



## **PLAN COMMISSION REGULAR VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA**

### **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2022 - 7:00 PM**

In accordance with social distancing requirements and Governor Pritzker's Executive Order 2022-05 and Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the Winnetka Plan Commission meeting on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, **will be held virtually**. The meeting **will be livestreamed via the Zoom platform**. At least one representative from the Village will be present at Village Hall, in compliance with Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, and **the virtual meeting will be simulcast at Village Hall for members of the public who do not wish to view the virtual meeting from another location**. Due to the need to maintain social distancing, the opportunity to view the virtual meeting at Village Hall is available on a "first-come, first-served" basis.

The public has two options for observing and participating in this virtual Plan Commission meeting, including the ability to provide oral comments during the meeting. Persons wishing to participate during the virtual meeting are strongly encouraged (but not required) to complete the Sign-In form found at [www.villageofwinnetka.org/meetingsignin](http://www.villageofwinnetka.org/meetingsignin).

- 1) **Telephone (audio only)**. Call: 312-626-6799; when prompted enter the Webinar ID: 811 9044 7500 (Please note there is no additional passcode or attendee ID required.)
- 2) **Livestream (both audio and video feed)**. Download the Zoom meetings app to your smart phone, tablet, or computer, and then join Webinar ID: 811 9044 7500; Webinar Passcode: PC022322

To facilitate an efficient meeting, public comments submitted in advance are encouraged. If you wish to **provide testimony or comments prior to the meeting**, you may provide them one of three ways:

- 1) By sending an email to [planning@winnetka.org](mailto:planning@winnetka.org);
- 2) By sending a letter to Community Development Department, Village of Winnetka, 510 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, IL 60093; or
- 3) By leaving a **voice mail message** at the phone number 847-716-3524. All voicemail messages will be transcribed into a written format.

Public comments should contain the following information:

- In the subject line – "Plan Commission Meeting Public Comment"
- Name
- Address (optional)
- Phone (optional)
- Organization or agency representing, if applicable
- General comment or comment on topic of specific agenda item number

All comments received after the agenda packet has been posted and received by 6:00 PM the day of the meeting will be read at the meeting by staff, at the appropriate time during the meeting. General comments for matters not on the agenda will be read under the Public Comment agenda item. Comments specific to a particular agenda item will be read during the discussion of that agenda item. The Village will attempt to have comments received after the meeting has started read at the end of the meeting. Public comment is limited to 200 words or less. All emails received will be acknowledged either during or after the meeting, depending on when they are received.

Persons seeking additional information concerning any of the applications, accessing the virtual meetings, or requesting alternative means to provide testimony or public comment are directed to email inquiries to [planning@winnetka.org](mailto:planning@winnetka.org) or by calling 847-716-3525.

**PLAN COMMISSION REGULAR VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2022 - 7:00 PM**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Call to Order & Roll Call.
2. Introductory Remarks Regarding Conduct of Virtual Meeting.
3. Approval of January 26, 2022, meeting minutes.
4. Comprehensive Plan Visioning Work. The Commission will discuss goals and initiatives for the following community pillars: (a) Sustainability and Climate Action; (b) Community Infrastructure, Services and Technology, and (c) Operational Efficiencies and Coordination.
5. Other Business.
  - a. Community Development Report
  - b. March 23, 2022, Meeting - Quorum check
  - c. March 21 or March 22, Potential Special Meeting – Quorum Check  
Comprehensive Plan Visioning Work: (1) Healthy and Engaging Lifestyles;  
(2) Community Heritage and Placemaking, and (3) Civic Engagement
6. Public Comment.
7. Adjournment

Note: Public comment is permitted on all agenda items.

All agenda materials are available at [www.villageofwinnetka.org/agendacenter](http://www.villageofwinnetka.org/agendacenter).

**NOTICE**

The Village of Winnetka, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests that all persons with disabilities, who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting or have questions about the accessibility of the meeting or facilities contact the Village ADA Coordinator at 510 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, Illinois 60093, (Telephone (847) 716-3543; T.D.D. (847) 501-6041). **Also, in accordance with the CDC guidance, the Village is requiring everyone to wear a face covering upon entering any Village facility, including the Village Hall. If you are unable to safely wear a face covering due to a medical condition or disability, please contact the Village ADA Coordinator by 3:00 p.m. the date of the meeting to request reasonable accommodations.**

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**WINNETKA PLAN COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 26, 2022**

14 **Members Present:**

Bridget Orsic, Chairperson  
Jonathan Alt  
Matthew Bradley  
Mamie Case  
Layla Danley  
John Golan  
Liz Kunkle  
Jay Vanderlaan

15 **Members Absent:**

John Swierk

16 **Village Staff:**

David Schoon, Director of Community Development  
Brian Norkus, Assistant Director of Community  
Development  
Ann Klaassen, Senior Planner

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21 **Call to Order & Roll Call:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Orsic at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Klaassen took roll call of the Commission Members present.

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23  
24  
25 **Introductory Remarks Regarding Conduct of Virtual Meeting.**

Chairperson Orsic read the Oral Declaration into the record.

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28 **Approval of December 1, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes.**

Chairperson Orsic asked for a motion to approve the December 1, 2021, meeting minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Danley to approve the December 1, 2021, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed, 8 to 0:

AYES: Alt, Bradley, Case, Danley, Golan, Kunkle, Orsic, Vanderlaan

NAYS: None

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35 **Approval of December 15, 2021, Meeting Minutes.**

Chairperson Orsic asked for a motion to approve the December 15, 2021, meeting minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Vanderlaan to approve the December 15, 2021, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Alt. A vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed, 8 to 0:

AYES: Alt, Bradley, Case, Danley, Golan, Kunkle, Orsic, Vanderlaan

NAYS: None

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42 **Comprehensive Plan Visioning Work.**

Scott Freres asked the Commission Members if they would like to limit the consultant's monthly meetings to two hours with the Commission and Chairperson Orsic agreed. Mr. Freres then stated they are entering the visioning portion of the Comprehensive Plan process and referred to the mission statements they plan to discuss with the Commission. He outlined the agenda which included the Existing Conditions Report ("ECR"), the Comprehensive Plan Outline, Community Vision Statement, Community Pillars Mission Statement Development, Goals and Strategies followed by discussion and

1 next steps.

2  
3 Mr. Freres provided background relating to the Existing Conditions Report which included analyzing  
4 Winnetka's overall market condition in recent years, recognizing how the pandemic accelerated change  
5 in Winnetka, elaborating on the sustainability and climate action section and relaying recent  
6 engagement results. He stated the Comprehensive Plan to be crafted for Winnetka needed to be simple  
7 and clear, graphically rich, short, and succinct and data driven. Mr. Freres stated they want the  
8 Comprehensive Plan to be used by all citizens and identified the executive summary as a means of  
9 identifying the goals, objectives, and the flavor of the community in terms of those who want to move,  
10 work, and develop, etc. in Winnetka. He referred to the consultants' mission statement discussion and  
11 identified common themes which arose during community engagement including educational  
12 excellence, authenticity, heritage, community of neighborhoods, community, and lakefront community  
13 which are to be used in the mission statements' wording. Mr. Freres then referred to the 2019  
14 workshop session which staff conducted with the Commission to begin drafting mission statements that  
15 best reflected the current vision for the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. He stated they would now have  
16 dialog with the Commission to obtain their feedback on the draft mission statements that have been  
17 prepared and referred to the first overall community mission statement – Winnetka Futures 2040 "Our  
18 Heritage Forward" which includes alternatives A1 and A2.

19  
20 Chairperson Orsic asked if there were any questions. Ms. Danley provided comments on the language in  
21 A1 and A2. Mr. Bradley provided comments relating to who would be reading the Comprehensive Plan  
22 and agreed with Ms. Danley's comments stating he agrees with A1 and A2. Mr. Freres informed the  
23 Commission the consultants thoroughly discussed the use of the word "value" versus "mission  
24 statements." Mr. Alt provided comments and his preference toward A2 and suggested a shorter mission  
25 statement with the values being longer. Mr. Vanderlaan provided his comments relating to A2 and  
26 suggested a shorter version with A2 becoming a more memorable and catchy tag line. Ms. Case agreed  
27 with the comments made and indicated her preference for A2 with shorter language. She also suggested  
28 a correction to one of the sentences. Chairperson Orsic agreed with Ms. Case's suggestions. Mr. Golan  
29 stated he preferred A2 and suggested comments to eliminate the word "premier." He also provided  
30 commentary on multi-family housing and multi-generational wording being appropriate. Ms. Case  
31 suggested the use of "treasured" instead of "premier." Ms. Kunkle provided comments on the base  
32 statement and preference as well as suggested wording for A2. She also agreed with Mr. Golan's  
33 comments and provided comments on stewardship of assets and heritage forward wording. Chairperson  
34 Orsic then asked for the Commission Members' preference on the use of bullet points or paragraphs.  
35 Several Commission Members stated they preferred bullet points.

36  
37 Becky Hurley referred to the 12 pillars and their mission statements and whether they all need to be  
38 kept, consolidated, etc. She identified the first pillar as Quality Livable Neighborhoods which includes a  
39 variety of housing stock. Ms. Hurley stated the second pillar is Vibrant Commercial Business Districts in  
40 that it is more than storefronts and restaurants. She stated the third pillar is Community Heritage,  
41 Placemaking, Arts and Culture which includes historic preservation, festivals, etc. Ms. Hurley stated the  
42 fourth pillar is Sustainability and Climate Action and the fifth pillar being Healthy and Engaging Lifestyles.  
43 She stated the sixth pillar is Educational Excellence which she described as the number one reason  
44 people move to Winnetka. Ms. Hurley noted the mission statement was borrowed heavily from the  
45 Winnetka public schools' mission statement.

46  
47 Chairperson Orsic then asked for the Commission Members' comments. Mr. Bradley questioned is the  
48 order of the pillars important. Ms. Hurley responded the pillars' order is not significant. Ms. Hurley

1 referred to the consideration of whether the mission statements are aspirational or core and existing  
2 conditions. Mr. Freres stated they are establishing fundamental policy and they need to be aligned in  
3 support of their initiatives. Saraj Asfahani suggested the Commission discuss the pillars one at a time.

4  
5 Chairperson Orsic asked for the Commission Members' thoughts on pillar one. Ms. Case stated while  
6 great thoughts were raised, she described it as clunky in terms of the way it was packaged together and  
7 suggested it be less wordy. Mr. Asfahani indicated it can be broken down into two sentences. Mr. Golan  
8 stated the verbiage is not clear as well as the meaning behind it. Ms. Kunkle agreed it is noticeably  
9 longer than the other mission statements and suggested it be shortened to be consistent with the other  
10 mission statements and provided wording. Ms. Danley agreed with the suggested wording. Mr. Bradley  
11 referred to them moving toward having the right inventory of housing stock versus existing conditions  
12 which they should make sure are included in the mission statement. Mr. Golan suggested wording  
13 relating to creating a unique sense of place. Mr. Alt questioned whether the pillar mission statements  
14 should be called "promises" or "expectations". Mr. Asfahani informed the Commission that mission  
15 statements as used is an industry term. Several Commission Members did not agree with the suggestion  
16 of the word "promises." Ms. Kunkle then provided revised wording to the consultants.

17  
18 Chairperson Orsic asked for comments on pillar two. Ms. Kunkle stated she liked the wording and  
19 provided clerical corrections. Mr. Alt suggested removing the negative wording. Mr. Vanderlaan  
20 questioned the use of the commercial and business districts as the pillar title. Ms. Danley described the  
21 difference between the two. Ms. Kunkle asked why the word "commercial" was substituted for  
22 "business districts" and Mr. Freres outlined the reason for the change, one of which was to align with  
23 zoning matters and mixed uses. Mr. Bradley commented the social center matter may not be embraced  
24 with most of social interaction is occurring away from the downtown areas. Mr. Freres stated businesses  
25 want increased programming and draw into those areas. Ms. Danley stated they are not saying it is the  
26 social core but that it served a social function. Chairperson Orsic suggested wording to address the  
27 concerns raised.

28  
29 Chairperson Orsic asked comments on pillar three. Mr. Alt suggested removing the phrase "urban form."  
30 Chairperson Orsic agreed with Mr. Alt's suggestion and questioned the use of the word "vocabulary."  
31 Ms. Danley suggested alternative wording for the pillar title. Mr. Golan questioned the meaning behind  
32 placemaking, and Ms. Danley defined it for the Commission. Several Commission Members suggested  
33 the word "placemaking" be removed. Mr. Freres elaborated on its definition for the Commission. Ms.  
34 Case then suggested the use of a synonym. Ms. Hurley stated the overall message should be to define  
35 the ability to know you are in Winnetka.

36  
37 Chairperson Orsic asked for comments on pillar four. Mr. Bradley suggested the inclusion of the use of  
38 manmade resources. Ms. Kunkle agreed with Mr. Bradley's comments. Chairperson Orsic asked for  
39 comments on pillar five. Ms. Case questioned the need for the use of "active and passive." Several  
40 Commission Members agreed. Mr. Alt referred to the Park District being included here. Mr. Freres  
41 referred to the numerous organizations providing a range of services to the community. Ms. Kunkle and  
42 Chairperson Orsic made a correction to the wording.

43  
44 Chairperson Orsic then asked for comments on pillar six. Mr. Bradley stated the language is borrowed  
45 from that of the public schools currently in existence and suggested the inclusion of the wording  
46 "fostering creativity and *confidence*."

47  
48 Mr. Freres stated with regard to the remaining six pillars, he elaborated on: (7) Parks and Open Space,

1 (8) the Community Systems and Technology, (9) Mobility, (10) Operational Efficiencies, (11) Civic  
2 Engagement and (12) Regional Coordination. He then asked the Commission if they felt all the pillars  
3 should be kept, consolidated, or prioritized. Ms. Case suggested the removal of “active and passive”  
4 from pillar seven. Mr. Freres explained the reasoning for its inclusion. Mr. Golan suggested the word  
5 “deeply” be removed. Mr. Vanderlaan suggested the removal of “rich palette.” The Commission  
6 Members determined that the Healthy and Engaging Lifestyles pillar should be combined with Parks and  
7 Open Space.

8  
9 Chairperson Orsic asked for comments on pillar eight. Mr. Bradley suggested “high-tech” be added to  
10 the title. Mr. Vanderlaan suggested the removal of “value-added.” Mr. Freres elaborated on the  
11 meaning behind the phrase. Ms. Danley referred to pillar nos. eight and ten which she described as a  
12 deferral to the Village departments. Ms. Case suggested they be combined. Mr. Freres and Chairperson  
13 Orsic agreed with Ms. Case’s suggestion. Ms. Kunkle explained her reasoning as to why they should not  
14 be combined and suggested an alternative to the wording “value-added.” Mr. Golan suggested the pillar  
15 be renamed to Community Services and Technology. The Commission Members decided to rename the  
16 pillar Community Infrastructure and Technology.

17  
18 Chairperson Orsic asked for comments on pillar nine. Ms. Kunkle suggested alternative wording. Mr. Alt  
19 suggested inclusion of the wording “for all” in terms of street networks. Chairperson Orsic asked for  
20 comments on pillar ten. No comments were made on pillar ten. Chairperson Orsic asked for comments  
21 on pillar eleven. Mr. Bradley suggested the inclusion of the wording “commitment to open and  
22 transparent” in terms of dialog. Ms. Kunkle provided clerical corrections and suggested the removal of  
23 the word “civic” since it is included in the title. Chairperson Orsic asked for comments on pillar twelve.  
24 Mr. Golan questioned the difference between neighboring communities and neighboring regional  
25 communities. Ms. Kunkle suggested alternative clarifying wording.

26  
27 Mr. Freres stated they would then begin building goals and priorities in successive meetings. He stated  
28 the next steps are building ideas which include short- and long-term initiatives to be built into a timeline  
29 to layout a working map to move forward on specific action items, such as costs, etc. Mr. Freres then  
30 referred to the implementation matrix which would help to serve building each pillar. He also identified  
31 the upcoming workshops to further discuss the pillars. Mr. Freres stated in terms of planning for the  
32 next 20 years, it would be more realistic to plan for 3, 5 and 10 years. Mr. Golan questioned whether  
33 pillars can be merged to make the upcoming meetings more efficient. Mr. Freres stated the schedule  
34 can be adjusted for accommodation. Mr. Schoon asked that any of the Commission Members’  
35 combination suggestions be sent to him to provide to the consultants. Mr. Freres stated the Commission  
36 Members’ revisions and comments will be provided to Mr. Schoon for the consultants.

37  
38 **Other Business.**

39 a. Community Development Report.

40 Mr. Schoon informed the Commission the Christ Church playground special use request was approved  
41 by the Village Council.

42  
43 b. February 23, 2022, Meeting – Quorum check.

44 Mr. Schoon noted the February virtual meeting would begin at 6pm followed by discussion with the  
45 consultants, unless there were no zoning or subdivision applications then the meeting would start at  
46 7pm. The Commission Members then discussed their availability.

47  
48 **Public Comment.**

1 No comments were made at this time.

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3 **Adjournment:**

4 A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Case and the motion was seconded. A vote was taken, and the  
5 motion unanimously passed, 8 to 0:

6 AYES: Alt, Bradley, Case, Danley, Golan, Kunkle, Orsic, Vanderlaan

7 NAYS: None

8

9 The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

10

11 Respectfully submitted,

12

13 Antionette Johnson

14 Recording Secretary

DRAFT



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# MEMORANDUM VILLAGE OF WINNETKA

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**TO: PLAN COMMISSION**  
**FROM: DAVID SCHOON, DIRECTOR**  
**DATE: FEBRUARY 18, 2022**  
**SUBJECT: COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - VISIONING PHASE KICK-OFF**

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At the February 23, 2022, Plan Commission meeting, the comprehensive plan consultant team, headed by The Lakota Group, and staff will continue to work with the Commission on developing vision statements, goals, and initiatives for each of the community pillars that have been identified. At the January meeting, the Commission will discuss the following pillars:

- Community Infrastructure, Services, and Technology
- Operational Efficiencies and Regional Coordination
- Sustainability and Climate Change

Attached is a document containing draft vision statements, goals, and initiatives for each of these pillars. This is a working document, and we look forward to receiving your comments and thoughts.

The Lakota Group has provided the attached agenda to guide the discussion during this item on your meeting agenda. Also attached is a document containing an updated draft vision statement for the community as well as updated draft vision statements for each of the community pillars. The updates reflect the Commission's discussion at the January Commission meeting and are noted in red text.

The Commission is currently scheduled to consider the other community pillars during its upcoming meetings as follows:

- March meeting
  - Healthy and Engaging Lifestyles
  - Community Heritage and Placemaking
  - Civic Engagement
- April meeting
  - Vibrant Business Districts
  - Quality, Livable Neighborhoods
- May meeting
  - Educational Excellence
  - Mobility and Accessibility

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: Agenda for the Comprehensive Plan Visioning Work Agenda Items

Attachment B: Updated Overall Community Vision Statement and Individual Pillar Vision Statements

Attachment C: Draft Vision Statements, Goals, and Initiatives for the following Pillars: Community Infrastructure, Services, and Technology; Operational Efficiencies and Regional Coordination; and Sustainability and Climate Change

## WINNETKA FUTURES 2040 PLAN

AGENDA: Visioning Working Session – Pillars 4, 7 and 10

**DATE:** February 23, 2022

**TIME:** 7:00-9:00 pm

**LOCATION:** Virtual – Zoom Meeting

1. Recap of the January Plan Commission meeting
2. Review of the Goals and Initiatives Plan Format
  - a. Pillar > Goal > Initiatives
3. Specific Climate Action Goals distributed among all pillars
4. Pillar Seven: Community Infrastructure, Services, and Technology
  - a. Review of Vision Statement
  - b. Goals 1 through 12
  - c. Draft Initiatives for each Goal
5. Pillar Ten: Operational Efficiencies and Regional Coordination
  - a. Review of Vision Statement
  - b. Goals 1 through 4
  - c. Draft Initiatives for each Goal
6. Pillar Four: Sustainability and Climate Action
  - a. Review of Vision Statement
  - b. Goals 1 through 4
  - c. Draft Initiatives for each Goal
7. Discussion of Next Steps
8. Next Meeting – Alternative Dates
9. Adjourn

February 17, 2022

To: Plan Commission

From: The Lakota Team

Winnetka Comp Plan – *Winnetka Futures 2040 – Our Heritage Forward*  
Draft Vision Statements and Comp Plan Structure

Draft Comp Plan Structure Example

A. Comp Plan Report Structure

- a. Acknowledgments
- b. Previous Planning Documents
- c. Table of Contents
- d. Introduction and Background
- e. Community Voice
- f. Comprehensive plan
  - i. Community Vision Statement
    1. Plan Vision and Policies
  - ii. Plan Values and Principals - Pillars
  - iii. Current and Future Land Use Strategy
  - iv. **Community Planning Pillars - Chapters**
    1. **Quality, Livable Neighborhoods**
    2. **Vibrant Business Districts**
    3. **Community Heritage and Placemaking**
    4. **Sustainability and Climate Action**
    5. **Educational Excellence**
    6. **Healthy and Engaging Lifestyles**
    7. **Community Infrastructure, Services and Technology**
    8. **Mobility and Accessibility**
    9. **Civic Engagement**
    10. **Operational Efficiencies and Regional Coordination**
- g. Implementation
- h. Comp Plan Community “notebook” – executive form

## Comprehensive Plan Vision Statement

### DRAFT VISION STATEMENT – Preferred option was A2

*“Winnetka, the “Beautiful Land,” is a treasured North Shore lakefront village with easy access to the Chicago metropolitan center. Our community is committed to the stewardship of all its natural and manmade resources and to its family-friendly heritage of:*

- *Pedestrian-friendly, safe, and tree-lined neighborhoods.*
- *Housing for all stages of one’s life.*
- *Vibrant and walkable core areas for commerce and community gathering.*
- *Active and engaged multigenerational citizenry.*
- *Primary and secondary school educational excellence.*

#### Pillar 1: Quality Livable Neighborhoods

*“A community of connected neighborhoods with safe, pedestrian-oriented streets, tree-lined parkways and a variety of well-maintained housing offerings to meet the needs of all of its residents, all of which create a unique and powerful sense of place.”*

#### Pillar 2: Vibrant Business Districts

*“A community with a strong commitment of supporting and enhancing its unique, walkable mixed-use business districts, which serve both as the community’s commercial core and its social centers.”*

#### Pillar 3: Community Heritage and Placemaking

*“Winnetka’s authentic heritage can be found in its walkable streets, its rich tapestry of commercial and residential architecture, and in its cultural activities.”*

#### Pillar 4: Sustainability and Climate Action

*“A forward-looking community with a strong heritage of innovation and commitment to stewardship of our natural environment and manmade resources.”*

**Pillar 5: Educational Excellence**

*“A community with a strong heritage rooted in education that honors the whole child, fosters creativity **and confidence**, inspires lifelong learning, and develops civic responsibility.”*

**Pillar 6: Healthy and Engaging Lifestyles**

**Note: Combined Parks and Recreation and Healthy and Engaging Lifestyles, added Arts and Culture into this.**

*“A unique lakefront community that values a variety of carefully managed and well connected parks and open spaces and that treasures unlimited access to **recreational** opportunities and **cultural** pursuits **to help** residents achieve a balanced and fulfilled lifestyle.”*

**Pillar 7: Community **Infrastructure, Services,** and Technology**

*“A forward-thinking tradition of delivering exceptional and efficient public services and infrastructure systems to meet the current and future needs of the community.”*

**Pillar 8: Mobility **and Accessibility****

*“A progressive community with forethought in developing a safe and efficient local and regional mobility connectedness **for all** through public transportation, regional trails and pedestrian and bike friendly neighborhood street networks.”*

**Pillar 9: Civic Engagement**

*“A community heritage founded **on** the fundamental principle of fostering beneficial public dialogue through active **community** engagement and volunteerism.”*

**Pillar 10: Operational Efficiencies and Regional Coordination**

**Note: Combined Operational Efficiencies and Regional Coordination**

*“A community with a strong heritage of thought-leadership supporting and enhancing our **local and regional** intergovernmental relationships to ensure efficient, prudent community management through data-supported planning, organizational synergies and effective communication.”*

February 17, 2022 (WORKING DRAFT FOR COMMISSION REVIEW)

Comprehensive Plan Vision Pillars  
Goals and Initiatives Development Working Draft

Group 1 - 2.23.22 PC Working Group

**Pillar 7: Community Infrastructure, Services, and Technology**

***“A forward-thinking tradition of delivering exceptional and efficient public services and infrastructure systems to meet the current and future needs of the community.”***

***Items highlighted in yellow below come from EFC/GRC2 goals. The idea is to incorporate these sustainability initiatives throughout the different pillars.***

**GOAL 1 – The Village will ensure infrastructure systems and services are evaluated, updated, and modernized to meet the needs of current and future residents.**

**Initiatives:**

- 1.1 Continue ongoing condition/risk assessments of all Village managed utilities including stormwater, water, sewer, and electric infrastructure to identify and prioritize required infrastructure updates or modernization.
- 1.2 Continue to annually update the Village’s Five-Year Capital Improvement Program to guide funding, scheduling, and implementation of improvements to Village managed utility infrastructure systems.
- 1.3 Ensure municipal finance practices and purchasing policies are consistent with sustainability and reinvest cost savings into sustainability initiatives.
- 1.4 Audit, benchmark, and track energy usage in Village facilities, and promote energy audits and retro commissioning studies.
- 1.5 Where feasible and economical, adopt energy efficiency measures, procure or install renewable energy resources for Village facilities, and develop renewable energy resources on underutilized Village properties.

**Comprehensive Plan Vision Pillars - Goals and Initiatives Development Working Draft  
2/23/22 Plan Commission Meeting**

**GOAL 2 – The Village will adequately fund essential public works services and water, sewer, and electric utility systems to keep up with evolving regulations, and changes in demand, as well as technology.**

**Initiatives:**

- 2.1 Continue to maintain a database of potential infrastructure funding options and schedules for applications to help in identifying funding resources.
- 2.2 Determine funding sources and options for essential public works services and water, sewer, and electric utility systems, and changes in technology.
- 2.3 Evaluate opportunities to migrate fleet to alternative fuel vehicles.
- 2.4 Track, analyze, and manage data to advance sustainability.

**GOAL 3 – The Village will continue to update the community stormwater management systems, implementing both constructed and green infrastructure solutions, to alleviate flood risk and improve stormwater runoff quality.**

**Initiatives:**

- 3.1 Continue implementation of the Stormwater Management Plan for West and Southwest Winnetka based on the *Stormwater Alternatives Study for Western and Southwestern Winnetka*.
- 3.2 Develop a Stormwater Management Plan for Eastern Winnetka.
- 3.3 Consider changes to the Village's stormwater management policies and regulations to require or encourage stormwater best management practices such as rain barrels, permeable pavement, rain gardens, natural landscaping, and bioswales and bio-retention basins.
- 3.4 Evaluate the effectiveness of existing floodplain and stormwater management regulations for development and consider modifications to improve effectiveness.
- 3.5 Protect surface and groundwater from runoff and contamination, support post-development runoff reduction and mitigation and encourage residents and businesses to address flood risks on their property.

**Comprehensive Plan Vision Pillars - Goals and Initiatives Development Working Draft  
2/23/22 Plan Commission Meeting**

**GOAL 4 - The Village will continue to strive to improve water quality in its natural systems of lakefront, bluffs, rivers, creeks, ponds, channels, and wetlands to enhance the natural environment and overall community quality of life.**

**Initiatives:**

- 4.1 Set guidelines and standards for water quality that are measurable.
- 4.2 Annually test water quality in natural systems against measurable standards.
- 4.3 Evaluate local construction techniques and assess best management practices for protection of water quality from damage due to stormwater runoff from active construction sites.

**GOAL 5 - The Village will provide a reliable and safe water source through cost-effective intake, treatment, and distribution of Lake Michigan's water resource.**

**Initiatives:**

- 5.1 Perform a condition/risk assessment of Water Treatment Plant equipment and facilities to identify and prioritize short- and long-term facility needs.
- 5.2 Determine viability and appropriateness of an elevated tank to sustain pressures in the distribution system.
- 5.3 Update the water distribution system study with condition/risk assessment information and continue a prioritized replacement of water main with a goal of annually replacing a minimum of 1% of the water distribution system.
- 5.4 Anticipate the growing cost of providing water, including chemicals, equipment, and labor and include these costs in the utility Capital Improvement Program, while also tracking and forecasting long-term expense escalations.
- 5.5 Address and manage water quality issues and future regulations as they are developed through USEPA and IEPA.
- 5.6 Implement the installation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) "smart meters" to increase accuracy of measuring customer consumption and provide customers with increased awareness to potential water leaks in their system.
- 5.7 Reduce community water consumption by implementing water efficiency measures in Village operations and encouraging residents and businesses to identify and mitigate water losses, and in the long term reduce Winnetka's water consumption.
- 5.8 Replace lead service lines over time, minimizing lead exposure in drinking water.

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**GOAL 6 – The Village will provide a reliable and cost-effective sanitary sewer system maintenance, management, and operate a plan in conformance with the Metropolitan Water and Reclamation District of Chicago (MWRD), Watershed Management Ordinance (WMO).**

**Initiatives:**

6.1 Completion of sanitary sewer televising, smoke testing, manhole rehabilitation and relining program.

*Complete - example of completed or near completed initiative.*

6.2 Continue implementation of a long-term management program based on the WMO for reducing inflow and infiltration into the sanitary sewer system due to sanitary sewer system deficiencies.

6.3 Develop a private-sector program based on the WMO for reducing infiltration and inflow into the sanitary sewer system due to private sources such as deficiencies in sanitary sewer laterals and non-sanitary connections.

**6.4 Reduce beach closures due to pollution.**

**GOAL 7 – The Village will continue to operate and maintain a cost-effective and efficient electrical distribution system.**

**Initiatives:**

7.1 Continue to incorporate radial distribution circuits into looped circuits to improve electric supply reliability to facilities currently served by radial circuits.

7.2 Expand the current electrical infrastructure replacement program to improve electric supply reliability.

7.3 Continue conversations with AT&T regarding joint utility pole ownership to allow for a plan to bury existing overhead utilities.

7.4 Review and set Village direction and discussion regarding upcoming IMEA agreement termination and fiscal impact of aging electrical generation system reinvestment options.

7.5 Implement the installation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) “smart meters” to improve operation of electric distribution system and create the ability to provide customers with additional information for the management of their energy consumption.

7.6 To complement the Village’s installation of energy efficient LED street lighting, work with

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IDOT and residents on private roads to develop plans to install LED lighting on state owned roadways and on private streets.

7.7 Continue to evaluate and convert existing underground transformer vaults to pad mount transformers designs to improve system operations and safety.

**GOAL 8 – The Village will regularly assess, maintain, and improve Village roadways, parking facilities, accessibility, sidewalks, and bike facilities.**

**Initiatives:**

8.1 Continue to perform a roadway inventory and condition assessment of all Village roadways on a regular cycle to identify and prioritize required roadway maintenance and improvement needs.

8.2 Develop a Roadway Improvement Program to guide funding, schedule, and implementation of improvements to Village roadways.

8.3 Update the Village-wide-accessibility plan and consider new accessibility initiatives based upon legal requirements and best practices.

8.4 Implement pedestrian safety and crossing improvements at signalized intersections along the Green Bay Road corridor, in collaboration with IDOT, as part of on-going roadrepair, or new streetscape and utility projects

8.5 Invest in projects that further a network of on- and off-street bike facilities to enhance east-west connections to the Green Bay Trail as well as other destinations such as the Skokie Lagoons and the lakefront.

**GOAL 9 – The Village will identify and support the incorporation of new technologies to assist infrastructure and public safety systems efficiencies, cost effectiveness and advanced community communications or fiber optic.**

**Initiatives:**

9.1 Collaboratively work with telecommunication service providers to ensure Winnetka residents and businesses have access to the most current and reliable wireless and wired telecommunication services.

9.2 Develop a robust community broadband and wireless infrastructure.

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**GOAL 10 – The Village will continue to strive to meet the highest standards of providing essential public safety and community protection for its residents, businesses, and institutions.**

**Initiatives:**

- 10.1 - Design and develop a new public safety camera system infrastructure to improve public safety response in high visibility and high traffic locations such as the business districts and along Green Bay Trail.
- 10.2 Establish requirements for effective public safety radio transmissions to ensure any remodeled or new commercial structure shall be designed and possess infrastructure that allows public safety radio communications within any part of the structure.

**GOAL 11 - The Village will provide a waste and recycling system that encourages community members to reduce the amount of waste they generate and to recycle or reuse generated waste.**

- 11.1 Consider impacts of the limited remaining lifespan of the SWANCC waste landfills.
- 11.2 Consider expanding the Village modified Pay-As-You-Throw waste and recycling program.
- 11.3 Continue working to make public events Zero Waste.
- 11.4 Support and incentivize expansion of existing services to include food scrap composting, commercial & multi-family recycling, and discouraging the use of unrecyclable products (e.g., plastic bags).
- 11.5 Continue to educate residents on refuse and recycling to reduce waste and to use unrecyclable products.

**GOAL 12 - The Village will provide development and building services and regulations that encourage the preservation and enhancement of existing structures while at the same time allowing for the context-sensitive redevelopment of residential and commercial properties.**

- 12.1 Evaluate incorporating more green building construction standards into the Village’s regulations and apply to all new and retrofit projects to the extent possible.
- 12.2 Review Village rules and procedures to identify and address any that disincentivize the renovation of existing homes in favor of teardowns and the construction of new homes.
- 12.3 Consider adoption of rules and regulations that will further encourage the use, when

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appropriate, of on-site energy generation such as solar, wind, and geothermal.

- 12.4 Require any multifamily or mixed use development projects of certain size to provide EV charging stations as part of their development.

**PILLAR 10: Operational Efficiencies and Regional Coordination**

(Note: Combined Operational Efficiencies and Regional Coordination)

***“A community with a strong heritage of thought-leadership supporting and enhancing our (local and regional) intergovernmental relationships to ensure efficient, prudent community management through data-supported planning, organizational synergies and effective communication.”***

**GOAL 1** - The Village will manage an efficient and an effective public review and entitlement process that provides clarity and predictability to both public and private reinvestment in the community.

**Initiatives**

- 1.1 Engage the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Plan Commission to consider recommending changes to the zoning and subdivision entitlement regulations and processes to make them as clear and understandable for residential and commercial applicants as well as for the impacted residents and businesses that will participate in the processes.
- 1.2 Engage the Design Review Board to consider recommending streamlining the multi-family, commercial, and institutional design review process while still ensuring that compatible design is achieved.
- 1.3 Include Environment and Forestry Commission (EFC) representation on other Village commissions as well as enabling additional environmental and/or forestry related ordinances to fall under EFC's purview.

**GOAL 2** - Whenever operationally efficient and fiscally effective, the Village will deliver exceptional public services through shared intergovernmental or regional cooperation and synergies.

**Initiatives:**

- 2.1 Continue to maintain a single, integrated, five-year capital improvement program (CIP) for all Village facilities, equipment, and infrastructure, which program identifies how each project helps achieve of the mission and goals of the Comprehensive Plan.
- 2.2 Continue the practice of communication among local taxing jurisdictions (District 36, Park District, Village), to inform and coordinate on infrastructure and facility improvements.
- 2.3 Create and continue to maintain a facilities master plan.
- 2.4 Coordinate the utility infrastructure Capital Improvement Program with the Village's

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Roadway Improvement Program for efficient and effective programming of improvements under both programs.

2.5 Establish or strengthen an inter- and intra-entity Green Team.

2.6 Partner with federal, regional, state, other local governments, and other entities to undertake initiatives that promote energy efficiency, sustainability, and climate action.

**GOAL 3 – The Village (governance and management) will effectively evaluate, educate, and communicate changing and current community issues to its residents, businesses, and institutions.**

**Initiatives:**

3.1 When appropriate engage community service organizations into local issues and help create community.

**GOAL 4 – Winnetka will evaluate opportunities to approach municipal operations with effective sustainability measures, addressing current and future climate concerns.**

4.1 Measure emissions from Village operations to develop a GHG emissions reduction target for those operations, followed by monitoring to validate/optimize.

4.2 Adopt policies that reduce Village-wide carbon emissions for all Village buildings and facilities.

4.3 Apply best management practices to all Village projects, to the extent possible.

4.4 Reduce energy usage of municipal operations through municipal and community means by reduction of single occupancy vehicle use, reduction of dependence on gaspowered tools and incorporating green building measures.

**PILLAR 4: Sustainability and Climate Action**

***“A forward-looking community with a strong heritage of innovation and commitment to stewardship of our natural environment and manmade resources.”***

**GOAL 1** – The Village will establish a community framework for Sustainability with the adoption and implementation of an achievable Sustainability Action Plan that will complement and further advance the sustainability goals and initiatives of the Comprehensive Plan.

**Initiatives:**

- 1.1 The Sustainability Action Plan (“SAP”) will address at a minimum the following areas in terms of sustainability: Climate, Economic Development, Energy, Land, Leadership, Mobility, Municipal Operations, Sustainable Communities, Waste & Recycling, and Water.
- 1.2 The SAP will identify resources necessary to achieve the SAP’s goals and initiatives.
- 1.3 Consider expanding the role of the Environment and Forestry Commission to advise the Village Council on all matters related to the environment, sustainability, forestry and other natural resources. Consider changes to the Village Code establishing the EFC and its roles, as well as evaluating its name, member composition and the like.

**GOAL 2** – The Village will evaluate and consider appropriate public resources to guide, manage and educate the residents on the value of the Sustainability Action Plan.

- 2.1 Evaluate what will be the appropriate staffing for community sustainability initiatives either through dedicated staff resources, on-call consultant, or a Sustainability team as a shared responsibility.
- 2.2 Implement sustainable practices within residential neighborhoods to the extent possible.

**GOAL 3** - The Village will identify opportunities with community businesses and institutions to incorporate sustainability into their on-going operations and planning.

- 3.1 Partner with the Winnetka-Northfield-Glencoe Chamber of Commerce and other Winnetka business organizations to assist businesses with finding technical and financial resources to assist them with operating their businesses in a more sustainable manner.

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**GOAL 4 - The Village will develop local and regional partnerships with other organizations to leverage and share information on sustainable initiatives, shared resources, technical assistance, and tools for broader community engagement.**

- 4.1 Continue to endorse and support the goals of regional sustainability plans such as the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' Greenest Region Compact 2 ("GRC2") and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus 2021 Climate Action Plan for the Chicago Region ("CAP").
- 4.2 Partner with the school districts, Park District and other local agencies to reduce GHG emissions and to address other sustainability initiatives.

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### From EFC/GRC Goals

While the **Sustainability** pillar encompasses high-level climate change initiatives, the majority of the EFC/GRC short- and long-term goals have been incorporated into the remaining pillars of the Winnetka Futures Comprehensive Plan. This approach ensures that sustainability-related strategies continue to be a core component of the various Village initiatives and overall goals.

#### **Land - These should go under Land Use and Healthy Lifestyles**

Encourage strategic development that incorporates sustainability principles, conserve, restore and enhance natural features and ecosystems, and ensure accessibility to and use of parks and other outdoor space.

Long-term goals include:

- » Stabilize bluffs and beaches on Village property and encourage property owners to better manage private lakefront to increase enjoyment of Lake Michigan.
- » Development landfill into property that can be utilized by the Village as permissible by state regulations.
- » **Promote use of harvested (gray) water for landscape purposes.**

Short term goals include:

- » Redevelop underutilized or contaminated properties
- » Prioritize redevelopment that supports transit-oriented locations and uses.
- » Adopt guidelines for future development that encourage management and conservation of natural resources, topography, views, drainage patterns, ecosystems, and historic/cultural assets.
- » Maximize public spaces and parks accessible to residents.

#### **Mobility – These should go under Mobility**

Support diverse, safe, and efficient transportation that uses resources wisely.

Long term goal:

- » Develop safe, east-west bikeways to connect to downtown areas, Green Bay Trail, train stations and schools.

Short term goals include:

- » Review existing bicycle and pedestrian plans, then propose recommendations for implementation by the Village.
- » Incorporate sustainable roadways into capital improvement planning, and proactively plan for major transportation infrastructure improvements.
- » Collaborate to provide alternative fuel infrastructure at public sites, and to support a network of alternate fueling infrastructure elsewhere.
- » **Install EV Vehicle charging stations at all Village public parking lots and Village owned facilities, and work with other local governmental entities (e.g. Park District & School) to facilitate installation of EV vehicle charging**

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station(s) in their public parking lots.

**Sustainable Communities - These should go under Community Heritage and Regional Partnerships**

Cultivate community values and principles that are welcoming, inclusive, and equitable, and that promote a sustainable identity for the Village.

Short term goals include:

- » Cultivate and preserve a welcoming and inclusive community character. Promote third party certification for sustainable private facilities.
- » Establish or strengthen an inter- and intra-entity Green Team.

**Water - These should go under Infrastructure**

Use and distribute water efficiently, equitably, and sustainably, protect and improve water quality, and optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater.

Long term goals include:

- » Reduce Winnetka's water consumption.
- » Reduce beach closures due to pollution.
- » Manage water infrastructure to ensure water quality and efficiency.
- » Replace lead service lines over time, minimizing lead exposure in drinking water.

Short term goals include:

- » Reduce community water consumption by implementing water efficiency measures in Village operations and encouraging residents and businesses to identify and mitigate water losses.
- » Protect surface and groundwater from runoff and contamination, support post-development runoff reduction and mitigation and encourage residents and businesses to address flood risks on their property.

**Energy - These should go under Regional Partnerships or Livable Neighborhoods**

Adopt policies that promote energy efficiency, reduced energy usage, use of renewables, and engage the Village community in clean energy practices.

Long term goals include:

- » Begin planning for extension or transition regarding Winnetka's local electric power plant within the next 10 to 15 years.

Short term goals include:

- » Audit, benchmark, and track energy usage in Village facilities, and promote energy audits and retro commissioning studies.
- » Where feasible and economical, adopt energy efficiency measures, procure or

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install renewable energy resources for Village facilities, and develop renewable energy resources on underutilized Village properties.

» Support the adoption of renewable energy technologies that expand economic development opportunities or access to alternative energy options.

### **Leadership - These should go under Regional Partnerships**

Collaborate to achieve a more sustainable Village and region.

Long term goal include:

» Include WEFC representation on other Village commissions as well as enabling additional environmental and/or forestry related ordinances to fall under WEFC's

Short term goals include:

» Partner with federal, regional, state, other local governments, and other entities to undertake initiatives that promote energy efficiency, sustainability, and climate action.

### **Municipal Operations – These should go under Regional Partnerships**

Set an example by demonstrating sustainable values and practices, operate a safe and efficient fleet, and collect and manage data to advance sustainability.

Short term goals include:

» Ensure municipal finance practices and purchasing policies are consistent with sustainability and reinvest cost savings into sustainability initiatives.

» Evaluate opportunities to migrate fleet to alternative fuel vehicles.

» Track, analyze, and manage data to advance sustainability.

» Engage the Village community in climate change mitigation and adaptation by educating the public about climate change, its effects, and opportunities for the community to meaningfully respond.

### **Waste & Recycling – These should go under Infrastructure**

Support policies and actions that contribute to sustainable material management and increased recycling.

Long term goals include:

» Consider impacts of the limited remaining lifespan of the SWANCC wastelandfills.

Short term goals include:

» Adopt a Pay-As-You-Throw program.

» Make public events Zero Waste.

» Support and incentivize expansion of existing services to include food scrap composting, commercial & multi-family recycling, and discouraging the use of unrecyclable products (e.g., plastic bags)