



2015 Strategic Plan Update

As of June 27, 2019

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Eco. Dev.

This report delineates progress on the objectives of the 2015 Strategic Plan. For more information, please contact Assistant City Administrator, Cristina White at cwhite@warrenville.il.us. The date at the end of each *Proposed Action Step* denotes the anticipated start dates for that action item.

GOAL #1: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE:	Proactively plan and prepare for well designed mixed use development along and contiguous the Route 59 corridor.
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Prepared and adopted the Southwest/Route 59 Corridor TIF #4 Redevelopment Plan and District (2016) b. Prepared and adopted the Southwest District Subarea Plan (2016) c. Acquired approximately six acres of land at the NE corner of Routes 59 and 56, and implemented request for proposal process for Southwest District Redevelopment Site #1 (SDRS #1) (2016/2018) d. Prepared and approved formal Tax Increment Financing Assistance Policy (2017) e. Prepared and approved formal application and review process for TIF financing assistance requests (2017) f. Acquired approximately five acres of property from Tortoriello family at NW corner of Route 59 and Illinois Prairie Path (2016) g. Acquired Lang Property for construction of new Barkley Avenue connection to Duke Parkway (2017)
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Support implementation of well designed development along and contiguous to the Route 59 corridor.
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The City evaluated and approved several development projects along Route 59, including Everton, Lexington Trace, and Thornton's (2018/2019) b. Approved development agreement with Duke Realty and coordinated utilities extension, construction of new Duke Parkway/Route 59 intersection, and new Barkley Avenue connector street (2017/2018) c. Approved IGA with City of Aurora re: construction and maintenance of new Duke Parkway and Route 59 intersection improvements (2017) d. Negotiated and approved a MOU with City of Naperville that allowed City sanitary service to be extended to Southwest District (2017) e. Extended City sewer and water main improvements from Landon Avenue to Southwest District (2018/19) f. Negotiated and approved City Assistance and TIF Redevelopment Agreement with Lexington Homes for Lexington Trace project (2018/19) g. Developed and issued RFP for purchase and development of seven acres of City owned property at NE corner of Routes 59 and 56 (2018)
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	



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STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Stimulate desirable mixed use redevelopment and new community gathering places in the Old Town/Civic Center Area.
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Represented the City's interests in negotiating the acquisition of the Citgo gas station located on the corner of Warrenville and Batavia (in progress) b. Negotiated and approved "First Right of Refusal" and "Option" agreements for Alletto property north and east of the Route 56 and Batavia Road intersection (2016) c. Issued RFP and approved a Redevelopment Agreement with Airhart Development for the redevelopment of CCRS #1 with the Stafford Place project (2017)
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continue to communicate with the current owners of the Citgo property to negotiate purchase.
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Promote the rehabilitation, improvement, and occupancy of older commercial properties throughout the community
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. None
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Assist and encourage existing local businesses to expand, grow, and remain in Warrenville.
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Designated Two Brothers Brewing Co. as "preferred purchaser and developer of the City-owned SDRS #1 property" (2019)
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Facilitate additional complimentary development in the Cantera development.
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The City evaluated and approved several development projects in Cantera, including Riverview West, Vanguard, and Chuy's Restaurant (2017-2019) b. The City approved the remodeling of the BP station at Warrenville and Winfield Roads, with the addition of a Dunkin Donuts and Which Wich Sandwiches (2018)
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Plan for and encourage a high quality, appropriately scaled and located, new higher density residential development including multiple-family housing.
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The City evaluated and approved several high-quality and higher-density residential developments, including Everton, Riverview West, Vanguard, Lexington Trace, and Stafford Place (2016-2019) b. The City recently approved the preliminary PUD for a higher-density, independent, mixed-income, senior housing development for the Alden Foundation (2019)
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.



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OBJECTIVE:	Establish organizational structure, staffing support, and funding commitment for effective and ongoing implementation of Economic Development Plan.
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	a. Contracting with a consulting firm for additional planning services (July 2019)
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	a. Conducting a Citywide Services and Staffing Study (August 2019)
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.



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Diversity

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GOAL #6: Diversity

OBJECTIVE:	Elected Officials recruit Latino/Hispanic residents for boards/commissions.
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	a. None.
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	a. None.
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Meet with partners in Warrenville to identify participating barriers and help remove them.
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	a. None.
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	a. This objective requires a dedicated staff person, which will be considered as part of the Citywide Services and Staffing Study. (2019)
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Find ways to communicate in Spanish (newsletter, web, bilingual employees)
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	a. The City has hired several additional Spanish-speaking employees since 2015. There are currently two employees in each Finance and Administration, and one employee in each Community Development and Police that speak Spanish. (2015-2019) b. The City's website offers a Google Translate feature, which allows visitors to translate website content in over 100 languages, including Spanish. (2012)
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	a. Consider resources required to publish the newsletter in Spanish as part of the Services and Staffing Study. (2019)
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Review the CMAP Immigration Integration Toolkit & Identify programs/initiatives that could be implemented in Warrenville.
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	a. None
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	b. This objective requires a dedicated staff person, which will be considered as part of the Citywide Services and Staffing Study. (2019)
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Recruit for open position in venues that target Latino/Hispanic population.
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	a. The City utilizes two different online job forums for posting positions to attract a more diverse workforce: Diversity Jobs, and Hispanic Alliance for Career Enhancement (HACE). (2018) b. The number of Spanish-speaking employees, as well as those of Hispanic and Latino ethnicity have increased over the past decade.



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PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	None.
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Contact overlapping taxing bodies, nearby communities and agencies to determine if partnerships can be developed to serve Warrenville Latino community,
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	a. None.
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	a. This objective requires a dedicated staff person, which will be considered as part of the Citywide Services and Staffing Study. (August 2019)
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Involve Hispanic community in City celebrations and incorporate Hispanic cultural celebrations into the community.
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	a. City staff have observed a noticeable increase in attendance by Hispanic and Latino families at the Fourth of July celebrations, and National Night Out, which is based on empirical data only. (2016-2019)
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	a. None.
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.



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Open Space

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GOAL #3: Open Space and Environment

OBJECTIVE:	Seek opportunities (i.e. via developments and grants) to showcase, access, and promote these components as desirable community assets, through pedestrian and bicyclist amenities and sustainability practices. (#1 priority)
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The City obtained CN/AIB community greening grant for enhanced landscaping in Leone Schmidt Heritage Park (2015) b. The City obtained a grant to complete the Route 56 Streetscape project (2018) c. The City adopted a new brand, logo, and tag line that showcase Warrenville as a natural community and natural choice. (2018) d. The City obtained grants to complete the Mack Road Path and Illinois Prairie Path (IPP) Trailhead projects. (2017-2018)
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Apply for OSLAD Grant for Trailhead Project (2019) b. Complete design and construction of Trailhead Project (2020) c. Complete design and construction of the Mack Road Path and IPP Trailhead projects. (2019/20)
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Develop public spaces and open space amenities with partners such as the Warrenville Park District, the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, and the Conservation Foundation within Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District #3 in accordance with the TIF #3 Plan and the 2007 Subarea Plan (#2 priority).
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Completed the Illinois Prairie Path brush removal, clean-up, and landscaping between Rockwell and the West Branch. b. The City is currently working with several entities, including the Park District, DuPage County, DuPage Forest Preserve District, and the Illinois Prairie Path Not-for-Profit Corporation on completion of the Trailhead Project. (2018/2019) c. The City acquired the five-acre Tortoriello properties at the northwest corner of Route 59 and the Illinois Prairie Path (2016).
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Coordinate Alden Foundation's donation of approximately 1.3 acres of open space at the northwest corner of Route 56 and the DuPage River bridge to the Forest Preserve District (2019/20) b. Continue efforts to acquire, clean-up and redevelop former Citgo Property with private development and a new public park (2019/22)
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.



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OBJECTIVE:	Evaluate the flood protection efforts implemented by DuPage County along the West Branch of the DuPage River to ensure that flooding has been reduced for residents and businesses along the River. (#3 priority)
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	a. The City has monitored the properties along the river and even during multiple heavy rains, staff has not observed the same level of flooding that occurred prior to the improvements.
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Encourage environmentally responsible development that effectively controls the volume and improve the quality of stormwater runoff, thereby addressing neighborhood drainage issues, and that considers other impacts to the environment such as light and noise pollution, or effects on the landscaping. (#4 priority)
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	a. The City evaluated and approved multiple private development projects (Stafford Place, Everton, Lexington Trace, and Riverview West that incorporate extensive stormwater best management practices, native plantings, and wetland and floodplain enhancements into their design (2018/2019)
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.
OBJECTIVE:	Follow the tenets and commitments in The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, adopted by the City Council on January 17, 2012 and the ongoing commitment to maintain the City's Tree City USA status. (#5 priority)
ACTION STEPS TAKEN:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Developed and adopted the Climate Action Plan with the leadership of the Environmental Advisory Commission (2015/2016) b. The City has maintained its Tree City USA designation c. Revised City codes to encourage private residential solar power installations d. City Council passed motion directing priority processing of applications for projects that include solar energy components (2018) e. Joined SolSmart, an organization providing guidance and assistance with local governmental code revisions to encourage solar power development and achieved SolSmart Bronze designation (2018/19) f. Additional items were documented in a memo by Public Works Management Analyst Miller in 2018, attached as Exhibit A.
PROPOSED ACTION STEPS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Working on developing a solar power project at well number nine. b. Joined the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Community Solar collaborative procurement program to bring benefits of community solar to public facilities.
STATUS:	This is an ongoing objective.

City of Warrenville Climate Action Initiatives

Over more than a decade, the City has completed many “green” projects, which fall under the goals of the City’s 2016 Climate Action Plan. They include:

A. Building Inspection Vehicle Retrofit

Description/Accomplishment: In 2014, the Community Development Department retrofitted a staff vehicle from unleaded gasoline to compressed natural gas (CNG). CNG produces 20-30 percent less greenhouse gases than gasoline or diesel vehicles.

B. LED Street Lights

Description/Accomplishment: The City began upgrading street lighting to LED in 2007. In the past, the City received grant funding to help offset the cost of the upgrades. According to the City’s Geographic Information Systems (GIS) inventory of city-owned street lights, approximately 347 (41% of the total inventory) street lights are equipped with LED lights. The City has approximately 491 light fixtures that need upgrading to LED. Currently, when a City street light becomes inoperable, it is upgraded to an LED fixture. Also, new street lights, installed by the City, are equipped with LED fixtures. As future grant funding becomes available, the City will determine if additional street light can be upgraded to LED fixtures. Also, during 2015, ComEd completed a significant number upgrades of its street lights to LED.

C. Energy Audits of City Buildings

Description/Accomplishment: Energy audits were conducted for the City Hall, Police Station, and Public Works Building by the Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC) in conjunction with City staff. The audits measure current energy usage in each building, identify possible energy reduction measures and provide rough cost estimates to implement the reduction measures. According to the audit results, all three of the City’s buildings were more energy efficient than other municipal buildings of comparable design. The majority of the audit recommendations, for all three buildings, involved continued lighting upgrades, among other things.

D. Energy Efficient Appliances and Equipment

Description/Accomplishment: As a policy, the City prioritizes purchase of items bearing the *Energy Star* Certification, which indicates that equipment reduces greenhouse gas emissions through efficient energy usage (<https://www.energystar.gov/products/how-product-earns-energy-star-label>). Recent purchases have included energy efficient copiers and technology, among other items. The City has also moved away from purchasing equipment powered by two-stroke, gasoline engines, including snow throwers and weed trimmers. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), “A typical string-trimmer is powered by a two-stroke gasoline engine that has a hydrocarbon (HC) emission rate approximately six times that of the typical four-stroke mower engine.” (<https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPURL.cgi?Dockey=P100GDP7.TXT>).

Description/Accomplishment: The Public Works Department also installed solar-powered lighting for specific signage, when applicable. Some examples include the City entrance signs (north and south Illinois Route 59), the Batavia Road and Williams Road pedestrian crossing signs, and the various school speed limit signs around the community. Also, the Warrenville Police Department purchased solar-powered speed trailers, equipped with solar panels to help supplement its energy usage.

City of Warrenville Climate Action Initiatives

E. Water Reduction

Description/Accomplishment: The City has continued to reduce water usage across the entire organization. Public Works staff have installed low-flow plumbing fixtures and faucet sensors in restrooms in Public Works, City Hall, and the Police Station. The City has also installed a water bottle filling station, at the Public Works Building, to help reduce water usage and waste from discarded plastic bottles.

F. Municipal Electrical Aggregation Program

Description/Accomplishment: In August 2012, the City implemented an electrical aggregation program. The program allowed the City to buy electricity from suppliers other than ComEd on behalf residents and small businesses by soliciting competitive bids from suppliers on behalf of the entire community. The City receives 100% renewable energy, from a supplier, for the entire community. All Warrenville residents and small business are automatically enrolled, unless they opt-out.

G. Utilization of Natural Plantings

Description/Accomplishment: The City has promoted the use of natural plantings (plant species), along with rain gardens and bioswales, to help improve water quality, reduce runoff, beautify the community, and help local wildlife. The City's Climate Action Plan promotes the planting of native trees, prairie plants, and grasses to promote biodiversity.

H. Green Infrastructure

Description/Accomplishment: In 2007, the City installed permeable pavers along a one mile section of Warrenville Road, between Butterfield and Batavia Roads in order to direct rainfall away from storm sewer systems and back into the natural ecosystem. Unfortunately, the Warrenville Road permeable paver system has not functioned as originally presented due to the compaction of the underlying supporting layers beneath the pavers along Warrenville Road, causing drainage and ponding issues. The project also included permeable paver parking along Warrenville Road. Utilizing permeable pavers, for parking, has been an effective utilization of the permeable paver system for the City. In summer 2018, the City completed the conversion of parking along Warren Avenue, in proximity of the Police Station, from asphalt to permeable paver parking.

I. Building Code Updates

Description/Accomplishment: In 2017, the City of Warrenville adopted the 2015 International Building Codes published by the International Code Council (ICC), which includes updated provisions for renewable energy, including solar photo voltaic (SPV) and solar thermal systems (STS). The adopted codes streamline and encourage the adoption of alternative energy usage. SPV and STS systems reduce overall energy consumption. The 2015 codes also includes the Energy Conservation Code with Illinois amendments.

City of Warrenville Climate Action Initiatives

J. Tree Planting

Description/Accomplishment: The City maintains a Parkway Tree Program, which gives residents the opportunity to purchase a parkway tree as part of its commitment to reforestation in Warrenville. Also, ash trees in the City's right of way, which are damaged by the Emerald Ash Borer, are replaced, free of charge, for residents.

K. City Advisory Commissions and Certifications

Description/Accomplishment: in 2006, the City Council established two advisory commissions to address issues related to climate change; the Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC). The EAC promotes programs and initiatives geared towards enhancing environmental awareness within the city, among other things. The BPAC encourages bicycle commuting and walking in lieu of motorized transportation, among other things. Both organizations hold various events throughout the year that reflect the City's commitment to green initiatives.

EAC holds an Arbor Day event in late April, at which free tree saplings are given away to encourage tree planting around the community. BPAC promotes a bike and walk to school event, at local schools, in April and October.

The City of Warrenville is designated as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation and has held that designation for the past 30 years. The certification provides recognition of the City's efforts in promoting a healthy, sustainable urban forestry program.

The City is designated a Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) by the League of American Bicyclists. The BFC certification provides a roadmap to promote and improve bicycling issues in the community.

L. Interior and Exterior LED Lighting in City Buildings

Description/Accomplishment: The City has prioritized retrofitting high-wattage lighting to energy efficient LED lighting. Interior lighting projects completed to date include the upgrades of the vehicle storage and salt shed areas at the Public Works Building, the records office and the sergeant/detective areas at the Police Station, Warrenville City Museum, and the Gallery Conference Room at City Hall. Additional exterior lighting projects to reduce energy usage include upgrades at Cerny Park, Veterans Memorial, Bob Walters Commons, City Gazebo, Warrenville City Museum, Public Works Building, and City Hall

Description/Accomplishment: The City received grant funding in 2010 to retrofit approximately 144 florescent lights to T-8 lights at the Public Works Building and Community Development Department at City Hall. T-8 lights use approximately 35% less energy than standard fluorescent lights. The same grant funding also paid for the upgrading of 39 high-bay light fixtures in the Public Works garage area to more efficient fluorescent fixtures.

M. Salt Reduction Measures

Description/Accomplishment: The Public Works Department works to reduce the amount of salt used during inclement weather events. Currently, only minimal salting occurs on roads during inclement weather events; with city crews primarily responding after the conclusion of the weather

City of Warrenville Climate Action Initiatives

event. Also, the Public Works Department utilizes a mix of beet juice and salt brine, to pre-wet the road salt, which helps reduce the volume of salt required during a weather event.

N. High Efficiency Building and HVAC Equipment

Description/Accomplishment: Programmable thermostats were installed in the City Hall, Police Station, and Public Works Buildings. The thermostats allow the City to reduce energy usage during non-work hours. Some purchases have included high-efficiency water heaters at Cerny Park, City Hall, the Public Works Building, and Police Station.

Building material upgrades include the installation of energy-efficient insulation at Cerny Park and the Police Station, and a cool (white membrane) roof at the Police Station. According to the US Department of Energy, “A cool roof is one that has been designed to reflect more sunlight and absorb less heat than a standard roof.” (<https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/energy-efficient-home-design/cool-roofs>).

O. Occupancy Sensors

Description/Accomplishment: Occupancy sensors have been installed in City Hall, Police Station, and Public Works building. The sensors save electricity by turning off lighting in unoccupied areas of the building. In 2010, grant funding was received for the installation of the sensors in the Public Works Building and Community Development Department (City Hall).

P. Waste Reduction

Description/Accomplishment: The City attempts to reduce waste and recycle as much as possible. Comprehensive residential solid waste, recycling, and yard waste pickup is provided by Waste Management under the City’s franchise agreement.

Q. Prescription Drug Recycling Drop Box

Description/Accomplishment: In 2017, the Police Station installed a prescription drug recycling box in the lobby. The box was provided by a grant from the DuPage Foundation and residents may place unwanted medications in the drop box during regular lobby hours.

R. Public Recycling Events

Description/Accomplishment: The Police Department holds a yearly shredding event every May. In 2018, electronics recycling was added as an additional service. The event gives residents the opportunity to recycle items such as computers, modems, routers and office equipment, among other things.

S. Private Solar Permit and Development Prioritization

Description/Accomplishment: In 2018, the City Council endorsed the prioritized review and processing of development applications that include solar installations. The policy statement is as follows, “In support of the goals of its 2015 Strategic Plan and 2016 Climate Action Plan, the City Council hereby directs the Community Development Department staff to allocate their time and direct their efforts in a manner whereby they prioritize the review and processing of those building permits and development applications that are most likely to result in the construction of solar installations in the City of Warrenville.”

City of Warrenville Climate Action Initiatives

T. Discontinuation of Citywide Mosquito Abatement Program

Description/Accomplishment: The City ceased a mosquito abatement program in 2000, following an advisory referendum on raising property taxes to pay for the spraying. City also was responding to some residential concerns about the potential health risks posed by the chemicals that are used during the spraying process. Further, the effectiveness of spraying pesticides is very limited since Warrenville is surrounded by very large open spaces, including several forest preserves and Fermilab.

U. Herbicide Application Reduction

Description/Accomplishment: In 2003, the City decided to stop using herbicide (weed killers) on City-owned properties. An exception is made when specific applications are needed to kill invasive weeds prior to the installation of new natural plants, rain gardens, or other natural features. The reduction in herbicide usage creates cleaner air, reduces water pollution and benefits wildlife. It also creates child safe parks and public grounds for the community to enjoy.

Future Projects:

A. Electronic Plan Review Software

Description/Accomplishment: During fiscal year 2019, the Community Development Department will be pursuing the purchase of an Electronic Plan Review (EPR) software package. The purchase of the software package will greatly reduce the amount of paper utilized by part of the Community Development Department.

B. Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Program

Description/Accomplishment: Beginning in fiscal year 2019, the City will undertake the implementation of an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) program. Many processes will become entirely electronic, greatly decreasing the amount of printing, paper, and storage space required by City staff.

C. Public Works Exterior Building and Parking LED Lighting

Description/Accomplishment: Beginning in fiscal year 2019, and as the fixtures become deficient, the conversion of additional exterior and parking lot lighting will be converted to LED.