

Introduction

Nauvoo Comprehensive Plan 2009

Looking Forward While Respecting the Past

Every community should have a clear vision for how it should develop. Comprehensive planning allows municipalities to construct a vision derived from the review of local data and community opinion. The 2009 City of Nauvoo Comprehensive Plan is the end result of efforts enacted by the city to examine current issues facing the community and produces a cohesive guide to assist local leaders in decision-making. Nauvoo prepared this plan through a long process that included work and dedication of the Nauvoo Planning Commission and public participation efforts including a survey available to all city residents.

According to the Illinois Compiled Statutes 65 ILCS, Chapter 5, every community may create a plan commission, planning department, or both. The powers of the plan commission most significantly surround the creation of the comprehensive plan. An official comprehensive plan must be approved and formally adopted by the appropriate municipal authorities, in the case of Nauvoo, the Nauvoo City Council. The comprehensive plan is advisory and does not regulate or control the use of private property unless it has been implemented by local ordinances. Plan implementation is critical to the groundwork of local policy. In instances where local decisions have been questioned, courts increasingly look to a community's comprehensive plan to evaluate the relative merits of a zoning change or to justify the costs that compliance with a zoning ordinance might require. Therefore, with the completion of this plan, the city should review and revise, as appropriate, existing zoning regulation to insure that the objectives outlined in the plan can be implemented, and that consistency is maintained between these key planning tools. Because of the dynamics of municipal management, the comprehensive plan should be reviewed annually and updated every five years. The 2009 Nauvoo Comprehensive Plan covers all land within the municipal corporate limits and also a 1 1/2-mile-planning buffer around the community. Because Hancock County does not have zoning, city decisions can take priority within the 1 1/2-mile municipal border if an ordinance enacting this authority is passed.

The comprehensive plan is intended to create the context for future policy and decision-making. The information included in the plan is presented as follows:

Historical Perspective -

A brief history of the development of the community.

Geographical Perspective -

A concise detail of the physical characteristics of Nauvoo.

Community Profile -

An identification of current attributes and trends within the community. The data collected for this section of the plan was compiled by reviewing the most recent U. S. Census, Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs' reports, the Western Illinois Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, and various site surveys. Tables were compiled and presented to the Nauvoo Comprehensive Plan Committee for use in establishing long-term goals and objectives for the community.

Community Vision -

A detailed community service survey was mailed randomly throughout the community and made available to all residents via City Hall. The survey covered a broad range of topics that were included in the overall long-range goals and objectives of the plan. The survey instrument is included in the appendix.

Goals, Objectives & Recommendations -

This portion of the document is one of the most significant elements of the plan. Goals are long-term, general statements of desired direction. Objectives consist of more specific steps that can be developed and accomplished while setting to achieve the overall long-term goal. The recommendations listed are more specific ways to achieve the individual objectives.

Implementation Strategies -

The strategies listed in this section of the plan identify specific actions that the City of Nauvoo can take to achieve the plan's goals and objectives. These items may include changes to local ordinances, codes and methods for funding various recommendations.

Maps -

Finally, the plan includes three classification maps: current land use; future land use; and transportation. These maps outline how land is currently being used; the recommendations for future development and land use; and the recommendations for future transportation development.