

GOAL FORMULATION

The Village of Itasca, like many communities, have goals but they do not often realize they are planning goals. Planning goals are associated with a community that has prepared, or is preparing, a long range Comprehensive Plan.

Too often a governmental entity prepares, reviews and adopts goals, objectives and policies as part of the preparation or the updating of the Comprehensive Plan and then does not refer to the document in making local planning decisions.

Goals, objectives, and policies should be referred to when planning decisions are before the Plan Commission and/or the Village Board. They take on many different forms in different styles of planning documents. They establish ways for governmental agencies to work cooperatively on land use planning and development control.

The goals, objectives, and policies seek to maintain the flexibility needed to allow latitude in local decision making. Cooperation does not mean the loss of local decision-making power. In fact, because the impact of development spills over from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, cooperation is a critical element in a community retaining control over quality of life within its own borders.

It should be noted that goals, objectives, and policies can often conflict with one another, particularly if it is assumed that each one is to be implemented to its fullest extent.

Following is a list of development goals that are recommended for study and adoption that will guide the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan and/or update during the planning period.

DEVELOPMENT GOALS

A. Plan for the General Welfare of All Citizens

Plans for the future of Itasca shall be directed toward the general welfare of all its citizens by providing a community environment that is healthy, safe, convenient, attractive and pleasant. High standards of development should be maintained. The location or relocation of physical facilities are only a means of achieving the basic planning goals.

B. Recognize Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission

The goals and objectives of Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC) as they pertain to the overall objectives of Itasca and the surrounding areas should be recognized.

C. Recognize the DuPage County Regional Planning Commission

The goals and objectives of the DuPage County Regional Planning Commission, as they pertain to the overall objectives of Itasca and the surrounding areas, should be recognized.

D. Recognize Itasca School District 10

The goals and objectives of the Itasca School District 10, as they pertain to the overall objectives of Itasca, should be recognized. (See Specific Agency Goals following.)

E. Recognize Itasca Park District

The goals and objectives of the Itasca Park District, as they pertain to the overall objectives of Itasca, should be recognized. (See Specific General Goals following.)

F. Recognize the Itasca Historical District

The goals of the Itasca Historical District, as they pertain to the overall objectives of Itasca, should be recognized. (See Specific Goals following.)

G. Coordinate All Plans for Itasca

All aspects of the plans for Itasca, including those of all public and private bodies whose plans affect the Village or any part thereof, should be technically sound, democratically established, interrelated and coordinated.

To attain this objective, the Plan Commission should cooperate fully with all public and private bodies engaged in planning for the future development of the Village and public and private institutions within its boundaries.

H. Planning Jurisdiction

To preserve and continue to maintain the existing small town character and the individual identity of Itasca and the area within the Planning jurisdiction as determined by the Municipal Boundary Agreements with the communities adjacent to Itasca and/or the Illinois Revised Statutes.

I. Community Balance

To retain a balance between residential and nonresidential (commercial/business) development that is consistent with current and planned infrastructure.

J. Local Government Control

To maintain the quality, effectiveness, and accessibility of local government decision making on land use issues, while assuring that decisions made by different levels of government and different government agencies are coordinated with each other.

GENERAL GOALS

The minimum goal is as prescribed by the Illinois Revised Statutes - to make a plan or update a plan for the purpose of guiding and accomplishing a coordinated, adjusted, and harmonious development of the Village, and of the public improvement utilities therein, which will in accordance with present and future needs best promote health, safety, morals, order, convenience, prosperity, efficiency and economy in the process of development and the general welfare of the Village. An additional goal is to translate the desires of the citizens into realities, insofar as it is feasible, through unified and well directed effort.

The apparent diversified nature of the Village appears to be good and should be retained. All uses should be provided for subject to placement and regulations as necessary to insure compatibility.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES (GENERAL)

In establishing and deciding on a certain set of development plans or activities, three degrees of policy formulation become apparent. These include goals, objectives and policies and range from the broad to the specific. For example, a goal being the most general term could be "*make Itasca a good place to live.*" A more specific objective would be to "*prohibit all housing in a flood plain.*" The policy, then, could be stated as "*establish a code enforcement project based upon a thorough housing plan.*"

Goals are essentially expressions of values. They are abstractions providing directions rather than locations and, in a sense, are unobtainable. Objectives, on the other hand, are specific purposes to be obtained that attempt to reach these broad goals. Policies are definitive courses of actions chosen from among alternatives to guide future decisions. They deal with the way or ways in which specific objectives may be accomplished. As such, policies provide directions for the preparation of specific plans, programs and projects.

As one moves from the general to the specific, it must be noted that, over time, new areas of need or new situations become dominant and it is necessary to re-appraise and amend goals, objectives, and policies periodically to reflect changing conditions.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES FOR ITASCA

Based upon the present point in time and the existing conditions, the following goals, objectives, and general development policies are recommended.

THE GENERAL DEVELOPMENT GOAL

While there are several specialized areas that deserve attention in the goal formulation process, there is an overriding, general goal and set of objectives that pertain to community development as a whole, hence the recognition of this in the term "Comprehensive" Plan.

Goal:

To establish and maintain an enjoyable, healthful, coherent and workable environment for the residents of Itasca.

Objectives:

1. To expand opportunities for working and recreation within the Village.
2. To improve the Village's competitive economic position.
3. To aid in the beautification and retention of aesthetic values for the improvement of living conditions through sound urban design.
4. To minimize all air pollution, water pollution, and other sources of environmental deterioration.
5. To achieve greater equity of tax burden among property tax payers contributing to the same governmental costs.
6. To provide adequate community facilities without duplicating the efforts of other governmental bodies.
7. To provide the highest level of public facilities and services at the lowest possible per capita cost.
8. To provide a comprehensive or updated plan for the use of the Village of Itasca to guide the growth and development efforts within the community.

Policies:

1. Development proposals which produce undesired effects to the public health, safety, convenience and general welfare will not be permitted.
2. Aesthetic considerations, such as architectural style and appearance, site design, development of open space and the like, will be major factors in the acceptance of all development proposals both public and private.
3. Municipal, county, and state planning efforts will be coordinated in order to avoid land use conflicts, duplications and excessive public service and facility costs.
4. Regulatory measures and procedures will be reviewed and modified in recognition of the needs of contemporary situations and the need to properly control such situations; the development policy will not be rigid and inflexible, but neither shall it be discriminately permissive.
5. It shall be a general policy of the Village Board of Trustees to encourage and extend full cooperation to a new development proposal. However, the welfare of the general public and the intent of the Comprehensive Plan will be of primary importance.
6. Special attention will be given to providing the citizens of the Village with comprehensive and timely information on all aspects of the Comprehensive Plan, new development proposals, zoning and other regulatory measures adopted by the Village Board of Trustees.
7. The Village shall provide and maintain a complete set of policy statements, physical plans, and development program strategies to serve as a relevant and purposeful reference to guide private and public development within the Village.

THE LAND USE AND URBAN FORM GOAL

A basic task in urban planning is to achieve land uses which result in the life style and environment desired by the residents of Itasca. Of particular importance are the locations of land uses and facilities that shape the environment such as housing, utilities, transportation facilities and open space.

Goal:

To improve the physical environment and general livability of the Village of Itasca and its environs by minimizing the costs of urbanization by orderly and planned development.

Objectives:

1. To provide for a range of land uses which are desired by the citizens within the Village limits.
2. To insure that the use of the land within Itasca relates to land uses outside its borders.
3. To assure that future development of the land will not adversely affect adequate uses.
4. To develop a logical harmony between various land uses within the Village.
5. To protect the property rights of the individual to the extent that they do not impinge upon the property rights of others.
6. To facilitate the accessibility to all land uses through an efficient transportation system.
7. To maximize the range of opportunities available to the present and future residents of Itasca.

Policies:

1. All development shall comply with the intent of regulations established by the Village Board of Trustees to guide and direct the development within the Village.
2. Rezoning shall not be granted unless the proposal is shown to be in accordance with the intent of the Comprehensive Plan and the Zoning Ordinance.

HOUSING AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT GOAL

To provide the best possible living conditions for the residents of Itasca, programs should be developed and implemented that promote the construction of sound new housing and also the protection of existing sound housing.

Goal:

To provide an opportunity for sound housing and a healthy living environment for every resident and family in the Village of Itasca.

Objectives:

1. To encourage the development of a variety of housing types at densities which are compatible with the Village, which can satisfy the needs for a variety of life styles and living experiences within the Village.
2. To review, and revise if necessary, all codes and ordinances which affect the building and maintenance of structures, to insure that they incorporate the most modern efficient, and economical methods available.
3. To assure that all persons regardless of race, color, or creed have equal opportunity to secure housing of their choice.

Policies:

1. High standards of residential development will be required and promoted through the Comprehensive Plan and the planning process.
2. Citizens shall be expected to maintain their homes to meet the minimum standards set by the Village Board of Trustees.
3. Various types of housing will be permitted, provided each is properly located according to the Comprehensive Plan, and the site plans and structural quality are in accordance with the adopted standards.
4. Sound design and planning innovations in both structural design as well as site planning will be encouraged.

TRANSPORTATION GOAL

A safe, convenient, and efficient transportation system is vital to the growth and development of Itasca. A good street system should not only be capable of accommodating present and future traffic volumes, but it should serve the people by connecting living areas with employment, shopping, and recreational areas.

Goal:

A structuring of transportation facilities to provide equitable access to opportunities within Itasca, primarily education, recreation, and residential areas, and to important linkages outside the Village.

Objectives:

1. To channel major traffic volumes onto a limited number of principal streets, and to discourage large traffic volumes from passing through residential areas.
2. To reduce, where possible, the amount of land devoted to transportation systems.
3. To integrate transportation functions through innovative design, which provides for improved circulation and attention to aesthetics.

Policies:

1. The Village recognizes that its local transportation systems shall be consistent with the overall needs of the county, and will contribute what it can of its resources and planning activity towards the resolution of county transportation problems.
2. Non-local automobile traffic will be encouraged to utilize a relatively small number of thoroughfares rather than allowed to use minor streets through residential areas which are designed primarily to serve adjacent residential property.
3. Each street will be classified and developed according to its principal functions as assigned in the Comprehensive Plan.
4. Primary road entrances to the community, and to the extent feasible, all major roads, will be given special treatment so as to provide identity, and produce a good visual impression to residents and visitors.
5. Public streets are intended to serve the function of moving traffic and not as parking space; as such, each individual future land use shall be required to provide off-street parking sufficient for its needs.
6. Use the improvement and addition of street facilities as a positive force in guiding new development and improving land use relationships.
7. Provide flexibility by basing right-of-way and access requirements on an evaluation of future highway and street needs.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GOAL

Carefully designed and located business facilities are important to the convenience of Village residents, and, by providing a wide variety of goods and services, these establishments can contribute to the overall livability and amenity of Itasca.

Goal:

A well located and designed planned business facility to service existing and future populations.

Objectives:

1. To discourage the development of business uses in scattered locations around the community, and in areas where they would cause disruption to existing circulation patterns and life styles.
2. To provide for the orderly and systematic development of special service type of business land use to residential development areas developed under a planned development ordinance, at an appropriate scale and location within such areas which provide least objections from local citizens.
3. To provide convenient and adequate access from residential areas to the planned business areas.

Policies:

1. Business development in the principal business district (Town Center) should encompass service functions such as general and professional offices, banking, and entertainment facilities.
2. Provide a street system enabling direct access to the planned business areas.
3. Boundaries of planned business areas shall be well defined so as to prevent any intrusion into adjacent land uses, and the owner shall provide proper screening and landscaping to preserve the existing as well as future aesthetic values of adjacent properties.
4. Business establishments will be expected to achieve a high standard of continuous maintenance and repair. The quality of building and landscape design, the proper storage of trash, the maintenance of the yard, the control of noise, light and odors, and many other factors will be considered important to the acceptance of proposed business developments.
5. The effect of proposed planned business developments on the existing and proposed traffic circulation patterns of the Village, will be considered. Proposed planned business developments will not be acceptable, which, in the opinion of the Village Board of Trustees and Planning Commission, will have an adverse effect upon the system.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT GOAL

To attract new office, research and quality industries into Itasca with adequate sites conveniently located with respect to transportation facilities and public utilities, if made available.

Continued growth of employment opportunities and diversification of the economic base.

Objectives:

1. To promote the development of well defined high standard of office and research type of industrial areas within the Village, which would permit a reasonable concentration of industrial development in Itasca and relieve tax burdens on individual homeowners by spreading the tax base.
2. To encourage the development of special research oriented, or other high standard light industrial uses which could complement any nearby residential and/or business development.

Policies:

1. Excellence of site and building design will be a factor in judging planned industrial development proposals.
2. Performance standards will be used to judge all industrial proposals, and no industrial development proposal will be accepted which would result in air, water, or soil pollution, excessive noise, odors, or in any way adversely affect the local environment.
3. Special emphasis will be given to developing research oriented facilities within the Village, which are designed and function to provide services, products, or technology aimed at providing answers to special social and environmental problems.
4. The Village is encouraged to work with the Village Officials to initiate, promote, and assist the high standard of planned industrial development within the Village community.

PUBLIC UTILITIES GOAL

The adequate provision of sewer, water and refuse disposal facilities is necessary for the maintenance of a healthy environment. The provision of public utilities can be used as a tool to shape the pattern of urban development. For example, the extension of sewer and water facilities into certain selected future growth areas in advance of development will tend to channel growth into these desired development areas.

Goal:

Provide public utility systems necessary to maintain the health, safety and welfare of Itasca's population and to guide future development.

Objectives:

1. To provide adequate public water supply, sanitary sewers, and storm sewers to serve all areas of Itasca.
2. To provide for a fair distribution of costs and benefits.

Policies:

1. Coordinate the development of utility systems with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and DuPage County.
2. Locate utility lines and structures where they will be compatible with existing or planned development and will be in accord with the optimum use of air, water, and other natural resources.
3. Encourage the provision of utility lines underground whenever possible.
4. Evaluate alternate utility systems and techniques on the basis of social and economic costs, as well as construction and operating costs.
5. Apportion the costs of construction, operating, and maintaining utility systems on the basis of usage.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES GOAL

Educational, fire protection, law enforcement, and medical facilities are just a few of the facilities in this category. The provision of adequate facilities and services is essential to the full development of the Village and to the fulfillment of each individual's potential, and to the safeguarding of human rights and personal property.

Goal:

Improved community facilities to afford the residents of Itasca the best service possible.

Objectives:

1. To provide an adequate level of community facilities with an emphasis on the location of facilities, quality of service and timing of improvement.
2. To provide adequate community facilities without duplicating efforts by other governmental bodies.
3. To develop all public facilities and services at the lowest possible per capita expenditure while providing services and facilities which will adequately serve the intended purpose and be free of excessive maintenance cost.
4. To make major public expenditures according to a capital improvements plan and budget which establishes priority and schedules for five years in advance, based upon projections of need and estimated revenues.

Policies:

1. The location of all public facilities will be based on the Comprehensive Plan as amended.
2. The quality of services and facilities will be based upon the needs of the areas served, the size and type of population served, and will be scaled within the Village's capacity to pay for the facilities.
3. In the acquisition and development of open space and recreational facilities, the Village will seek cooperation, advice, and assistance from other levels and agencies of government such as the County, State and Federal.
4. All public facilities will be developed according to accepted standards resulting from thorough study by qualified professionals. Requests for installation of facilities by special interest groups will not be a controlling factor if such a request is in conflict with the purpose and intent of the Comprehensive Plan.
5. Priority will be given to those facilities in demand by the largest number of people.

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATIONAL GOAL

The compounded effect for a growing regional population, increased mobility, more leisure time, and a growing interest in outdoor recreation, will be to place a challenge to Itasca in cooperation with the Itasca Park District (see Goals for Specific Agency following) to provide open space and recreational facilities to serve the needs of its population.

Goal:

Provide adequate and convenient open space and recreation facilities for all segments of Itasca's population.

Objectives:

1. To provide satisfaction of the people's outdoor recreation needs.
2. To establish a system of recreational facilities and programs sufficient to meet the needs of the residents of the Village of Itasca and the Park District.
3. To develop park and other recreational facilities, based upon a hierarchy of uses needed by various elements of the Village and the Park District.
4. To provide neighborhood parks located within a reasonably defined service area, where children will not be required to cross arterial streets to reach the facility.
5. To provide bicycle paths as a connector between public parks.
6. To reserve sufficient open space to serve future population growth.
7. To protect unique natural areas from urban development.
8. To insure harmonious relationship between the natural landscape and urban development.

Policies:

1. Develop a variety of recreational facilities to satisfy the varying tastes of all Village residents.
2. Retain or expand existing public and private open space that serves public purposes and has scenic, recreational, conservation, or protective value.
3. Whenever possible, avoid disrupting or infringing upon acquired or designated open space with utility lines or other public improvements.
4. Encourage the cooperative development of open space and recreation facilities such as school/park sites.
5. Identify, protect, and where feasible, restore historic sites, structures, or buildings to increase their value to the Village's heritage.

6. In keeping with the neighborhood concept of residential development, the neighborhood school playground or neighborhood park will be the central focus within the neighborhood. Cooperation with the school district to develop park sites adjacent to and on school grounds will be of major priority.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION GOAL

The ultimate success of the Comprehensive Planning Program, as amended, in Itasca will be measured by the degree of acceptance and support it receives from the residents of the Village. The recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan can become the expression of the combined will of the Village through a vigorous program of citizen participation.

Goal:

The participation of all segments of Itasca's population in the planning of the Village's future development.

Objectives:

1. Encourage participation of citizen groups in local planning.
2. Institute a system of planning to coordinate the development process at all levels of government and private activity.

Policies:

1. Encourage the formation of citizen groups interested in the future of the Village and its residents.
2. Encourage the attendance of citizen groups at plan commission meetings.
3. Establish a means whereby activities of the planning commission are reported on by the local news media.
4. Establish an educational program directed to school children, by means of field studies and school projects built around the Comprehensive Plan or plans regardless of the Village within the school district, to develop an interest and understanding of community activities by the students.