energy efficiency, renewable energy and green building grants, tax incentives and technical resources.
- b. Help small businesses, non-profit organizations and public agencies access energy conservation services through the Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC), the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and other agencies.

## **11. Codes, Policies, and Legislation**

- a. Support programs that require or provide incentives for new construction and existing buildings that achieve energy efficiency.
- b. Evaluate legislation to reduce outdoor light pollution.
- c. Require green building and energy-efficient measures, including Energy Star or equivalent appliances, lighting and heating equipment in Village-funded projects

### Residential

## **12. Reduce emissions related to electric and gas use in residential buildings.**

- a. Launch a community awareness program to promote the use of compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs)
- b. Promote shade trees and vegetative cover (walls and roofs) as an energy conservation technique.
- c. Work with the Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County (CEDA) to increase awareness of and participation in CEDA's free weatherization program for income-qualified households.
- d. Promote and facilitate energy audits and installation of recommended improvements.
- e. Advise residents of local, state, and federal programs and resources that provide information on financing for energy efficiency improvements.

## **13. Promote Education and Outreach.**

- a. Promote the use of Energy Star products.
- b. Support the development of workshops on reducing home energy use.
- c. Promote education and outreach efforts around the measures with the most cost-effective energy savings such as weatherization, CFLs, thermostats management and low-flow shower heads.

## **14. Reduce emissions related to electric and gas use in Village owned and operated buildings, parking lots, garages and along Village streets.**

- a. Consider energy-efficient measures that have a payback of 40 years or less.
- b. Support efforts to exceed energy code on new construction and renovation projects.
- c. Maintain converted traffic signals to light-emitting diode (LED) technologies.
- d. Convert street lights and traffic signals to more efficient technologies as they become available without compromising public safety.
- e. Leverage federal, state, and private funding to finance energy efficiency measures.

### RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES

## **15. Reduce emissions related to motor fuel use through the use of bio-fuels.**

- a. Support efforts to make biodiesel commercially available to residents and businesses.
- b. Encourage residents to switch from regular gasoline and diesel fuels to bio-fuels if feasible.
- c. Continue to reduce emissions related to motor fuel use by Village fleet through the use of bio-fuels.
- d. Investigate the feasibility of retrofitting fleet vehicle fuel tanks and heating systems to run on waste vegetable oil. (WVO)

**16. Reduce emissions generated by buildings to the promotion and use of renewable energy.**

- a. Encourage residents to consider and install solar thermal panels for hot water heating at their homes or on demand systems.
- b. Encourage businesses and institutions to install solar photovoltaic systems when feasible.
- c. Consider the installation of solar thermal panels at Village facilities that use large quantities of hot water.
- d. Develop zoning and permitting regulations for the installation of renewable energy applications in residential and commercial buildings.

**WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING**

**17. Increase residential waste reduction recycling.**

- a. Continue to expand and support efforts to increase community awareness of recycling.
- b. Continue to work with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County to expand recyclable material collection programs for residents in Arlington Heights, including electronic and paint waste.
- c. Advise residents of resources for recycling materials not collected through Arlington Heights' recycling programs.
- d. Encourage residents to compost at home.

**18. Increase commercial recycling and waste reduction.**

- a. Work with businesses to identify resources and strategies for reusing and reducing waste.
- b. Encourage businesses to begin or increase their recycling efforts.
- c. Identify barriers to recycling in the commercial sector and support efforts to overcome the barriers identified.
- d. Encourage retailers to offer incentives to customers that bring their own shopping bags.
- e. Encourage businesses and residents to utilize salvage services when undertaking demolition and renovation projects.

**19. Keep clothing and fabric out of the landfill.**

- a. Encourage efforts of local non-profits who have created a market for resale of used clothing.
- b. Encourage residents to "recycle" clothing, fabric, and other household goods.
- c. Encourage Village departments to purchase recycled content and durable, long lasting products.
- d. Promote efforts to increase recycling in public spaces and at events.
- e. Consider a recycling requirement as part of Village permits for special events.

**20. Reduce emissions related to the production and transportation of food.**

- a. Promote and continue to expand the Arlington Heights Farmer Market.

**FORESTRY AND BEAUTIFICATION**

**21. Optimize tree planting and protect existing trees for maximum carbon reduction.**

- a. Continue planting and management guidelines based upon urban forestry standards.
- b. Encourage Village wide tree preservation.
- c. Encourage tree planting and native landscaping by private landowners.
- d. Implement Green Corridors when feasible.

## **22. Optimize the use of native plants throughout Arlington Heights**

- a. Encourage the use of native plants in public and private developments.
- b. Promote education and outreach programs that increase awareness around the benefits of native plants.
- c. Encourage use of native plants on private property.

## **23. Increase water conservation measures**

- a. Support regional efforts to conserve water.
- b. Support policies, ordinances, and codes that promote water conservation.
- c. Promote education and outreach programs to engage the community in water conservation practices.
- d. Promote the use of rainbarrel collection systems.

## **24. Implement policies and practices that treat rainwater as a resource and make use of it where it falls**

- a. Support policies, ordinances, and codes that promote green solutions to Stormwater management.
- b. Encourage the community wide implementation of Best Management Practices (BMP's) for stormwater management that uses the power of plants and soil to absorb and clean rainfall runoff.
- c. Incorporate BMP's in capital improvement projects and ongoing infrastructure maintenance (e.g., green alleys, redesigned curbing; filter strips and bioswales; native vegetation; permeable materials for parking lots).
- d. Promote education and outreach programs to engage community (residents, business owners, schools, institutions) in implementing BMP's for stormwater management.

## **POLICY AND RESEARCH**

## **25. Track and publicize information on climate change and Village efforts to implement this Energy Efficiency Strategy.**

- a. Prepare an annual progress report on the Arlington Heights' Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy.
- b. Track relevant regional, national and international best practices.
- c. Develop and adopt procurement guidelines for secured goods and services that contribute to a reduction of the community's greenhouse gas emissions.

## **26. Secure and leverage funding for Energy Efficiency initiatives.**

- a. Identify local, state and federal grants and resources to support and fund initiatives outlined in the Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy.
- b. Identify and evaluate innovative and creative funding sources for implementing the initiatives and strategies outlined in the Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy.
- c. Acknowledge exemplary community efforts and initiatives that support the reduction of Arlington Heights's greenhouse gas emissions.

## **27. Support local, state and national efforts to promote energy conservation measures.**

- a. Participate in local, state and national initiatives and programs that provide information, tools and resources for the implementation of the Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy.
- b. Encourage and support greenhouse gas reduction efforts at the regional, state and national level.

## EDUCATION, PROMOTION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

### **28. Encourage the community to take action around the Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy.**

- a. Encourage residents, businesses, schools, park district, churches, and non-profits, etc. to develop working groups with the goal of helping to implement the strategies outlined in this Strategy.

### **29. Gain support from the largest Arlington Heights institutions and businesses for the implementation of the Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy.**

- a. Support efforts to convene a meeting of the largest Arlington Heights institutions and businesses to discuss and gain support for the Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy.
- b. Encourage participants to assign representatives to a working group that will be tasked with sharing resources, information and strategies for implementing the Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy.
- c. Work with the Arlington Heights Chamber of Commerce to promote energy efficiency among its members.

### **30. Use Discover Arlington marketing programs to promote green practices.**

- a. Support community-based outreach efforts to disseminate information and resources at community and Village-sponsored events.

### **31. Connect residents, businesses and Village staff to workshops, training and lectures on green practices.**

- a. Support the development of a "Speakers Bureau" and encourage community members and businesses to participate as speakers in their areas of expertise.
- b. Develop and implement a "Green Training" initiative for Village staff to ensure understanding of and support for the Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy.

### **32. Disseminate information to the community about the Village's Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy.**

- a. Explore development of a green technology exhibit.
- b. Encourage residents, businesses, students and community groups to use the Zero footprint Arlington Heights online carbon footprint calculator.
- c. Explore conducting a survey of Arlington Heights residents to identify current knowledge, attitudes, and behavior related to climate change.
- d. Utilize the Village's website to promote Green technology and conservation efficiency.

## POTENTIAL PROJECTS

	Project	Prelim Cost	Funding Source	Timeline	Goals
<b>LIGHTING</b>					
	Scarsdale street light retrofit	\$156,450	EECBG	TBD	#14, #26
	Downtown North decorative retrofit	\$155,992	EECBG	TBD	#14, #26
	Downtown North high mast retrofit	\$11,470	EECBG	2009	#14, #26
	Downtown North new lights retrofit	\$17,000	EECBG	2009	#14, #26
	Downtown South decorative retrofit	\$403,744	EECBG	TBD	#14, #26
	Downtown South high mast retrofit	\$48,000	EECBG	2010	#14, #26
	Village Hall site retrofit	\$36,704	EECBG	TBD	#14, #26
	Village Hall surface lots retrofit	\$22,940	EECBG	TBD	#14, #26
	PW Garage high efficiency fixtures	\$62,430	EECBG	2010	#14, #26
	Install light sensors in other Village buildings	TBD	TBD	TBD	#9, #14
	Fire Station No. 3 high efficiency fixtures	\$19,584	EECBG	TBD	#14, #26
	Fire Station No. 4 high efficiency fixtures	\$19,584	EECBG	TBD	#14, #26
<b>SOLAR</b>	Downtown parking garage solar photovoltaic preliminary engineering	\$20,000	EECBG	2009	#14, #16
	Solar bike shelter	\$150,000 \$30,000	CMAQ EECBG	2010	#4 #14 #16
	Public Works solar panel @Hanson Center	\$300,000	EECBG	2010-2011	#14 #16
<b>VEHICLES</b>	Purchase Hybrids (as replacement schedule allows)	\$14,000	EECBG 25%		#3
	Differential	\$14,000	Fleet Fund 75%	2010	#7
	Bio-Diesel Incremental cost reimbursement	\$16,200 \$120,000	State IL Green FLEET Village General Fund	2009	#7 #15
	Electric plug-in preference parking	TBD	TBD	TBD	#3, #4
<b>ENERGY CONSERVATION</b>	Energy Audits for Public Buildings PW building LEED assessment	\$5,000	EECBG	2009	#14
	Small Business revolving loan	\$70,000	EECBG	2009-2011	#9, #29
	Residential revolving loan				#12
	Energy analysis	\$70,000	EECBG	2009-2011	#13 #28
	Energy analysis for water system	\$50,000	EECBG	2010	#14
	Affordable Housing	\$58,200	CDBG - Recovery	2009-2012	#6
<b>WASTE REDUCTION/ RECYCLING</b>	Residential rain barrel program	N/C	None	TBD	#23
	Develop latex paint pick-up program	N/C	None	TBD	#17, #18
<b>EDUCATION, PROMOTION &amp; PUBLIC RELATIONS</b>	Energy exhibit	TBD	TBD	2010	#32
	Village energy star guide/policy/fund	N/C	None	2009	#9, #11 #13, #25
	Business location incentives	TBD	TBD	TBD	

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

The Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy sets forth a vision and course of action for the community to embrace energy efficiency and conservation measures that reduce the Village's carbon footprint and result in healthy improved lifestyles. This plan is just one step in a long range process which entails taking many actions necessary to implement the ideas and the goals and objectives set forth in this document. Over the past four decades, the Village of Arlington Heights has been very active in promoting and implementing green activities and initiatives and this strategy sets forth the roadmap to continue this endeavor. In order to implement this strategy, the Village of Arlington Heights will need to take implementation actions in the following major categories:

- Funding

The Village of Arlington Heights will identify, pursue, and submit requests for funding for energy initiatives.

- Policies, Codes and Legislation

The Village of Arlington Heights will support programs that require or provide incentives for energy efficiency and evaluate potential modifications to ordinances and codes that promote the goals and objectives outlined in this strategy.

- Promote and Educate

The Village of Arlington Heights will promote and educate the community to take action to implement climate change, work with local businesses, residents, and non-profit groups, and other stakeholders to ensure a greater understanding of the importance of climate change.

- Monitor and Evaluate

In order to fully implement the various components of the Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy, the Village of Arlington Heights will prepare annual progress reports, monitor the efforts, and seek new opportunities for achieving best practices.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Village of Arlington Heights has been proactively involved in environmental issues for many years. The Village's environmental efforts encompass a broad spectrum of activities with the goal of improving environmental awareness and reducing its consumption of natural resources. Village initiatives are not based upon just one program, but several programs that incorporate a variety of energy saving options. From solar power, to reducing electric consumption; from the use of alternative fuels to everyday recycling, the Village is committed to conserving natural resources and protecting the environment now and into the future.

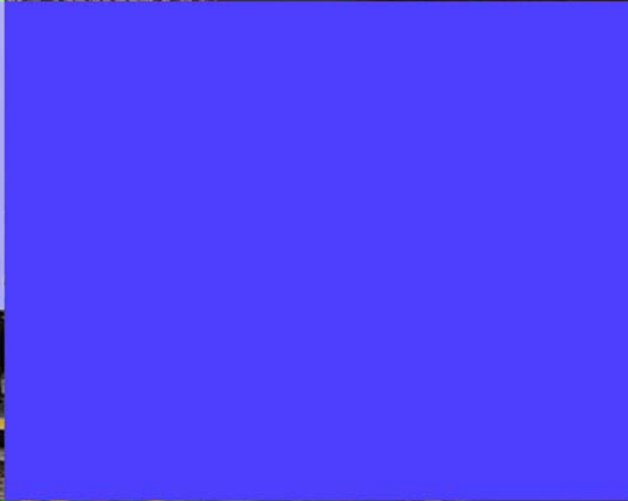
Many of the Villages programs implemented and proposed are not simply one-time programs, but long term sustainable programs requiring annual commitments to keep them going. Additionally, these programs transcend department boundaries requiring a collective effort by all Village Departments to promote and fulfill the environmental goals.

The Village of Arlington Heights is committed to continuing the environmental efforts outlined in this Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy for many years to come. It is this long term commitment to environmental issues and collective implementation by the Village which sets the Village of Arlington Heights apart as a leader in environment strategies.

With the recent infusion of federal stimulus money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the Village has developed a comprehensive plan to address environmental issues in the future. The Village of Arlington Heights' Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy consists of a broad spectrum of programs and projects designed to reduce fossil fuel emissions in a manner that is environmentally sustainable and, to the maximum extent practicable, maximizes benefits locally and regionally; reduces the total energy use of the Village and its stakeholders; and improves energy efficiency in the building, transportation and other appropriate sectors of the community. The successful implementation of the Village's EECS will create and/or retain jobs and stimulate the economy while meeting long term energy goals.

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# *Sustainability & Stewardship*

## **Introduction and Overview**

The 2012 National Citizen Survey found 81% of Orland Park residents rated the quality of the local natural environment as “excellent” or “good”. The survey also found above average appreciation for clean air and water quality, storm water management, and waste reduction. The survey concluded that treatment of the environment affects these factors and, generally, how habitable and inviting a place is.

Orland Park’s environmental initiatives have preserved and conserved our natural heritage in open lands, saved money and amplified profit margins by conserving water and energy resources, and improved accessibility to residents and businesses alike. Orland Park promotes responsible development that is environmentally friendly, economically marketable and profitable and socially equitable. In 2007, Orland Park reused and converted an old warehouse building into the country’s first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certified police headquarters. This type of leadership inspired private buildings like American Technical Publishers in 2009 to achieve LEED Gold status.

In 2009, the Village Board adopted the community’s first green plan, the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Municipal Action Plan (ECOMAP). With 17 tasks and over 100 deliverables, ECOMAP intends to reduce the municipal carbon-footprint and begin the long road toward becoming less environmentally and energy wasteful. To implement the plan, the Village established Smart Living Orland Park. These efforts reflect the community’s leadership in, commitment to, and desire for a quality environment that is functional and strategic.

In order to be more sustainable, we must be greener in the things we do, smarter at what we do, and better than what we did before. Ultimately, making a livable community begins with communicating the idea that we are custodians of our places with the responsibility to manage our shared and valuable environmental and economic assets for future generations. This chapter includes recommendations to achieve that balance while recognizing that sustainability is not a goal that is achieved within a certain number of years, but rather a way to act towards a responsible future.

*Farmer's Market, Orland Park*

*Ultimately, making a livable community begins with communicating the idea that we are custodians of our places with the responsibility to manage our shared and valuable environmental and economic assets for future generations.*

## 2030 Vision

Orland Park will be a sustainable, healthy place with efficient and functional infrastructure that is balanced with nature and community.

## Key Concept

A common understanding of 'sustainable development' is to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainability also includes the balance of and coordination between the 'Three E's' of environment, economy and equity, as well as development that minimizes negative impact on the environment and other systems. Both of these are key concepts of this chapter.

*(Brundtland Commission)*

## Sustainability and Stewardship Principles

1. Promote responsible development for local ecology, economy and equity.
2. Foster symbiosis between human and natural systems.
3. Improve community health and vitality.
4. Meet the hierarchy of present and future human needs fairly and efficiently.
5. Reduce dependence on fossil fuels, chemical and other synthetic/unnatural substances.

*(APA)*

## The Smart Living Program

1. Adds economic value to the natural ecology.
2. Enables local prosperity.
3. Makes the benefits of sustainability accessible to everyone.
4. Manages and improves shared and valuable environmental and economic assets.

*Evergreen View Detention Facility, Orland Park*



Earth Day 2012, Orland Park

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## Sustainability & Stewardship Components

### DIY Sustainability

The Orland Park Residential Rewards Program encourages quick and easy retrofits for saving money and a better environment.

The Residential Rewards Program makes sustainable opportunities and choices available to all people. RRP combines the benefits achieved through a greater awareness of environmentally friendly practices—like clean air, water and soil—with recreational opportunities that are connected with nature, improving the performance and health of households. Creating healthy and livable communities begins with respecting the diverse backgrounds of our residents and enabling them to meet their needs sustainably. Smart Living's RRP encourages investment in the community's economy and health, and provides access to knowledge and skills for households.

Sustainability and stewardship themes and ideas are sprinkled throughout each chapter of the Comprehensive Plan. They can be found in discussions and recommendations for alternative transportation design, for example, to open lands conservation. The below components focus on the core sustainability effort and are summarized to provide only a broad overview of the multifaceted elements that contribute to Sustainability & Stewardship in Orland Park.

### Smart Living Orland Park

Smart Living Orland Park is a program that connects residents and businesses with the Village to promote sustainable green practices and to save resources like water and energy. The goal of the program is to reduce operational costs/ living expenses, improve efficiency and conserve resources. The program is divided into five branches: Smart Living, Smart Business, Smart Neighborhood, Smart Village and Smart Codes.

#### Smart Living

Smart Living, the residential component, shares its name with the overall program because it is the main focus that primarily connects residents with the Village's ongoing promotion of green initiatives. A few highlights of the Smart Living program include:

- Programs coordinated by the Recreation and Parks Department like T.O.S.S , battery recycling, education efforts and more.
- Residential Rewards Program (RRP) a feature incentive program of Smart Living that scores participants on a number of prescribed green actions taken in a home.
- Utility incentives work together with RRP to maximize assistance for residents.
- ComEd's Smart Ideas for Your Home and NICOR Gas incentives offer utility customers rebates for participation in energy efficiency programs.



Smart Living Green Tent, Orland Park



Local Plantings, Orland Park

*In order to make Orland Park a sustainable, healthy place with efficient and functional infrastructure that is balanced with nature and community, we must become **greener** in the things we do, **smarter** at what we do and how we do it, and **better** than before.*



Farmer's Market, Orland Park

### Smart Business

Similar to the residential program, Smart Business is an incentive based program that has primarily focused on energy efficiency and energy use reduction for businesses and includes the following:

- Promotion of the sale/ purchase of energy efficient materials or equipment and changing lighting in businesses to energy efficient CFL or LED lights.
- Energy efficiency as economic development with incentive programs.
  - ComEd's Smart Ideas for Your Business offers 30% rebates for energy efficient building retrofits, lighting, HVAC, refrigeration, data centers etc.
  - Orland Park's Smart Energy Fund (SEF) combined utility incentives with Federal money like the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant to maximize ROI in energy efficiency projects for businesses.
  - SEF leveraged nearly 3 times the amount of private money for every public dollar spent despite it being a 50% cost share program.

### Smart Neighborhood

The Smart Neighborhood program is a planning/development component of Smart Living Orland Park and is characterized by the following:

- A goal to construct a certified green neighborhood or subdivision in Orland Park.
- An emphasis on the performance of the green neighborhood rather than the rating system that certifies it green.
- The program has adopted various strategies not necessarily related to USGBC's LEED system and is open to other certification programs like the NAHB's National Green Building Standard.

### Smart Village

Through Smart Village, the municipal component, Orland Park local government leads by example with its own green initiatives and unique management techniques. Activities of Smart Village include:

- Maintaining the country's first LEED Gold Police Headquarters.
- Use of new building technologies and practices to enhance the quality of life for visitors and employees of public buildings.
- Reduction in the quantity of paper used in government activities by publishing on the internet (i.e. paperless agendas etc.) and paper waste through recycling.
- Improved building management operations for air quality and temperatures.
- Retrofitted energy efficient systems like HVAC, boilers and lighting systems in Village buildings.
- Increased use of native landscaping and worked toward a greater awareness for water efficiency and conservation
- Recycling programs for unique products like holiday lights, batteries, crayons and more.

### Smart Codes

To accomplish many of the green initiatives outlined in the other Smart Living Orland Park branches, codes must be updated to enable the planning and implementation of green technologies and methods that conserve resources and dynamically approach sustainability and stewardship. Key features of Smart Codes include:

- Renewable energy codes to enable wind, solar, geothermal and biomass energy conversion systems; electric vehicle charging stations.
- Storm-water management techniques and other green infrastructure systems like green roofs, rain gardens and barrels, storm water cisterns, bio-swales, native vegetation, porous pavers and pavements, and street edge alternatives.
- Water conservation strategies and programs (local and state sponsored).
- Amending existing codes with green or smart standards for subdivision regulations, zoning provisions, etc.

## The Three “E’s”: Ecology, Economy, Equity

One way to understand sustainability and develop a stewardship plan for implementation is to address the three widely recognized elements: ecology, economy and equity (also known as “the triple bottom line”).

### Ecology

Ecology describes the relationship we and other living organisms have with our natural environments. Although much of Orland Park has developed in a traditional suburban manner, efforts have been taken to protect, preserve and enhance natural areas reflective of the local heritage including wetlands, prairie grasslands, and savannah forests. Besides supporting regional biodiversity, these ecosystems provide valuable services to our community that include flood control, soil stabilization, and water quality maintenance to name a few. (*Ecorrust, 2013*) To protect these resources, the Village works with developers and land owners using management techniques and preservation strategies. The below policies highlight current efforts as related to ecology:

- Storm water best management practices and techniques that retain hydrology for existing natural systems and emphasize groundwater recharge;
- Conservation development practices and techniques that respect existing topography;
- Conservation easements for grasslands, tree stands and other significant natural features;
- Acquisition of over 300 acres of land to be preserved as open space within the Village;
- Programs like the Tree Mitigation Bank, which is a fee-in-lieu funding source dedicated to urban forestry; and
- Habitat and biodiversity enhancement techniques like controlled burns, wetland and prairie detention facilities, reduced mowing, invasive species removal and other environmental preservation strategies.

Maintaining and managing a natural environment that compliments the built environment benefits both current and future generations, positively affecting health and security. Local ecosystems have both direct impacts to the immediate environment and indirect impacts at the regional, national, and even international scale.



Lake Sedgewick Cleanup, Orland Park



Centennial Wetland Signage, Orland Park



Lake Sedgewick Cleanup, Orland Park



Sheffield Square Construction, Orland Park



Student Government Day 2012, Orland Park



Green Fair 2012, Orland Park

## Economy

Economy describes the way we manage our resources as a community. Orland Park has placed a special emphasis on water and energy, important resources that influence the economy and ecosystem and result in significant costs to the community and the environment. Programs like the Smart Energy Fund and Residential Exterior Insulation and Re-siding Fund, administered through Orland Park Smart Business, decreased energy demand while increasing return on investment. The Village also promotes WaterSense rated systems to increase water conservation.

Smart Business has lowered energy demand during peak operating hours and reduced program participants' carbon footprints. Programs like SEF and REIRS are examples of smart incentives that address local economic handicaps and environmental concerns and assist small businesses and residents become economically viable and efficient. Engaging the community with such programs:

- Maintains the health of the environment and the community;
- Encourages greater capital investment for economic stability; and
- Reduces risks and liabilities associated with infrastructure maintenance and environmental degradation.

## Equity

At the municipal level, equity translates into equal access to knowledge, skills and programs that benefit the community. Goals and actions related to equity can be found in many other chapters of this plan including Economic Development, Open Space, Parks & Recreation, and Community & Culture. Orland Park has made strides in being a community focused on equity as highlighted in the following activities:

- Smart Living Orland Park improves awareness of and access to alternative "greener" products and practices.
- The Citizens Information Center on the Village's website and the creation of a Public Information Office are efforts to increase the availability of information to Orland Park residents. In fact, Orland Park was the first community in Illinois to achieve a 100% score on the Illinois Policy Institutes 10 point transparency checklist.
- Orland Park has successfully administered a number of Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) that have resulted in infrastructure improvements like street resurfacing and park development in areas with low incomes.
- The rental housing registration program provides protection and security to both renters and landlords and results in safe housing options.

## “The Water Story”

The Great Lakes are the largest surface freshwater system on Earth. Lake Michigan provides water for Orland Park and nearly 80% of the Chicago metropolitan region. International laws between the United States and Canada regulate the amount of water cities and regions can divert from the Great Lakes. Those laws, however, do not apply to Lake Michigan, which has the largest metropolitan region on the Great Lakes and is entirely within the United States. Lake Michigan diversion is regulated by a US Supreme Court mandate in *Wisconsin v. Illinois*. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources administers the Supreme Court’s mandate and issues permits to communities where Lake Michigan water is the most economical water source for its customers. Those communities are limited in the amount of water that can be drawn from the Lake, but regional growth and increasing demand have placed a strain on the water supply. The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning’s Water 2050 Northeastern Illinois Regional Water Supply/Demand Plan (2010) estimates that without effective resource management, water demand could increase as much as 64% by 2050, outstripping current supply and capacity and exceeding the Supreme Court’s limit on water diversion—both of which are costly scenarios.

In addition to increased demand, water that historically recharged lakes and aquifers has, over time, been diverted into an efficient storm and sanitary system designed to move water away as quickly as possible. This type of infrastructure, exemplified in the reversal of the Chicago/Illinois River, has disrupted natural watersheds. Recent policy changes have begun to emphasize best management stormwater techniques that provide for appropriate drainage while restoring and recharging the local water supply.

Lake Michigan water is a finite and vulnerable resource, essential to sustain our life, development and the environment. The conservation and efficient use of this precious resource merits a stewardship strategy that engages all water uses and users, including residents, businesses, utilities and policy-makers at all levels of government. (Orland Park Resolutino 1306)



Lake Michigan

## Orland Park Police

In August of 2012, the Orland Park Police Department participated in the National Night Out Against Crime program for the fifteenth year, hosting a seniors citizen luncheon and seminar on crime prevention in the afternoon. The evening event at the civic center again drew hundreds of residents who participated in numerous events emphasizing crime prevention. There were also many activities and events for children and parents. On January 13, 2013, the department received the National Award from the National Town Watch Association for our "Night Out" activities.

(VOP, 2012)



Canine Unit, Orland Park.

## Community Livability, Health & Vitality

In addition to the Smart Living program and other environmentally oriented policies of the Village, Orland Park is host to a number of programs and events that promote community health and vitality. A sampling of these programs include:

### Life Safety

While also protecting the safety of visitors and residents, the Orland Park Police Department and Orland Park Fire Protection District, among other entities, coordinate a number of efforts to improve community health including:

- Hosting a prescription drug take-back day (national initiative from the DEA to reduce prescription drugs in homes and also reduce them from the water supply).
- Educational programming on drug use and addiction through the DARE program and the development of educational videos.
- Administration of the crime-free housing initiative.
- Coordinating the National Night Out Against Crime Program.
- Engaging the community in safety training via the Citizens Police & Fire Academies.

### Wellness

Orland Park, Orland Township and other agencies coordinate a number of events as related to general health and wellness including:

- Orland Township monthly wellness screenings and seasonal flu shots.
- Access to health services like cholesterol testing, diabetes monitoring, podiatry screenings, physicals and more.
- Annual Sportsplex health fair.
- Workshops and support groups for all demographics and needs.
- A wide variety of fitness programs for all ages and abilities offered throughout numerous Village facilities.
- The Orland Park Recreation and Parks Department hosts a number of special events to promote healthy lifestyles such as the health fair, indoor duathlon, turkey trot and more.

### Local Food

The Village promotes the consumption of local and sustainable food in the following ways:

- The purchase and programming of Boley Farm and Stellwagen Farm to be used for local farming purposes.
- The administration of a weekly farmers market from June to October that highlights locally procured foods.
- The implementation of community gardens in Discovery Park.
- The economic development efforts to maintain a variety of grocery stores within the Village, including those that provide local and organic items.



Turkey Trot 2012, Orland Park

## GO TO 2040

### Livability Matters

The cumulative choices of 284 municipalities and seven counties contribute to quality of life and economic prosperity across our region. With local autonomy over land use comes the responsibility to consider how those decisions shape a community's livability, including how they affect neighboring communities and the region as a whole. As a region, we need to implement policies and investments that make livability the highest priority. In addition to their quality-of-life benefits, livability and compact growth make good economic sense for our region and its residents as well. Developing our existing communities and improving their livability is more cost-effective and resource-efficient than rapidly developing in areas that don't have adequate infrastructure. Some of the tangible benefits of livable communities are:

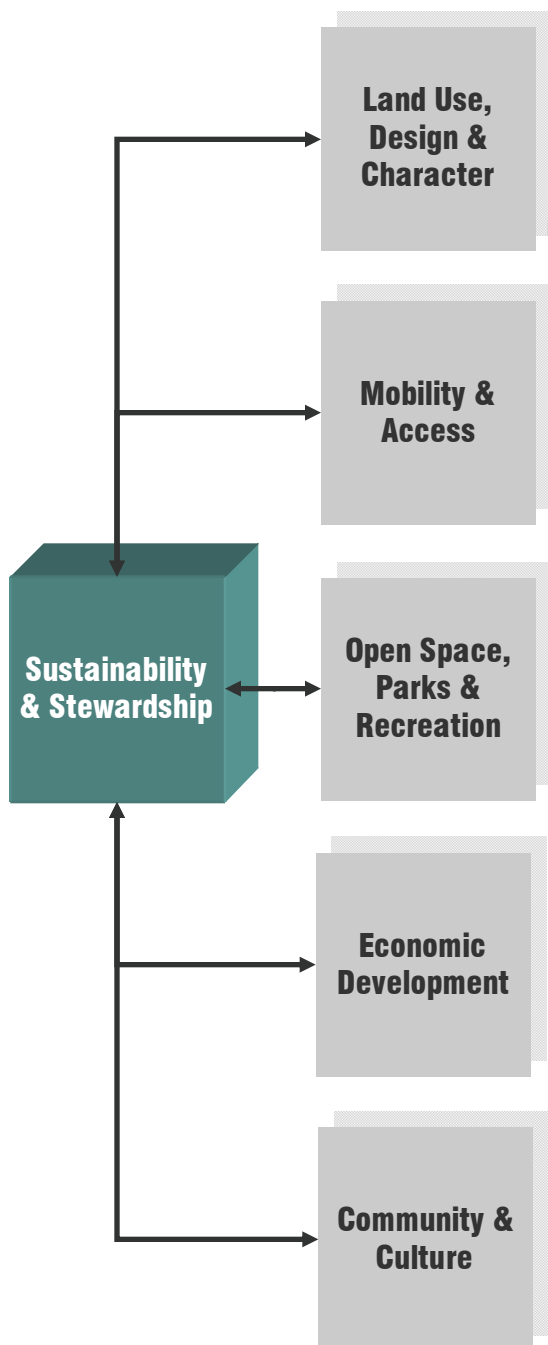
- Lower household costs for residents
- Reduced costs to taxpayers
- More parks and open space
- Increased energy efficiency
- More options for transportation
- Increased water efficiency
- Improved health
- Increased availability of local food

(CMAP, 2010a)



Senior Week, Orland Park

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## Recommendations

This chapter intends to provide guidance to act towards a more responsible and sustainable future. The following recommendations address the three “E’s” of sustainability—ecology, economy and equity. It is important to remember that recommendations of the sustainability chapter interplay and integrate with all other chapters in the Comprehensive Plan. The Goals and Objectives listed below were developed as a response to the needs and issues of Sustainability & Stewardship in the Village.

### Needs and Issues

1. Although Orland Park has taken a proactive approach to environmental issues, a dependence on non-renewable resources and materials like fossil fuels, chemicals and other synthetic substances dominates day-to-day life.
2. Many current regulations and market forces conflict with and prohibit environmentally progressive development.
3. As a way of thinking, sustainability is not a driving force in making decisions in the community.
4. Land, water and fossil fuels are finite resources to natural systems and the community.
5. Green infrastructure and a greener local economy require long-term capital planning and investment.
6. Despite a number of progressive efforts, food consumed by the community is imported from faraway places, requiring fossil fuels, fertilizers, plastics, chemical preservatives and other synthetics.
7. Continued efforts to improve community wellness and vitality will have positive health benefits for all residents in the future.
8. Education and outreach using community assets are part and parcel of sustainability and stewardship.
9. Federal and state mandates demand greener actions for development.

**LEED ND**

LEED ND, by the US Green Building Council, integrates the principles of smart growth, urbanism and green building into the first national system for neighborhood design. LEED ND can be for whole neighborhoods, portions of neighborhoods or multiple neighborhoods--there is no minimum or maximum size for a LEED ND project. Thoughtful neighborhood planning can limit the need for automobiles and their greenhouse gas emissions. Mixed-use development and pedestrian-friendly streets encourage walking, bicycling and public transportation. Green buildings and infrastructure also lessen negative consequences for water resources, air quality and natural resource consumption. The character of a neighborhood, including its streets, homes, workplaces, shops and public spaces, affects quality of life. Green developments respect historic resources and the existing community fabric. They preserve open space and encourage access to parks. LEED ND was developed in collaboration with the Congress for the New Urbanism and the Natural Resources Defense Council.

(USGBC, 2013)

**GOAL 1.0 ECOLOGY**

Protect the natural environment with responsible development that manages ecological resources and preserves benefits for future generations.

**Objective 1.1**

New development and redevelopment in Orland Park will be environmentally sensitive with efficient, high quality connected infrastructure and appropriately located land uses that benefit the natural environment and diversify the local economy.

**Action Items**

- Adopt an integrated green infrastructure code that is incorporated into the Land Development Code.
- Consider development incentives to achieve maximum environmental benefits via land development.
- Pursue the completion of one green subdivision by 2030.
- Preserve sensitive areas using ecological land-use strategies that optimize the size and impact of development.
- Use the resources of Smart Living to develop a comprehensive green development policy for all development.
- Use recognized green building and development standards, like USGBC LEED, to develop a locally tailored rating system to measure performance and evaluate development.
- Utilize traditional ecological and cultural knowledge of land and water to manage resources efficiently (e.g. landscape, transportation, utilities, agriculture etc.).
- Lead by example by targeting Village facilities for green building methods and retrofits.
- Establish and maintain a local Green Infrastructure Fund to support Village green infrastructure capital improvements.
- Encourage the inclusion of more green amenities in buildings and sites, like naturally lit common areas, open space patios, water filtering fountains, rooftop gardens, green parking lots etc.

**Objective 1.2**

Orland Park will reduce the dependence on non-renewable resources and materials such as fossil fuels, chemicals and other synthetic and unnatural substances.

**Action Items**

- Encourage and provide access to reduce fossil fuel activities like public transit and renewable energy.
- Increase the purchase of renewable energy credits via continued municipal electrical aggregation.
- Develop a new energy master plan following the 2009 ECOMAP plan that guides the community to reduce fossil fuel consumption.
- Support private and public infrastructure upgrades that meet local energy demand using renewable sources (wind, solar, hydro, biomass/fuel, geothermal, fuel cells etc.).
- Encourage the reduction and reuse of construction waste on development and construction projects.

- Promote the reduction of chemical pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers on Village property.
- Educate residents and businesses about and encourage reduced use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and other synthetic substances that have negative environmental impacts.
- Use the Smart Village program to advance high efficiency and high performance building system retrofits for existing Village facilities to achieve facility-wide Energy Star status and certification.
- Reduce or eliminate pesticide and fertilizer use in one Village park per year until 25% of the park system is ‘naturally’ maintained.

**Objective 1.3**

Orland Park will be a regional leader in the water conservation effort.

**Action Items**

- Create a combined water resources code that addresses potable water use, storm water and sanitary water systems, and watershed restoration that is synced with a green infrastructure code.
- Establish a water initiative to manage water use efficiently across all water use sectors and to educate the community about the importance of water conservation.
- Seek opportunities to manage water supply infrastructure efficiently and reinvest in and maintain existing systems.
- Collaborate with users, managers and policy-makers at all levels when making water development and conservation decisions.
- Explore the feasibility of water recycling systems for the reuse of waste or gray water in existing buildings and new construction.
- Support green infrastructure efforts that reduce the use of potable water for non-potable purposes.
- Participate in regional water planning and conservation efforts.



Sheffield Square Silt Fence, Orland Park

**Energy Saving Retrofits**

In 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) awarded \$520,000 in federal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funding to the Village of Orland Park. Orland Park’s EECBG money was divided into three main categories: the Residential Exterior Insulation and Re-Siding (REIRS) program for old neighborhoods, the Smart Energy Fund (SEF) for businesses, and the Energy Efficiency for Governmental Buildings (EEGB) program for public sector facilities. The REIRS and SEF programs successfully targeted residential and commercial energy users to lower operational costs, increase financial savings and improve and conserve energy use. The EEGB program targeted public buildings and facilities to improve and conserve energy use.

Using about half of the EECBG award, the Village leveraged federal dollars to purchase new energy efficient rooftop mechanical equipment for the Franklin E. Loebe Recreation Center and the William R. Vogel Civic Center. The new equipment replaced the original 20 year old systems. The savings in local dollars offset the costs for purchasing new energy efficient equipment and systems in other buildings such as the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall and the Recreation Administration Building, which in 2011 was converted from an old police station into the main offices for the Village’s Recreation & Parks Department. The Village also supplemented EECBG dollars and savings with state grants from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to replace aged boilers, lighting and other building systems.

## Gray Water

Graywater is playing an expanding role in water conservation efforts. The Illinois Plumbing Code (IPC) defines gray water as “waste water, such as dishwater, or other water not containing fecal matter or urine.” Gray water systems are separate but parallel pipe systems in a building or house that divert waste water that is normally directed down drains to special reservoirs. These systems are often marked purple or another color to differentiate between traditional drain systems and the gray water “reuse” system. The waste water includes dishwashing, cloth washing, bath and sink water that is stored in reservoirs and used later mainly as a supplement for toilet flushing—why flush potable water that we pay for down with the waste?

Gray water systems are usually not connected to any irrigation systems since waste water will usually contain other unsanitary fluids, soaps and chemical cleaning agents that can pollute the earth. Reused water for irrigation systems typically comes from collected storm water (e.g. rain barrels, cisterns etc.). The State of Illinois is preparing the 2012 IPC in which gray water systems are standardized for general public deployment with proper onsite filtration and overflow regulations.

## GOAL 2.0 ECONOMY

Improve the economic performance of homes and businesses through education and context sensitive regulations, incentives and programs.

### Objective 2.1

Orland Park homes will utilize green technologies and construction methods that reduce energy, fossil fuel use and contribute to healthy families.

#### Action Items

- Provide residential programs that address the cost of water and energy resources, waste handling, in-home healthcare, and home performance and energy improvements.
- Encourage the use of and educate about alternative and traditional household cleaning agents that are environmentally friendly and economically sustainable.
- Develop a single family lot retrofit and infill guide to demonstrate appropriate green infrastructure application.
- Foster educational relationships between homeowners and financial institutions to publicize programs like location efficient mortgages, and energy efficient loans.
- Continue cooperative working relationships with local utilities to deliver utility incentives and programs to Orland Park households.

### Objective 2.2

Commercial buildings in Orland Park will construct environmentally friendly building retrofits and upgrades that reduce standard business operating costs for energy and water.

#### Action Items

- Maintain the Smart Energy Fund for local businesses to reduce operating costs and achieve greater energy independence.
- Consider a new incentive program for the Village’s water utility to assist commercial and mixed use buildings conserve water and use it efficiently through building retrofits and upgrades.
- Work with area Chambers of Commerce to develop a Sustainable Business Network that improves regional demand/supply relationships for businesses.
- Continue cooperative working relationships with local utilities to deliver utility incentives and programs to Orland Park businesses.

### Objective 2.3

Orland Park will educate and participate in broad and regional sustainability initiatives.

#### Action Items

- Implement regional energy and water planning initiatives such as the Water 2050 Plan and the GO TO 2040 Plan.
- Participate in the Chicago Climate Exchange and encourage local investment in carbon emissions credits as a means toward mitigating the environmental cost of transportation systems used for commerce.
- Establish a “Made in America” policy that prioritizes local, then regional, then national vendors and emphasizes eco-certified services and commodities.
- Adopt a municipal green procurement policy that requires certification of sustainable practices with appropriate products or services (e.g. Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Forest Stewardship Council etc.).

- Partner with schools, libraries, institutions and universities to promote universal access to knowledge, particularly as related to environmental issues.

### GOAL 3.0 EQUITY

Orland Park will provide a high quality of life and a healthy and livable community for all demographics.

#### Objective 3.1

Orland Park residents and visitors will have easy access to and knowledge of local, sustainable food sources and practices.

##### Action Items

- Improve access to healthier food and expand opportunities to produce locally grown food, including community gardens, urban agriculture and commercial grocery stores.
- Promote regional food systems and emphasize broad access to affordable and healthy food resources.
- Promote healthy food access, opportunities and options in all neighborhood retail centers.
- Create a Village agricultural program using the Stellwagen and Boley farms as organic practice community farms.
- Create an infrastructure to support direct sale food growers.
- Distribute and promote educational material about local and sustainable food practices.
- Support the expansion of community gardens.

#### Objective 3.2

A culture of wellness and healthy lifestyles will be familiar to residents and visitors of Orland Park.

##### Action Items

- Encourage the implementation of wellness plans for workplaces, schools and other institutions.
- Integrate wellness efforts into Village programs and activities.
- Develop a public health master plan for the community that may address the following:
  - Consider incentive programs for retailers to offer healthy items.
  - Build public-private partnerships with healthcare institutions and organizations to integrate public health planning into land use planning and programming.
  - Frame capital improvement and infrastructure projects through the lens of public health.
  - Promote Health Impact Assessments as a tool to objectively evaluate the potential health effects of a project or policy.
  - Utilize the local medical community to create community health indicators, monitor these and provide feedback on them and treatment opportunities.
- Use Smart Living Orland Park to link public health policies and land use management systems with resource preservation, zoning, transportation and land use planning.
- Consider allowing limited temporary uses on vacant lots that facilitate public health on vacant lots (such as community gardens, public art displays, and public fields to promote free play).

## GO TO 2040

### Local Food

*There is growing concern about the environmental impacts, safety, and quality of our food. Also gaining widespread attention are the disparities of access to fresh, nutritious, and affordable foods and the health implications of “food deserts” (areas without nearby retail outlets that have fresh, nutritious, and affordable food). How residents and institutions in our region get their food may seem like an issue best left up to individual lifestyle choices and private business decisions. However, food systems are already highly influenced by public policies related to land use, transportation, and many other issues addressed in the GO TO 2040 plan.*

*“Local” food—which is grown, processed, packaged, and distributed on land in or adjacent to our seven counties—can contribute to a sense of community and regional identity. Farming practices, food distribution, and waste disposal should all be sustainable, meeting our present needs without compromising the future. Local production of and equitable access to fresh, nutritious, and affordable food can benefit our economy, environment, public health, equity, and overall quality of life. From commercial farms to community co-ops and even backyard gardens, emphasizing local food production and access can help to preserve farmland in traditionally agricultural communities or to revitalize neighborhoods by bringing agriculture to vacant, unused parcels in urban settings where it is usually absent.*

*(CMAP, 2010a)*

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## Keystone Projects

The following sample projects have incorporated recommendations and principles identified in the Sustainability & Stewardship chapter. They are included for reference to provide local context to the Comprehensive Plan.

### Water Conservation Project

#### Project Description

In 2010, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) awarded Orland Park a Local Technical Assistance Grant in order to draft and implement a local water conservation strategy based on the recommendations of the CMAP Model Water Use Conservation Ordinance, the Northeastern Illinois Regional Water Supply/Demand Plan (Water 2050) and GO TO 2040. The Village and CMAP established a stakeholder working group in 2011 that included members of the public, the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Smart Living Task Force to analyze local data, gather and share information through an extensive public outreach campaign, and draft the water conservation strategy report. The report, completed in 2012, identifies the highest water users in the community by sector and by account and tailors indoor and outdoor water use efficiency and conservation recommendations for each category. The report provides recommended code changes for new construction, addresses existing buildings through retrofit programs and efficiency incentives, and outlines a strategic relaxation for outdoor watering restrictions and schedules to improve water use efficiency and conserve potable water resources. To implement the findings of the Water Conservation Program strategy report, Orland Park is working with a consortium of neighboring communities to build a regional consensus on the importance and necessity for water conservation and to enable each community to formally adopt and implement their own water plan following the guidance of the regional Water 2050 plan.



*Village Hall Irrigation, Orland Park*

#### Goals in Action

- Orland Park will be a regional leader in the water conservation effort.
- Amend the appropriate Codes to include a combined water resources code that addresses potable water use, storm water and sanitary water systems in one chapter that is synced with a green infrastructure code.
- Establish a water initiative to manage water use efficiently across all water use sectors and to educate the community about the importance of water conservation.
- Support the creation of and participation in a consortium of water stakeholders to coordinate and guide regional and sub-regional water use planning, policy and supply management.



## Orland Park Police Department

### Project Description

In April of 2004, the Village Board decided to build a new Orland Park Police Department. Rather than a conventional facility, the Mayor and Board of Trustees chose to construct a building focused on sustainable methods and improved environmental quality. The site chosen for the new building was an old one-story warehouse building with huge concrete wall planks lining the exterior. The renovated building and site earned a LEED Gold Rating by the USGBC and became the first police building with such a rating in the United States.

### Goals in Action

- Commercial buildings in Orland Park will construct environmentally friendly building retrofits and upgrades that reduce standard business operating costs for energy and water.
- Orland Park will participate in broad and regional sustainability initiatives.
- Orland Park will be regional leader in the water conservation effort.
- Use recognized green building and development standards, like USGBC LEED, to develop a locally tailored rating system to measure performance and evaluate development.



Orland Park Police Department, Orland Park

## Discovery Park Gardens

### Project Description

In 2010, the Smart Living Task Force proposed the first community garden pilot project in Discovery Park with the approval of the Village Board of Trustees. The project included the creation of 21 garden plots with a water tap extension and was completed for less than \$2,000. Community garden plots are rented annually for \$30 to residents and \$45 to non-residents. The plots provide a sunny location to grow vegetables and plants for those who may not have the ability to do so where they live. The pilot project is now in its third year and has been considered a success with the option to repeat at other local parks around the Village.

### Goals in Action

- Orland Park residents and visitors will have easy access to and knowledge of local, sustainable food sources and practices.
- Orland Park will participate in broad and regional sustainability initiatives.
- Orland Park will provide a healthy and livable community for all demographics.



Discovery Park Community Garden, Orland Park



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