

Strategic Plan and/or Projection Information Received from Municipalities

McHenry

- Comprehensive Plan and Development Policies, 2008
 - Purpose: to shape and guide the type, intensity, rate and quality of growth
 - 20 year plan with updates each 3-5 years
 - State statutes allow a municipality to plan for an area up to 1.5 miles beyond its municipal boundaries; McHenry is nearly surrounded by other communities, and has entered into boundary agreements with neighbors to facilitate intergovernmental coordination
 - Population has grown steadily in past 30 years; 2004 Special Census found official population of 24,493
 - Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission has projected 2030 population to be 48,502.
 - 2020 population forecast, including influence of development policy (assuming O'Hare would remain principal regional airport) of 28,260
 - Racial makeup remains >90% white; while minority populations have been growing, growth of white population has kept pace; greatest growth rate among Hispanics, but only 7% of total in 2000
 - Age: greater proportion of population comprised of young families (age 25-44); county at large has somewhat older families (i.e., 35-54, with children age 15-19)
 - High school: District 156, capacity of 2,000 students. District owns property that can be used to build new HS in future
 - Land use: 37% residential, 4% commercial, 9% employment (offices, business park, industrial, etc.), 16% open spaces/parks. Employment areas concentrated on south end of the city. "Substantial" industrial base in the form of several industrial parks.
 - Goals: maintain friendly, small-town atmosphere; open spaces; diverse employment and shopping base; historic areas
 - Challenges: growth creating cost of public services and facilities; congestion; loss of character; loss of mature trees; lack of diversity in tax base, employment and shopping opportunities (want residents to be able to work within the community)
 - Expecting increase in developed land, decrease in agriculture and undeveloped land
 - Served by METRA, but only 6 trains per day; desire to increase number of trains/day; also desire to increase bus service
 - Major employers: Centegra, Affinia Corporation, Medela, Follett Library Resources, Fabrik Industries, Plaspros, Pioneer Center, Meyer Material
 - Desire to protect environment (wetlands, floodplains, mature trees)
- Community Profile, 2012
 - 2010 population 26,992
 - Majority (53.6%) family income \$75K+
 - 25% of population age 25+ has Bachelor's or higher; 8% has Associate's; 66% has only some college or less
 - High schools: graduation rate 91%
 - 16% manufacturing, 11% healthcare and social assistance, 2.5% finance and insurance
- Economic Development Plan, 2009
 - In 2000, per capita (\$23K) and median household (\$56K) income lower than McHenry County; per capita about equal to state average, but median household above state average
 - In 2009, enrollment in elementary district of 4,851 students; 2,458 in high school
 - 21% manufacturing, 20% trade, transport & utilities; 18% education and health services
 - 70 manufacturers in McHenry county, in plastics, electronics, and mining

- SWOT analysis:
 - Strengths: Fox River, hospital/medical professionals, rail service, land avail for development, park land, recreational opportunities, affordable housing, strong retirement community, job opportunities
 - Weaknesses: road system/traffic capacity, three downtown areas, lack of public transportation, lack of grocery store on south and west sides, downtown parking, public swimming pool too small
 - Opportunities: riverwalk, tourism, vacant land, public boat launch, pier parking for boats, Metra service increase, marketing, utilizing volunteerism
 - Threats: state funding (esp for roads), competition from other towns, growth in other communities, schools, major employers leaving, rising housing costs, rising fuel costs, loss of Metra service, changing demographics, complacency
- Want to create a vibrant downtown, encourage economic growth while preserving sense of community, encourage growth without additional taxes for infrastructure
- Develop and implement strategies to retain existing businesses, enhance retail base, create opportunities for industrial job development, locate facility for large-scale meetings and events

Harvard

- Comprehensive Land Use Plan, 1994-2015
 - Plan written when anticipating Motorola's construction of new facility to employ 4-8000 people
 - Plan to accommodate growth rate of up to 5% annually over 20 years
 - Try to discourage growth outside of City's planning jurisdiction; discourage growth within planning jurisdiction that is inconsistent with Comprehensive Plan
 - Investigate if growth rate falls below 2% during a given business cycle
 - Streams eventually feed into the Mississippi; regulated by IEPA in terms of amount of waste that can be discharged into stream; need to protect watershed since City is reliant on deep wells for water supply
 - Most of the jurisdiction is in 100 year flood plain
 - In 1990, 80% employed in manufacturing, trade, and services; manufacturing dominates, accounting for 33% of total
 - Per capita income in 1990 was lowest of communities studied in this plan; growth rate was second lowest
 - Expecting positive impact of Motorola plant on economy
 - Harvard was not going to participate in national Main Street program; most of the buildings in its downtown were not revitalized as of date of the plan
 - Concern over roads and how traffic patterns will respond to growth
 - Trying to increase percentage of single family housing

Prairie Grove

- Comprehensive Plan, 2006
- Town and Center Development Plan, 2010

Woodstock

- Comprehensive Plan, 2008

Algonquin

- Annual Budget, 2012-2013
- Comprehensive Plan

Crystal Lake

- Strategic Plan, 2012-2015

McHenry County

- Strategic Plan Report Card, 2012