

VILLAGE OF NORTH AURORA STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2023

GOAL: COMMUNITY VITALITY

OBJECTIVE: Promote more local / community identity in School District including establishing intergovernmental dialogue with School District

Action Plan

- Continue to provide public safety programs to local schools
- Communicate with local schools on mutual concerns
- Coordinate tree plantings with school district for Arbor Day

OBJECTIVE: Pursue opportunities for green initiatives

Action Plan

- Evaluate options for electric vehicle charging stations
- Explore green energy purchasing options when appropriate
- Evaluate potential for green fleet purchases when practical
- Review areas for potential solar farms
- Review municipal & building codes for new residential/commercial buildings

OBJECTIVE: Establish a dog park in North Aurora

Action Plan

- Engage in conversations with the park districts to establish a dog park

OBJECTIVE: Explore opportunities to create and increase community events and activities

Action Plan

- Evaluate opportunities to host more Village events
- Look for partnership opportunities with other agencies for events

GOAL: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE: Review zoning use classifications for all non-residential districts

Action Plan

- Determine whether existing or any new zoning uses should be reclassified as permitted, not permitted or a special use

OBJECTIVE: Explore options for the use of vacant Village properties

Action Plan

- Explore opportunities for public and private uses
- Evaluate desired uses for vacant properties

OBJECTIVE: Enhance the Towne Centre Development

Action Plan

- Review options for signage on Orchard Road
- Explore options to address restrictions in the current owner's easement agreement
- Create dialogue with property owners
- Work with ownership on parking lot / landscaping / garbage issues

OBJECTIVE: Facilitate economic and business development activities

Action Plan

- Explore options to attract restaurants, hotels, medical groups, convention centers, and destination attractions
- Review and comment on request for incentives
- Advertise and market the Village through different venues
- Explore ways to market vacant properties
- Create Economic Development Plan

GOAL: EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF CORE SERVICES

OBJECTIVE: Continue long term financial planning to meet evolving capital and operating needs for infrastructure and monitor threatened shared revenues

Action Plan

- Continue to monitor, develop or revise long and short term financial policies, as necessary
- Continue to monitor all state laws / legislation relative to municipal revenue streams
- Continue to seek grants when opportunities arise
- Work to maintain Village's strong credit rating and position
- Review rate and fee structures as appropriate to match long term project needs

OBJECTIVE: Review potential opportunities for a future Village Hall site

Action Plan

- Discuss current location of Village Hall as part of the Comprehensive Plan update
- Review potential location options

OBJECTIVE: Enhance resident communication options and methods to improve information distribution channels internally and externally for village services and activities

Action Plan

- Evaluate current and future use of social media tools
- Update Village's internal social media policy

- Evaluate current mass notification system for potential improvements

OBJECTIVE: Enhance and develop governmental understanding and awareness

Action Plan

- Continue to update and expand the Village's Transparency Page
- Explore opportunities for public education programs

OBJECTIVE: Explore procurement opportunities for expedited equipment acquisition and collaborative purchasing

Action Plan

- Continue monitoring state, federal and joint purchasing contracts / opportunities
- Evaluate opportunities to minimize impact from supply chain delays
- Continue evaluation and possible implementation of shared equipment and resources with other local units of government for cooperative measures

OBJECTIVE: Facilitate community event outreach programs in the Police Department, enhance crime prevention programs and interactions, and explore expanded use of technology and methods

Action Plan

- Continue working with the Citizen Corps Council
- Continue interaction with the public through police PACT program
- Implement police officer body cameras
- Explore ways to engage the community in conversation

OBJECTIVE: Undertake biennial strategic planning goal update meetings

Action Plan

- Review biennial Strategic Plan progress with Village Board
- Provide monthly plan updates to the Village Board

GOAL: CONTINUE MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL RESOURCE PLANNING FOR VILLAGE INFRASTRUCTURE

OBJECTIVE: Take advantage of state and federal funding programs to improve the Village's transportation corridors

Action Plan

- Determine the potential eligibility of any upcoming projects for funding programs such as the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program, Federal Surface Transportation Program, and Community Development Block Grant Program
- Determine use for ARPA funds

OBJECTIVE: Stabilize existing water supply and storage

Action Plan

- Evaluate options for alternative and/or additional water sources
- Build 750,000 gallon water storage tower
- Evaluate east and west water treatment plants for future upgrades
- Perform Fox River water main crossing study
- Perform Flow Modeling Study
- Perform SCADA Study for Water Treatment Plant

OBJECTIVE: Continue Design and Building of New Public Works Facility

Action Plan

- Continue to work with architects / engineers regarding space needs, building design and site layout
- Review proposed design with Village Board
- Review proposed build with Village Board for potential approval to construct
- Determine funding opportunities for facility

OBJECTIVE: Continue long term evaluation of annual infrastructure maintenance programs

Action Plan

- Evaluate opportunities to strengthen efforts to maintain stormwater detention basins
- Create and/or update policies for Public Works operations
- Create a public education program to enhance water conservation efforts
- Continue to finalize accurate inventory for private lead water service lines
- Create a lead service line replacement program

GOAL: Revitalize the Route 31 Corridor and Create a Community Focal Point

OBJECTIVE: Explore redevelopment options to create a focal point of the Route 31 Corridor between John and Oak Street and between Route 31 and Route 25

Action Plan

- Discuss the possible relocation of the North Aurora Fire District Station #1
- Explore opportunities for public/private partnerships to facilitate redevelopment
- Explore opportunities to acquire properties
- Create comprehensive sub-area plan

OBJECTIVE: Evaluate alternate uses and partnerships for the silo on the Fox River

Action Plan

- Investigate grant opportunities for silo enhancements
- Coordinate future silo enhancements with appropriate entities
- Review additional lighting opportunities for silo

OBJECTIVE: Develop amenities along the riverfront and enhancements to North Aurora Riverfront Park

Action Plan

- Pursue riverfront events and activities
- Implement amenities from Riverfront Park concept plan
- Explore opportunities for riverfront enhancements with Fox Valley Park District

OBJECTIVE: Remove Fox River Dam

Action Plan

- Work with Fox Valley Park District to review engineering results of dam removal from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Work with Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Fox Valley Park District for funding, project planning and construction
- Host a public forum for community feedback and information dissemination about the dam removal
- Coordinate any necessary Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs) for dam removal
- Explore shoreline restoration options

OBJECTIVE: Monitor progress, visible indicators and accomplishments of redevelopment on Route 31, including streetscape improvements and/or private redevelopment

Action Plan

- Work with business owners to gain compliance with Village codes
- Evaluate options to bury power lines on Route 31
- Evaluate options to install sidewalks

OBJECTIVE: Utilize Village TIF Districts for redevelopment projects

Action Plan

- Promote TIF façade program
- Evaluate infrastructure projects

OBJECTIVE: Coordinate efforts with Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) on Corridor Enhancements

Action Plan

- Discuss possibilities for road configuration to address lane width
- Work with IDOT to address repair and maintenance issues in a timely fashion
- Pursue funding for infrastructure improvements