

CITY OF ORRVILLE

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The Orrville Comprehensive Plan provides City leaders, elected officials and other decision makers a reference guide to use when facing situations impacting the future of the community. The process used to develop the plan included an intense public involvement campaign, with the goal being a plan that reflects Orrville's vision for the future of the community. The process was also focused on building consensus and educating the community about the strengths, opportunities, issues and challenges that Orrville faces as development pressure increases in eastern Wayne County. An analysis of the physical limitations to growth and development was conducted in an effort to ensure that these valuable resources are protected and to guide future development towards areas most suited to support it.

The Plan recommendations focus on maintaining the quality of life and small-town character often cited as the most attractive reasons for living in Orrville. The Plan also reflects and incorporates the recommendations made in the Wayne County Comprehensive Plan "Tomorrow, Together" pertaining to development in Orrville's extraterritorial jurisdictional area (ETJ). Recommendations from the five areas of the plan are summarized below with strategies for implementation discussed.

The effectiveness of the Comprehensive Plan is measured by its ability to guide and effect desired change in land use, transportation, and economic development patterns. The key issues identified through the planning process document the desires of the community for these changes. The change will occur over a long-term period through several short-term decisions made by elected and appointed officials. The following implementation strategies have been identified as important steps in the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.

- **Update City Zoning and Subdivision Regulations.** The recommendations contained in the Land Use Plan provide a vision for the long-range development of Orrville. The City's subdivision and zoning regulations should be amended to reflect this vision. These development controls should be considered and updated where necessary to reflect the densities, setbacks, and street widths as described in the plan.
- **Adopt Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Inc. (BOCA), or similar, property maintenance codes.** An effective property maintenance code and enforcement program should be implemented that will promote high level of maintenance in residential neighborhoods. The aging residential areas of Orrville represent the primary affordable housing option for many residents and these areas must be maintained to ensure the long-term viability of these neighborhoods.

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- **Prepare a trip generation study.** Prior to deciding the future of a truck reliever route or Route 57 bypass, a study to determine the dynamics of the truck traffic in Orrville should be conducted. This study should focus on origin and destination of current truck traffic, impacts on future truck traffic associated with the relocation of U.S. Route 30, and the level of relief that a truck route would provide.
- **Develop a neighborhood housing strategy.** The goal of the strategy is to ensure that a wide-range of housing options are available to people interested in living in Orrville. While new mid- and upper-level housing is being developed, the entry-level home market is not being satisfied through new construction. Therefore, the aging residential areas of Orrville represent the primary affordable housing option and these neighborhoods must be maintained to ensure their long-term viability. An effective property maintenance code (Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Inc. (BOCA), or similar) and enforcement program should be implemented that will promote a high level of maintenance and investment in aging residential neighborhoods.
- **Extend Smucker Road.** The extension of this arterial road across the north end of the community will improve east-west mobility (between Route 57 and Crown Hill Road) in this area as well as provide improved access to Wayne College and areas proposed for industrial development.
- **Extend Market Street west to Chippewa Road.** Market Street is a primary east-west collector in the central part of the community. The proposed extension of Market Street would support future residential development west of the city and complete the grid system in this area.
- **Extend North Elm Street.** Future residential and industrial growth is planned for the northern portion of the community. The extension of Elm Street from Hostetler Road to Back Massillon Road will improve mobility in this area and provide access to future development sites.
- **Provide Elm Street Rail Crossing.** The limited number of north-south connections across the railroad tracks has resulted in poor vehicular and pedestrian circulation and community accessibility. The addition of another rail crossing would improve circulation between the southern neighborhoods and the many community assets north of the track, including Orr Park, Orrville High School, the Public Library, and the commercial activities in the downtown and uptown areas.
- **Extend Lehman and Sassafras Streets.** Future residential development has been proposed in the southeast corner of the city, in the vicinity of Lehman and Sassafras Streets. As this area develops, Sassafras Street should be extended eastward to Wayne Street, aligning with Burkhart Road and Lehman Street should be extended south to the extended Sassafras Street. These

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extensions would improve easterly access in the southeast portion of the community.

- **Extend Schrock Road.** The extension of Schrock Road east to SR 57 would improve access and mobility in the southern end of the community.
- **Conduct a pedestrian/bikeway circulation study.** A detailed study of the existing and future pedestrian and bikeway systems should be prepared in an effort to improve access throughout the community. The pedestrian portion of the plan should focus on improving access between the north and south sides of the community and improving access to community assets such as Orr Park and the YMCA. The bikeway analysis should focus on providing a citywide bike path system as well as determining the feasibility of linking into regional and statewide bike trail systems.
- **Encourage the continued use of the neighborhood schools.** Neighborhood schools are integral element in the make-up of successful neighborhoods. Efforts should be made to maintain the existing neighborhood elementary schools (North, Maple Street, and Oak Street) and to accommodate additional elementary educational requirements on these sites.
- **Ensure that government and other community-related facilities remain in the heart of the community.** The location of government and other quasi-government activities should be maintained in the downtown area in an effort to minimize the sprawl-inducing tendencies associated with public institutions moving to locations outside of downtown. Recent investments to the City building and the library have exhibited a commitment to this practice. Efforts should be made to keep the existing public institutions in place, while trying to attract other community-wide activities to the downtown.
- **Continue upgrading and expending the electrical distribution system.** Electric service should be extended to areas experiencing development and an upgrade to the distribution system should be undertaken that would bury new and existing lines when possible.
- **Continue upgrading and expending the water treatment and distribution system.** In order to help preserve the city's water source in the future, a plan to acquire the land around the city wellfield is encouraged. This would allow the city to maintain control concerning development and land use impacts in the area, while ensuring that the wells continue to produce and meet the city's needs. The continued replacement and upgrade of deteriorating water mains should be continued, while water service should be extended to areas targeted for future development and those areas willing to be annexed into the city.

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- **Continue upgrading and expending the sanitary sewer collection and treatment system.** Recent improvements to the wastewater treatment plant are expected to allow the system to accommodate future growth. Expansion of the collection system should follow the recommendations in the land use plan, which proposes that future development occur to the north and west of the city. Expansion of the sanitary sewer system outside the existing city limits is discouraged unless associated with an annexation action.
- **Continue the expansion of the fiber optic telecommunications infrastructure.** The availability of state-of-the-art telecommunications service is an attractive asset to offer as an economic development tool. The continued expansion and upgrade of this system will help separate Orrville from many competitors when conducting economic development efforts.
- **Maintain active role in ETJ planning initiatives.** The city should not preclude development in the ETJ planning area, but should require City development standards to be incorporated. The concepts developed and presented in the Wayne County Comprehensive Plan should be followed when evaluating development actions in the ETJ. In addition, the City should pursue the annexation of areas that are facing development pressure as a means to improve and ensure that adequate services are provided.