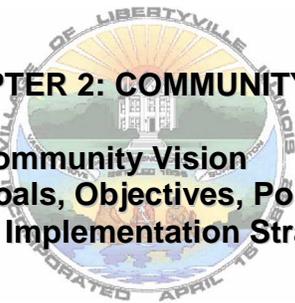


2. COMMUNITY VISION

This Chapter articulates Libertyville’s vision for its future. The goals, objectives and policies in this Chapter establish the guiding principles and priorities to help current, and future, community decision-makers and stakeholders achieve this vision.

CHAPTER 2: COMMUNITY VISION

- 2.1 Community Vision
- 2.2 Goals, Objectives, Policies & Implementation Strategies





2.1 COMMUNITY VISION

Libertyville's community vision and accompanying mission statement were carefully crafted following an extensive public outreach effort and consideration of the issues and challenges that the Plan must address. The Mission and Vision Statements reflect the direction of the community both at the Plan's inception and at the end of its 20 year planning horizon.

Mission Statement

**LIBERTYVILLE ADAPTS TO
CHANGING TIMES AND
NEW CONDITIONS
WITHOUT FORSAKING
ITS PAST.**

Vision Statement

Libertyville is a community that multiple generations of families call home, drawn by good schools, parks and recreational facilities, and a quality of life envied throughout the region. The Downtown is the center of community life. The library, restaurants, retail shops, attractive streetscapes and plentiful parking all contribute to the vitality of the Downtown and differentiate it from surrounding towns. With significant industrial and office development opportunities, Libertyville's place as a regional employment center is secure. Residential neighborhoods thrive with new development in scale with nearby homes and additions that extend the lives of existing buildings. Older buildings and community facilities are valued, reused and incorporated into the fabric of the community. Open space and attractive gateways on arterial corridors define Libertyville's edges. Libertyville continues to be a complete community – an attractive, vibrant, safe, family-oriented Village with a small town atmosphere.

2.2 GOALS, OBJECTIVES, POLICIES & IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

The Plan's goals, objectives and policies are designed to help Libertyville achieve its vision for the future. They are organized around the following categories:

1. **Growth and Development**
2. **Residential Areas**
3. **Downtown Core Area**
4. **Business and Industrial Areas**
5. **Community Facilities and Infrastructure**
6. **Environment and Natural Resources**
7. **Transportation**
8. **Community Image and Appearance**

The following tables describe the goals, objectives, policies and implementation strategies for each of these categories.

In brief, a goal describes, in general terms, broad aims, desired end situations, or ideals for achievement. A goal is typically broad and long-range. Objectives are more specific and generally represent an expanded description of a particular aspect of a goal or a more precise desired end situation. Policies are specific strategies intended to achieve the Plan's goals and objectives. Often, policies serve as implementation actions - tools needed to ensure that the community's vision for the future is achieved. Those actions generally correspond to four categories - zoning policies, Village-sponsored redevelopment and public improvement, private sector redevelopment, and intergovernmental coordination.

Growth & Development

GOAL:
A Village with identifiable boundaries and a balanced economy, where new development occurs with respect for that which already exists.

Libertyville's planning jurisdiction includes property within its corporate limits as well as unincorporated areas located within 1½ miles of Village limits. Some of these areas are wholly contained within Libertyville and could be forcibly annexed. Other areas could be annexed at the request of affected property owners. The annexation of land can be viewed as a means to augment the tax base and control the development and use of property. Selected annexation is also a way to help to establish more regular corporate boundaries.

A more detailed discussion of the unincorporated areas within Libertyville's planning jurisdiction is provided in [Section 4.3, Potential Annexation Areas](#). Priority annexation areas are presented in [Figure 4.5, Unincorporated Areas Within 1½ Mile Planning Area](#).

When making land use decisions, it is important to anticipate the future needs of the Village and its residents. Long-range projections and current trends should be periodically reviewed. Such reviews should be used as the basis for formulating plans to meet anticipated needs, and reviewing development and redevelopment proposals.

The objectives and policies that provide direction toward achieving this goal are listed below. Implementation strategies for carrying out these objectives and policies are also identified.

GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT	OBJECTIVE	POLICIES
	ESTABLISH A POPULATION GROWTH CAP TO GUIDE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT DECISIONS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish an annexation plan that identifies areas within Libertyville's planning jurisdiction that would be considered for annexation. - Consider annexation of existing County subdivisions only if they can be adequately provided with Village services, at no cost to current Village property owners. - Work with the local school districts to assess the potential impact of proposed residential development on facility needs.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Undertake a study to correlate population with various housing types, unit size and prices. - Establish an annexation policy evaluation framework designed to maintain and promote fiscal balance and diversification of the tax base. The annexation policy should reflect Section 4.3, Potential Annexation Areas and Figure 4.5, Unincorporated Areas Within 1½ Mile Planning Area of this Plan. - Require that existing development annexed to Libertyville be improved at the cost of those wishing to annex and that it be maintained to Village development standards.
	CREATE AND MAINTAIN DEFINABLE EDGES FOR THE VILLAGE CONSISTENT WITH LIBERTYVILLE'S POPULATION AND GROWTH OBJECTIVES.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pursue annexation of unincorporated areas that are completely contained within Libertyville's boundaries to encourage upgrade of existing residential properties and consolidate the provision of services to the residents. - Pursue annexation of unincorporated areas west to the proposed Route 53 interchange with Peterson Road in order to control the type of development that is allowed. - Pursue annexation of wholly, or partially, enclosed railroad, utility and street rights-of-way in order to establish more regular Village boundaries.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish boundary agreements with neighboring municipalities. - Initiate annexation of wholly enclosed, unincorporated parcels.
	PLAN AND DIRECT FUTURE GROWTH IN A MANNER THAT MAINTAINS LIBERTYVILLE'S QUALITY OF LIFE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide suitable locations for a variety of land use activities that serve the daily needs of residents. - Disallow land development that places additional, uncompensated demands on Village facilities and/or services. - Assure that future growth optimizes the use of existing or planned Village facilities and services. - Limit new residential growth to areas adjacent to existing residential neighborhoods, so that they can be easily served by existing Village facilities and services.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review the Zoning Map and Future Land Use Map with respect to this objective. - Require that each annexation proposal undertake capacity analysis to test acceptability of unincorporated parcels for annexation. - Require that any residential development connect with existing neighborhoods at more than one location.
	MAINTAIN AN APPROPRIATE LAND USE BALANCE AMONG RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND COMMUNITY USES.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase the amount of land available for new commercial/industrial development through select annexation of unincorporated areas. - Ensure that new development minimizes land use conflicts. - Ensure that new development is compatible with existing and proposed neighboring uses. - Plan for residential growth near the Downtown Metra Station, as shown on Figure 4.1, Future Land Use Map.
Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess the contribution the proposed land uses would make to the local tax base. - Evaluate the effectiveness of the Zoning Ordinance for regulating adjacent business and residential properties. 	

		OBJECTIVE	POLICIES
GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT		ENCOURAGE NEW DEVELOPMENT COMPATIBLE WITH THE VILLAGE'S VISION.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that the character of new development does not alter or compromise the existing character of Libertyville. - Maintain Libertyville's commercial and industrial base through renovation of existing facilities. - Identify alternative locations for desirable uses that are poorly located at their present sites and assist with relocation when in the best interest of the Village. - Promote development or redevelopment compatible with the existing, or planned, capacity of the transportation system. - Closely review development proposals to ensure that new development provides adequate open space and preserves natural features.
		Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare, update and detail subareas plans for the Northwest Development Area that consider: land use, the potential to use commuter rail stations to support commercial development, circulation, and potential boundary agreements. - Assess relocation needs of poorly located land uses and initiate needed area redevelopment programs in accordance with Figure 4.1, Future Land Use Map.
		INCREASE THE VILLAGE'S INFLUENCE OR CONTROL OVER DEVELOPMENT WITHIN ADJACENT, UNINCORPORATED AREAS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage future use of the landfill facility as open space, even if the Village does not annex it. - Consider annexation of land on the west side of Milwaukee Avenue, up to Casey Road, to ensure Village control over development. - Consider annexation of the Township soccer facility if its continued use as open space and recreation is threatened.
		Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish boundary agreements with neighboring municipalities. - Evaluate the fiscal impact of development proposals on local tax districts before approving land use changes.
		MAKE THE BEST USE OF REMAINING VACANT LAND AND REDEVELOPMENT PARCELS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR FUTURE NEEDS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure development that is environmentally responsible. - Encourage uses that provide a positive fiscal benefit to the community and its local tax districts. - Minimize the impact of new land use development on the existing transportation system by promoting use of rail and shuttle opportunities. - Identify vacant land that should be retained as public open space.
		Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Test benefit of new development through selected import and export studies as appropriate.
		PROMOTE HIGH QUALITY DEVELOPMENT.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adopt and maintain development controls that accommodate future growth in accordance with desired type, intensity and design quality of land uses.
		Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revise the Zoning Ordinance to emphasize character- and form-based regulations, which reflect the desired pattern of development.

Residential Neighborhoods

GOAL:
A housing stock and living environment that supports the local population and maintains the overall quality and character of Libertyville.

Libertyville’s residential neighborhoods provide a wide range of housing options for residents. It is the policy of the Village to connect residential areas to one another in order to reinforce Libertyville’s cohesiveness as a community. Preservation of older housing is encouraged as a source of affordable, starter housing within the community and as a way to maintain the character of the community.

The objectives, policies and implementation strategies that provide direction toward achieving this goal are listed below.

	OBJECTIVE	POLICIES
RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS	MAINTAIN THE QUALITY OF LIBERTYVILLE’S HOUSING STOCK.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensure that housing is well maintained. – Ensure that new housing resulting from teardown activity and infill development is in scale with existing buildings. – Encourage the rehabilitation of deteriorated housing that is residentially zoned.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establish and enforce zoning regulation changes that base allowable construction on form and character issues.
	PRESERVE THE RANGE OF HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES THAT EXIST.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Accommodate future residential development in neighborhoods rather than in isolated subdivisions. – Support the maintenance and improvement of neighborhoods that contain smaller housing as a resource for young families and empty-nesters. – Encourage housing as part of mixed-use developments Downtown. – Continually monitor the Village’s stock of affordable housing to ensure that it meets local needs.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Maintain the zoning provision that allows single-family development on nonconforming lots of record. – Rezone some attached single-family property in and around the Downtown to direct this form of development to appropriate locations and maintain stock of affordable housing. – Adopt floor area ratios or another appropriate means of volume control for single-family homes. – Require a 15% affordable housing component in all new residential development.
	PRESERVE THE CHARACTER OF LIBERTYVILLE’S RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adjust the bulk regulations contained in the Zoning Ordinance to ensure that new infill development is consistent with the scale of existing development. – Encourage preservation of the historic homes in Libertyville.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Consider adoption of a historic preservation ordinance. – Establish and enforce zoning regulation changes that base allowable construction on form and character issues.

Downtown Core Area

GOAL:
A vital and active Village Center that serves as the focus of community life and business activity.

The Downtown is the heart of the Village. On either side of Milwaukee Avenue, active retail frontage, restaurants and community facilities create the historic Village Center. While commercial activity defines the Downtown core, residential uses are also an important component of the land use mix. The availability of Metra commuter service within easy walking distance makes the Downtown a highly desirable residential neighborhood, which increases the customer base for local businesses.

Because of the importance of the Downtown and the need to carefully consider its future growth and development, a detailed subarea plan has been prepared and is presented in [Section 4.2, Subarea Plans](#). An illustrated concept plan provides recommendations for how redevelopment could occur.

The objectives, policies and implementation strategies that provide direction toward achieving this goal are listed below.

OBJECTIVE		POLICIES
DOWNTOWN CORE AREA	STRENGTHEN THE ROLE OF DOWNTOWN AS THE HEART OF THE VILLAGE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain the Library as an integral part of the Downtown. - Ensure that a majority of the Library's services are provided in a Downtown Libertyville location. - Preserve the Brainerd Building as a community facility. - Encourage transit-oriented development opportunities for the Downtown Metra Station, including an element of residential development, preferably rental. - Work with Metra to build a new station consistent with Libertyville's community image. - Encourage retail uses that are not in direct competition with other retail centers in Libertyville. - Provide additional public parking to serve Downtown businesses and community facilities. - Improve parking lot access, circulation and appearance. - Encourage more businesses to develop rear entrances readily accessible to public parking. - Encourage residents to actively use the Downtown and all of its amenities.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a niche retail and "branding" program for the Downtown. - Construct parking decks both east and west of Milwaukee Avenue. - Establish zoning bonuses to encourage rear entrances. - Consider adoption of a historic preservation ordinance.
	ACCOMMODATE NEW DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE DOWNTOWN CORE AREA IN ORDER TO DIVERSIFY THE ECONOMIC BASE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage development along School Street that enhances the vitality of the Downtown. - Encourage a mix of ground floor retail with upper level office and residential uses in the core of the Downtown.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pursue a residential component in the development of the School Street site.

OBJECTIVE		POLICIES
DOWNTOWN CORE AREA	INCREASE RESIDENTIAL CHOICE IN THE DOWNTOWN CORE AREA IN ORDER TO EXPAND THE CUSTOMER BASE FOR DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Examine possibilities for greater residential densities in the Downtown core adjacent to the Metra Commuter Rail line.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Emphasize specific housing types through character-/form-based zoning.
	CLEARLY DEFINE THE LIMITS OF DIFFERENT LAND USE AREAS WITHIN THE DOWNTOWN CORE AREA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Develop new and/or more stringent zoning controls to ensure desirable types of development and redevelopment in the Downtown. – Encourage preservation and reuse of key character-giving structures as they become vacant or underutilized.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establish character-/form-based development regulations within Downtown zoning districts.
	ENSURE THAT NEW DEVELOPMENT IN THE DOWNTOWN CORE AREA DOES NOT OVERWHELM THE HISTORIC CHARACTER OF MILWAUKEE AVENUE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensure new development maintains the character and scale of the Downtown core. – Consider incentives to encourage property owners to rehabilitate property within the Downtown core area.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Prepare commercial and mixed-use design guidelines to guide development activity consistent with Village streetscape improvements; implement them through zoning and/or financing incentives. – Consider redevelopment of buildings within the Downtown core in line with Figure 4.2, Downtown Subarea.

Business & Industrial Areas

GOAL:
Business and industrial areas that are desirable locations for retail activity and industrial facilities, and are stable employment centers.

Libertyville's business and industrial areas are integral parts of the community's physical structure and make a substantial contribution to the property and sales tax base. As such, protecting and enhancing designated retail districts and employment centers is critical to the well-being of the Village.

The objectives, policies and implementation strategies that provide direction toward achieving this goal are listed below.

		OBJECTIVE	POLICY
BUSINESS & INDUSTRIAL AREAS		PROMOTE THE GROWTH AND REDEVELOPMENT OF BUSINESS, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accommodate additional commercial development in a manner that limits its impact on the transportation system and residential neighborhoods. - Protect designated industrial and office facilities and districts. - Ensure that existing truck routes are maintained and enhanced so that they can adequately serve Libertyville's industrial districts. - Encourage private owners to upgrade deteriorated facilities. - Encourage diversification of the community's sales tax base. - Encourage industrial redevelopment of existing residential uses between Second Street, Third Street, Church Street and the Metra tracks. - Establish and maintain definable boundaries for the East Side Area, including a transitional zone to buffer industrial uses from nearby residential uses.
		Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a mixed-use zoning district with appropriate design and buffering guidelines to accommodate mixed industrial/office/residential development adjacent to the East Side Area. - Undertake a detailed market assessment of the Route 137 corridor to determine vitality for "big box"/large-scale retail uses. - Consider tax increment financing and other economic development tools to spur redevelopment along commercial corridors and business areas. - Use zoning to facilitate commercial redevelopment around the Route 176/Butterfield Road intersection. - Evaluate the impact of future commercial development on Route 176 traffic flow east of Milwaukee.
		IMPROVE THE APPEARANCE OF EXISTING BUSINESS AREAS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage façade improvements. - Encourage landscaping of existing parking lots. - Consider assistance programs for business owners to help them upgrade their properties and/or expand their businesses.
		Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a landscaped buffer along Second Street, with a gateway treatment for the East Side Area, and link it to the Zoning Ordinance. - Establish financial incentives for façade and/or existing parking lot landscaping improvements. - Consider adoption of a historic preservation ordinance.

OBJECTIVE		POLICY
BUSINESS & INDUSTRIAL AREAS	ATTRACT NEW, AND RETAIN EXISTING, BUSINESSES THAT SERVE LIBERTYVILLE RESIDENTS AND THE SURROUNDING REGION.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actively market available properties to prospective businesses, especially those that are likely to enhance Libertyville’s image as a retail destination. - Use economic incentives, infrastructure improvements and/or assistance with land assembly to attract retail and other commercial uses to serve Libertyville residents and the surrounding region.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work with the owners of underutilized property to redevelop the site for new business uses. - Accommodate expansion and growth of auto dealers in current locations through zoning adjustments.
	MAINTAIN THE ROLE OF LIBERTYVILLE’S INDUSTRIAL AREAS AS EMPLOYMENT CENTERS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote Libertyville’s identity as an industrial center. - Encourage the continued improvement of existing industrial facilities. - Encourage industrial redevelopment within established industrial districts, including the replacement of obsolete facilities with new facilities. - Enhance the existing East Side Area. - Work with Pace, Metra and other transit providers to improve transportation options for industrial employees. - Continually review possible public improvements to enhance industrial areas.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institute an ongoing information collection program for the Northwest Development Area in order to assess its future growth and development potential. - Establish a marketing plan to attract new industry.

Community Facilities & Infrastructure

One of the primary functions of municipal government is to provide those services that can be managed best and most economically on a Village-wide basis.

GOAL:
A cooperative system of community facilities and public infrastructure that serves the needs of Libertyville residents and businesses.

The objectives, policies and implementation strategies that provide direction toward achieving this goal are listed below.

	OBJECTIVE	POLICIES
COMMUNITY FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE	A COORDINATED SYSTEM OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE THAT SERVES THE NEEDS OF LIBERTYVILLE RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide and maintain a high level of cost effective municipal services. - Require developers to bear the cost of extensions of municipal water and sewer services for private development. - Be prudent in the use of water and sewer capacity and resources. - Maintain the current high level of public safety services. - Upgrade public safety equipment and vehicles when necessary. - Maintain efficient public park and recreation services and facilities. - Accommodate the needs of Libertyville's aging population. - Allocate resources for basic and essential services and programs that are responsive to the changing needs of the community.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use the capital improvements program to coordinate needed infrastructure improvements. - Pursue the preservation of the Brainerd Building as a community center.
	ACCOMMODATE PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND COMMUNITY-ORIENTED INSTITUTIONAL USES THAT PROVIDE A FULL RANGE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regularly meet with local taxing districts to identify improvement needs before investment decisions are made. - Increase the usefulness of community facilities in meeting changing community needs. - Encourage the design of high quality community facilities. - Ensure that public buildings and facilities are well maintained. - Support an outstanding educational system that provides a wide range of opportunities. - Work with Condell Medical Center to ensure that the Center's growth is balanced against neighborhood protection.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain the ongoing dialogue with local taxing districts to discuss issues of mutual concern. - Ensure that Village facilities establish a standard for the quality and character of other public improvements.
	ASSURE EFFICIENT PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF UTILITIES IN PUBLIC WAYS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Budget priority projects and develop a project revenue policy for proposed improvements. - Work to ensure that above grade utilities, including electric and telephone lines, are buried wherever possible, particularly along arterial streets.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide reasonable access to telecommunications providers within public rights-of-way. - Revise subdivision regulations and public works policies to require the above policies.

Environment & Natural Resources

GOAL:
A clean, safe small town environment with a land use pattern that conserves natural areas as part of Libertyville’s environmental context.

Natural resources, including the Lake County Forest Preserves, conservation areas managed by Libertyville Township, and other natural areas, provide a unique natural environment for the Village. Within the Village’s boundaries are numerous Village-owned parks, and public and private open space areas.

The objectives, policies and implementation strategies that provide direction toward achieving this goal are listed below.

	OBJECTIVE	POLICIES
ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES	ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A SENSE OF OPEN SPACE AT LIBERTYVILLE’S ENTRYWAYS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensure that substantial landscaped setbacks and open spaces are provided at Village entryways.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continue to prepare gateway signage designs for major Village entryways.
	PRESERVE EXISTING NATURAL FEATURES, INCLUDING RIVERS, LAKES, WETLANDS AND MAJOR TREE STANDS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Protect and preserve existing natural resources and plan for future open space needs. – Ensure that new development will not adversely affect the natural features of development sites. – Maintain floodplain areas and drainageways as open space.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Expand the Tree Ordinance to apply to all property in the Village. – Enforce subdivision and zoning regulations. – Identify future open space sites and secure them through dedication and/or condemnation.
	PROVIDE A SYSTEM OF HIGH-QUALITY PARK AND OPEN SPACE AREAS THAT MEET THE VARYING RECREATION AND LEISURE INTERESTS OF LIBERTYVILLE RESIDENTS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Increase the provision of common open space for Libertyville residents.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Enforce subdivision and zoning regulations. – Identify future open space sites and secure them through dedication and/or condemnation.
	MAINTAIN A PATHWAY SYSTEM THAT CONNECTS DESTINATIONS WITHIN THE VILLAGE AND IMPROVES LINKS WITH THE REGIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Improve and enhance the greenway system to combine existing pathways, parks and floodplain areas into a broader, integrated open space system. – Explore opportunities to develop bike paths that connect with existing, or future, bike paths in neighboring communities.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Reroute the North Shore Bike Path where it intersects with Milwaukee Avenue to the signalized intersection at Milwaukee Avenue and Route 176. – Reroute the North Shore Bike Path where it intersects with Butterfield Road to the signalized intersection at Butterfield Road and Route 176.

Transportation

GOAL:
An efficient and effective transportation system that reinforces the Village’s character and facilitates access to and from the greater metropolitan area.

An effective transportation system is a critical component of any community. The primary element of Libertyville’s transportation network is the street system, which provides direct access to property. Also important is Metra commuter rail service, which links the Village to Chicago, and the larger region, on two separate rail lines. Finally, a network of bicycle and pedestrian paths provides viable alternatives to the automobile.

The objectives, policies and implementation strategies that provide direction toward achieving this goal are listed below.

	OBJECTIVE	POLICIES
TRANSPORTATION	EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM THAT REINFORCES VILLAGE CHARACTER.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Support enhancement of the arterial system in order to improve through and cross-town movement, as well as travel within the Village. – Ensure safe crossings across major roads for bikers and pedestrians. – Work with IDOT and other funding agencies to undertake road improvement projects to increase safety and improve traffic flow.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establish arterial improvement programs. – Improve bike path circulation by rerouting the North Shore Bike Path to the signalized intersections at Milwaukee Avenue and Route 176 and Butterfield Road and Route 176. – Extend bikeway to the Sports Complex, with a safe crossing at Peterson Road.
	REDUCE CONGESTION ON MAJOR STREETS IN A COST EFFECTIVE MANNER.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Explore solutions to facilitate traffic flow on collector, residential and arterial streets. – Require cross-access easements between commercial properties and establish specific criteria for such easements. – Encourage the use of alternative methods of transportation. – Pursue transportation improvements that enhance traffic flow without impacting Village character.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establish criteria for cross-access improvements. – Continue traffic studies to identify opportunities for new road, traffic calming and signage improvements. – Evaluate the impact of future commercial development on Route 176 traffic flow east of Milwaukee Avenue.
	REDUCE CUT-THROUGH TRAFFIC IN RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Minimize the impact of arterial congestion on residential neighborhoods. – Continue to explore options for traffic calming and implement solutions where there is neighborhood consensus.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continue traffic calming studies on key cut-through streets and install appropriate solutions.
	ENHANCE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS AND SAFETY THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Consistently fund sidewalk improvements in the Village. – Acquire land to accommodate the installation of new sidewalks in locations where substandard right-of-way widths currently exist. – Make sidewalk connections on arterial and collector streets priorities. – Include pedestrian and bicycle amenities in road improvement projects. – Encourage pathway connections between residential subdivisions.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Enhance sidewalks and pedestrian amenities between Park Avenue and Rockland Road along Milwaukee Avenue.

	OBJECTIVE	POLICIES
TRANSPORTATION	IMPROVE PUBLIC TRANSIT OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN LIBERTYVILLE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage the coordination of bus routes and bus stops with train schedules and employment centers. - Encourage and support taxi services within the community.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage the use of van pools, buses or rail to serve new employment centers.
	PROMOTE LIBERTYVILLE'S STATUS AS A COMMUTER RAIL CENTER.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work with Metra to expand commuter facilities on both the Northwest and North Central Metra lines. - Pursue appropriate development around Libertyville's Metra Stations.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explore implementation of a shuttle system to connect Metra Stations with major employers.
	ENSURE THAT THE MILWAUKEE AVENUE METRA STATION FUNCTIONS AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE DOWNTOWN.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work with Metra to relocate the Milwaukee Avenue Station platform to the west in order to minimize traffic congestion and allow for transit-oriented development (TOD) development. - Encourage commercial and residential mixed-use development around the Milwaukee Avenue Metra Station.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make application to Metra for parking, station and platform improvement assistance.
DEVELOP THE HARRIS ROAD METRA STATION AREA AS A MAJOR COMMUTER RAIL INTERCHANGE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support expansion of service on Metra's North Central Line. - Encourage provision of commuter-station-based van service to employment centers. - Encourage development of retail, office and service uses that complement commuter rail uses at the Harris Road Metra Station, but do not compete with Downtown retail uses. - Do not allow residential as a component of the Harris Road TOD use mix. 	
Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade Harris Road between Route 137 and Peterson Road as a collector street, as well as access to the North Central Line Metra Station and Milwaukee Line Metra Station, and provide TOD-based zoning without a residential component. 	

Village Image & Appearance

The Village has a proud heritage evident in the quality of its built environment.

**GOAL:
A Village with a strong and positive image and identity.**

The objectives, policies and implementation strategies that provide direction toward achieving this goal are listed below.

	OBJECTIVE	POLICY
VILLAGE IMAGE & APPEARANCE	MAINTAIN DOWNTOWN LIBERTYVILLE'S VISUAL CHARACTER TO REFLECT ITS HISTORIC PAST.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize the attractive architectural and historic heritage of Libertyville. - Improve and enhance the identity of Downtown. - Preserve and enhance the quaint character and appearance of Downtown Libertyville.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue streetscape and façade improvements designed to improve the appearance of Downtown. - Implement future phases of the streetscape construction program. - Review development proposals against established appearance guidelines. - Establish form and character-based development regulations within the Downtown zoning district.
	IMPROVE THE VISUAL QUALITY OF LIBERTYVILLE AS PERCEIVED FROM THE AUTOMOBILE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve the appearance along all major arterials. - As redevelopment occurs along Milwaukee Avenue, between Park Avenue and Rockland Road, reorient parking lots to the north and south sides of buildings to allow structures closer proximity to Milwaukee Avenue without allowing parking in front of the buildings. - Design gateway features to define entrances to Libertyville. - Work with Commonwealth Edison on alternatives to trimming parkway trees. - Continue to encourage and/or require utilities be placed underground as properties are developed. - Encourage the use of underground pipes for stormwater detention and retention.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a streetscape improvement plan for Milwaukee Avenue, between Park Avenue and Rockland Road, which introduces green space along currently paved portions of the right-of-way. - Develop a unified streetscape program with provisions for cross access in the Route 137/Milwaukee Avenue commercial area. - Pursue acquisition of easements as needed to accommodate streetscape improvements.
	ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A POSITIVE COMMUNITY IDENTITY ALONG ARTERIAL STREETS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a Village identity program that includes signage, streetlights, banners and landscaping along major arterial streets. - Upgrade public street infrastructure through coordinated streetscape improvement programs. - Encourage redevelopment of obsolete commercial uses. - Investigate opportunities to have utility lines buried along arterial streets. - Improve the appearance and character of South Milwaukee Avenue by restoring grass parkways, trees and sidewalks.
	Implementation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Link proposed improvements to a roadway-based capital improvements program.