

# UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES GOALS AND POLICIES

## **GOAL 1.0**

Communicate with City residents and businesses regarding the implications of Lake Michigan as the source of the City's water supply.

*Call Out [Opportunity]: The City's water supply transition will establish a new relationship between the City and the Great Lakes and may provide health, economic, and other advantages for residents and businesses.*

### **Policy 1.1**

Promote water stewardship and conservation, including maintaining and updating the City's water conservation plan.

### **Policy 1.2**

Monitor health impacts of new water supply.

## **GOAL 2.0**

Provide the highest quality potable drinking water to City residents and businesses.

### **Policy 2.1**

Monitor changes to water mains and private pipes due to any changes in water chemistry and be proactive about addressing any issues that arise.

### **Policy 2.2**

Remove lead pipes from the water supply system, including the City's removal of any lead mains and establishment of incentives to promote replacement of private pipes.

**Policy 2.3**

Prioritize water quality in City schools through regular testing and necessary action to ensure all potential contaminants are below the maximum acceptable level safety threshold.

**Policy 2.4**

Work with the State and County to cease any release of PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) into surface waters and groundwaters, monitor PFAS levels, and work to remediate any PFAS contamination.

**GOAL 3.0**

Provide cost-efficient and consistent sanitary sewer service to homes and businesses and return treated wastewater to Lake Michigan via the Root River per the City's agreement with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

**Policy 3.1**

Consider the implications of the City's new sewer service boundary and reallocate fiscal resources from horizontal expansion to increased capacity to serve higher density infill and redevelopment.

*Call Out [Issue]: The cost of providing sewer service and other municipal services in relation to the taxable value of development is linked to development density. Big box stores, strip malls, and residential development on larger lots bring the City less in tax revenue than downtown business areas and walkable residential areas, which have a higher tax density per acre.*

*Call Out [Challenge identified by attendee of Mayor's Breakfast]: "Maintaining quality of services with limited ability to expand residential, commercial and industrial development."*

**Policy 3.2**

Monitor and repair sewer lines to address any leaks and prevent infiltration.

**GOAL 4.0**

Improve the City's stormwater management system and stormwater management policies in partnership with State and Federal agencies and guidelines.

**Policy 4.1**

Prepare for an increase in major storm events with heavy downpours that challenge the stormwater conveyance capacity.

**Policy 4.2**

Work with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) to prepare emergence response management procedures and update floodplain regulations due to climate change.

**Policy 4.3**

Update regulations on stormwater management for new and existing development to institute best practices to reduce runoff quantity and speed.

**Policy 4.4**

Improve surface water quality by mitigating pollution sources, restoring stream banks, and retrofitting stormwater facilities in older parts of the City.

**Policy 4.5**

Minimize stormwater runoff impacts by constructing stormwater treatment facilities, including green infrastructure, as part of new development and redevelopment projects.

**GOAL 5.0**

Ensure that the City's water, sewer, and stormwater enterprise funds are financially stable and able to meet long-term costs for maintaining City infrastructure.

*Call Out [Challenge identified by attendee of Mayor's Breakfast]: "Replacement of aging infrastructure."*

**GOAL 6.0**

Provide an environmentally sound, integrated solid waste management program that promotes waste prevention and progressive goals for waste diversion and recycling.

**Policy 6.1**

Explore options to increase municipal composting and promote backyard and neighborhood composting.

**Policy 6.2**

Monitor technological advancement in organic waste processing, including biodigesters that produce energy from methane gas, and biodiesel.

**Policy 6.3**

Analyze the potential to transition the City's vehicle fleet to more efficient and lower emission technologies.

**Policy 6.4**

Implement green building regulations that require construction and demolition waste management, promote building life-cycle impact reduction, and promote the use of reused and recycled materials.

**Policy 6.5**

Encourage green purchasing, waste reduction, and recycling, including City facilities and events.

**Policy 6.6**

Expand education and outreach initiatives to encourage sustainable consumption, resourcefulness, recycling, and composting.

**GOAL 7.0**

Monitor electric and gas service and collaborate with utility providers to ensure City residents and businesses receive adequate service.

*Call Out [Challenge identified by attendee of Mayor's Breakfast]: "Our electric grid system needs updoing as a simple rain storm causes large power outages."*

**Policy 7.1**

Educate residents and businesses on techniques for promoting energy efficiency, conservation, and renewable energy usage.

**Policy 7.2**

Explore opportunities for the City to increase energy efficiency and energy conservation in its operations, including exploring the potential to utilize renewable energy sources.

*Call Out [Issue]: While We Energies has increased energy production over years preceding publication of this report to ensure customers can receive adequate service, equipment failure and other similar unforeseen circumstances have the potential to impact the City's energy supply.*

## **GOAL 8.0**

Explore opportunities for the City to expand its telecommunications network with careful consideration regarding the siting of new infrastructure, including cellular tower antennas and 5G infrastructure.

*Call Out [Issue]: The importance of telecommunications infrastructure became evident when the global, national, and local economies were disrupted by the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, which significantly changed telecommuting, remote learning, online shopping and home delivery, and other virtual methods of communication and commerce in everyday life.*

## **GOAL 9.0**

Support educational establishments within the City as they provide opportunities for developing reasoning, acquiring knowledge, building skills, and preparing intellectually to enable individuals of all ages to achieve their fullest potential individually and become successful citizens of their community.

*Call Out [Challenge identified by attendee of Mayor's Breakfast]: "Our schools must get better. It's okay, but these should be the best schools in the State."*

## **GOAL 10.0**

Continue to support the Waukesha Police Department and City of Waukesha Fire Department by ensuring they are well equipped to handle any crime or crisis that may occur as they do the vital work of protecting individuals' safety and wellbeing within the City.

*Call Out [Strength identified by attendee of Mayor's Breakfast]: "Good police and fire protection."*

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