

## Chapter 5: Goals & Objectives

Any Comprehensive Plan must include Goals and Objectives in order to guide future decision making and work towards the visions articulated in the Plan. Goals identify broad, long-range desires. They represent a purpose to work towards, but may never be fully achieved. Objectives identify advances to be completed in order to reach such goals. Goals and objectives have been divided into five major categories – Community Facilities, Mobility Network, Natural Resources, Utilities and Community Wide. Each category has a vision that describes the overall purpose to be achieved under the category. Community Facilities includes goals and objectives regarding parks, schools and municipal buildings. Goals and objectives for the Mobility Network focus on roadways, sidewalks, paths and public transit. Natural Resources goals and objectives emphasize natural areas, water and air. Utilities goals and objectives include sewer, water and stormwater capacity, as well as, gas, electric and telecommunications. The Community Wide goals and objectives focus on what makes the community unique. They are not specifically part of any one network, but represent more of the broad community goals. The goals and objectives in this Plan were developed through information obtained in public meetings and through community surveys. Goals and objectives underlined represent those that work toward improving the environment or reducing environmental impacts.

### A. Mobility Network

**Vision:** In 2030 South Elgin will be a community that has a multidimensional network of mobility options, including using public transit, walking, bicycling and driving that is safe, well maintained and connected.

**Goal A.1:** Increase capacity within the Village's road network.

*Objective A.1.1:* Create a plan and pursue funding for Route 31 capacity improvements.

*Objective A.1.2:* Pursue funding to modernize underbuilt sections of major collectors and arterials (e.g. Route 25 and Middle Street).

*Objective A.1.3:* Seek funding for and upgrade roads that access Stearns Road (e.g. McDonald Road and McLean Boulevard, south of Spring Street).

*Objective A.1.4:* Pursue funding for the extension of Bowes Road and North Lancaster Road.

*Objective A.1.5:* Address intersection improvements, including: Route 31 and Spring Street, Route 31 and State Street, State and Gilbert Streets, Route 31 and Sundown Road and Gilbert/Fulton/Plum Streets.

*Objective A.1.6:* Continue to monitor intersections and complete traffic studies to determine needs for traffic signage, signalization and improvements at key intersections.

**Goal A.2:** Develop a network of connected, complete streets that meet the needs of vehicles, public transit, bicyclists and pedestrians within the Village.

*Objective A.2.1:* Create and adopt a standard for future roadway design that creates connected, complete streets (e.g. reduce cul-de-sacs).

*Objective A.2.2:* Upgrade existing roadways to meet adopted design standards.

*Objective A.2.3:* Require new roadways meet adopted standards.

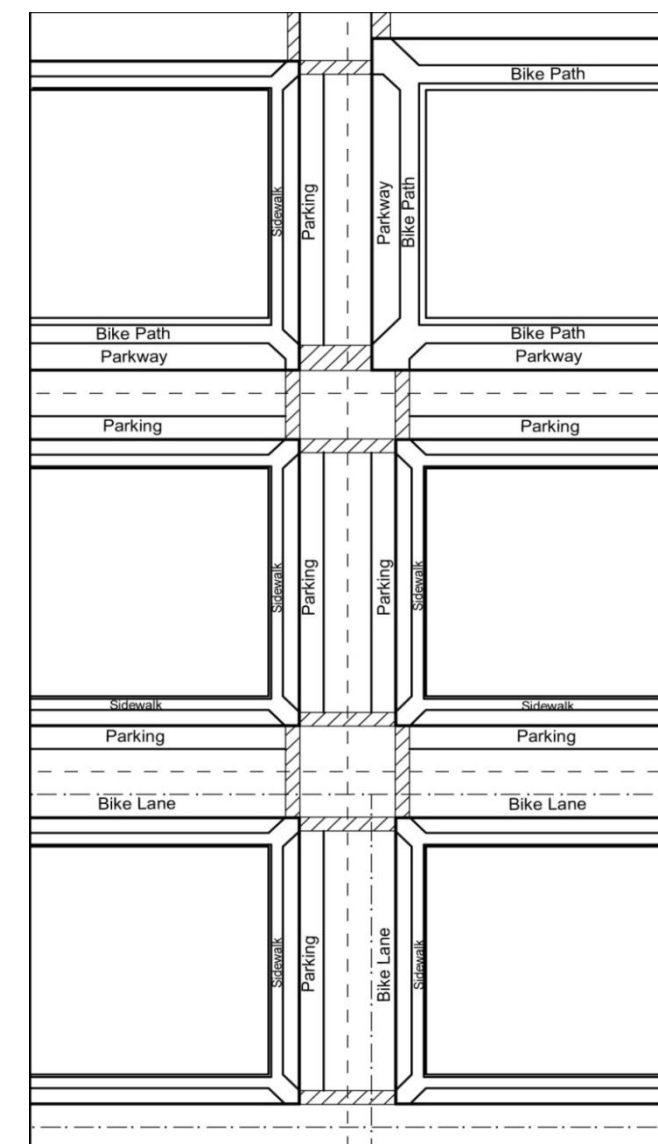
*Objective A.2.4:* Develop a strategy to maximize transit, bicycles and pedestrians in the current roadway network.

**Goal A.3:** Maintain the Village's road network to ensure it meets the needs of the community.

*Objective A.3.1:* Develop a long term roadway maintenance plan.

*Objective A.3.2:* Investigate funding options for long term roadway maintenance.

*Objective A.3.3:* Create a strategy to prioritize maintenance of roadways based on available funding.



**Goal A.4:** Build an integrated public transportation system.

Objective A.4.1: Partner with Pace to ensure Pace Route 801 provides effective service.

Objective A.4.2: Investigate additional transit options for travel east of the Fox River and to Elgin Community College (e.g. Call-n-Ride). (See Appendix B: Transit Improvement Plan).

Objective A.4.3: Coordinate with Kane County on the creation of a Randall Road Bus Rapid Transit System.

Objective A.4.4: Work with IDOT and Amtrak on the construction of an Amtrak Station per State Plans.

**Goal A.5:** Develop a pedestrian path and bicycle system that connects people to schools, the Village Center, commercial areas, parks and regional paths.

Objective A.5.1: Install sidewalks as part of all road projects.

Objective A.5.2: Construct sidewalks and/or paths along arterial roadways, especially including: Randall Road, South McLean Boulevard and Route 31.

Objective A.5.3: Improve pedestrian and bicycle crossings at major intersections.

Objective A.5.4: Identify and pursue funding for pedestrian and bicycle connections to priority areas, including the Village Center, schools and parks.

Objective A.5.5: Require new developments provide connections between commercial and residential uses.

Objective A.5.6: Develop a bike and pedestrian plan that includes potential bike routes, paths and lanes.

## B. Utilities

**Vision:** In 2030 South Elgin will have utilities that meet the needs of the community and future development in the most efficient manner.

**Goal B.1:** Provide quality water and sewer utility service that meets the needs of the community and future development.

*Objective B.1.1:* Maintain water, sewer and stormwater pipes that are the responsibility of the Village.

*Objective B.1.2:* Identify location, cost and funding options for an additional water tower.

*Objective B.1.3:* Partner with other water and sewer utility providers within the Village on improvements to the system to maximize efficiency within the system.

**Goal B.2:** Develop a unified stormwater management program.

*Objective B.2.1:* Identify and prioritize stormwater management needs.

Objective B.2.2: Utilize best management practices when making stormwater improvements.

*Objective B.2.3:* Research funding options for stormwater system maintenance.

*Objective B.2.4:* Dovetail stormwater improvement projects with roadway projects, whenever feasible.

*Objective B.2.5:* Examine the feasibility of consolidating ownership of the stormwater system with the goal of improving stewardship and reducing maintenance costs.

**Goal B.3:** Promote and enhance the efficient delivery of quality and cost effective utility service delivered by regional providers.

Objective B.3.1: Educate ourselves, residents and businesses on energy efficiency improvements and other cost saving measures.

*Objective B.3.2:* Explore cost saving options, such as electric aggregation.

*Objective B.3.3:* Bury utility lines in key locations, such as the Village Center.

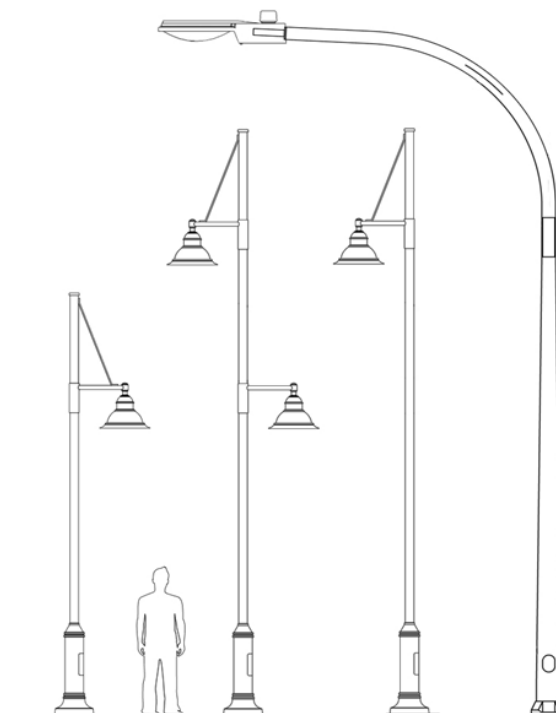
Objective B.3.4: Create a street lighting standard that utilizes energy efficient light emitting diode lighting.

*Objective B.3.5:* Work cooperatively with private energy providers to meet the needs of the community.

**Goal B.4:** Increase telecommunication options.

*Objective B.4.1:* Determine fiber optic needs for industrial and commercial users.

*Objective B.4.2:* Identify key locations for fiber optic lines.



*Objective B.4.3:* Install fiber optic conduit with roadway projects, when appropriate.

*Objective B.4.4:* Investigate the feasibility of providing public WiFi access.

*Objective B.4.5:* Work cooperatively with private telecommunications providers to meet the needs of the community.

## C. Community Facilities

**Vision:** In 2030 South Elgin is a community that has access to high quality parks and schools, as well as, municipal buildings that meet the community's needs.

**Goal C.1:** Develop and maintain unique parks along the Fox River.

*Objective C.1.1:* Stabilize and naturalize the Fox River shoreline.

*Objective C.1.2:* Partner with the FUNdation to develop an inclusive play environment at SEBA Park.

*Objective C.1.3:* Create and implement a plan to use Pantan Mill Park as a high quality civic area.

*Objective C.1.4:* Support improvements to the Fox River Trail.

*Objective C.1.5:* Construct a history themed park along the northeast quadrant of the Village Center.

**Goal C.2:** Improve the Village's active park system so that it meets the needs of the entire community.

*Objective C.2.1:* Identify priority locations for active parks that meet existing needs, such as areas not within a half mile walk to park.



*Objective C.2.2:* Examine opportunities and funding to add active park acreage within existing passive or undeveloped parks.

*Objective C.2.3:* Investigate funding mechanisms for development of new active parks.

*Objective C.2.4:* Require future residential developments to add parks that meet the community's needs.

*Objective C.2.5:* Create alternatives, or services in lieu, for active park acreage for areas without available land. [See related Goal A.5.](#)

**Goal C.3:** Maintain a fiscally sustainable park system within the Village.

*Objective C.3.1:* Determine ongoing costs associated with proper maintenance of parks, including equipment replacement, landscaping, parking, paths and structures.

*Objective C.3.2:* Investigate dedicated, long term park funding options.

*Objective C.3.3:* Identify potential partner organizations for park maintenance and programming.

**Goal C.4:** Increase availability of library services within the community.

*Objective C.4.1:* Pursue a satellite library branch within South Elgin.

*Objective C.4.2:* Identify and seek unique library services to bring to the community (e.g. a children's reading room).

**Goal C.5:** Support South Elgin Schools in meeting the education needs of the community.

*Objective C.5.1:* Install sidewalks near schools to increase walkability. [See related Goal A.5.](#)

*Objective C.5.2:* Partner with schools to share space and knowledge for educational programs.

*Objective C.5.3:* Continue to develop supportive working relationships between Village staff and officials and with local school staff and officials.

**Goal C.6:** Improve municipal facilities to meet the needs of the community.

*Objective C.6.1:* Complete a comprehensive analysis of the future facility needs of the Village, including cost estimates.

*Objective C.6.2:* Develop a strategy to address municipal facility needs through new construction, remodeling, and/or existing building purchase.

*Objective C.6.3:* Identify and pursue funding options for selected improvements to municipal facilities.

*Objective C.6.4:* Develop plans and determine potential locations and/or buildings for new or remodeled facilities, as identified.

*Objective C.6.5:* Make facility improvements as identified and funded while considering the environmental impact of such projects.

## D. Natural Resources

**Vision:** In 2030 South Elgin will have protected natural resources so that they are an asset to the community.

**Goal D.1:** Protect the Village's floodplain and floodway.

*Objective D.1.1:* Enforce and adopt updates to the current stormwater ordinance and floodplain management regulations.

*Objective D.1.2:* Purchase properties and demolish structures within the floodway, when available and feasible.

*Objective D.1.3:* Educate ourselves, residents and businesses about flood mitigation.

*Objective D.1.4:* Plan for, pursue funding for, and implement best management practices for shoreline stabilization.

**Goal D.2:** Partner with regional government efforts to improve air quality and protect natural resources.

*Objective D.2.1:* Participate in the development and implementation of regional plans, including watershed plans.

*Objective D.2.2:* Promote and encourage alternative forms of transportation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. *See related Goal A.4.*

*Objective D.2.3:* Educate ourselves, residents and businesses about air quality, water quality and water conservation.

*Objective D.2.4:* Plan for, pursue funding for, and implement best management practices for water quality and conservation.

**Goal D.3:** Preserve sensitive natural areas in the Village.

*Objective D.3.1:* Maintain protected natural areas owned by the Village by following best management practices.

*Objective D.3.2:* Create a plan for a greenway that links natural areas together, where feasible.

*Objective D.3.3:* Develop a program to encourage the protection and preservation of native plant and animal life.

*Objective D.3.4:* Adopt ordinances regarding land uses in aquifer sensitivity areas.

*Objective D.3.5:* Educate ourselves, residents and businesses about natural area protection.

*Objective D.3.6:* Plan for, pursue funding for, and implement best management practices for natural area protection.

*Objective D.3.7:* Design all new developments to create a minimum disturbance to natural drainage patterns, natural landscape, vegetation, and the ability of land to absorb rainfall and prevent erosion.

*Objective D.3.8:* Partner with local schools to promote natural resource awareness and protection.

## E. Community Wide

**Vision:** In 2030 South Elgin will continue to be a safe community with a strong economy while keeping a small town feel.

**Goal E.1:** Promote the Village's unique identity.

*Objective E.1.1:* Develop a gateway enhancement program, including improved signage and landscaping.

*Objective E.1.2:* Continue and expand community wide special events.

*Objective E.1.3:* Market the Village's unique history and resources (e.g. install way finding signage).

*Objective E.1.4:* Create a photo contest with images of what South Elgin means to community members.

*Objective E.1.5:* Produce a video on why residents chose to move to South Elgin.

**Goal E.2:** Increase the community's spirit of volunteerism.

*Objective E.2.1:* Develop relationships with community groups to support activities for seniors, at risk adults and children.

*Objective E.2.2:* Partner with community groups for special events.

**Goal E.3:** Develop a vibrant Village Center.

*Objective E.3.1:* Promote the riverfront park system and inclusive play environment.

*Objective E.3.2:* Create an area for outdoor events, with local and school talent.

*Objective E.3.3:* Work with the South Elgin Economic Development Council (SEED) to promote the Village Center.

*Objective E.3.4:* Continue to implement the Village Center Master Plan, with a mix of uses. (See Appendix A: Village Center Master Plan).

**Goal E.4:** Redevelop the La Fox Street/Route 31 Corridor.

*Objective E.4.1:* Develop a detailed neighborhood plan for the Route 31 Corridor.

*Objective E.4.2:* Create a façade improvement program based on the La Fox Street Corridor Overlay District.

**Goal E.5:** Expand and diversify the Village's economic base.

*Objective E.5.1:* Encourage the attraction of desirable businesses and the development of new and emerging companies within the South Elgin market.

*Objective E.5.2:* Partner with SEED to encourage the retention and expansion of existing South Elgin businesses by facilitating and encouraging their expansion within the local market, and by working to reduce attrition, failure and departure rates.

*Objective E.5.3:* Support the development of a variety of lot sizes that can accommodate buildings in a greater range of sizes so that companies that come to South Elgin can stay and grow within the community.

*Objective E.5.4:* Work with SEED to facilitate the absorption of existing commercial/industrial buildings

and sites, and the re-leasing and/or redevelopment of existing, vacant retail properties.

*Objective E.5.5:* Encourage a diverse and increasing daytime population in order to facilitate ongoing investment and business attraction efforts.

*Objective E.5.6:* Seek hospitality and commercial recreation uses, including: hotels and/or banquet facilities with meeting rooms, as well as, indoor recreation and entertainment facilities.

**Goal E.6:** Create, maintain and upgrade neighborhoods, ensuring neighborhoods are healthy and sustainable.

*Objective E.6.1:* Require new developments provide multimodal transportation connections to parks and commercial uses within and outside the neighborhood.

*Objective E.6.2:* Develop landscaping, anti-monotony, and bulk regulations that encourage quality design of neighborhoods.

*Objective E.6.3:* Construct residential areas that are walkable to active parks and vice versa.

*Objective E.6.4:* Encourage neighborhood interaction and safety through safe street design, walkability, connected uses, aesthetic design and landscaping.

*Objective E.6.5:* Limit negative environmental effects of development by protecting critical natural areas and encouraging efficient design.

*Objective E.6.6:* Design neighborhoods that are economically sustainable by meeting the needs of the local economy and/or generating revenues that fund delivered services.

*Objective E.6.7:* Upgrade, remove, or aid in the relocation of existing uses or structures which contribute to blighting conditions upon surrounding land uses.

**Goal E.7:** Achieve Home Rule status in order to allow greater authority at the local level.

*Objective E.7.1:* Provide a mix of housing types including; single family, duplex, condominium and townhomes, owned and rented, affordable and upscale, live and live-work, and age-targeted.

*Objective E.7.2:* Encourage development of residential land uses in appropriate areas through a clear, timely and fiscally reasonable development approval process.

**Goal E.8:** Increase availability of cultural opportunities within the community.

*Objective E.8.1:* Identify appropriate spaces throughout the community to provide cultural opportunities.

*Objective E.8.2:* Develop programs and/or events to showcase the talents of the community, partnering with local groups.

**Goal E.9:** Support local organizations that enhance the quality of life in South Elgin.

*Objective E.9.1:* Partner with the Trolley Museum and the Heritage Commission to preserve local history within the community.

*Objective E.9.2:* Support local recreational groups that provide desired programming within the Village.

*Objective E.9.3:* Support local service organizations that meet the needs of the community.

**Goal E.10:** Maintain community involvement throughout the implementation of this plan.

*Objective E.10.1:* Develop an ongoing process for the community to participate in implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.

*Objective E.10.2:* Complete an annual review of the Comprehensive Plan.