

DRAFT Lemont2030 Vision Statements
11/16/2011

General Vision

In 2030 Lemont will be a community where people want to live or visit. It will be known for its thriving downtown, excellent schools, successful businesses, and strong sense of community. Although new residents and businesses will grow the community, Lemont's quaint character will remain. The families who have lived in Lemont for the past 200 years will continue to choose Lemont as their hometown for future generations.

Plan Focus Areas: Built Environment;
Mobility;
Economic Prosperity;
Civic Involvement;
Schools;
Efficient Governance; and
Natural Resources.

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Built Environment

In 2030, Lemont's buildings, structures, and patterns of development will reinforce our community's unique character. Although larger, Lemont will retain its small town charm and sense of community.

Historic Preservation

1. Architecturally and historically significant buildings will be preserved.
2. New development in historic areas will be compatible with the existing structures.
3. As our community's key historic asset, the I&M Canal and its towpaths will be improved to more closely resemble their original condition.
4. Lemont's history will continue to be celebrated through public art; the downtown murals will be maintained.

Community Appearance

1. Residential, commercial and industrial properties will be well maintained; deteriorating properties will not be permitted to become a blighting influence on surrounding properties.
2. New development will respect Lemont's unique community character in its architecture and design.
3. The Village's high standards of design will continue to be maintained for new commercial and residential development.

Housing

1. Lemont will have diverse housing options that are financially attainable for residents in all stages of life, so Lemont can continue to be home to multiple generations of families.
2. Downtown Lemont's population will be increased through continued residential development.

Impact on the Natural Environment

1. New development will respect Lemont's unique topography and minimize disturbances to the maximum extent possible.
2. Lemont's skyline, as viewed from the Des Plaines River valley, will be preserved; new development shall not infringe on this important vista.

Other

1. The physical environment of key gateways into Lemont will be improved to provide a welcoming experience for visitors.
2. Lemont will encourage design features that foster community interaction, such as front porches, walking trails, open spaces, etc.

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Mobility

In 2030, Lemont will be well connected to the rest of the Chicago region and have excellent connections within the community. Adequate connections will exist for all modes of travel (vehicle, bicycle/pedestrian, and transit).

1. Lemont will have a safe and convenient bicycle and pedestrian network that links homes, schools, recreational facilities, and businesses.
2. Walking and biking will be a viable mode of transportation for people of all ages.
3. Lemont will have safe connections to the Centennial Trail, the Veterans Memorial Trail, and the Cal-Sag Trail.
4. Lemont's street network will be well maintained and safe for all users.
5. Lemont's street network will be highly connected; points of disconnection will be minimized or eliminated.
6. Lemont will have increased Metra service.
7. While anticipating increased Metra service, the Village will pursue PACE bus service as an alternative option to improve transit connectivity to Chicago and other suburban communities.

Economic Prosperity

In 2030, Lemont will have a thriving business community with few vacant commercial buildings. Downtown Lemont will be characterized by round the clock activity. Lemont will be a desired destination for visitors from outside the community.

1. Lemont residents will have adequate choices to meet most of their retail shopping needs within the community.
2. Village codes and permitting processes will not unduly burden businesses; the needs of businesses will be balanced against the protection of public health and safety.
3. "Shop Lemont First" will be the ethic of government agencies, local businesses and residents.
4. The Village will take an aggressive approach to business attraction and retention.
5. The ratio of local employment to population will be increased.
6. The Village will continue to make enhancements to the downtown, the I&M Canal, and the Heritage Quarries Recreation Area to make these areas attractive destinations for residents and visitors.
7. The Village, along with other partners like the Chamber of Commerce, will actively promote Lemont as a destination for visitors.

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Civic Involvement / Human Capital

In 2030, Lemont residents will be actively involved in their community, having a strong sense of civic pride that is rooted in Lemont's unique community character.

1. Volunteers will supplement public efforts to achieve the vision of this plan.
2. Residents will have ample opportunities to be engaged with other residents at the community-wide and neighborhood level.
3. Institutions that foster a sense of community, like houses of worship and civic organizations, will be encouraged to grow.
4. All residents will have convenient opportunities to participate in Village planning efforts, regardless of age, disability status, race, income, or ethnicity.

Schools

In 2030, Lemont will be known for quality public education. Schools will be adequately funded and prudently managed.

Efficient Governance

In 2030, Lemont's Village government will be characterized by professional public service provided in a friendly, consistent, and fiscally responsible manner.

1. The Village will improve transparency, providing information to residents in an increasingly timely manner and through a growing number of channels.
2. The Village will ensure high quality police services so that Lemont remains as safe a community in 2030 as it is today.
3. The Village will make decisions concerning physical infrastructure that consider long-term sustainability in terms of both operational and capital expenses.
4. The Village will increase efficiency in Village processes, while maintaining quality customer service.
5. The Village will work with other governmental entities across political boundaries to address issues affecting multiple jurisdictions and to achieve the vision of this plan.

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Natural Resources

In 2030, Lemont will be known as a community with exceptional opportunities for outdoor recreation. The Village will implement measures to protect the environment, including air quality, water quality and supply, and the overall ecological health and diversity of the area.

Environment

1. Lemont will have clean, safe drinking water. Our water supply will be managed to ensure availability beyond 2030.
2. The Village will work with nearby industry to minimize or eliminate pollutants in the community.

Recreation

1. Lemont will maintain its current levels of open space and park access.
2. New developments will either have or be within easy access of recreational amenities and facilities.
3. The local I&M Canal Trail will be maintained and improved; it will be connected to other nearby regional trails.
4. The Heritage Quarries Recreation Area will be enhanced to provide amenities that will support increased utilization.
5. Private recreational facilities, such as golf courses, will be encouraged.
6. Water based recreational opportunities will be provided in or near Lemont.