



# Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan

Growing to Greenness





# Acknowledgements

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Many thanks must be extended to all those who supported and participated this project, both those listed below and many others throughout this process.

## *Village of Hoffman Estates Elected Officials*

William D. McLeod, Mayor  
Karen Mills, Trustee  
Anna Newell, Trustee  
Gary Pilafas, Trustee  
Gary Stanton, Trustee  
Michael Gaeta, Trustee  
Karen Arnet, Trustee  
Bev Romanoff, Village Clerk

## *Village of Hoffman Estates Sustainability Commission*

### *Village of Hoffman Estates Administration*

James Norris – Village Manager  
Dan O'Malley – Deputy Village Manager  
Fred Besenhofer – Director of Information Services  
Ted Bos – Chief of Police  
Patrick Fortunato – Fire Chief  
Mark Koplin – Assistant Village Manager/Director of Development Services  
Rachel Musiala – Director of Finance  
Joseph Nebel – Director of Public Works  
Monica Saavedra – Director of Health & Human Services  
Patrick Seger – Director of Human Resources Management  
Suzanne Ostrovsky – Assistant to the Village Manager  
*And many others*

### *Greenest Region Corps Program*

AmeriCorps  
Metropolitan Mayors Caucus - Edith Makra, Director of Environmental Initiatives

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*This plan was created in 2019 by Kimberly White as a part of the Greenest Region Corps program*

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# SECTION 1: Introduction





# Executive Summary

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The Village of Hoffman Estates is recognized as a regional leader in sustainability. Hoffman Estates was one of the first area municipalities to create an official Sustainability Plan, in 2013. The Village's updated 2019 Sustainability Plan was completed through participation in a specialized AmeriCorps program dedicated to sustainability projects. The Greenest Region Corps, or GRCorps, was created by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. The Village was one of eight municipalities participating in the first year of this pioneering program.

Sustainability and environmental stewardship are core components of the vision and goals of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hoffman Estates, inspiring projects and programs that continually benefit the Village and its residents. As a result, the Village has been widely recognized for its sustainability efforts. In 2018, the Village received the Illinois Sustainability Award from the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center for lighting upgrades at the Sears Center Arena. (The Village also won this award in 2011 and received an honorable mention in 2014.) In 2012, the Village was awarded both the Sierra Club's Cool Cities Achievement award and the Excellence in Energy Code Compliance Award from the International Code Council. The Village has been designated a Tree City USA for the past 27 years, and in 2019, received a SolSmart Bronze designation from The Solar Foundation for facilitating the growth of residential and commercial solar energy. Additionally, the Public Works department won the 2017 Safe and Sustainable Snow Fighting Award from the Salt Institute for its avoidance of over-salting and the use of innovative salting practices.

## Sustainability Planning

The Village's Sustainability Plan is a risk-management tool that ensures that the Village is prepared to proactively address changes to the natural and economic environment. As defined within this document, "sustainability" is the ability to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future citizens to meet their needs. The planning and execution of sustainability initiatives will be fundamental to the Village's long-term success. The Sustainability Plan will help to ensure that sustainability is incorporated into ongoing Village planning and risk management operations. The Plan is intended to act as a guidance document to assist the Village in promoting and protecting the health, safety and wellness of the community, as well as continuing to effectively provide citizens with the goods and services they rely on.

## Section 1: Introduction

The Introduction summarizes research about anticipated changes within the Village and the region over the next 50 years, identifying the challenges and facts that support the Plan's Goals and Objectives. Analysis of these expected changes allows the Village Board and staff to prioritize the risks of greatest importance to the Village and to create preventative mitigation and adaptation strategies and response plans when necessary.

## Section 2: Sustainability in Hoffman Estates

Over the past decades, the Village has completed a significant number of sustainability-related projects. This section describes the current state of the Village and discusses the Village's accomplishments and ongoing efforts. The Board of Trustees' Goals for 2018-19 and the guiding

principles of Growing, Greenness, Community, and Leadership establish a vision for the future of the Village to which the Sustainability Plan and all activities of the Village will contribute.

### **Section 3: Goals and Objectives**

The Goals and Objectives of the Plan are divided into seven major categories: Energy and Climate; Land, Water, and Air; Economic Development; Resources and Waste Management; Governance and Municipal Operations; Community Resilience; and Mobility. This section identifies the initial steps, or Objectives, that should be accomplished in order to achieve the Goals of the Plan and support the Village's vision of a sustainable future.

### **Section 4: Implementation**

Finally, the Implementation section provides a mechanism to execute and track the plans, projects, and programs identified within the Plan. The implementation matrix serves as a tool for administrators and the public to reference and navigate the plan, as well as to identify the opportunities for collaboration and project management. Resources for accomplishing each objective are also provided to facilitate the successful implementation of this Plan.

# Regional Context

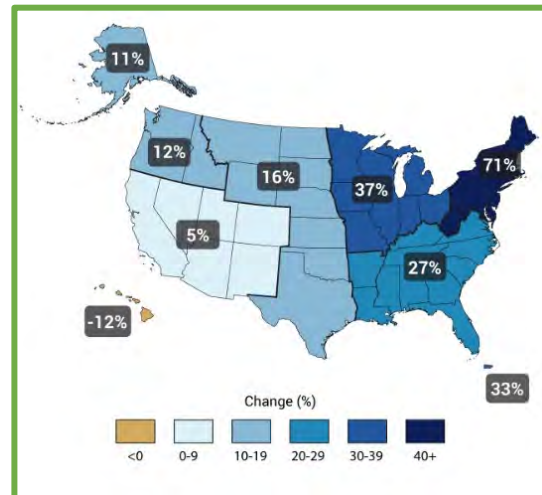
Over the next 50 years, the Midwest and the Chicago area are likely to experience continued changes in the environment, including changing ecology and weather patterns, stressors on communities and families, and challenges for municipalities in providing services and maintaining infrastructure. Providing an introduction to the projected changes in the region will support the goals and objectives established in this plan and demonstrate the importance of preparation through mitigation, adaptation, and building resilience.

## Our Changing Environment

In recent years, the region has experienced significant changes to its environment and ecosystems, including increased precipitation, drought and flooding, and extreme heat and cold. These changes are expected to continue and become more pronounced over the next 50 years, resulting in changes to area ecosystems, the economy, our communities, and the distribution of goods and services by municipalities. In order to appropriately prepare and respond to these ongoing changes, we must first understand the challenges the region will likely face.

### Precipitation

Patterns of precipitation are expected to change dramatically by 2050 and 2100 in the Midwest, including more frequent and intense storms, high humidity, and increased rainfall. In the 10-year period spanning 2009-2019, Hoffman Estates experienced 25-, 50-, and 100-year storms (4%, 2%, and 1% chance each year). The image to the right from the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Climate Assessment shows an observed 37% increase in 100-year precipitation events between 1958 and 2012, a trend that will likely continue in coming decades: future projections indicate that the number of days of extreme rainfall will increase between 25 to 60 percent by 2050.



### Drought and Flooding

Despite increased precipitation in Chicago overall, extreme rainfall is predicted to be interspersed with longer, hotter, drier periods of drought. Increasing temperatures, heavy downpours in winter and spring, longer and hotter dry periods in summer, and changing vegetation leads to drier soils, which absorb less surface water, contributing to soil erosion and stressing water resources. Dry soil and impervious surfaces also increase the risk of flash flooding. Water that cannot infiltrate dry soils tends to collect in low-lying areas and flow into rivers, streams, and lakes, further eroding soils.

## Heat and Cold

By mid-century, Illinois's seasonal patterns are projected to resemble the current climate of Mississippi, Tennessee, and Arkansas (projected changes in summer temperatures are shown on the left). The state has already seen a measurable increase in average temperatures, especially in the winter and at night. Intense heat waves will, and have, become more frequent, with temperatures projected to reach or exceed 95°F on 5-15 more days per year in Hoffman Estates by mid-century. In urban environments like Chicago and Hoffman Estates, large areas of pavement absorb heat, making highly developed areas measurably hotter than neighboring green areas; this is known as "heat island effect." Although temperatures are projected to increase overall, extreme cold events are also predicted to occur more frequently, resulting in negative effects on everything from vegetation to heating costs.



## Ecosystems and Resources

As weather patterns change, plant and animal communities will naturally adapt and change as well. Some species are particularly sensitive or have low adaptive capacity to disturbances in their environment, and populations that are able will shift north to survive. Other species with historic ranges farther south will likewise shift north as their ideal environmental conditions develop here. The emergence and spread of invasive species are already a major concern: the emerald ash borer has caused significant damage to ash trees in Hoffman Estates and throughout the Midwest, costing municipalities millions of dollars in removal and treatment of infected trees.





## Impacts on the Community

Despite technological advancements and the role of human civilization in shaping the planet, we are still one part of a global ecosystem. As the impacts of human development continue to manifest in the environment, these changes affect the community in turn. Understanding these impacts will help municipalities prepare, adapt, and build resilience for the future and continue to fulfill their mission of improving residents' quality of life.

### Human Health

Intense heat waves and cold snaps put everyone at risk, especially vulnerable populations such as children and the elderly. Deaths related to extreme heat and cold far exceed those from flooding, storms, and tornadoes in Illinois. Changing weather patterns and ecology are projected to lead to increasing airborne allergens, and changing air chemistry will affect those with respiratory issues such as asthma. Disease vectors will likely change as mosquitoes and other insects have longer seasons, and water quality will be affected by increased precipitation and strained infrastructure. Mental health may also be affected by stress from increased risks to lifestyle, property, and health.



### Recreation

With warming waters, anglers are likely to see fish populations change, as invasive species thrive and native species that need cooler waters migrate north or disappear. High temperatures and heat waves may affect residents' willingness to participate in outdoor activities, to make use of public facilities such as parks, and to patronize some businesses such as golf courses. Gardeners may find it difficult to grow some species of fruits and vegetables that may not be adapted to the heat waves or rain/drought variability expected in summer, and may also need to address new pests and invasive species.

### Resident Costs

Residents may see higher costs for healthcare and property insurance as health risks increase and residents face greater losses from flooding. The frequency and severity of major rain events are expected to at least double in the next century, and significant amounts of impervious surfaces in urban and suburban areas may lead to flooding during high-precipitation events. Adverse weather may cause travel delays and other disruptions. Energy use and the demand for air conditioning will increase in response to weather extremes. The influx of invasive species and expected changes in weather patterns may also increase landscaping and pest control costs.



## Impacts on Municipalities

As changes begin to emerge in the community and affect quality of life for residents, municipalities will face challenges in providing goods and services to meet an increasing need. There will be additional pressures on municipalities to use limited resources as efficiently as possible. The greatest challenge and limiting factor for implementing sustainability initiatives is, has been, and will be funding, and everyone involved in the process will need to find creative ways to maximize return on investment and do more with less.

### Infrastructure

Infrastructure is an essential and crucial facilitator of American economy and culture, and is also one of the most extensive and expensive services provided by municipal governments. Aging infrastructure will be further stressed by environmental changes, and municipalities are already faced with difficult decisions of what to prioritize between roads, storm sewers, water, and more. The Village's roads, which are major thoroughfares for both residents and businesses, will be vulnerable to the combined impacts of high heat, intense cold, and precipitation. The Village will need to find innovative ways to address these issues and balance the upfront costs of infrastructure alternatives with savings over time and avoiding significant damage repair costs later.



### Municipal Services

Emergency and disaster response services will need to prepare for new and different events. Coordination with county officials and other municipalities will continue to be important to increase resilience, train staff, and build capacity. Health and human services departments will need to establish response plans for the anticipated impacts on human health. Garbage and recycling services are already changing to include electronics and textile recycling, and new challenges will arise as landfills reach capacity. Snow plowing and salting services will be affected by the continued increase in winter and spring precipitation. Such changing expectations for services will require staff to work collaboratively and for supervisors and administrators to consider creative solutions to increase the efficiency of delivering municipal goods and services to the community.



# Strategic Vision

Sustainability is an essential philosophy for organizations that seek longevity and observe ethical practices. Before the term “sustainability” became closely associated with the environment, it referred to the ability of an organization to flourish and thrive in the long-term. It is a mindset as much as a goal, and is meant to bring into focus the three factors that guarantee long-term success: social, economic, and environmental, informally referred to as “people, planet, and prosperity.”

These three pillars, built atop a foundation of ethical leadership and good governance, balance the obligations of proper fiscal management, social responsibility, and preservation of natural resources. As defined by the 1987 Brundtland Report, sustainability is an effort to, “meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs,” and create a world that is “bearable, equitable, and viable.”

The Village intends, through its Sustainability Plan, to establish a concrete framework for sustainable development in the long term, as well as identify specific projects and policies that can be completed in the short term. The Village aims to build upon its identity and reputation as a regional leader in sustainability.



The Four Facets of Sustainability

## Guiding Principles

In order to achieve positive synergy between the economy, social systems and the environment, the decision-making process at the municipal level should consider each of these factors. The four Guiding Principles described below are intended to assist municipal leaders in sustainability planning and project management. The ultimate goal is to create a sustainable future for the Village’s residents, businesses, visitors, and neighbors, in keeping with the Village’s mission: “To continually improve the quality of life for our residents and business community by providing responsive and efficient municipal services and maximizing return on investment.”

**Growing:** Hoffman Estates is committed to the success and prosperity of the citizens and businesses that call our Village home through economic development, housing and land use planning, fiscal responsibility, long-term growth, and maintaining infrastructure to help the Village thrive.

**Greenness:** Responsible stewardship of our environment and natural resources, including our air, water, wildlife, soil, and ecosystems, ensures that future generations will enjoy a high quality of life and the numerous benefits of healthy environment.

**Community:** The Village encourages the development of strong bonds and inclusivity in the community, promotes cultural vibrancy and diversity, supports historical appreciation and preservation, and is committed to the health and safety of each citizen of and visitor to Hoffman Estates.

**Leadership:** The Village will continue to serve the public interest, ensure good governance, seek to create partnerships for regional sustainability, and lead by example in our community by demonstrating sustainable values and practices.



# Village of Hoffman Estates

## 2018-2019 Board Goals

### *On-Going*

#### **Sustainability**

Explore and implement sustainable programs and practices as outlined in the Sustainability Plan by applying for grant opportunities, and integrate sustainability into Village operations where feasible.

#### **Transportation**

Collaborate with local, regional, state, and national agencies to identify and implement initiatives to improve all modes of public transportation, including bicycle and pedestrian travel, throughout the Village.

#### **Infrastructure**

Maintain and improve the Village's infrastructure, including designing, funding, and implementing a comprehensive and continuing revitalization program for Village streets, water, sanitary sewer, sidewalks, and storm water management projects.

#### **Public Safety**

Ensure the health, welfare, and safety of Village residents and businesses through provision of excellent public safety services, including EMS, fire, police, and emergency management, as well as affordable physical and mental health and wellness services.

#### **Fiscal Responsibility**

Provide municipal services in a fiscally sustainable manner given current economic conditions, and continue to be a leader in legislative advocacy to protect local governmental revenue streams and oppose unfunded mandates.

#### **Economic Development**

Create a thriving and vital local economy with a strong blend of retail, clean-industrial, commercial, and residential properties.

#### **Technology**

Evaluate and integrate emerging technology and communication tools where feasible to streamline operations, improve service delivery, foster sustainability, and increase accessibility and convenience to residents and businesses.

#### **Organizational Development**

Enhance the Village's operations through employee development and training in core skill sets that will develop our employees and create a cadre of future leaders for the organization.



# Village of Hoffman Estates

## 2018-2019 Board Goals

### Short-Term



### Sustainability

Continue to provide green programs and an enhanced sustainability/recycling program through an updated Sustainability Plan and by exploring new environmentally-friendly programs and recycling efforts such as LED streetlight conversion, alternative fuels, and textile recycling.

### Transportation

Partner with local, regional, and state agencies to improve and promote transportation facilities and opportunities within the Village through initiatives with PACE, including the new Park & Ride/Kiss & Ride and the Bus Rapid Transit plan; with Cook County, regarding expanded/improved bike paths along Central and Beverly Roads; and locally, through the Subsidized Taxi Program.

### Infrastructure

Enhance the quality of neighborhoods by continuing the annual Street Revitalization Program and reviewing maintenance of the utility infrastructure through engineering studies, including water/sewer mains; evaluation of public facilities/building; and a storm water utility capital plan.

### Public Safety

- ♦ Continue contingency planning for the provision of reliable police, fire, and emergency services in disasters and extreme events. Promote awareness of the Village's Emergency Operations Plan/disaster preparedness by increasing outreach efforts to inform and educate residents and the business community.
- ♦ Maintain high-quality public safety services, including emergency medical services, fire, police, and health services. Collaborate with Northwest Central Dispatch on implementation of new computer-aided dispatch system for emergency 911 operations. Research expanding the Administrative Service Officer program to augment law enforcement efforts. Evaluate opportunities for improving Fire Stations 21 and 22. Explore increased collaboration with neighboring agencies on public safety services. Increase awareness of the affordable health and wellness services available to residents and businesses.

### Fiscal Responsibility

Remain fiscally responsible through operational efficiencies and protecting revenue streams. Examine refinancing of existing debt to capture interest savings; explore performance contracting options; evaluate fleet leasing; continue debt collection efforts through the State Comptroller program; promote intergovernmental collaborations such as equipment/personnel sharing to reduce cost of services; and develop a contingency plan to address continued revenue reductions by the State.

### Economic Development

Promote the development of available properties to create a thriving local economy; update the Comprehensive Plan; undertake area plans for the Entertainment District and the I-90/Barrington Road Interchange area; support the redevelopment of the AT&T campus into a "Metroburbs." Continue the redevelopment of Hoffman Plaza and encourage continued investment in other shopping centers.

### Technology

Investigate and analyze technology options and alternatives to improve operational efficiencies, service delivery, and convenience for residents and businesses. Implement file storage/management systems; integrate tablets into field reporting, locating, and inspections; and automate the employment application process. Pilot an offsite kiosk program to enhance resident payment options. Evaluate a new or improved mobile application. Research and explore the differing components of the Smart City Initiative, including fillable online forms, outward facing GIS, and online document retrieval.

### Organizational Development

Continue to advance a progressive work environment through employee training and organizational development programs and initiatives. Prepare for organizational succession by providing a leadership training program and advanced workforce planning. Conduct specific training for Time Management, Crisis Intervention, and Ethics education, and budget for position-specific and technology training.



## SECTION 2: Sustainability in Hoffman Estates





# Growing to Greenness

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Sustainability and environmental stewardship are core components of the vision and goals of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hoffman Estates, inspiring projects and programs that have continually benefit the Village and its residents. These efforts were further guided by the Village's first Sustainability Plan, adopted by the Board of Trustees in 2013. An overview of the history of the Village and the ongoing and accomplished projects and programs will provide helpful context for the objectives and projects described in Section 3 of this plan: Goals and Objectives.

## *History of the Village*

In the 1950s, a new suburban community emerged in Cook County from the agricultural community of Schaumburg Township and the nearby economic center of Elgin. Sam and Jack Hoffman purchased 160 acres of farmland for a subdivision development in 1954, and five years later, residents voted to incorporate the Village of Hoffman Estates.

From an initial population of about 8,000, the Village grew to just over 52,000 residents in 2017 within a total area of 22.1 square miles. The Village now contains 4,080 acres of forest preserve, 930 acres of public and recreational land, and three major business and economic districts. Elementary School District 54, established in 1952, is now the largest school district in the state outside of Chicago. The Village sits in near proximity to several major transportation corridors including I-90, O'Hare Airport, Metra train lines, and I-290/53.

The Village of Hoffman Estates operates under a Council/Manager form of government. Six elected trustees serve the residents of Hoffman Estates on the Board of Trustees, chaired by William McLeod, who has served as Mayor since 2001. Citizens and residents serve on 18 active commissions, including Cultural Awareness, Arts, Planning and Zoning, Senior Citizens, and Sustainability. Hoffman Estates also has a flourishing and culturally enriching relationship with her sister city, Angouleme, France. Hoffman Estates has received six Governor's Hometown Awards since 1983 for projects that improve quality of life and services in the community.

The Village's business community is vibrant and thriving, with over 90 restaurants, 6 auto dealerships, and a number of hotels, office centers and business districts. The Sears Center Arena is a major venue for events, tourism, and business in the community. Likewise, the Virginia Mary Hayter Village Green is a center for cultural and community events and celebrations. The AMITA Health St. Alexius Medical Center, originally named the Suburban Medical Center, has also served the community since 1979. The zoning map from the 2008 Comprehensive Plan on the following page shows the distribution of major commercial and residential districts, as well as parks and the two forest preserves within the Village's boundaries.

Hoffman Estates has become a destination for entertainment in the northwest Chicago suburbs, hosting major events such as Celtic Fest in October, the multi-day Northwest Fourth Fest each Independence Day, and events at the Sears Center Arena ranging from community events to large music festivals to Windy City Bulls basketball games.





## Accomplishments and Ongoing Projects

The Village of Hoffman Estates has made significant strides toward a more sustainable community since the adoption of the first Sustainability Plan in 2013. Energy efficiency upgrades and retrofits have been installed in multiple Village-owned buildings, such as a new cooling system, roof, and high efficiency lighting at Public Works Center and fleet garage, and efficiency upgrades to the lighting and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems at Village Hall. Sustainable design principles were used in the renovation of Village Hall in 2008, and both the new Police Building, completed 2010, and Fire Station 24, completed 2009, were designated LEED Gold for efficient design and sustainable building construction.

Two other major development projects, one completed in 2018 and the other planned and approved, are also helping advance the Village's vision of sustainability. The Village was the lead agency for the design and construction of the I-90 Barrington Road Interchange, which was completed in partnership with Pace, Illinois Tollway, and the Illinois Department of Transportation. The interchange is acting to relieve congestion on Barrington Road, as well as providing access to Pace transit services along the I-90 corridor. The Barrington Road Interchange includes many features that encourage active transportation, including a Park-n-Ride, a Kiss-n-Ride, bicycle racks, and a pedestrian crossing over I-90. The interchange won Project of the Year from the American Public Works Association Chicago Metro Chapter and has significantly increased area Pace ridership.



In 2018, the Village approved the rezoning of the vacant former AT&T campus, purchased by Somerset Development, to be redeveloped and renovated into a "Metroburb" that utilizes elements of transit-oriented design. Along with the guidelines and requirements of the Village's Commercial Mixed Use zoning district, the pedestrian-friendly project will combine restaurants, shops, offices, apartments, townhomes, and open spaces, grouping uses for efficiency and sustainable land use.



In 2018, the Village received the Illinois Sustainability Award from the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center for lighting upgrades at the Sears Center Arena. The Village previously won the award in 2011 and received an honorable mention in 2014. In 2012, the Village was awarded both the Sierra Club's Cool Cities Achievement award and the Excellence in Energy Code Compliance Award from the International Code Council. The Village has also been designated a Tree City USA for the past 27 years, and received a SolSmart Bronze

designation from The Solar Foundation in 2019. As a SolSmart community, the Village is prepared to facilitate the growth of residential and commercial solar energy and lower the soft costs of installation to encourage development and implementation of renewable energy in the Chicago area. For the Village's

use of innovative salting practices to avoid overuse of road salt, the Public Works department won the 2017 Safe and Sustainable Snow Fighting Award from the Salt Institute.

The Village is an active participant in regional sustainability networks. The Village Manager is the immediate past Chairman and now member of the Executive Board of the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC), which provides special recycling programs to its 23 member communities. Through the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, the Village has been involved in a number of recent sustainability initiatives, participating in a cohort of 23 communities pursuing SolSmart designation in 2019, as well as the Greenest Region Corps program. This pioneering program, created by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus in partnership with AmeriCorps and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, matches sustainability consultants with municipalities that wish to implement sustainability projects. The Village is also a signatory to the Caucus' Greenest Region Compact, or GRC, which provides a framework for municipal sustainability planning. Working with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and other organizations, Hoffman Estates is pursuing projects to add bicycle lanes and paths throughout the Village to facilitate bicycle travel and fill in gaps in the local and regional bicycle networks, as shown on the map on the following page.

The Village's Sustainability Commission provides recommendations for sustainability efforts to the Board of Trustees and recognizes businesses that utilize sustainable practices through the Green Business Recognition Program, which has recognized a number of local businesses for their accomplishments. The Village's recycling programs, including electronics recycling, seasonal branch pickup, Christmas tree recycling, and the fall Pumpkin Smash event, are very popular with residents, and encourage habits of conservation and thoughtful waste management. The Village established a curbside textile and home goods recycling program with Simple Recycling in 2019, accomplishing one of the Village Board's short-term goals.





# Comprehensive Bicycle Plan Existing and Future Facilities Map for The Village of Hoffman Estates



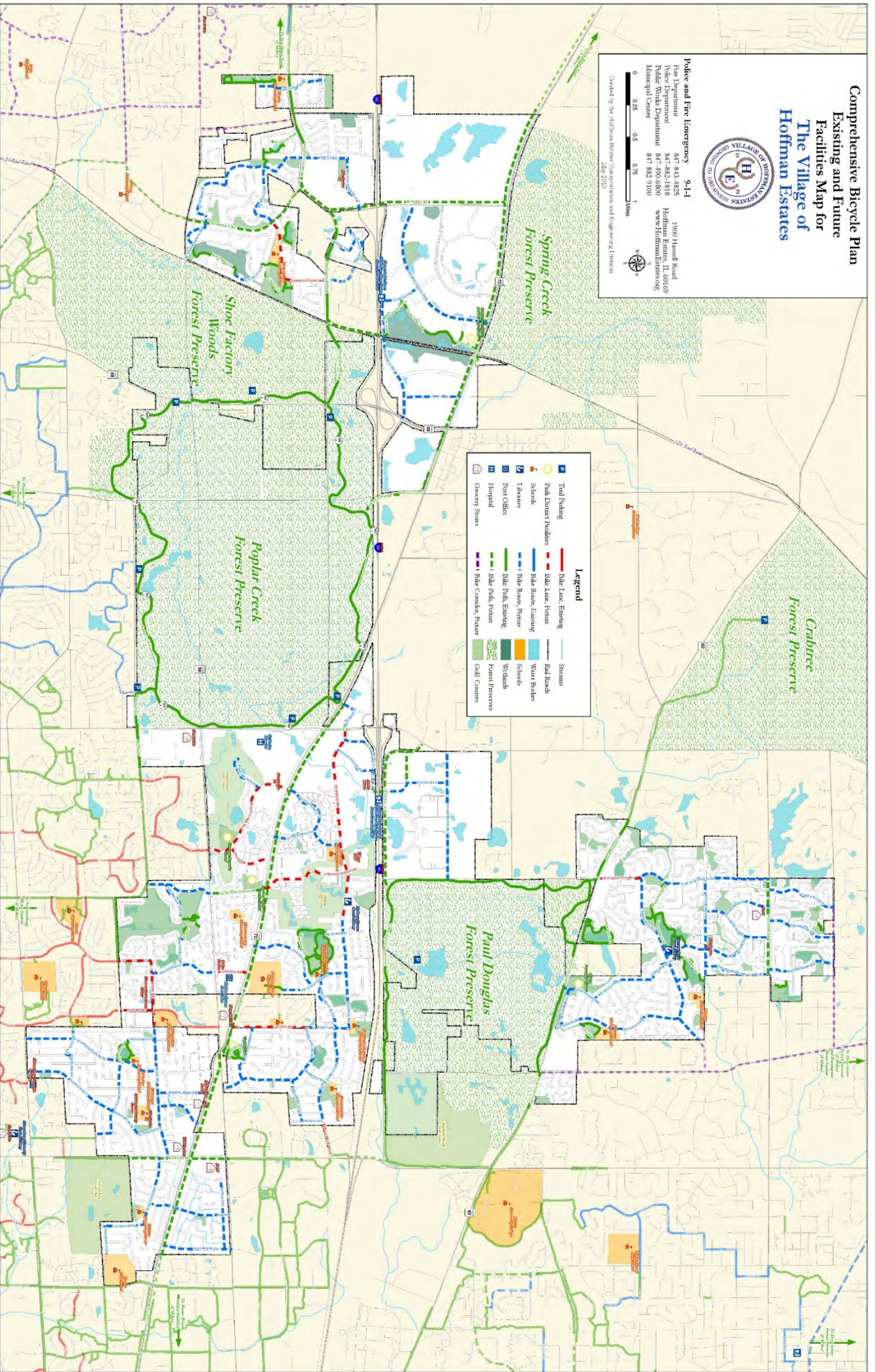
**Police and Fire Emergency 9-1-1**  
 Fire Department 817.843.4825  
 Police Department 817.842.2816  
 1900 Hassell Road Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
 7000 S. Wood Dale Road Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
 Municipal Center 817.842.2000  
 www.HoffmanEstates.org



Created by the Hoffman Center for Transportation and Engineering Division  
 July 2020

**Legend**

	Trial Parking		Bike Lane, Existing		Stream
	Park District boundary		Bike Lane, Future		Bad Roads
	Schools		Bike Route, Existing		Water Bodies
	Libraries		Bike Route, Future		Schools
	Post Office		Bike Path, Existing		Wetlands
	Hospital		Bike Path, Future		Forest Preserves
	Greenway Station		Bike Corridor, Future		Wild Canyons





## *Review of 2013 Sustainability Plan*

The first Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan, adopted by the Village Board of Trustees in 2013, laid the groundwork for significant progress toward sustainability in subsequent years. Many of the tasks and objectives in the Plan were accomplished, such as the efforts to increase the energy efficiency of Village facilities and buildings as described above, and a number of outreach and community development efforts.

The Plan was most effective where it provided detailed guidance, a firm timeline, and a well-stated purpose for achieving projects, which created structure for the planning and implementation process. Some projects and programs were deferred due to inadequate resources as determined by administrators. Providing multiple means or steps to accomplish important objectives may help staff make progress when external factors limit the available resources that can be dedicated to sustainability projects. More detailed descriptors for priority level and desired timeframe for completion would also help encourage consistent progress and task management.

Establishing benchmarking mechanisms and precise implementation strategies is one of the biggest challenges for planners, but will also allow administrators to track and measure progress in a variety of ways, maintain continuity among staff members and departments, and communicate successes with the public, partner organizations, and peer communities.

## *Resident and Business Survey*

Incorporating the input and opinions of the community is important to ensure that the Village's Sustainability Plan will address the priorities and needs of the community, as well as align with the Board of Trustees' stated goals. To accomplish this, planners issued two separate sustainability surveys to residents and businesses that sought to identify the concerns, interests, and priorities of these specialized groups.

One hundred and forty-two residents responded to the survey, representing a fairly even distribution of ages between 25 and 65 and up. The majority of respondents also have a graduate or undergraduate degree. Ninety-six percent of residents responded that they are somewhat or very concerned about environmental issues and sustainability in the Village. The top three reported concerns were water and air quality; proper waste management; and severe weather, including flooding, storms, and extreme cold and heat. Survey respondents identified five top priorities for sustainability in the Village. They are, in order: comprehensive and convenient recycling programs; renewable energy and energy efficiency; infrastructure development; wildlife and green space; and a walkable/bike-able community.

Residents indicated that more can be done to involve the community in sustainability efforts. Forty-one percent of residents would like to receive more information from the Village on environmental and sustainability issues. Sixty-one percent of respondents were not familiar with the 2013 Sustainability Plan and 24% were unsure. The completion of this Plan is an ideal opportunity to initiate an information campaign and invite the community to participate in the Village's sustainability activities.

Thirteen businesses responded to the second survey, twelve of which are members of the Chamber of Commerce and two of which have participated in the Green Business Recognition program, though only 4 reported having received information about the Green Business Program. Nine respondents



would take advantage of sustainability resources if they were convenient and available on the Village website. Most respondents already use some sustainable practices in their businesses, such as using technology to increase efficiency and reduce use of paper; improving energy efficiency and conservation when possible; providing recycling for employees and customers; and reducing waste and resource consumption. Providing high quality goods and services is the most important consideration for survey respondents when making business decisions, followed by maintaining a high standard of ethics and having a positive reputation in the business community. The top concerns for businesses when considering implementation of sustainable practices are, in order: affordability; lack of opportunities to implement sustainability practices; and exceptional challenges and limiting factors preventing implementation. Efforts made by the Village to engage the business community in sustainability can utilize these insights to increase interest and participation in the Green Business Recognition Program and other projects.

### *Inclusivity and Participation*

Throughout the development process, the citizen-lead Sustainability Commission advised Village staff on the design, vision, priorities, and content of this Sustainability Plan. Since this document is intended for the public as well as Village administration, the Commissioners' input was valuable in producing a final product that will be accessible to all audiences and a navigable working document.

The Village of Hoffman Estates is dedicated to diversity and equity for all residents and citizens. When developing the Sustainability Plan, special consideration was given to the needs of minority and vulnerable populations, such as senior citizens, children, and those with disabilities. All of the goals and objectives established in this Plan will be implemented with these considerations in mind.



# Greenest Region Compact

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Across the country, states are establishing programs to recognize municipalities that implement progressive sustainability projects and initiatives, as well as provide a framework for administrators to learn about best practices and share their insights and resources. Rather than each municipality attempting to develop their own programs and projects with limited resources, coalitions and framework documents allow communities to easily implement the projects that are appropriate for their needs and capacity. Arranged by goal categories, framework documents often also include specific actions and steps to provide concrete guidelines for implementation and specific resources for technical assistance. Because municipalities have limited time, staff capacity, and resources, these framework and recognition programs allow more communities to make meaningful progress toward sustainability.

The Village is a signatory of the Greenest Region Compact (GRC), a sustainability planning framework developed by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus for municipal members in the greater Chicago area. The goals and objectives in the GRC are drawn from sustainability plans and activities that municipalities have already implemented individually, as well as practices that are more sustainability-minded than many administrators recognize. The GRC also draws inspiration from similar plans from states across the United States, such as Minnesota's Green Step Cities and Wisconsin's Green Tier Legacy Communities programs.



As an extension of the Greenest Region Compact, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus established an AmeriCorps service program called the Greenest Region Corps to provide expertise in sustainability and environmental issues and help implement programs and projects that are of interest to municipalities. One of the primary barriers for municipalities to make progress on environmental issues and the goals and objectives of the GRC is lack of staff time; this program is intended to fill those gaps and build municipal capacity for sustainability efforts. Hoffman Estates participated in the first cohort of municipalities in this program in 2018-19, with the goal of completing this Sustainability Plan and incorporating GRC principles into the projects and programs of the Village of Hoffman Estates.

The seven goal categories for the Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan, discussed in the next chapter, were inspired by goal categories of the Greenest Region Compact. These goal categories are: Climate and Energy; Land, Water, and Air; Economic Development; Resources and Waste Management; Government and Municipal Operations; Community Resilience; and Mobility.



## SECTION 3: Goals and Objectives



# From Vision to Action

The goals and objectives in this plan translate our vision of the Village's future into action. Other Village documents and plans, such as the eight-year Capital Improvement Plan and the Comprehensive Plan, include many projects that contribute to the sustainability of the Village. These projects are incorporated into the Sustainability Plan, in addition to new ideas and projects inspired by the Greenest Region Compact and other communities' sustainability plans.

To maximize the longevity of this plan, the goals and objectives are written to ensure flexibility. Objectives must provide sufficient guidance or direction during the implementation phase, while remaining flexible to maintain the effectiveness of the plan over the long term as specific projects are finished or conditions change. The flexibility of these goals and objectives also leaves room for new best practices and creative opportunities to be used to achieve the goals of the plan.

The goals and objectives in this chapter are divided into seven categories, based on the goal categories of the Greenest Region Compact and other municipal sustainability plans.

- 🌱 **1. Energy and Climate:** To increase energy efficiency, minimize greenhouse gas emissions, address and prepare for severe weather threats, and improve access and utilization of renewable energy.
- 🌱 **2. Land, Water, and Air:** To preserve and restore natural features and ecosystems, encourage positive relationships with the environment, and act as good stewards of nature for future generations.
- 🌱 **3. Economic Development:** To promote the use of sustainable practices in the business community, support a robust, stable, and diverse local economy, and finance sustainability programs and projects.
- 🌱 **4. Resources and Waste Management:** To improve waste management services to the community, reduce sources of waste and divert waste from landfills, and encourage the use of reusable products.
- 🌱 **5. Governance and Municipal Operations:** To incorporate sustainable practices in municipal operations, improve municipal assets and services, and act as a leader for sustainability for the region.
- 🌱 **6. Community Resilience:** To engage the community in sustainability, encourage personal investment in sustainability, provide opportunities for youth, and foster a culture of wellness, safety, and diversity.
- 🌱 **7. Mobility:** To create and maintain a transportation network that is safe, comprehensive, accessible, efficient, equitable, and promotes active lifestyles.







# 1: Energy and Climate

Support clean energy by increasing energy efficiency, decreasing reliance on fossil fuels, and removing barriers to purchasing and generating renewable energy.

➤ **1.1. Work with the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus to create a regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory framework.**

By knowing where our GHG emissions come from, we can create targeted strategies that address the sectors where changes could make the most significant impact. The inventory should include carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, and calculate emissions from stationary energy consumption (residential and commercial/industrial), mobile energy consumption, waste management, land use, and any other applicable sector.



➤ **1.2. Build upon SolSmart Bronze designation and track solar energy development in the Village.**

Participating in the SolSmart program has revealed new opportunities to improve the Village's support for solar energy. Tracking solar energy developments in the Village provides a clear measure of progress in the Sustainability Plan. Data about new solar permits granted and installations completed can be compiled by the Development Services department in their monthly report and added to a map of renewable energy installations maintained by the Village's GIS experts and available on the Village website.

➤ **1.3. Pursue energy efficiency improvements throughout the Village. (CIP)**

Examples of energy efficiency improvements include integrating smart technology, upgrading HVAC systems, and adopting "stretch energy codes" that set higher standards for energy efficiency than the International Energy Code Council's officially adopted codes. The Village can also take advantage of the evaluation and retro-commissioning services of the Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC) for the Sears Center Arena. The Capital Improvements Program includes funding for many of these programs.

➤ **1.4. Participate in each cycle of the IECC code adoption process.**

The International Code Council amends the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) on a three-year cycle, and municipal code officials have an opportunity to vote for the changes that will be included. Few municipalities currently participate in this process, meaning the Village can play an influential role in developing the future energy code for Illinois.

➤ **1.5. Finalize a performance contract to install LED streetlights and replace Village water meters.**

The Village has identified an opportunity to increase energy efficiency and reduce water loss by converting streetlights to LEDs and replacing existing residential and business water meters with direct-read meters. This change will also eliminate the need for manual meter reads, reducing fuel usage and road miles driven.



**Engage with the public to pursue clean energy development and efficiency and improve the community's resilience to extreme weather.**

- 1.6. **Utilize the Everbridge Emergency Notification system to share weather warnings with residents.**  
During heatwaves, blizzards, severe storms, extreme cold events, and other emergency situations, the Village has an opportunity to utilize the Everbridge system to prepare residents and share information about Village resources and services available or affected. This could include information on cooling centers or signs of heat stroke during heat waves, or notification that services such as garbage pickup may be impacted. Establishing and publishing guidelines for these notifications will ensure that residents are aware of the notifications they will receive and encourage them to join the service.

**Board Goal: Public Safety**  
Ensure the health, welfare, and safety of Village residents and businesses through provision of excellent public safety services, including EMS, fire, police, & emergency management, as well as affordable physical and mental health and wellness services.

- 1.7. **Publicize heat and extreme weather response plans to ensure that residents can access them and know what resources are available.**  
Heat response plans are in place within the Village to address issues caused by summer heat waves, but residents may not know where to find helpful information such as the location of cooling facilities and transportation options. Reminding residents of these resources and where to find them on the Health and Human Services page of the Village website will improve the resilience of the community.
- 1.8. **Host annual solar energy workshops for residents and businesses and regularly update the solar page on the Village's website.**  
By serving as a clearinghouse for residents and business to find information on renewable energy, more members of the community can access solar resources. The Citizens Utility Board and Midwest Energy Association regularly partner with villages to present solar information and resources to residents and have resources that municipalities can utilize and provide to residents. Code and permitting officials can provide solar permitting guidelines on the Village's website.





## 2. Land, Water, Air

Support ecological preservation & restoration around the Village to maintain ecosystem benefits and protect natural resources.

- **2.1. Utilize native grasses, flowers, and other plants in right-of-ways and other Village property. (CIP)**  
Native ecosystems and plants can increase stormwater infiltration, provide habitat for animals, reduce soil erosion, sequester carbon, reduce the need for mowing and fertilizers, and beautify Village properties. The Capital Improvements Program includes funding for improving plantings at Village Hall.
- **2.2. Administratively adopt and enforce an “Anti-Idling” policy for Village vehicles.**  
Village staff observe an informal no-idling policy for most vehicles and machinery when possible. Formalizing this policy will ensure that all staff are aware of the benefits of not idling for air quality, health, and the longevity of Village vehicles.
- **2.3. Investigate green infrastructure micro-projects and incorporate projects into the Village’s Capital Improvements Program.**  
Major green infrastructure projects such as using permeable pavement in a parking lot can have prohibitive expenses for local governments and businesses, but smaller projects can provide similar benefits at a reasonable scale. Utilizing permeable pavers on sidewalks and cross walks, green parking lot designs for Village properties, and creating bioswales in road medians are achievable steps to increase green infrastructure, setting an example for the entire community.

- **2.4. Continue efforts to improve Village creek drainage. (CIP)**  
Obstructed culverts and creeks can impede proper drainage and may increase the risk of flooding in the Village. These issues can be addressed by bank stabilization and erosion control, removal of dead wood and tree branches, and improvement of structural components.



- **2.5. Continue stormwater management projects to increase system functionality and efficiency. (CIP)**  
Replacing storm sewers in poor condition will decrease maintenance costs and increase drainage efficiency, as well as increase system capacity and the ability to deal with high-volume precipitation events. These improvements will ideally prevent emergency situations from stressing the system and causing other costly issues or damages.



**Encourage positive relationships between the community & the environment by reducing human impacts and ensuring clean water, air, & landscapes.**

**2.6. Provide resources to residents about pollinator, butterfly, and rain gardens and their benefits.**

Residents and property owners can contribute to the resilience of the natural landscape by creating gardens on their property. By providing resources through a workshop hosted by the Sustainability Commission and by posting information on the Village's website, residents can learn about the beauty and benefits of these gardens, such as better surface water management and habitat for butterflies, as well as how to design and choose species for your garden.



**2.7. Publish and publicize an urban forestry management plan that details the Village's strategies to increase the resilience of the urban forest.**

Some tree species commonly found in northern Illinois are not adapted to the new

pests and hotter summers expected over the 50 years. The Public Works Department manages an excellent urban forest in Hoffman Estates, and publishing their management plans and strategies will serve as a communication tool with the public about sustainability and how the Village addresses heat-tolerance, pests, and diseases, and ensures the longevity and resilience of the Village's urban forest.

**2.8. Install "Idle-Free Zone" signs in parking lots at Village facilities.**

Vehicle idling consumes unnecessary fuel, negatively impacts air quality from exhaust, and can increase wear and tear on vehicles. Signs that remind drivers to turn off their cars while not driving can both educate the public on the issue and improve local air quality.

**2.9. Remove barriers for private property owners to install permeable pavement and other green infrastructure.**

To increase the implementation of green infrastructure, the Village could consider code changes such as including permeable pavement in the list of pre-approved surfaces for permits or requiring some elements of green infrastructure on major developments or redevelopments. The Village can also offer incentives such as quick permit turnaround, technical assistance, and fee reductions.





## 3. Economic Development

Use Village relationships with the Chamber of Commerce and local businesses to promote sustainable practices in the business community.

### 3.1. Update and promote the Green Business Recognition Program.

Promoting the Green Business Recognition Program through Chamber of Commerce events and other Village communications can help build the reputation of the program, increase participation, and develop a sense of pride among sustainable businesses in the Village. Updating the program to have three tiers of recognition could also incentivize ongoing progress and add another element of pride and competition for participating businesses. Because some businesses may not have permanent locations or offices, other program requirements could be established to recognize practices that are not related to building design and efficiency.



### 3.2. Host events for local businesses to discuss sustainability with each other and experts in sustainable business practices.

The Village and the Chamber of Commerce can both serve as a resource and clearing house for businesses that are interested in reducing their impact on the environment. By engaging with experts in sustainable business practices, business owners can learn what programs and practices would best fit their organization and gain access to resources that can help them achieve their goals. These events could include a presentation from experts, round-table discussions, and a tour of a local sustainable business.

### 3.3. Utilize the Village's reputation as a sustainable community to attract businesses that also value sustainability.

Growing the number of businesses in the community that value sustainability will encourage other businesses and members of the community to implement sustainability projects as well. When recruiting new businesses and collaborating with developers and major business partners, the Village's dual commitment to sustainability and economic development could be an attractive mark in the Village's favor.



### 3.4. Organize or facilitate events that support local and small businesses.

A robust community of local businesses is a core element of a resilient economy within the Village. National events such as Small Business Saturday support small businesses during the winter holiday season, but communities can host and organize other events throughout the year. Examples could include "Dine & Dash" (where teams visit restaurants in the Village to complete food challenges and win gift cards for these restaurants while raising proceeds for local food pantries or other charitable projects) and Shopper's Rewards programs (which provide residents with gift certificates when they spend a certain amount of money at



participating local businesses over several weeks). Events of this type provide publicity for participating businesses and incentivize participants to become return customers.

🌱 **3.5. Implement electronic permitting and code inspection processes and utilize technology for submitting and processing proposals and other applications.**

Bid packets, proposals, and other documents can be accepted and processed in digital formats to improve efficiency, convenience for residents and businesses, and turn-around times, and to reduce the use of paper.

🌱 **3.6. Encourage the use of mixed-use and transit-oriented design (TOD) principles in new developments, land-use policies, and planning.**

Mixed-use development and transit-oriented design are intended to increase the efficiency of the neighborhood and community as a whole, reducing the need for individual transportation via car by grouping land uses to include both commercial and residential, and by improving the accessibility and convenience of public transit. The Village's commercial mixed-use zoning category is an important first step toward encouraging this type of development.

**Develop strategies and creative solutions to finance sustainability and resilience programs, reinvest savings, maximize return on investment, and return benefits to the community.**

🌱 **3.7. Create a discretionary fund to finance sustainability projects.**

A discretionary sustainability fund could be used as a planning tool to clearly track funds available and designated for sustainability. Identifying a consistent revenue stream and assigning specific projects to be financed through this fund would minimize the impact of sustainability-focused investments on the Capital Improvements Program and ensure that funds are available for sustainability projects.

Environmental Protection Agency and Illinois Department of Transportation, as well as nonprofit agencies, offer grants and funding sources for municipalities. Cost-sharing programs, such as the GRCorps, also allow municipalities to complete projects without reallocating resources within the Village.

🌱 **3.8. Continue to utilize grants and other creative revenue streams to fund sustainability projects and programs.**

State agencies and programs such as the

🌱 **Board Goal: Fiscal Responsibility**  
Provide municipal services in a fiscally sustainable manner given current economic conditions, and continue to be a leader in legislative advocacy to protect local governmental revenue streams and oppose unfunded mandates.





## 4. Resources and Waste Management

Implement practices and pursue programs for source reduction, waste minimization, and reuse of resources wherever possible.

### 4.1 Adopt low waste guidelines for Village meetings and events.

Source reduction, such as using pitchers and glasses for water at meetings rather than bottled water, using digital packets rather than paper, and diverting waste from landfills by reusing and recycling wherever possible, are essential components of decreasing the Village's greenhouse gas emissions. "Zero Waste" tool kits and guidelines can be used to reduce waste for Village meetings and events through collaboration with vendors and organizers during the planning process.



### 4.2. Educate residents and local businesses about wasted food and provide information for reducing waste and improving meal planning and purchasing behaviors.

In the United States, between 30% and 40% of our food supply is wasted every year, which not only results in unnecessary costs to customers and business owners, but results in more waste in landfills and increased production of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas. Engaging local restaurants and partnering with grocery stores to educate consumers about behavior changes can reduce wasted food and save community resources.

### 4.3. Utilize digital packets for Village Meetings whenever possible.

Utilizing digital packets whenever possible for Board and Commission meetings will avoid the use of paper for single use-packets at each meeting and decrease unnecessary waste. This objective could be included in the Village's low waste guidelines for meetings & events.

### 4.4. Create and adopt an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy.

An Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy considers the life-cycle impacts of the products the Village consumes and establishes guidelines to minimize the Village's waste and indirect costs to the environment. The policy would include guidelines for eliminating cleaning products with volatile organic compounds (VOCs), reducing plastic consumption (both single-use and reusable), acquiring reusable products, and seeking to acquire resources from suppliers that utilize sustainable practices. The development process for an EPPP could include an ROI and cost-benefit analysis of sustainable actions, such as switching to paper plates or purchasing reusable products for use by Village staff.





## Advance recycling and waste management programs for residents, businesses, and municipal staff.

### 4.5. Investigate composting and organic waste management programs.

While minimizing food waste is the most effective way to minimize the associated GHG emissions, composting organic materials rather than sending them to landfills can also reduce carbon production. Food scraps in a landfill produce methane, which is 70% more harmful to air quality than the carbon dioxide produced during composting. Compost can also be used to fertilize home gardens and reduce the need for manufactured plant nutrients. In partnership with its waste hauler, the Village could conduct pilot projects for organic waste management.

### 4.6. Review Village codes and ordinances regarding composting, recycling, and other waste management practices.

Village ordinances may include unintentional barriers to the implementation of innovative waste management options such as backyard composting. Reviewing Village codes and ordinances could also reveal opportunities to encourage waste reduction and waste management alternatives to landfills, such as requiring developers to recycle a higher percentage of construction or demolition waste than the county requires.

### 4.7. Ensure that waste management resources for residents are easy to find and accessible on the Village website.

Properly separating and cleaning recyclables can be confusing for residents, especially when recommendations and requirements from waste haulers change. The Village can help bridge the information gap for residents

by ensuring the Village website has easily accessible and up-to-date guidelines, or through other initiatives such as providing inserts in the Citizen Newsletter or fridge magnets for residents to keep at home.

- 4.8. **Conduct a waste audit of Village facilities.** Identifying the content of the waste from Village Hall and other Village facilities will allow staff to better tailor programs for waste minimization and management. The audit could identify materials that should be recycled but are frequently put in the trash, and materials that are improperly put in the recycling bins. This information can direct efforts to improve waste management in the Village.



### 4.9. Engage Village employees and staff in waste management efforts.

Increasing awareness of proper recycling strategies and making recycling easy and convenient can decrease waste sent to landfills by the Village. Maintenance & custodial staff are important partners in recycling efforts to ensure that recycling and waste from Village facilities are handled appropriately.





## 5. Governance and Municipal Operations

Become a leader in the community and the region by integrating and demonstrating sustainable values and practices.

🌱 **5.1. Host meetings with partners periodically on sustainability topics.**

As a member of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, the Village has an opportunity to act as a leader in the Chicago area by hosting meetings for the Environment Committee, including tours for attendees that highlight sustainability work within the Village.

🌱 **5.2. Provide an annual sustainability update to the Board of Trustees.**

Including information in the Village's annual report that describes the accomplishments and progress made over the previous year will establish accountability for pursuing the goals of this Sustainability Plan and will help administrators, Trustees, and the public track progress. The report could also set an agenda for the upcoming year and identify priorities and available resources.

🌱 **5.3. Continue to invite elected officials and other community leaders to participate in sustainability-focused events to inspire interest and participation from others.**

Elected officials and other community leaders have an important role to play in demonstrating and promoting the values of the community. By attending award ceremonies, workshops, celebrations, and other events, leaders communicate to the public that

sustainability is a priority in the Village, and encourage others to take interest and participate as well. The example set by community leaders can show residents that small steps taken collectively can make a difference in the environment.

🌱 **5.4. Ensure that the Village's updated Comprehensive Plan incorporates elements of the new Sustainability Plan. (CIP)**

Comprehensive planning is an essential process that establishes the direction and momentum of the Village's development over the next decade. The all-inclusive nature of a Comprehensive Plan provides a significant opportunity to incorporate the principles of sustainability into the long-term plans of the Village. In this way, the Village can ensure that it is prepared to meet the current and future needs of residents and businesses.

🌱 **5.5. Explore teleconferencing & other options that provide flexibility and reduce the need for travel.**

Increasing the use of technology for teleconferencing and providing options for employees to access Village servers and documents while working remotely would reduce vehicle miles driven and improve productivity.





## Incorporate sustainability principles and goals into municipal process improvement efforts to better fulfill the Village mission.

### 5.6. Build municipal capacity for sustainability in all departments.

Collaboration among departments to complete sustainability initiatives can be improved by educating staff about sustainability issues and demonstrating how the Village's goals for sustainability will impact their day to day work. Workshops and trainings with experts, attending meetings or events hosted by other organizations, or developing a Sustainable Municipality Manual could be part of the Village's strategy to increase staff capacity.

### 5.7. Utilize direct public engagement strategies for planning and goal setting processes.

Social media and the internet are powerful tools for reaching out the public and strengthening citizen voices in local government. Inviting the public to participate in local government and engage with the Village through social media will also increase public trust in the Village through perceived and actual transparency.

### 5.8. Create a sustainability task force with liaisons from all departments to lead and coordinate sustainability efforts.

A task force composed of liaisons from all departments in the Village could lead and coordinate the implementation of the Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan and compile the annual Sustainability Report, create outcome

#### Board Goal: Organizational Dev.

Enhance the Village's operations through employee development and training in core skill sets that will develop our employees and create a cadre of future leaders for the organization.

measures and track progress, and organize sustainability trainings for Village staff.

### 5.9. Recruit candidates for employment that have knowledge of and interest in municipal sustainability.

To increase staff capacity to engage in sustainability efforts, the interview process for new staff members could include questions related to the candidate's experience, knowledge, or interest in environmental issues. Increasing general knowledge amongst Village staff will also help departments collaborate and complete sustainability projects without hiring a full-time sustainability officer or consultant.



### 5.10. Support the development of additional language skills for municipal employees, especially Health and Human Services employees.

Removing language barriers is essential for the Village to serve all members of the community and to increase accessibility to services. The Village should continue to actively recruit employees fluent in a second language and consider incentivizing current employees to learn a second language.





**Improve municipal assets to protect public safety, increase efficiency, and continue providing high-quality goods and services.**

🌱 **5.11. Upgrade building automation systems. (CIP)**

Automating Village lighting and HVAC systems allows staff to better monitor and control these systems and increases the energy efficiency of Village facilities.

🌱 **5.12. Complete planned improvements and replacements for Village facilities. (CIP)**

Insulation and sound structures are an essential component of energy efficient buildings. Roof replacements for Village facilities will ensure that these buildings operate at maximum efficiency. Other planned improvements include replacing the sign in front of Village Hall with an energy-efficient community information sign.

🌱 **5.13. Consider refurbishing rather than replacing Village apparatus and equipment. (CIP)**

As equipment comes up for replacement, continue to “roll down” vehicles for administrative uses and consider refurbishing or buying used equipment when possible.

🌱 **5.14. Continue and expand the use of LED lights across the Village. (CIP)**

The Village is already in the process of replacing traditional lights with LEDs, including streetlights, fire station lights, emergency overhead lighting, and lights at the Sears Center Arena. All new Village projects, such as replacing the Village Hall entrance

sign, should utilize LED or other efficient technology.

🌱 **5.15. Consider constructing new Village facilities to LEED standards. (CIP)**

As indicated in the Village’s Capital Improvement Plan, reconstructing Fire Station 22 and relocating Fire Station 21 are being considered. Seeking LEED certification for these buildings, as the Village accomplished with the Police Station and Fire Station 24, will minimize the negative environmental impacts associated with these projects.

🌱 **5.16. Rehabilitate or replace aging sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water main infrastructure. (CIP)**

Water infrastructure is crucial to everyone in the Village. Plans to rehabilitate or replace aging infrastructure will ensure there is minimal risk of failure and contamination, and reduce inefficiencies due to leaks.

🌱 **5.17. Acquire asset management software to monitor infrastructure across the Village. (CIP)**

Utilizing a digital system to monitor and manage the Village’s assets, including water, sewer, streets, and other facilities, will allow staff to more easily share information and collaborate as well as develop targeted strategies for maintenance to extend asset life and improve asset utilization.

🌱 **5.18. Continue to assess, acquire and utilize new technology.**

As stated in the Board Goals, new technology can be used to streamline operations, improve service delivery, foster sustainability, and increase accessibility and convenience. For example, drones could be used to support public safety, and aerial photographs could be used for publicity and economic development.

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## 6. Community Resilience

Engage the community in sustainability efforts through public outreach and provide new opportunities for action to encourage personal investment in creating a sustainable Village

❖ **6.1. Continue to communicate regularly with the public through established channels about sustainability topics.**

Frequent engagement and outreach with the community on sustainability issues demonstrates the Village's commitment to sustainability and increases interest and investment in a sustainable future for the Village. In addition to the current practice of including a "Greenness" column in each edition of The Citizen newsletter, consider production of a separate quarterly or biannual report on the Village's journey toward sustainability.

❖ **6.2. Restructure and organize the Growing to Greenness section of the website to be engaging and easy to navigate.**

The Growing to Greenness section of the Village website is the primary source of information for residents about the Village's sustainability programs and projects. Ensuring that the website is logically organized and easy to navigate will help residents find the information they are looking for and learn about sustainability around the Village.

❖ **6.3. Continue to utilize Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to improve public facilities and assist residents with home rehabilitations. (CIP)**

Low to moderate income residents can

participate in the Village's CDBG program to implement needed energy efficiency improvements; increasing home insulation and similar projects can contribute to the sustainability of the Village overall. Improving public facilities will allow the Village to better serve the public and fulfill its mission.

❖ **6.4. Provide opportunities for youth to engage in local government and shape their community.**

Youth have a vested interest in the growth and success of the Village, and can be an important resource for pursuing the Village's vision of sustainability and building the future.

Establishing an official forum, such as an annual symposium organized by the Youth Commission, for young people in the Village to discuss the issues that are important to them will ensure that the voice of the next generation is included in the conversation about sustainability.



Support strong bonds among members of the community and celebrate a culture of sustainability, equity, and neighborliness.

❖ **6.5. Cultivate an identity and culture of sustainability in the Village.**

When residents are invested in the future of their Village and consider sustainability to be





a source of pride for the community, higher goals can be achieved and greater challenges faced. Engaging the community through outreach strategies and featuring sustainability prominently across Village programs and activities will encourage the community to develop an identity and culture of sustainability and innovation.

**6.6. Support local and sustainable food systems through community gardens, outreach, and partnerships with other organizations.**

Sustainable local food is an essential component of a sustainable community, improving resident health, reducing the need for transporting food across the country, and creating new opportunities to discuss food and health. The Village could expand its existing community garden program, as well as partner with other organizations to host events, share information, and provide new opportunities for residents to access healthy local food.



**6.7. Engage with Sister City Angoulême on sustainability activities and discussions.**

The relationship between Hoffman Estates and Angoulême, France has enhanced the cultural vibrancy of the Village through exchanges, special events, and the Sister Cities Commission. Both cities have an opportunity to deepen their relationship by discussing

sustainability issues that are universal to municipalities across the world.

**6.8. Consider pursuing LEED for Cities and Communities certification.**

LEED for Cities and Communities evaluates the overall sustainability of a municipality, utilizing a similar framework as this plan (social, environmental, and economic) and awarding certification for communities that meet rigorous standards. Achieving a certification of this type would be a prestigious achievement for the Village and would demonstrate in a concrete way the Village's firm commitment to sustainability.

**6.9. Encourage and commission public art that supports the Village's sustainability efforts and identity of sustainability.**

The Hoffman Estates Arts Commission organizes a wide range of arts events in the Village every year, and the successes of the commission provides opportunities to use art to discuss the sustainability in the community. Using art in Village Hall, parks, and other public locations to communicate with the public about sustainability will broaden the reach of the Village's communication strategy and engage the public on an emotional level as well as a rational level.

**6.10. Improve and reconstruct the Village Green and Amphitheater. (CIP)**

The Village Green is an important gathering place for events that bring the community together, such as summer concerts and the Fourth Fest. Reconstructing the Amphitheatre as a permanent structure will minimize future costs to the Village due to damage from extreme weather, and other improvements such as parking lot and electrical upgrades will increase accessibility and enhance the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike.



## 7. Mobility

Maintain a safe and efficient transportation network that encourages pedestrian and bicycle travel.

🌿 **7.1. Review the Comprehensive Bicycle Plan and update the Bicycle Map to track achievements and identify upcoming projects.**

The Village has made significant progress on the Comprehensive Bicycle Plan developed with the Active Transportation Alliance and League of Illinois Bicyclists (now known as Ride Illinois) in 2010. An updated Existing and Future Facilities Map will be useful for residents interested in traveling via bicycle and planning their routes through the Village.

🌿 **7.2. Work with partners and community members to ensure the Village's transportation network is accessible to all.** People with disabilities, the elderly, and other members of the community often need special accommodations to access and utilize the Village's transportation network. Discussing the challenges faced by these members of the community may reveal opportunities for the Village to improve the accessibility of the transportation network.

🌿 **7.3. Work with the Forest Preserve District of Cook County and other taxing bodies to pave bicycle and pedestrian paths.**

Paved paths are more comfortable for bikers, will increase safety, and may encourage greater use of the paths. If possible, completing the crossing of the Tollway will also increase the connectivity of the bicycle path network and make it easier for residents to reach their destinations by bicycle or on foot rather than by driving.

🌿 **7.4. Continue improving Village sidewalks and bike paths. (CIP)**

Completing missing links in the sidewalk system will greatly enhance connectivity and promote pedestrian travel around the Village. Sidewalk crossings and pavement striping, bicycle racks, wayfinding signing are some examples are small scale items that can have a large impact. Success in receiving funding grants will be a key determinant in the timing of larger projects.

🌿 **7.5. Construct a bicycle path along Central Road to link existing bicycle facilities. (CIP)**

Constructing a bicycle path along the north side of Central Road from the Pace Park & Ride lot to Huntington Boulevard will connect an existing path at Paul Douglas Forest Preserve to Pace public transit at the Barrington Road Interchange. Increasing the interconnectivity of the Village's transportation system will encourage use of both Pace public transit and active modes of transportation such as bicycling and walking.







Utilize sustainable practices to implement transit-oriented development and improve Village transportation infrastructure.

7.6. Educate the public about transit oriented development and the Village’s new Mixed Use Commercial zoning category.

Most residents are not aware of the benefits of transit oriented development or a Mixed-Use Commercial zone, which was recently approved by the Board of Trustees. A new Q&A page on the Village’s website for questions about sustainable transportation would be an appropriate place to host this information.

7.7. Publish a document that highlights the Complete Streets practices incorporated into Village projects, processes, and ordinances.

Complete Streets is a set of guidelines for ensuring that Village streets and transportation network are friendly to pedestrians, bicycles, vehicles, and public transit. Though the Village has already adopted ordinances and incorporated these principles into the Comprehensive Bicycle Plan and Street Revitalization Plan, creating a document that identifies how the Village uses Complete Streets principles will engage the public in creating a transportation network that benefits everyone.

7.8. Seek partnerships and develop a strategy to implement alternative fuel infrastructure such as electric vehicle charging stations.

As electric vehicles become more common, charging stations will become an important piece of the Village’s infrastructure, especially due to the Village’s proximity to major transportation corridors and numerous commercial districts. Lack of charging infrastructure is one of the primary barriers to expanding electric vehicle usage. Charging stations with solar panels have a variety of environmental benefits as well: reducing indirect reliance on fossil fuels, improving EV support infrastructure, and potential net metering benefits from selling energy back to the grid during peak hours.

7.9. Contemplate improvements to public transit infrastructure such as installing shelters at bus stops.

Residents are more likely to utilize public transit through all seasons if the infrastructure provides some protection from the elements. Bus shelters and other small improvements will make public transit safer and more appealing.

# SECTION 4: Implementation





# Implementation Strategy

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A well-defined implementation strategy establishes a timeline, identifies a process for decision-making, and assigns tasks. The implementation of these goals and objectives will be a thoroughly coordinated effort between all departments in the Village. Like any municipal plan, changes in the community, progress on the plan, and other factors will affect the execution of the Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan. Updating the plan every 5-7 years will ensure that the Village's projects incorporate the newest technology and adapt to the needs of the community.

## *Annual Action Plan*

The goals and objectives of the Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan can be used as a basis for an annual sustainability action plan that identifies the particular tasks the Village intends to accomplish in the following 12 months, and could also serve as a report to the Board of Trustees and the Village Manager on the achievements of the previous year. The generalized nature of the objectives in this plan allows the Village the flexibility to approach this Plan's goals and objectives in whatever way will be most effective, efficient, and viable, taking into account the changing needs of the Village. An action plan that is created and discussed among all the departments will set expectations for progress and clear outcome measures for sustainability projects and activities.

The tasks in the annual action plan should follow the SMART format: Specific, Measureable, Achievable, Results-oriented, and Time-bound. The description of each objective in Chapter 3 contains details that make each objective specific and provides a starting point for measuring success. The collaboration of multiple departments throughout this process honed the objectives into achievable steps that focus on producing results and making meaningful changes. The timeframe guidelines encourage forward momentum and consistent progress.

## *Decision-Making Process*


This plan introduces new environmental and sustainability projects to the Village, which will compete for staff-time and other resources with existing projects. The decision-making process used to determine which projects have priority may need to be adjusted to reflect the importance of sustainability for Hoffman Estates. This process does not need to be restricted to projects that are listed in this plan and focused primarily on environmental benefits. Identifying the sustainability benefits of all projects will encourage a shift in mindset that prioritizes growing, greenness, community, and leadership in Hoffman Estates.

The Village must establish an appropriate threshold for return on investment that balances financial realities with the environmental imperative of completing the goals and objectives in this plan. Without a defined, quantitative, objective threshold, new technologies and projects with demonstrated sustainability benefits could be deferred indefinitely, justified by the anticipation of technological and affordability improvements in the future. This becomes a self-defeating intention when the benefits that could be realized by an earlier investment that are lost during the period of inaction cannot be surpassed by the gained efficiency realized by advancements achieved during the same period of time. When time is the scarcest resource in our collective endeavors to pursue sustainability and mitigate the negative environmental changes of the coming decades, it must be considered as an important factor in the decision-making process.

# Implementation Matrix




The Implementation Matrix found on the following pages are intended to be a quick-reference guide for administrators, and contains logistical information such as the current priority level of the project, projected cost, anticipated timeframe, and lead department.

This chapter is divided into 7 sections, corresponding to the 7 categories of goals and objectives in the previous chapter. Each goal is restated and its objectives listed with three additional logistical attributes as described below: the Resilience/Investment Ratio, Timeframe, and Department.

**Resilience/Investment Ratio:** Each goal and objective in this plan will build the resilience of the Village and improve its ability to address the challenges of the coming decades. The resilience/investment ratio indicates how impactful and beneficial the program or project will be for the community and the environment compared to the monetary investment required to implement it. A higher ratio, represented by the number of  leaves shown in the Implementation Matrix, indicates that a project provides a higher return on investment from a sustainability perspective; therefore, these projects are recommended to be prioritized by the Village. Some projects, such as community engagement and outreach or making new information available on the Village’s website, have little or no up-front cost (other than staff time) while providing significant benefits; this would translate to a high ratio of resilience and investment.

**Timeframe:** Establishing guidelines for accomplishing goals and objectives according to a particular timeframe encourages consistent progress toward sustainability and accountability to the community and Board of Trustees. “Ongoing” indicates projects or initiatives where the Village has already begun to make an impact. “Immediate” is used to identify projects that should be started within the next three years. “Short Term” indicates projects that should occur in 4-6 years. “Long Term” indicates projects that should occur in the next 7-10 years. These timeline suggestions can be used during the annual budget process to establish the specific tasks to be accomplished in the following 12 months.

**Department:** Each department and entity in the Village has a specific set of responsibilities in its purview. The objectives listed in this section are associated with one or more departments or entities to provide structure and direction for implementation. The listed entities in this column are: the Sustainability Commission (Comm.), General Government (GG), Public Works (PW), Development Services (DS), Health and Human Services (HHS), Finance (FIN), Fire Department (FD), Police Department (PD), Human Resources Management (HRM).

Resilience/\$\$ Ratio	Timeframe	Department
Low: 	Ongoing/Immediate	GG, PW
Medium: 	Short Term	DS
High: 	Long Term	Comm.

The resources provided throughout this section will provide additional details about best practices, supporting research, and useful tools for implementing the Goals and Objectives of this Sustainability Plan.








# Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives




## By Goal Category

### 1. Energy and Climate - Page 22-23

**Goal:** Support clean energy by increasing energy efficiency, decreasing reliance on fossil fuels, and removing barriers for purchasing and generating renewable energy.

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
1.1	Work with regional partners to inventory greenhouse gas emissions		Long Term	GG
1.2	Build on SolSmart Bronze designation and track solar development		Immediate	GG, DS
1.3	Pursue energy efficiency improvements throughout the Village (CIP)		Immediate	PW
1.4	Participate in each cycle of the IECC code adoption process		Short Term	DS
1.5	Finalize a performance contract for LED streetlights and water meters		Ongoing	GG, PW

**Goal:** Engage with the public to pursue clean energy development and efficiency and improve Village resilience to extreme weather.

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
1.6	Utilize Everbridge to share heat and weather warnings		Short Term	GG, HHS
1.7	Publicize heat & extreme weather response plans and available resources		Ongoing	GG, HHS
1.8	Host annual solar energy workshops for residents and businesses		Short Term	Comm., GG

# Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives By Goal Category

## Resources

**Green parking lot design, Sustainable Technologies Evaluation Program**

<https://sustainabletechnologies.ca/living-labs/green-parking-lot/>

**Conducting a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory at the Metropolitan Level, Environmental Protection Agency**

<https://www3.epa.gov/ttn/chief/conference/ei18/session7/graff.pdf>

**Double Counting in Municipal Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventories, Environmental Protection Agency**

<https://www3.epa.gov/ttnchie1/conference/ei17/session5/miller.pdf>

**Local greenhouse gas inventory tool, Environmental Protection Agency**

<https://www.epa.gov/statelocalenergy/local-greenhouse-gas-inventory-tool>

**Dynamic Integrated Climate Economy model (DICE), Environmental Protection Agency**

**(Estimate the costs and benefits associated with the mitigation of GHG emissions)**

[https://cfpub.epa.gov/si/si\\_public\\_record\\_report.cfm?Lab=OAP&dirEntryId=240426](https://cfpub.epa.gov/si/si_public_record_report.cfm?Lab=OAP&dirEntryId=240426)

**Integrated Assessment Models of Climate Change, National Bureau of Economic Research**

<https://www.nber.org/reporter/2017number3/nordhaus.html>






**GHG Contribution Analysis, ICLEI**

<http://icleiusa.org/ghg-contribution-analysis/>





## Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives By Goal Category

### 2. Land, Water, and Air - Page 24-25

**Goal:** Support ecological preservation & restoration around the Village to maintain ecosystem benefits and protect natural resources.

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
2.1	Utilize native grasses, flowers, and plants on Village properties (CIP)		Short Term	PW
2.2	Administratively adopt and enforce an Anti-Idling policy		Short Term	GG, PW
2.3	Investigate and invest in green infrastructure micro-projects		Long Term	PW
2.4	Continue efforts to improve Village creek drainage (CIP)		Long Term	PW
2.5	Continue stormwater management projects (CIP)		Long Term	PW

**Goal:** Support positive relationships between the community and the environment by reducing human impacts and ensuring clean water, air, and landscapes

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
2.6	Provide resources to residents about pollinator, butterfly, and rain gardens		Short Term	Comm.
2.7	Publish and publicize an urban forestry management plan		Short Term	PW, GG
2.8	Install “Idle-free zone” signs on Village property parking lots		Short Term	PW
2.9	Remove barriers for private property owners to install green infrastructure		Long Term	DS, GG



# Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives

## By Goal Category

### Resources

**Native plants database, National Audubon Society**

<https://www.audubon.org/native-plants>

**Idle Reduction, Alternative Fuels Data Center, US Department of Energy**

[https://afdc.energy.gov/conserve/idle\\_reduction\\_basics.html](https://afdc.energy.gov/conserve/idle_reduction_basics.html)

**Idle-Free Schools Toolkit for a Healthy School Environment, US Environmental Protection Agency**

<https://www.epa.gov/schools/idle-free-schools-toolkit-healthy-school-environment>

**Five Types of Green Infrastructure Incentive Programs, Water Environment Federation**

<https://stormwater.wef.org/2013/01/five-types-of-green-infrastructure-incentive-programs/>

**Green Infrastructure, US Environmental Protection Agency**

<https://www.epa.gov/green-infrastructure>

**Green Infrastructure Modeling Toolkit, US Environmental Protection Agency**

<https://www.epa.gov/water-research/green-infrastructure-modeling-toolkit>

**Urban Forestry Management Plan Best Practices, American Public Works Association**

<https://www2.apwa.net/Documents/About/CoopAgreements/UrbanForestry/UrbanForestry-4.pdf>







**Rain Gardens: A How-To Manual for Homeowners, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources**

<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/shorelandzoning/documents/rgmanual.pdf>



## Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives By Goal Category

### 3. Economic Development - Page 26-27

**Goal:** Use Village relationships with the Chamber of Commerce and local businesses to promote sustainable practices and provide resources to the business community

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
3.1	Update and promote the Green Business Recognition Program		Short Term	Comm, GG
3.2	Host events for businesses to discuss sustainable practices		Short Term	GG, DS
3.3	Utilize the Village's sustainable brand to attract new businesses		Long Term	DS
3.4	Organize or facilitate events that support local businesses		Long Term	DS
3.5	Implement electronic permitting and code inspection processes		Short Term	DS
3.6	Encourage mixed-use and transit-oriented development		Ongoing	DS

**Goal:** Develop strategies and creative solutions to finance sustainability and resilience programs, reinvest savings, and return benefits to the community

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
3.7	Create a discretionary fund to finance sustainability projects		Long Term	FIN
3.8	Apply for additional grants and utilize creative revenue streams for sustainability		Short Term	FIN, GG

# Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives

## By Goal Category

### Resources

**How sustainable cities can drive business growth, GreenBiz**

<https://www.greenbiz.com/article/how-sustainable-cities-can-drive-business-growth>

**Dine & Dash Event, City of West Allis, WI**

<https://westallisfarmersmarket.com/dine-dash>

**Municipal Bonds: A Holistic View of A Community's Environment And Sustainability, Forbes Magazine**

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/investor/2019/07/30/municipal-bonds-a-holistic-view-of-a-communitys-environment-and-sustainability/#791251282063>

**Green Revolving Funds Toolkit, US Department of Energy Better Buildings Initiative**

<https://betterbuildingsinitiative.energy.gov/toolkits/green-revolving-funds>

**Budgeting for Sustainability, Government Finance Review**

[https://www.gfoa.org/sites/default/files/GFR\\_APR\\_10\\_51.pdf](https://www.gfoa.org/sites/default/files/GFR_APR_10_51.pdf)

**West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum**

<https://wmsbf.org>

**Illinois Green Business Association**

<http://www.illinoisgba.org/>

**Clean Energy Finance Tool, Environmental Protection Agency**





<https://www.epa.gov/statelocalenergy/clean-energy-finance-tool>








## Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives By Goal Category

### 4. Resources and Waste Management - Page 28-29

**Goal:** Implement practices and pursue programs for waste minimization and reuse of resources wherever possible

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
4.1	Adopt low-waste guidelines for Village meetings and events		Short Term	GG
4.2	Educate residents and businesses about wasted food		Short Term	GG
4.3	Utilize digital materials for Village meetings		Short Term	GG
4.4	Create and adopt an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy		Short Term	GG

**Goal:** Advance recycling and waste management programs for residents, businesses, and municipal staff

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
4.5	Investigate composting & organic waste management programs		Long Term	GG
4.6	Review code and ordinances regarding waste management practices		Long Term	GG
4.7	Ensure that waste management resources are easily accessible		Ongoing	GG
4.8	Conduct a waste audit of Village facilities		Short Term	GG
4.9	Engage Village employees and staff in waste management efforts		Short Term	GG

# Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives

## By Goal Category

### Resources

#### **How to Conduct a Waste Audit**

<https://www.dumpsters.com/blog/how-to-conduct-a-waste-audit>

#### **Organics Recycling, City of Richfield, MN**

<http://www.richfieldmn.gov/residents/sustainability-recycling/organics-recycling>

#### **Best Practices for Reducing Waste at Special Events**

<http://www.stopwaste.org/sites/default/files/Documents/specialevents-swp.pdf>

#### **Toward Zero Waste Event Toolkit**

<https://sustainableconnections.org/wp-content/uploads/EventTZW-Toolkit.pdf>

#### **Zero Waste, Seven Generations Ahead**

<https://sevengenerationsahead.org/zero-waste/>

#### **ReFED: Rethinking Food Waste through Economics and Data**

<https://www.refed.com/>






#### **Save the Food campaign, National Resource Defense Council**

<https://savethefood.com/>






## Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives By Goal Category

### 5. Governance and Municipal Operations - Page 30-33

**Goal:** Become a leader in the community and the region by collaborating with other organizations and demonstrating sustainable values and practices.

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
5.1	Host meetings with partners periodically on sustainability topics		Short Term	GG, Comm
5.2	Provide an annual sustainability update to the Board of Trustees		Immediate	GG, All
5.3	Continue to invite elected officials to participate in sustainability initiatives		Ongoing	Comm.
5.4	Incorporate sustainability into the next Comprehensive Plan		Short Term	DS
5.5	Explore teleconferencing & other flexible work options		Long Term	GG









**Goal:** Incorporate sustainability principles and goals into municipal process improvement efforts to better fulfill the Village mission.

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
5.6	Build municipal capacity for sustainability in all departments		Short Term	All
5.7	Utilize direct public engagement strategies for planning & goal-setting		Short Term	GG, DS
5.8	Create a sustainability task force with liaisons from all departments		Immediate	All, GG
5.9	Recruit employees with knowledge and interest in sustainability		Long Term	All, HRM
5.10	Support the development of additional language skills for employees		Long Term	GG, HRM



## Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives By Goal Category

**Goal:** Improve municipal assets to protect public safety, increase efficiency, and continue providing high-quality goods and services.

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
5.11	Upgrade building automation systems (CIP)		Short Term	PW
5.12	Complete infrastructure improvements for Village facilities (CIP)		Long Term	PW
5.13	Consider refurbishing rather than replacing Village apparatus and equipment (CIP)		Long Term	PW
5.14	Utilize LED lights across the Village (CIP)		Long Term	PW, DS
5.15	Consider constructing new Village facilities to LEED standards (CIP)		Long Term	FD
5.16	Address aging sanitary, storm, and water main infrastructure (CIP)		Ongoing	PW
5.17	Acquire asset management software to monitor infrastructure (CIP)		Short Term	PW
5.18	Continue to assess, acquire and utilize other new technology		Ongoing	All, GG

# Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives By Goal Category

## Resources

**Federal Green Challenge, Environmental Protection Agency**

<https://www.epa.gov/fgc>

**Organize goals/outcome measures and report progress, Minnesota GreenStep Cities**

<https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81881>

**Smart Cities Readiness Guide, Smart Cities Council**

<https://rg.smartcitiescouncil.com>

**Local Government Shared Service Delivery, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus**

<https://mayorscaucus.org/initiatives/service-delivery/>

**Building Municipal Capacity, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning**

<https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/onto2050/strategy-papers/municipal-capacity>

**How to Structure your Annual Municipal Report, ClearPoint Strategy**

<https://www.clearpointstrategy.com/municipal-annual-report/>

## Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives By Goal Category

### 6. Community Resilience - Page 34-35

**Goal:** Engage the community in Village sustainability efforts through outreach and provide new opportunities for action to encourage personal investment in the Village’s vision of a sustainable future.

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
6.1	Communicate through established channels about sustainability	🌿🌿	Immediate	GG
6.2	Restructure and reorganize the Growing to Greenness page	🌿🌿🌿	Short Term	GG
6.3	Utilize CDBG funds for public facilities and home retrofits (CIP)	🌿🌿	Ongoing	DS
6.4	Provide opportunities for youth engagement	🌿🌿	Short Term	GG

**Goal:** Support strong bonds among members of the community and celebrate a culture of sustainability, equity, and neighborliness.

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
6.5	Cultivate an identity and culture of sustainability in the Village	🌿🌿	Ongoing	Comm.
6.6	Support sustainable food systems via community gardens, outreach and partnerships	🌿🌿	Long Term	GG, PW
6.7	Engage with Angouleme on sustainability activities and discussions	🌿🌿	Short Term	Comm.
6.8	Consider pursuing LEED for Cities and Communities certification	🌿	Long Term	GG
6.9	Improve and reconstruct the Village Green and Amphitheater (CIP)	🌿🌿	Short Term	GG, DS



# Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives

## By Goal Category

### Resources

**Identity and Sustainability: Localized Sense of Community Increases Environmental Engagement**  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/asap.12076>

**Technical Assistance for Community Development, Smart Growth America**  
<https://smartgrowthamerica.org/>

**Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool, Environmental Protection Agency**  
<https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>

**LEED v4.1 for Cities and Communities, US Green Building Council**  
<http://www.usgbc.org/articles/leed-v41-launches-cities-and-communities>

**Engaging Youth in Local Government, Cities Speak**  
<https://citysspeak.org/2012/12/20/engaging-youth-in-local-government/>

**Resources for Involving Youth, Youth.gov**  
<https://youth.gov/youth-topics/positive-youth-development/how-can-youth-be-engaged-programs-promote-positive-youth-development>

**Best Practices for Youth Engagement in Municipal Government, National Civic League**  
<https://www.nationalcivicleague.org/ncr-articles/best-practices-youth-engagement-municipal-government/>

**Housing and Community Development, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus**  
<https://mayorscaucus.org/initiatives/housing-and-community-development/>

## Hoffman Estates Sustainability Plan: Goals and Objectives By Goal Category

### 7. Mobility - Page 36-37

**Goal:** Maintain a safe and efficient transportation network that encourages pedestrian and bicycle travel.

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
7.1	Review the Comprehensive Bicycle Plan and update the map	🌿🌿	Immediate	DS
7.2	Work with partners to ensure transportation accessibility	🌿🌿	Long Term	DS
7.3	Continue improving Village sidewalks and bike paths (CIP)	🌿	Ongoing	DS, PW
7.4	Work with Forest Preserve District to pave paths	🌿🌿	Long Term	DS
7.5	Construct a bike path along Central Road to link existing facilities (CIP)	🌿	Short Term	DS

**Goal:** Utilize sustainable practices to implement transit-oriented development and improve Village transportation infrastructure.

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Resilience/\$\$ Ratio</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Department</b>
7.6	Educate the public about transit oriented development	🌿🌿	Immediate	DS, GG
7.7	Publish a document highlighting Complete Streets practices	🌿🌿	Short Term	DS
7.8	Develop a strategy to implement alternative fuel infrastructure	🌿🌿🌿	Long Term	GG, PW
7.9	Contemplate improvements to public transit infrastructure	🌿	Long Term	DS, PW

## Resources

### **Motor Vehicle Emissions Simulator, Environmental Protection Agency**

<https://www.epa.gov/moves>

### **Drive Clean Chicago**

<http://www.drivecleanchicago.com/>

### **Design Guidelines, Active Transportation Alliance**

<http://atpolicy.org/resources/design-guides/>

### **Public Bike Parking Solutions for Cities, CycleSafe**

<https://cyclesafe.com/bike-parking-solutions/cities/>

### **Complete Streets Policies, Smart Growth America**

<https://smartgrowthamerica.org/program/national-complete-streets-coalition/publications/policy-development/>

### **GREET (Greenhouse gases, Regulated Emissions, and Energy use in Transportation) Model, Argonne National Laboratory**

<https://greet.es.anl.gov/index.php>

### **Warm Mix Asphalt, National Asphalt Pavement Association**

<http://www.warmmixasphalt.org/>

### **Transit-Oriented Development, Federal Transit Administration**

<https://www.transit.dot.gov/TOD>

### **Improving Access to Transportation for Older Adults and People with Disabilities, National Aging and Disability Transportation Center**

[https://www.nadtc.org/wp-content/uploads/NADTC\\_Brochure\\_Web\\_Pages.pdf](https://www.nadtc.org/wp-content/uploads/NADTC_Brochure_Web_Pages.pdf)