

GARY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

EXISTING PLAN SUMMARY

In recent years, the City of Gary has embarked on a number of ambitious planning processes. Recently adopted or underway plans that outline a future vision for land use, transportation, economic development, and/or conservation include the Livable Broadway Regional Plan, University Park East: Blueprint for Change, the Livable Center Plan 2025 for Downtown, Emerson, Horace Mann, the East Lakefront District Plan, the Gary Green Link Master Plan, and the Green Infrastructure Plan, among others.

Gary has just begun an eighteen-month process to create a new Comprehensive Plan to guide the City's future development. The Comprehensive Plan will recognize and build off of recent plans by pulling together all of these efforts and initiatives into a single, unified vision for the future. This will include integrating common themes from the plans, land use plans, implementation projects, and data used in the development of those projects. The following key themes will be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan update:



COMMUNITY DESIGN

- Concentrate growth in the City's "livable centers," such as Downtown, Emerson, Horace Mann, Miller, and University Park East. Guide public investment and private development into these areas, and around major anchor uses, gateways, institutions, and transit.
- Create complete neighborhoods that provide a variety of uses and amenities within a short distance of residents.
- Reclaim the City's neighborhoods and corridors by reducing blight and increasing beautification.



OPEN SPACE/GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- Identify opportunities to protect, enhance, and where appropriate, increase conservation land.
- Protect, expand, and connect open spaces and recreation assets, including increasing public access to the Lake Michigan shoreline and Marquette Park.
- Improve stormwater management and reduce flooding.
- Balance environmental conservation with economic development.



MOBILITY

- Improve multi-modal transportation options to increase transportation choice and promote walking, biking, and transit use.
- Create better connections between neighborhoods and to key locations (e.g. transit stations, Downtown).
- Enhance regional connectivity to increase access to employment opportunities and to bring new economic activity to the City.



PEOPLE & CULTURE OF GARY

- Invest in the success of Gary residents and families through youth programs and social and health services.
- Inspire resident involvement and collaboration.
- Promote arts, culture, and entertainment to build positive identity in Gary, particularly in the Downtown.
- Foster stronger police-community relations.



HOUSING

- Support housing assistance programs that help property owners repair, maintain, and enhance their properties.
- Maintain a healthy, safe rental housing stock.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Support existing businesses and grow local entrepreneurship.
- Prepare the workforce for current and future employment opportunities through education, job training, and information sharing.
- Diversify the City's economic base to create a stable and resilient economy

City of Gary: Current and Planned Projects

