

## CHAPTER 2 – VISION AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### I. VISION

The goal of the comprehensive planning process is to lay out general ideas for what a community would like to be and how it will get there. While it is not possible for everyone to agree on specific policies, there can be broad consensus on general direction. The following vision and themes are the basis for all goals and actions laid out in the plan.

*Statement:*

*A standout community in the world-class Chicago region, Park Ridge's past, present, and future point to the same conclusion: This is a place where people want to be. Park Ridge will continue to have strong institutions that deliver enviable services, and the City will intentionally preserve and cultivate an attractive built and natural environment. Being a welcoming, inclusive, friendly community rich with economic and social opportunity will be at the center of Park Ridge's core values.*

The following eight key themes provide direction. We want to...

- **Keep our charm and character** by preserving the look, feel, and physical scale of single-family neighborhoods and historically significant commercial districts.
- **Grow slowly over time**, in areas where the growth can be supported by infrastructure and benefit the surrounding neighborhood and City overall.
- **Provide ample options for places to live** to retain current residents and welcome new ones.
- **Get around safely and practically in multiple ways**, and choose non-driving options when possible.
- **Prioritize natural resources and effectively manage elements such as stormwater** in the decisions we make and the way we shape our city.
- Support **continued prosperity in Uptown**.
- Inspire **increased prosperity outside of Uptown**.
- **Allow innovation, creativity, and adaptability** to build resilience in our local economy.

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Data will be useful to track over the coming years to measure progress toward if the goals and objectives. The following indicators can be tracked approximately every five years to measure success:

- Decrease in per-capita carbon emissions (Sustainability)
- Decrease in number of sewer back-ups and basement flooding (Sustainability)
- Decrease in the percent of commuters who drive alone (Transportation)
- Increase the lane miles of bike infrastructure (Transportation)
- Complete three-to-five pedestrian enhancement projects over the next 10 to 15 years (Transportation)
- Increase the amount (not necessarily percent) of non-residential property tax base (Economic Development and Land Use)
- Increase the number of single-family attached dwellings, accessory dwelling units, or other housing options that integrate well into primarily single-family detached neighborhoods (Housing and Land Use)
- Maintain a median housing value and distribution that provides various price points throughout Park Ridge (Housing)

### II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – TO BE DEVELOPED AFTER COMPLETION OF THE DRAFT LAND USE CHAPTER